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## INDIAN ON DEATH ROW

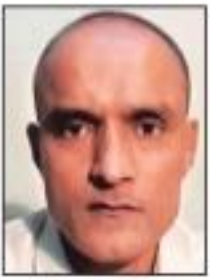
# Pakistan takes hard line on Jadhav: No plan for consular access again

India cautious, says will continue and try to implement ICJ ruling in full

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

TEN DAYS after Pakistan granted India consular access to Kulbhushan Jadhav for the first time since he was detained in 2016, it said that there was no plan to permit such a meeting again.

On September 2, India's Acting High Commissioner in Islamabad Gaurav Ahluwalia met Jadhav, the Indian national sentenced to death by a Pakistani military court, in the presence of Pakistani officials following a



Kulbhushan Jadhav

ruling by the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

On Thursday, responding to a question on granting consular access to Jadhav again, Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mohammad Faisal said: "There is no other meeting planned."

India responded cautiously, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

EXPLAINED  
**E.**

### ICJ box and J&K shadow

THE GRANTING of consular access was an obligation under the International Court of Justice's ruling. Now that it has been adhered to once, Islamabad has hardened its position in the wake of the strained relationship with India over the J&K situation.

## MMTC seeks import of Pak onions, farmers angry

PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS  
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 12

THE STATE-OWNED MMTC Ltd has floated a tender for import of onions from "Pakistan, Egypt, China, Afghanistan or any other origin", triggering criticism from farmers in Maharashtra.

"How can they do this when our kharif crop is going to be harvested in just over a month's time, after Diwali? And why import from Pakistan? Is the Indian farmer a bigger enemy?,"

asked Raju Shetty, chairman of the Swabhimani Shetkari Sanghata.

The MMTC tender, dated September 6, has sought delivery of the imported shipments by November-end. "The new crop and the imports will arrive at the same time, thus negating any chances of our farmers getting good rates," said Shetty.

Currently, wholesale prices of onion at Lasalgaon in Maharashtra's Nashik district are ruling at around Rs 2,300 per quintal, while the bulb is retailing **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Some NIT-Srinagar students in Ghaziabad

## Locked down, Srinagar NIT students camp in NCR for job interviews

Most Valley students out of the loop, college plans outreach via DD, papers

RITIKA CHOPRA  
NEW DELHI, GHAZIABAD, SEPTEMBER 12

ABDUL AZEEZ and Ghulam Ahmad (names changed on request) dropped by at a Big Bazaar outlet in South Delhi Wednesday evening but couldn't find what they were looking for. "We need affordable formal

wear and we need it quickly," says Azeez, just in case he gets a job interview call. "We didn't bring any with us because we did not know we would need it here."

Hit by an unprecedented **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**WHEEL OF HISTORY DOESN'T TURN BACK: J&K GOVERNOR** **PAGE 8**

## Nick Clegg is guest at Express Adda today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

WHEN THE 2010 elections in the UK failed to deliver a decisive mandate, Conservative leader David Cameron reached out to former journalist Nick Clegg, who was heading the Liberal Democrats at the time, to form a coalition government. Clegg went on to become UK's Deputy Prime Minister from 2010 to 2015.

On Friday, Nick Clegg will be the guest at the Express Adda in New Delhi.

Before entering politics, Clegg was a journalist with *Financial Times*. He entered **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Former UK Deputy PM Nick Clegg

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## TABREZ ANSARI CASE: MURDER CHARGE DROPPED

# Itna maaro ki mar jaaye: Statements of witness, case diaries rebut police version

ABHISHEK ANGAD  
RANCHI, SEPTEMBER 12

JHARKHAND POLICE said they dropped charges under IPC Section 302 (murder) against the accused in the death of 22-year-old Tabrez Ansari because it was "not a case of pre-meditated murder" and that he died following a cardiac arrest, not just a head injury.

However, an analysis of the chargesheet, key testimonies and case diaries raise questions about this conclusion.

Ansari's uncle Mohammad Masroor Alam, who rushed to



Tabrez Ansari was attacked by a mob in June

the spot on hearing about the assault, recorded this statement: He heard a member of the mob **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## Will speak to Jharkhand govt, says MoS Reddy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

SAYING THAT Tabrez Ansari's death was "unfortunate", Minister of State (MoS) for Home G Kishan Reddy said on Thursday that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) would seek details of the case and the circumstances under which the Jharkhand police **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## HC: MPs can meet Farooq, Omar but can't brief press

SOFI AHSAN  
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 12

THE JAMMU and Kashmir High Court has allowed two National Conference MPs to meet party leaders Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, but barred them from speaking to the press about their meeting or their "deliberations" with them. Following the Centre's

decision to scrap J&K's special status, Farooq Abdullah has been placed under house arrest in Srinagar while Omar Abdullah has been detained at Hari Niwas.

On Wednesday, the court heard a petition filed by party MPs Justice (retd.) Hasnain Masoodi (Anantnag) and Akbar Lone (Baramulla), seeking permission to meet them. In their plea, the MPs alleged that the **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

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WEB EXCLUSIVE

PANGONG TSO, THEATRE OF INDIA-CHINA LAC SCUFFLES

The area around Pangong Tso, the long, thin Himalayan lake that was made famous by Aamir Khan's film 3 Idiots, is contested between the two countries.

VIDEO OF THE DAY

NEW MV ACT

Uttarakhand second state after Gujarat to cut penalties for traffic violations

FULL COVERAGE

CONGRESS MEETING

Sonia Gandhi expresses concern over the 'grim' economic situation in the country

EXPRESS AUDIO

Will states eventually cut down the traffic violation fines?

In this episode, we look at the Motor Vehicles Act and talk about the extent to which it help reduce accidents and whether states will water down the provisions under it.

# Dushyant on unity call in Chautala clan: ‘Father will take call’

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 12

AS A family the Chautala clan is one but the members of the family have “political differences” and hence have charted their own political course, Jannayak Janata Party (JJP) leader Dushyant Chautala said Thursday.

He said that any decision on an “alliance” between the JJP and the Indian National Lok Dal (NLD) ahead of Haryana assembly polls can “only be taken by Ajay Chautala”, his father.

Following a feud within the Chautala family last year, the INLD had split, with Ajay and his sons founding the JJP. The INLD is led by Om Prakash Chautala with Ajay’s younger brother Abhay handling the party affairs in Haryana.

Om Prakash Chautala and Ajay are serving 10-year-sentence in Tihar jail after being convicted in a teacher’s recruitment scam.

“He (Ajay) has applied for a furlough. We hope that he may get it. Once, he comes out then he only will take a call on any such alliance after discussing it with our party workers. As of now, the JJP will contest on all 90 assembly seats,” Dushyant said.

Dushyant’s reaction comes amid efforts being made by some Haryana ‘khaps’ for rapprochement in the Chautala family.

Khap leader Ramesh Dalal met representatives of other khaps in Palwal on Thursday in a bid to bring the Chautala family together. Khaps are groups of castes or communities.

Dushyant said that Dalal had met him twice in the recent past, but no other khap representative had accompanied him. “If they (khaps) are making efforts to reunite the Chautala family, then why only Om Prakash Chautala’s

family? Then, they should bring together the entire clan of Chaudhary Devi Lal including families of Om Prakash Chautala’s brothers Ranjit Singh and late Jagdish Singh too,” Dushyant said.

He said they (khaps) never met the families of Ranjit Singh and Jagdish Singh.

Dalal had earlier said that there was a strong possibility of Chautala clan’s feuding factions coming together before the Assembly elections in Haryana.

“I have already been authorised by Chautala and his younger son Abhay Chautala to take the issue of unity in the family to its logical conclusion,” he had claimed, adding that Dahiya community and 24 other ‘khaps’ too have authorised him to work for the unity in the Chautala family “for the betterment of Haryana”.

A close friend of Om Prakash Chautala, former Punjab chief minister Parkash Singh Badal too is a strong proponent of unity among Chautalas. “Khaps are working as per my desire and I appreciate their efforts of bringing unity in the Chautala family. If Ajay and his brother Abhay bury their differences, it will give peace to the soul of their mother Snehlata and late grandfather Devi Lal,” Badal had said recently.

Ever since the split, both INLD and JJP have failed to make their presence felt on Haryana’s political scenario.

With assembly polls in Haryana barely a few weeks away, INLD had been slipping with most of its legislators deserting and joining BJP. Recently, INLD’s state unit chief Ashok Arora too resigned from the party. On the other hand, JJP that is relatively a new political party and had unsuccessfully contested Jind bypoll in January and Lok Sabha polls in April, is hopeful of making a mark in the upcoming Vidhan Sabha polls.

# Pak refugees to J&K could not contest even local polls due to Article 370: Nadda

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 12

BJP WORKING national president J P Nadda on Thursday said that Manmohan Singh and I K Gujral who migrated from West Pakistan to parts of India other than Jammu and Kashmir became Prime Ministers, while refugees who moved to the erstwhile northern state could not get the chance to contest even local elections because of Article 370.

Speaking during the foundation laying ceremony of BJP’s regional office in Kanpur, Nadda said, “Do you know that two of the refugees — Manmohan Singh and I K Gujral — who had migrated from West Pakistan to

India got the chance to become Prime Minister, while one of our leaders, Lal Krishna Advani, became deputy Prime Minister?”

He claimed what Prime Minister Narendra Modi has achieved in 100 days, Congress could not do in 70 years. He asked workers to connect with the beneficiaries of Central schemes such as Ujjwala and Ayushman.

Underlining that a party can’t be run from a leader’s house, the Rajya Sabha MP claimed that the BJP will soon have 17 more offices in the state, taking the total to 68. Across the country, the party has 200 offices and another 200 are being constructed, he said. Land for another 200 offices is also being finalised.

# Former Karnataka minister says his phone was tapped

Bengaluru: JD(S) MLA and former minister S R Srinivas on Thursday alleged that his phone was tapped during the tenure of the coalition government headed by H D Kumaraswamy, despite him being the partner of the administration.

“Whoever has done things that are illegal should be punished... according to my information, phones were getting tapped... whoever has committed mistake has to be punished mercilessly,” he told reporters in

Tumakuru.

Asked whether it was done at the behest of Kumaraswamy, he said he was not aware of it.

“I don’t know whether Kumaraswamy or officials were behind it. I had information phones were getting tapped. As soon as I got to know, I changed my number. During the coalition government (tenure), despite me being part of the government, my phone was tapped,” he alleged.

# FROM PAGE ONE

NIT-Srinagar

communication blockade in the Kashmir valley, these final-year students from National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar, reached Delhi this month to submit their application forms online for the Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) for admission to Master’s courses.

Azeez’s smartphone buzzed with hundreds of message alerts on his college WhatsApp group as soon as he landed. He discovered that many of his classmates were also in the National Capital Region. “They all are here to participate in the placement drive. I would have missed the opportunity had I not come to Delhi on my own.”

It has been over a month since NIT in Srinagar suspended class-work abruptly. With no update or assurance on when the institute will open again, a group of final-year students decided to take matters into their own hands. About 70 students are camping in a hostel in Ghaziabad for the last three weeks, at their own expense, to organise their placement drive. The total final year class has 360 students of whom 80 are from Jammu and Kashmir, most from the Valley.

“The institute suspended classes bang in the middle of the placement season. Just before closing, two companies had visited our campus to recruit. Uncertain about when classes will resume, a group of students sought help from an alumnus to find an alternate venue to continue the placement drive,” says Amit Kumar, a final-year student and placement coordinator.

However, the first drive conducted at the BSNL’s Advanced Level Telecom Training Centre (ALITC) in Ghaziabad on September 2 saw no participation from Kashmiri students.

“We tried our best to reach out to them. But there was absolutely no way of informing them,” says Shishpal, a final-year student of information technology. Uncomfortable with local students being left out, the institute asked the outstation students to go back home.

“Students have travelled from Telangana, Jammu, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, and Leh. Sending them back was not a solution,” Shishpal adds. On September 4, a delegation of 30 final-year students met officials in the HRD Ministry and requested them to ask NIT-Srinagar to inform Kashmiri students through advertisements in local papers and on Doordarshan Kashmir. After initial reluctance, NIT-Srinagar has agreed to continue the drive.

Almost all the NIT-Srinagar students that *The Indian Express* met Wednesday at the hostel in BSNL’s ALITC campus in Ghaziabad were outstation students. Azeez and Ahmad will be the first Kashmiri students to join the placement drive this week.

“We will soon place advertisements in the local papers in Kashmir to inform students about the placement drive in Ghaziabad. Recently, we informed local students, also through advertisements in local papers, that they can get their eligibility certificates for the GATE examination, signed by me at the institute. A few had come,” NIT-Srinagar director Rakesh Sehgal said.

Sehgal was in Delhi this week to sign and attest GATE eligibility forms of outstation students.

Ever since the institute closed down on August 3, NIT-Srinagar has been struggling to contact its students. Its official website is not working because of the clamp-down on communications. Updates are few and far between and being shared on the institute’s Facebook page and Instagram handle.

Till date, only 560 out of the 778 first-year students have reported at NIT-Srinagar. The deadline for joining the institute, for

# Pakistan takes hard line on Jadhav

with Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar saying they will continue to try for “full implementation of ICJ judgement”. He said they are in touch with Pakistan through diplomatic channels.

According to Pakistan’s

Foreign Ministry, the first consular access meeting was recorded, but there was no restriction on the language of conversation between Jadhav and Ahluwalia. In December 2017, when Jadhav’s mother and wife had met him in Islamabad, they

were prevented by Pakistani officials from speaking in Marathi, their mother tongue.

After the meeting on September 2, New Delhi had said that Jadhav appeared to be under “extreme pressure” to support Islamabad’s “false nar-

rative” in his case.

Pakistan has accused Jadhav, a former Indian Navy officer, of espionage while India has maintained that he was running a business in Iran from where he was abducted and illegally taken to Pakistan.

# Import of Pakistan onions, farmers angry

at Rs 39-42/kg in major metros.

“The quantity for which the bids have been invited (2,000 tonnes, plus or minus 2 per cent) is not huge, but it will definitely have an impact on sentiment. Farmers who have stocked from the rabi crop will now hasten to liquidate these, bringing down prices,” said Jaydutta Holkar, chairman of the APMC (agricultural produce market committee) mandi at Lasalgaon.

The average modal price of onion in this market, the country’s largest, has risen from Rs 830 per quintal in April to Rs 931 in May, Rs 1,222 in June, Rs 1,252 in July and Rs 1,880 in August. This month, it has so far averaged Rs 2,377 per quintal.

In Maharashtra — which produces roughly a third of

India’s onions, much of it in Nashik, Pune, Ahmednagar and parts of Marathwada — farmers take three crops of the bulb: kharif (sown in June-July and harvested in October-November), late-kharif (sown in August-September and harvested in January-March) and rabi (sown in November-December and harvested after March). Of these, the rabi onion can be stored due to its lower moisture content. Farmers usually stock these onions in ‘kanda chawls’ (on-field raised structures designed to prevent moisture ingress) and gradually offload them during the summer and monsoon months.

“Last year, prices hardly crossed Rs 1,000 per quintal in the off-season. This time, when

farmers are making some money after a long time, a government-owned trading company is being allowed to import from Pakistan. This is sheer hypocrisy,” said Shetty.

Holkar, too, said there was no need to import when the Centre had created a buffer stock of 56,000 tonnes procured from the rabi crop, of which only about 18,000 tonnes have been sold till now. Onion consumption will anyway come down with the Navratri festival season beginning September-end. And by the time the imports come, the kharif crop would have also arrived in the markets.

Deepak Pagar, a farmer from Nampur village in Nashik’s Baglan taluka, had stored 680 quintals of rabi

onion from his 7-acre holding. Of this, he has sold about 540 quintals at an average rate of Rs 18 per kg. “The government never bothers when we get Rs 700-800 per quintal, which does not even cover our cost of production. But they wake up the moment consumers have to pay a little more. Why should they import,” he said.

On June 11, the Centre had scrapped a 10 per cent subsidy on outbound onion shipments under the Commerce Ministry’s merchandise export from India scheme, when retail prices in Delhi touched Rs 20-21 per kg. The move to import now comes even as Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Haryana are headed for Assembly polls later this year.

first-year students, has been extended indefinitely. This was communicated through a post on the institute’s Facebook Page on August 12.

“The uncertainty is making the first-year students anxious. I have constantly been trying the (institute’s) headline number. It never connects. How are we going to cover up for the lost time?” asks a first-year student of chemical engineering, who is currently back home in Aligarh. He spoke on the condition of anonymity.

In a bid to allay anxiety of freshers, NIT-Srinagar, on August 20, wrote to students on its Facebook page: “We feel your anxiety and worry. In response to all those queries, I would like to assure you following: NIT administration is well aware of all important concerns of all students. As soon as website of institute will be operational we will be contacting you with all updates. Administration will take all steps to complete your specified course work and will ensure timely completion of this semester. The time loss will be compensated by utilising all off days and vacations.”

A week ago, an online petition surfaced on change.org informing that a group of students was planning to file a PIL on the indefinite closure of the institute. The online petition demands that the institute be re-opened or an alternate arrangement be made to conduct classes elsewhere.

Om Prakash Verma, a second-year civil engineering student, is part of the group trying to mobilise support and funds for filing the PIL against the government and institute. “We are in touch with a few lawyers, but they have quoted high fees. We are now trying to approach lawyers who can help us pro bono,” he said over the phone from Bihar.

Sources said the government briefly considered moving students to other NIT campuses until the Srinagar institute remains closed. “The proposal did not work out because every single NIT is full to its capacity because of the 10% EWS quota this year,” said a senior official.

In a meeting called by the HRD Ministry on Monday and attended by Sehgal, it was decided that students will be advised to register for online courses available on the SWAYAM (India’s MOOCs) platform. “We have sent an email to our teachers asking them to identify all lectures and

courses on SWAYAM that fit our curriculum. This list will be shared with all students. As for local students, we will advertise in local papers asking them to collect these lectures in a pen drive watch them at home,” said Sehgal.

“Whatever credits a student earns (after submitting assignments on the Swayam platform) will be counted at the time of generating the semester-end score,” he adds.

When asked how local students affected by the communication blockade would submit assignments online to earn credits, the director said, “They may have to travel to find (internet) network.”

# Farooq, Omar

party’s top leadership had not been allowed to meet anyone.

While allowing the MPs to meet the Abdullahs, the single-judge bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar, in the order released on Thursday, said: “...the petitioners shall ensure that their meeting with their party president and vice-president is restricted to a courtesy call and to know about the well-being of the aforesaid two persons... the petitioners, after meeting their party president and vice-president, shall not go to press/ media regarding their meeting and deliberations with the aforesaid persons.”

The court asked the Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar to take immediate steps to facilitate the meeting, preferably this week itself. “It would be appropriate if the petitioners are permitted to meet the aforesaid persons separately on different occasions, either on the same day or on different days,” it said.

The government, in its response to the MPs’ petition, had said there is “no formal restriction”. It said it was not averse to the meeting, but added that they should not “do anything aimed at vitiating the peaceful atmosphere”.

# Express Adda

politics as a member of the European Parliament in 1999 and six years later, was elected to the UK’s House of Commons. Through his political career, he held various leadership roles for the Liberal Democrats before becoming its leader and positioning the party in the centre amid the

traditional Left-Right divide.

Clegg, who was knighted in 2018, has also authored a book, ‘How to Stop Brexit (And Make Britain Great Again)’. He now works as Vice-President for Global Affairs and Communications at Facebook.

At the Adda, Clegg will be in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, *The Indian Express*, and Shubhajit Roy, Associate Editor.

The Express Adda is a series of informal interactions organised by The Indian Express Group and features those at the centre of change.

Past guests include the Dalai Lama, the late Arun Jaitley, economist and Nobel laureate Amartya Sen, Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, filmmaker Karan Johar, writer Amitav Ghosh, musician T M Krishna, ecologist Romulus Whitaker, oncologist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Siddhartha Mukherjee and sociologist Ashis Nandy.

# Tabrez Ansari

shout. “*Itna maaro ki mar jaye* (Beat him so much that he dies).”

Ansari was among the 24 witnesses whose statements are recorded in the chargesheet filed in the Chief Judicial Magistrate’s court on July 23.

The chargesheet also refers to a preliminary report by the board of doctors that conducted the post mortem, which says if the viscera report does not point to “poison”, the cause of death was a head injury.

But then, case diaries show that police already invoked IPC Section 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) against the accused when the viscera was sent to the forensics lab. In other words, they did not rely on the viscera report while dropping Section 302 from the chargesheet.

Crucially, the case diaries note: “After viscera report, there is a possibility that there could change in IPC sections.”

On June 18, a mob in Dhatkidih village of Saraikeela-Kharawan district accused Ansari of theft, tied him to a pole and assaulted him. Video clips of the attack showed the mob forcing Ansari to chant “Jai Shri Ram” and “Jai Hanuman” during the assault.

Ansari, who was taken in police custody on suspicion of theft, died four days later in a local hos-

pital.

On Tuesday, when asked why Section 302 was dropped from the chargesheet, Saraikeela-Kharawan Police SP Karthik S told The Indian Express: “We filed a chargesheet under IPC section 304 because of two reasons. One, he did not die at the spot... the villagers did not have any intent to kill Ansari. Second, the medical report did not substantiate the murder charge. The final post-mortem report said Ansari died due to cardiac arrest and that a haemorrhage in the head was not fatal. The second medical opinion said the cause of death was a combination of cardiac arrest and the head injury.”

Consider key details from the case diaries:

- The board of doctors that conducted the post-mortem listed a head injury among the external injuries, and a blood clot in the brain and “heart chambers filled with blood” as internal injuries. They reserved their opinion pending forensic test results and told the police: “Death does not seem to be a possibility due to these injuries, but it may also happen. The injuries are grievous in nature.”
- When the board was specifically asked what the cause of death would be if poison was not found in the viscera report, it stated: “The head injury will be the cause of death.”
- In his statement, Ansari’s uncle Alam said his nephew had called his wife on June 18 morning. “He informed her that he was tied to a pole and being beaten up. He pleaded with her to come and save him,” Alam’s statement said. It said Alam rushed to village with his younger brother around 6.30 am and saw Ansari tied to a pole with ropes around his waist and getting beaten. “We got scared as many people were shouting and we stood 20-25 feet away from him. One of them was shouting, ‘*Itna maaro ki mar jaaye*’ (beat him so much that he dies),” Alam told police.
- In his statement, Alam said Ansari was barely able to move at the police station, and remained “unconscious”. He only opened “his eyes after much prodding”. Alam stated that when he met Ansari in jail the next day, he was crying. “He told us that he had suffered serious injuries on his head and asked us

to get his treatment done,” Alam told police.

- The man who shot video clips of the attack, Tinku Mandal, confirmed its contents to police. He told police that he later deleted the clips due to fear. “I heard people shouting in the early hours of June 18. I saw that one person was tied to an electricity pole and people were abusing him. He was being beaten with sticks, but some were also asking others not to beat him. Ansari had a phone and was calling someone on it. Villagers asked him to call his two friends (whom they claimed were involved in an alleged theft bid and had escaped),” Mandal told police. His statement also says that Ansari “was forced to chant ‘Jai Hanuman, Jai Shri Ram’”.

‘Hit through night with sticks’

The chargesheet, meanwhile, states that police found that Ansari was caught while he was attempting to commit a theft. It states: “*Akroshit graminon द्वारा usko bandhkar, raat bhar ewam subah bhi dande se peeta gaya. Usse uski dharmik bhavna ke virudh ‘Jai Shri Ram, Jai Hanuman’ kanaara lagaya gaya* (He was tied up by the angry villagers, and beaten with sticks the whole night and in the morning, they forced him to chant ‘Jai Shri Ram, Jai Hanuman’ against his religious beliefs),” the chargesheet said.

On Ansari’s injuries, it mentions the head injury and haemorrhage and states that the board “kept their opinion reserved on the cause of death and the viscera has been to the FSL”. It states: “In this incident, till now IPC 304 and other sections is made out against the accused.”

Altaf Hussain, lawyer for Ansari’s wife Sahista Parween, says he has filed a “protest petition” in court on the murder charges being dropped. “Also, the viscera report has been submitted in the sealed cover to the court. The details have not been mentioned in the chargesheet,” he said.

# MoS Reddy

dropped murder charges against the 11 accused.

Ansari (22) died days after he was attacked by a mob that accused him of theft in Saraikeela-Kharawan, in Jharkhand, in June.

Citing the “final post-mortem report” that Ansari died of “cardiac arrest”, and stating that it was “not a case of pre-meditated murder”, police filed a chargesheet last month under Section 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder). Police had earlier invoked murder charge under IPC Section 302 in the FIR filed on a complaint by Ansari’s wife.

Responding to a question on why the state police had dropped the murder charge, Reddy said: “I do not know what happened in court. But I wish that whoever is found involved in any criminal activity, must be punished. We will talk to the state government on this.”

Reddy was speaking on the sidelines of an event organised by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D).

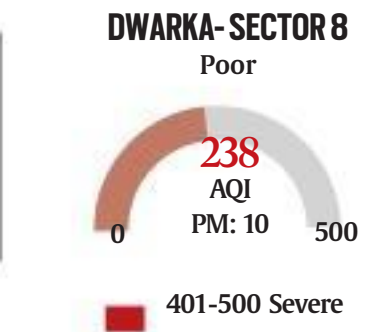
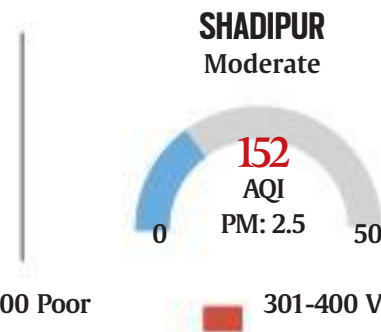
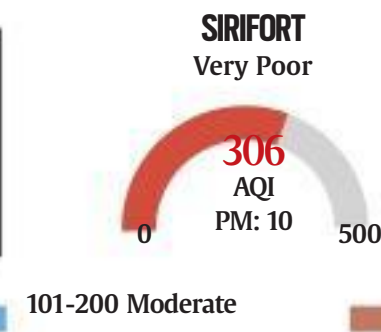
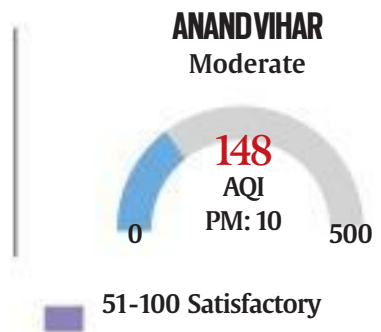
Asked why lynching cases were being frequently reported from BJP-ruled states, Reddy said, “It’s not just under BJP governments, it is happening under all governments, even in West Bengal. I have said this in Rajya Sabha as well. It has been going on for so many years. It should be stopped. Even the Prime Minister has said this openly and categorically. It is unfortunate. I will speak to our government there.”

Reddy was at BPR&D to attend a conference on radicalisation in jails. He said there was a need to ensure safety and security of prisoners, and to convert prisons into centres of reformation.





0-50 Good



51-100 Satisfactory

101-200 Moderate

201-300 Poor

301-400 Very Poor

401-500 Severe

## PLAN: MORE ROOMS IN PARLIAMENT, EARTHQUAKE-RESISTANT GOVT OFFICES

# Lutyens' Delhi to be revamped to bring it to 'international standards'

**ANANYA TIWARI**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

SHIFTING OFFICES in the Central Secretariat to an earthquake-resistant space and internal changes in the Parliament to make space for additional MPs once the delimitation process is complete — these are among the changes planned by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

According to officials, the plan will see an overhaul of Edward Lutyens and Herbert Baker's 1911 creation, Lutyens' Delhi — which includes Rajpath, or the Kingsway slope as it was called then, and the circular Parliament building or Sansad Bhavan — and the more modern central government offices, such as Shastri Bhavan, Nirman Bhavan and Udyog Bhavan, for accommodating the growing needs of the central government and to bring it up to in-

### PROPOSED CHANGES

Plan is to bring Delhi's government offices at par with Washington DC, Beijing by 75th Independence Day in 2022

**PARLIAMENT**

- To be renovated from inside, keeping outer structure intact
- Extra rooms for MPs, elected representatives after delimitation
- If needed, another Parliament building to be built nearby

**RAJPATH**

To be made more modern

**CENTRAL SECRETARIAT**

- Offices in North and South blocks to be shifted to a new central complex as building not quake resistant
- It may be converted into museum, said officials

ternational architectural and building standards. This will be the first such kind

of project since the early 20th Century when New Delhi was first established, an official said.

MoHUA floated a Request For Proposal on September 2, inviting national and international firms to pitch their design ideas to fundamentally change the face of Delhi's landmark areas.

Discussions for the project have been ongoing for the past six months and the pre-bidding meeting was held Thursday. A national high-level committee will be constituted soon, officials said, adding that they hope to shortlist firms by October 15.

Sources said the project would require three years to be completed after its initiation, and the plan is to complete renovation of the Parliament building by India's 75th Independence Day in 2022.

Sources said that while the outer structure of the Parliament will be retained, it will be renovated from the inside, including providing extra rooms for MPs, and additional space for more representatives once the delimi-

tation process is over. Officials said that if required, another building will be built nearby.

Similarly, the North and South blocks of the Central Secretariat may be emptied as these are not earthquake resistant. The offices will be shifted to a new central complex which would house all offices of the central government for increased overall efficiency and increased space for officials, said officials.

The 3-km Rajpath would also be redeveloped in a year.

Officials said the plan would bring Delhi's government houses at par with those in Washington DC and Beijing, with all modern facilities and standards, street and traffic plans in place, to make conduct of business as smooth as possible.

Officials have said they are open to designs that would ensure the modernisation of the offices of Lutyens' Delhi, Parliament House and Rajpath.

# Iconic book market gets new Chandni Chowk address

**ASTHA SAXENA**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE ICONIC Sunday book market in Darya Ganj, which was shut last month following the Delhi High Court's order, has finally found a new home.

One of the oldest book markets in the city, it will now run at the Mahila Haat ground opposite Broadway Hotel in Chandni Chowk.

As many as 276 booksellers have been allotted space in Mahila Haat at Rs 170 per week. Last Sunday, more than 200 booksellers wrote a letter to the

district commissioner, requesting him to allot a place to run the market.

"We received confirmation Thursday and will be setting up the market in Mahila Haat from Sunday. This place was not given for rent till now, but has been allotted to us. Officers from the commissioner's office visited the location and allowed us to reopen the market," said Qamar Sayeed, president of the Sunday Book Bazaar Patri Welfare Association.

The last market was set up on July 21. The vendors had five options to choose from — Ramlila Maidan, Hanuman Mandir

The book market will now run at Mahila Haat. *Archive*

(Yamuna bazaar), Kachha Bagh, Mata Sundri Road and Mahila Haat.

On July 3, the Delhi High Court had ordered the market to be shut, saying that no

weekly market would be allowed on Sundays at Netaji Subhash (NS) Marg near Jama Masjid. The order came after Delhi traffic police submitted its report to the court and proposed closing NS Marg citing increasing traffic throughout the day. The North Delhi Municipal Corporation was then ordered to shut all markets in the area.

"We had suggested many areas... We wanted to give them a space to settle. We will now be able to provide them a safe environment as Mahila Haat is one of our best properties," said Veditha Reddy, District Commissioner city (SP zone).

**Ministry of Tribal Affairs**  
Government of India

**THE TRIBAL PERSPECTIVE THROUGH BAMBOONOMICS**

**Cabinet Minister**  
**Mr. Arjun Munda**  
speaks on India's biggest tribal movement for combating desertification and climate change

**1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, 13 September 2019 | Hall MET 6, COP14-UNCCD, New Delhi**

**The 4P1000 Initiative: The TribWal Perspective through Bamboonomics**  
At MET06: 13 September 2019 : 1 PM-3 PM

TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India & GIZ are organizing this Side Event to launch one of the biggest "Tribal Movement for Combating Desertification" through bamboo plantations and Bio-Char / Bamboo-char or bamboo Charcoal. The tribals will help the India to achieve its committed "Bonn Challenge" targets.

**Come 13.09.19**  
TRIFED is involving the tribal community of India for rehabilitating the degraded land while providing income avenues for the poor towards environmental friendly development.

In fact, the bamboonomics for it has been designed in such a way that while doing crucial environmental services, the tribal will earn more.

To know more: You are invited to attend the Side Event on 13.09.19

**Come !join!!**

**One of the biggest Tribal Movement for Combating Desertification and the Climate Change!**

**Become a member of the TRIFED International Committee!**

**Free Membership on 13.09.19**

**SIGNATURE GLOBAL**  
MAKING INDIA AFFORDABLE

Applications are invited from general public for booking of Residential Apartments in the Affordable Group Housing Project proposed to be developed as per terms and conditions of the policy prescribed by the Town & Country Planning Department, Government of Haryana vide notification no. PF-27/48921 dated 19.08.2013 & amendment thereof (details available at the Department website, ie. [tchpharyana.gov.in](http://tchpharyana.gov.in)).

**PROJECT DETAILS**

1. Coloniser/Developer	Signature Builders Pvt. Ltd.																																																	
2. Project approval	Licence No. 51 of 2019 dated 06-03-2019. Building Plan Approved on 08/08/2019. Memo No. 2P-1110/AD(RK)/2019/19109. Haryana RERA Registered No: 51 of 2019 dated 09.09.2019																																																	
3. Location	Sector 93, Gurugram Haryana.																																																	
4. Provisions Project Area	720 no. of apartments available out of total 720 number of units in the housing scheme spread over 5 acres. As per Policy, 5% of total apartments are available for management quota and 95% of total apartments are for public. Community Facilities: One Community Hall of 2000 sq.ft. and One Anganwadi-cum-creche of 2000 sq.ft.																																																	
5. Apartment Details, Allotment Rates & Payment Terms																																																		
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Apartment details</th> <th>No of Units</th> <th>Carpet Area sqft(approx)</th> <th>Balcony Area sqft(approx)</th> <th>Allotment Rate of Apartment (all inclusive)*</th> <th>With application Booking amount 5%</th> <th>on allotment 20%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2BHK TYPE -01</td> <td>170</td> <td>539.384</td> <td>78.114</td> <td>21,96,593.00</td> <td>1,09,830.00</td> <td>4,39,319.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BHK TYPE -02</td> <td>170</td> <td>603.677</td> <td>76.058</td> <td>24,52,737.00</td> <td>1,22,637.00</td> <td>4,90,547.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BHK TYPE -03</td> <td>170</td> <td>594.916</td> <td>70.849</td> <td>24,15,088.50</td> <td>1,20,754.00</td> <td>4,83,018.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BHK TYPE -04</td> <td>170</td> <td>577.112</td> <td>79.029</td> <td>23,47,962.50</td> <td>1,17,398.00</td> <td>4,69,593.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3BHK TYPE -01</td> <td>4</td> <td>641.351</td> <td>120.32</td> <td>26,15,404.00</td> <td>1,30,770.00</td> <td>5,23,081.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3BHK TYPE -01 (MQ)</td> <td>36</td> <td>641.351</td> <td>120.32</td> <td>26,15,404.00</td> <td>1,30,770.00</td> <td>5,23,081.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Apartment details	No of Units	Carpet Area sqft(approx)	Balcony Area sqft(approx)	Allotment Rate of Apartment (all inclusive)*	With application Booking amount 5%	on allotment 20%	2BHK TYPE -01	170	539.384	78.114	21,96,593.00	1,09,830.00	4,39,319.00	2BHK TYPE -02	170	603.677	76.058	24,52,737.00	1,22,637.00	4,90,547.00	2BHK TYPE -03	170	594.916	70.849	24,15,088.50	1,20,754.00	4,83,018.00	2BHK TYPE -04	170	577.112	79.029	23,47,962.50	1,17,398.00	4,69,593.00	3BHK TYPE -01	4	641.351	120.32	26,15,404.00	1,30,770.00	5,23,081.00	3BHK TYPE -01 (MQ)	36	641.351	120.32	26,15,404.00	1,30,770.00	5,23,081.00
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6. Parking	Two-wheeler parking with each apartment																																																	
7. Broad Specifications of the Apartment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flooring: Rooms Vitrified Tiles, Kitchen Vitrified / Ceramic Tiles, Toilet Anti Skid Ceramic Tiles, Balcony AntiSkid / Matt Finish Ceramic Tiles,</li> <li>Windows: M.S. Sections as per IS Codes / Aluminium Powder Coated / UPVC • Doors Frame: Red Merandi / Mild Steel/ Aluminium Powder Coated / UPVC • Wall Tile: Ceramic Tiles till 4 Feet / 7 feet high &amp; Oil Bound Distemper Above.</li> <li>Kitchen Counter Top Green Marble / Granite</li> <li>Wall: Oil Bond Distemper • Sanitary fitting: ISI marked CP Fittings, W.C &amp; Washbasin • Electric Fitting: ISI Marked. Structure: RCC Frames Structure designed for SESMIC forces as per latest IS code and NBC Recommendations.</li> </ul>																																																	
8. Applications Timelines	(i) Applications can be procured & submitted at: Signature Builders Pvt. Ltd., Corp. Office - Ground Floor, Tower A, Signature Tower, South City -1, Gurugram, Haryana-122001. 0124-4908200 by paying an application form fee of Rs 1,000/- starting from date 13.09.2019. For more information, call 7053-121-121 (ii) Last Date of submission of Applications is 05.10.2019. (iii) The list of Distribution and Collection centres is available on <a href="http://www.signatureglobal.in">www.signatureglobal.in</a> (iv) Application Forms & Facility of applying Online is also available at <a href="http://www.signatureglobal.in">www.signatureglobal.in</a> .																																																	

**Eligibility:** 1. The applicant should not be debarred from entering into legally binding contract under any prevailing law.  
2. Any person can apply, however, the PMAY beneficiaries, which include their spouse or dependent children, identified by the Urban Local Bodies Department, Haryana under "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna-Housing for All" programme shall be granted preference in allotment. First priority shall be given to the identified beneficiaries of the said town followed by other PMAY beneficiaries of the State of Haryana. Thereafter, for the remaining flats, persons which include their spouse or dependent children who do not own any flat/plot in any HUDA developed colony/sector or any licenced colony in any of the Urban areas in Haryana, UT of Chandigarh and NCT Delhi shall be given next preference in allotment of flats.  
3. An applicant can make only one application. Any successful applicant under this policy shall not be eligible for allotment of any other flat under this policy in any other colony. In case, he/she is successful in more than one colony, he/she will have choice of retaining only one flat.  
**Allotment Criteria:** 1. The allotment of apartments shall be done through draw of lots in the presence of a committee consisting of Deputy Commissioner or his representative (at least of the cadre of Haryana Civil Services), Senior Town Planner (Circle office), DTP of the concerned district and the representative of coloniser concerned.  
2. After fixation of date for draw of lots, an advertisement shall be issued by the Developer informing the applicants about the details regarding date/time and venue of the draw of lots in the same newspapers in which the original advertisement was issued.  
3. For detailed criteria and time-frame to be adopted for scrutiny and allotment, the applicants may also refer to the details in the Affordable Group Housing Policy 2013 vide no. PF-27/48921 dated 19.08.2013 & amendment thereof (available at the Department website, i.e., [tchpharyana.gov.in](http://tchpharyana.gov.in)).

**SIGNATURE BUILDERS PVT. LTD. | CIN: U70101DL2011PTC220275**  
Regd. Office - 1309, 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28 Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001  
Corp. Office - Ground Floor, Tower A, Signature Tower, South City -1, Gurugram, Haryana-122001 | [www.signatureglobal.in](http://www.signatureglobal.in)

**AVAIL INTEREST SUBSIDY BENEFITS OF RS. 2.67 LAC (APPROX) UNDER PMAY (PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA)\*\***

\*Promoter urges every applicant to inspect the project site and shall not merely rely upon to be influenced by any architectural impression, plan or sales brochure and therefore, requested to make personal payment prior to submitting an application for allotment. The images shown here are indicative of design and for illustration purposes only. Further, the actual design may vary in future without prior notice being displayed above. \*\*Project details specifications are also accessible at the office of Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority website [www.haryanaera.org](http://www.haryanaera.org) & [www.haryanaera.org](http://www.haryanaera.org). Journey time shown. Entry is based upon people maps which may vary as per traffic at relevant point of time. \*Rate mentioned above does not include GST and other statutory charges. \*Expenditure: 1 Lk. Approx. 1.50 cr. - 1000000 sq. ft. \*\*The subsidy differs as per the eligibility of the clients profile and the loan amount. There is the max amount of subsidy that a client can receive and the same goes with the loan amount too for availing the subsidy. Please note that the loan can be sanctioned more than 12 lacs but subsidy can be availed only till 12 lacs of loan amount.

**7053-121-121**

epaper.indianexpress.com

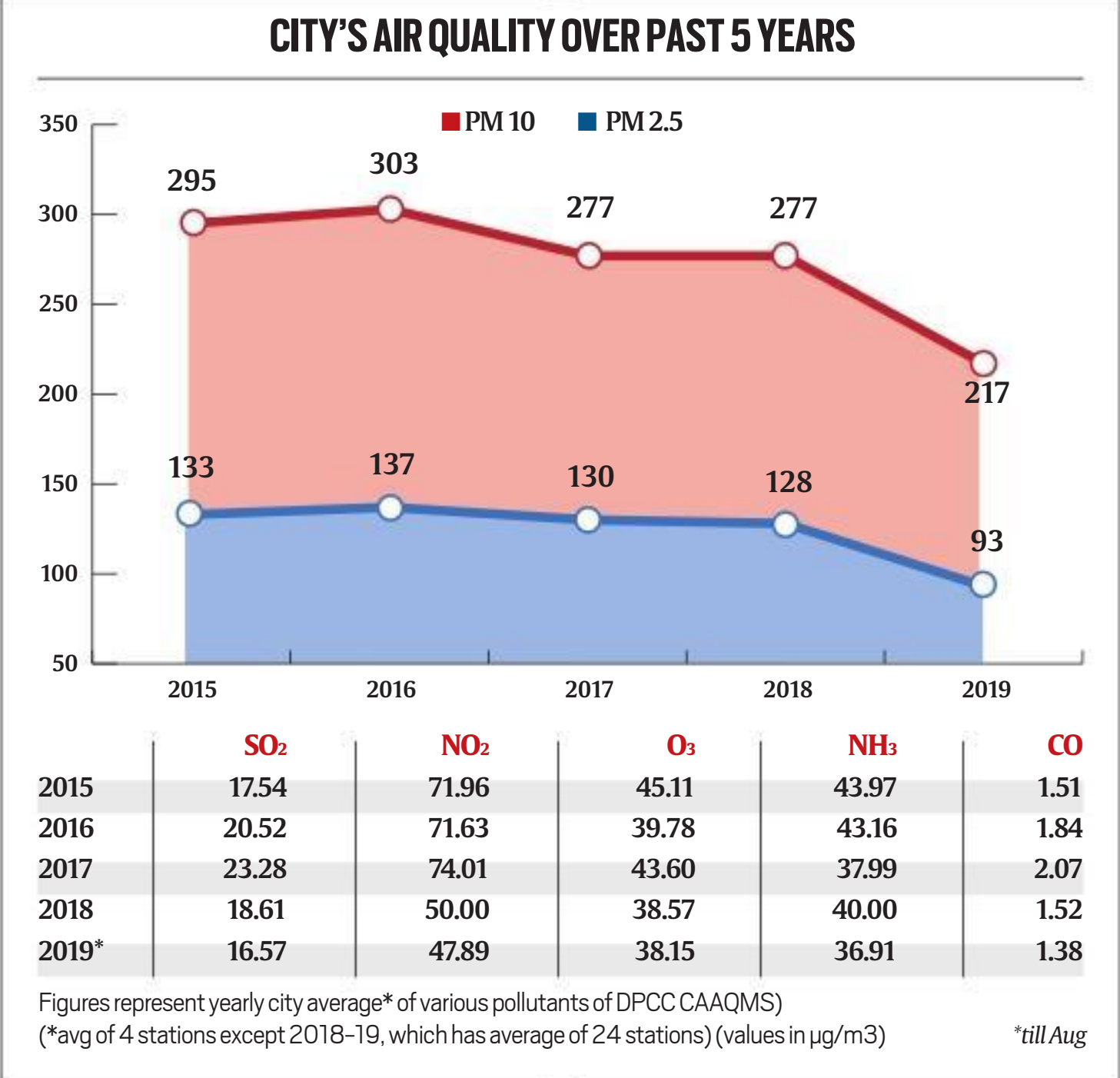


WINTER ACTION PLAN

Odd-even, free masks: Experts meet CM to discuss pollution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

INTRODUCE ODD-EVEN as an emergency measure and distribute face masks on a mass scale — these were among the suggestions made to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal at a meeting with air pollution experts Thursday. The Delhi CM met experts from EPIC (Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago), India and WRI (World Resources Institute), as part of consultations to prepare a winter action plan for air pollution. According to officials, the government is also planning to start a more organised and large-scale system for issuing pollution alerts. “Odd-even is an effective emergency measure and a lot of support for it has come from people. The Graded Response Action Plan has also listed it as an emergency response for ‘severe plus’ air quality. We are listening to suggestions that we are getting from people,” said a senior government official. Dr Ken Lee, Executive Director of EPIC India, said: “The January 2016 odd-even pilot reduced particulate air pollution concentration by 14 to 16%. However, due to the possibility of compliance issues in the long-run, it is perhaps best suited as an emergency measure during winter, when vehicle emissions are especially problematic.” Recently, the Delhi government sought feedback from the public to tackle pollution in winters. “Among the suggestions we have got is to distribute happy seeders (harvesting machines) to villagers but there are logistical issues, not limited to funding... Another major point of discussion is pollution after



Diwali. Many people have asked that we monitor the situation closely to ensure that pollution levels do not skyrocket after the festival,” the official said. Experts also recommended that while various long-term measures take time to come into effect, the use of pollution masks could be beneficial as an effective risk-mitigation measure. “Certain types of pollution masks (N90 or N95, for example) can be effective in reducing individual exposure to outdoor air pollution. Our ongoing research, however, suggests that widespread adoption is limited by lack of information about the harmful effects of air pollution, as well as social concerns or norms that discourage usage,” Dr Lee said. Officials also said that several anti-pollution mask manufacturers have been meeting Environment Minister Kailash Gahlot over the past few days. For Delhi, the end of October and November are crucial as changing weather and wind patterns, and influx of pollutants generated due to crop residue

burning, mean a sudden spike in pollution. While Delhi’s base pollution because of local issues such as vehicular pollution and construction dust is already high, for at least three weeks, the city is at the mercy of neighbouring states of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh to control the practice of crop residue burning. Steep fines, alternatives such as the Happy Seeder machine and awareness drives have been pushed by the Centre and states for the past three years but the practice is far from finished.

Man kills self over daughter’s decision to live with woman

JIGNASA SINHA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

MINUTES AFTER an argument with his 20-year-old daughter, who wanted to move in with another woman, a 60-year-old man allegedly committed suicide by shooting himself in the abdomen, police said. The incident took place in Shahdara Tuesday night. Police said the man, who hailed from UP’s Badai, ironed clothes for a living. His daughter, a school dropout, helped him out. Amit Sharma, DCP (Shahdara), said: “A woman called us around 9.30 pm and said her father had shot himself in the stomach. We rushed to the spot and found the man lying on the floor in his room. Before the incident, the man had an argument with his daughter and went outside. Twenty minutes later, he

came back, went to a room and shot himself. His wife and daughter were home at the time.” Speaking to *The Indian Express*, the woman said her father was aware of her sexual orientation but was against her moving in with her partner. She added that she has known her partner since childhood. “It was difficult to tell my parents about my sexual orientation, so I left for Punjab with my partner three months ago. But my father found us and I returned home. I was scared he would not accept me and get angry but he supported us. My partner had been living with us for the past two months,” she said. The woman said she wanted to live “independently, and one day get married to her partner”. “When I spoke to him about moving out on Tuesday, he got angry and hit me. He then left the house and came back after some

time. He went to his room and we heard a gunshot... we opened the door and found him on the floor... I don’t know why he would take such a step,” she said. The woman’s brother said their father was worried after she left the house in June. “He wanted her to come back. When she told us about her sexual orientation, we were shocked... But he accepted her and told her to stay at our place. After she told us she wanted to move out, we couldn’t understand her decision. On the day of the incident, he tried to convince her to stay but she refused. That night, he got angry and hit her. He didn’t want them to live on their own.” Police said they are verifying the family’s claims. Police have filed a case under sections 25, 27, 54 and 59 of the Arms Act. Inquest proceedings are being conducted under CrPC section 174.

Amid talk of factionalism, all BJP MPs put up united front

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

WITH FIVE months to go for the Delhi Assembly polls, BJP leaders in the state fired a salvo at the AAP government, alleging that it has done nothing to regularise unauthorised colonies despite being in power for over four years. The AAP responded that it had no problem with the BJP “claiming credit”. In a press conference Thursday, where eight BJP MPs — seven Lok Sabha MPs and one Rajya Sabha MP — were present, Union Minister and Chandni Chowk MP Harsh Vardhan said there were some things the Delhi government could have done to regularise these colonies but it, instead, did nothing. “There were three-four things the Delhi government was required to do for regularisation, as per regulations of 2008. The AAP government was supposed to complete delineation of colonies, constitute a committee to confer



At Thursday’s conference. Tashi Tobgyal

titles, fix charges and fee for regularisation, but it did not fulfil its responsibilities — despite being in power... The Modi government started working on the issue as soon as it came to power,” he said. A committee set up by the Centre recently shared a draft of rules for regularisation with the state. Consultation on the draft is on, Vardhan said. AAP, meanwhile, in a statement said: “The Aam Aadmi Party has no problem with BJP claiming credit for this important issue. On behalf of the people of Delhi, AAP wants to tell BJP to please take all the credit. AAP appeals to the BJP’s central government that it should immediately approve the decision

taken by the Delhi Cabinet in November 2015 for regularisation of unauthorised colonies, and recommendations sent by the Delhi government last month on the draft cabinet note of the Union Urban Development Ministry.” This is for the first time since the Lok Sabha poll results that all seven BJP MPs have addressed a joint press conference. As per sources, with polls drawing closer, talk of factionalism within the BJP Delhi unit has also been increasing, something the top leadership has cautioned the unit about. Thursday’s conference was also a show of unity, a leader said. While eight MPs were present, only Vardhan addressed the gathering.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

12TH BATTALION THE JAT REGIMENT MARTYR’S DAY (IN MEMORIAM)

In everlasting memory of these brave sons of “Bahadur 12” who made the supreme sacrifice of their lives to preserve the integrity of the motherland while serving with battalion in various operations.

“INDO-PAK WAR” 1971 (BANGLADESH)

Maj Sudesh Kumar, Nb Sub Prem Kumar, Nb Sub SD Tiwari, L Hav Bodhu Ram, Nk Kartar Singh, LNK Amar Chand, LNK Girdahari Lal, LNK Kapur Singh, Sep Sardara Singh, Sep Bhagmal, Sep Sandoor Singh, Sep Makhan Singh, Sep Jai Narain, Sep Pit Ram, Sep/Ck Ram Singh, Sep Nihal Singh and Sep Ram Chander.

“OP PAWAN” 1988-90 (Sri Lanka)

Maj Michael Lewis, Capt Pramod Jolly, Hav Dalip Singh, Hav Prabhu Dayal, Nk Babu Singh, Nk Mohinder Singh, Nk Bhoop Singh, Nk RN Mishra, LNK Phool Singh, Sep Babu Lal, Sep Sube Singh, Sep Satyawan, Sep Daljit Singh, Sep Ramesh Kumar, Sep Ram Singh, Sep Kapoor Singh and Sep Netra Singh.

“OP RAKSHAK” 1992-2011 (J&K)

Maj Manoj Kumar Pandey, Maj Sobhit Tiwari, Sub Nathu Ram Karwasra, Hav Ghan Shyam, CHM Mohan Chander Joshi, LNK Banshi Dhar, SM, Sep Dharmender Prasad Bharati, LNK Raj Kumar Mahto, Sep Sultan Singh, SM, Sep Man Singh and Nk Parvin Kumar.

“OP MEGHDOOT/OP VIJAY” 1999(J&K)

Nb Sub Rajbir Singh, LNK Vijaya Kumar Shukla, LNK Khadag Singh, SM, Sub Gardari Lal, Nb Sub Gulzar Singh and Sep Pawan Kumar.

“OP PARAKRAM” 2001-2002

Sub Mam Chand, CHM Siya Ram Gurjar, Hav Shishu Pal, Nk Sis Ram, Nk Dinesh Chandra, Nk Ram Sahay Mishra, Nk Rajender Singh, LNK Chandan Singh, Sep Mukesh Kumar, Sep Vinod Kumar, Sep Virendra Prasad, Sep Satish Kumar, Sep Parvender Kumar, Sep Savinder Kumar, Sep Sunil, Sep Mukesh, Sep Atar Singh, and Sep Ganesh Kumar.

On our ‘Martyr’s Day’ we, once again, pledged to follow your personal example of dedication towards duty. You are no longer with us but your memories will be with us forever.

Sep Gopal Singh, Vrc,

CO & ALL RANKS OF 13 MECH INF (18 RAJPUT)

“AKHAURA TIGERS”

Martyr of CISF on 13-09-2002

5th Res. Bn. Gzd

CISF proudly remembers the supreme sacrifice of this brave-heart. On this day, he laid down his life at the altar of duty while fighting with the terrorists. His courage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the force. The force will remain eternally indebted to him for his noblest deed.

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान रोपड़

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROPAR

रूपनगर, पंजाब - 140001 / Rupnagar, Punjab - 140001

निविदा सूचना - 152/2019/ Tender Notice No. 152/2019

मिनिस्त्रिखत उपकरणों की आपूर्ति हेतु दूई बीड प्रणाली में अनुभवीकों से सीलबंद निविदाएं आमंत्रित है / Sealed tenders from the supplier are invited in Two Bid System for the supply of following equipments:

अनुक्र./S.No.	उपकरण का नाम /Name of the Equipment	मात्रा/Quantity
1.	RF & DC SPUTTERING SYSTEM (HIGH VACCUUM)	1
2.	CYCLIC TRIAXIAL TESTING APPARATUS	1

विरल विनिर्देशों तथा निम्नलिखित और हार्ड कोड प्रणाली में अनुभवीकों से सीलबंद निविदाएं आमंत्रित है / Sealed tenders from the supplier are invited in Two Bid System for the supply of following equipments: [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in) पर संकेत कते निदेशक भा.प्रौ.सं.रोपड़ किसी अथवा सभी निविदाओं को बिना किसी कारण बताये बिना स्वीकार/अस्वीकार करने का अधिकार रखते है। टेंडर से प्राप्त निविदाओं पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा। For detailed specifications and terms & conditions please visit Institute website: [www.iitrpr.ac.in/tenders](http://www.iitrpr.ac.in/tenders) or [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in). The Director, IIT ROPAR reserves the right to accept/ reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons thereof. Tenders received late shall not be considered.

कुलसचिव/ Registrar

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड

विद्युत जानपद निर्माण खण्ड, कोलागढ़ पावर हाउस, देहरादून

निविदा सूचना

अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा अनुमती व प्रतिष्ठित फर्मों से, जो कि केन्द्र/राज्य सरकार, केन्द्र/राज्य सरकार के निगमों में सम्बन्धित कार्यों की आपूर्ति/स्थापना(Supply/Installation) का सन्तोषजनक अनुभव रखते हो, निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु तीन माह के लिये वेध मुहरबन्द निविदाये दो भागों में आमंत्रित की जाती है। जो दिनांक 27/09/2019 को 14.00 बजे तक बेची जायेगी तथा दिनांक 27/09/2019 को ही 15.00 बजे तक प्राप्त कर 15.30 बजे सार्वजनिक रूप से निविदादाताओं के समक्ष खोली जायेगी। उक्त तिथि को अवकाश होने पर निविदायें अगले कार्य दिवस में प्राप्त की जायेगी व खोली जायेगी। निविदा के प्रथम भाग में धरोहर राशि, अनुभव प्रमाण—पत्र, जीएसटीसी पंजीकरण सम्बन्धी प्रमाण पत्र, ईओपीएफओ (रजिस्ट्रेशन एवं माह सितम्बर 2019 का भुगतान प्रमाण पत्र) एवं आयकर की नवीनतम विवरणी से सम्बन्धित प्रमाण पत्र जमा करने होंगे तथा द्वितीय भाग में निविदा प्रस्ताव रखा जायेगा। प्रार्थना पत्र के साथ सम्बन्धित कार्य के अनुभव प्रमाण पत्र की प्रति तथा धरोहर राशि जो एक0डी0आर0/सी0डी0आर0 के रूप में अधिशारी अभियन्ता, विद्युत जानपद निर्माण खण्ड, देहरादून के पक्ष में देय होगी जमा करनी होगी अन्यथा निविदा प्रपत्र जारी नहीं किया जायेगा। जमा की गई धरोहर राशि को निविदा स्वीकृत होने के पश्चात् ही अवमुक्त किया जायेगा। डाक द्वारा निविदा प्रपत्र मंगाने पर रु0 100/- अतिरिक्त व्यय देय होगा। डाक द्वारा निविदा प्रपत्र मंगाने पर विलम्ब के लिए विभाग उत्तरदायी नहीं होगा। 1. निविदा संख्या-20/2019-20- तकनीकी प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र, बहादुराबाद, हरिद्वार में निम्न तालिका के अनुसार सामग्री/उपकरण स्थापित करना एवं सम्बन्धित अनुपस्थापन कार्य। धरोहर राशि-15,000.00. निविदा शुल्क 250.00 + जीएसटीसी, कार्य की अवधि 01 माह।

S. N.	Name/Description of Item/Work	Qty. Required
1	Providing and Installation of Roller Blinds made of 100% Polyester with Acrylic Coating with all Fixtures Complete in all respect. (for 11 No. Windows)	270 Sq. Ft
2	OC TV Camera Complete Setup including : Dahua 2MP Dom/Bullet Camera IP PoE-6 No., 8 CH NVR-1 No., 8 PoE Switch-01No., 6U Rack with PDU-1No., 2TB HDD-01No., RJ Connectors, HDMI Cable, 32" LED Screen-01No., Pipe and Clips with installation	1 Job
3	Electric Geyser 25 Ltr. with all accessories & installation Complete in all respect	1 No.
4	Mattress Bonded Foam 6ftX3ftX4" (Kurl-On) fine Heavy	1 No.
5	Pillow Compressed Polyfill (Bombay Dyeing)	1 No.
6	Bed Sheet with Pillow Cover (Bombay Dyeing)	2 No.
7	Blanket Soft Single Bed fine	1 No.
8	Dining Chair without arm, frame made of MS Capsule Pipe with leatherlike finish seat and back	36 No.
9	Dismantling and Reinstallation of existing AC from Old Classroom and Guest House to Mess block, Complete in all respect with Gas Charging etc.	3 No.

पत्रांक : 492 / वि0जा0नि0ख0 / दे0दून / टी-1 (पी)

दिनांक 12 / 09 / 2019

अधिशारी अभियन्ता

“राष्ट्र हित में विद्युत बचाये”

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KENDRAPARA-JAJPUR

345-O

NO. Tender Online RCK - 21/19 Letter No.- 1818 e-Procurement NOTICE Date: 12.09.2019

1. Name of the Work : Construction of Roads & CD works including maintenance for 5 years under PMGSY-II Batch-I (2018-19) and PMGSY (2018-19) Batch-I packages in the District of Kendrapara and Jajpur.

2. Class of Contractor : as specified in the Column - 10 of the Annexure.

3. Time for Completion : as specified in the Column - 08 of the Annexure.

4. Estimated Cost : As per annexure Column - 7 attached.

5. Detail Projects : As per annexure attached.

6. Other Details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender on-line for bidding	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of tender
1	2	3	4	5
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara- Jajpur	Tender Online RCK - 21/19	20.09.2019 at 11.00 A.M.	11.10.2019 up to 5.00 P.M.	09.10.2019 up to 2.00 P.M.

The Original EMD & DD towards paper cost and affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with Bid documents shall be physically furnished by the bidder in original before the concerned Division / Circle offices within the specified period as mentioned in the NIT, otherwise his bid will be treated as invalid and rejected. Further details can be seen from the website: [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in)

25129/11/0008/1920

Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur

DP015/19

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SETTLE TRAFFIC CHALLANS AT NATIONAL LOK ADALAT ON 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 FROM 10:00 AM to 03:30 PM

PENDING “ON THE SPOT” AND NOTICE BRANCH TRAFFIC CHALLANS of all types of vehicles (Including Commercial Vehicles)

FOR “ON THE SPOT” TRAFFIC CHALLANS All concerned Traffic Courts of the Metropolitan Magistrates

FOR NOTICE BRANCH TRAFFIC CHALLANS Any court at Court Complexes i.e. Tis Hazari, Karkardooma, Patiala House, Saket, Rohini & Dwarka

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# New Gurgaon

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## A destination for smart investment

**How is the real estate sector's health now?**

From our point of view, the market is positively upbeat. It depends on the developer who is delivering. If someone is not delivering, for him the market may be negative. However, for the past 6-7 years, both buyers' and investors' confidence has been hit. The negative sentiment and loss of faith among homebuyers is because they didn't get the possession.

I will explain why there have been problems related to some projects and why often developers are being portrayed in negative light. Any project that comes in the market, has a majority of real end users who wish to buy a property and live. There is lesser number of investors. The ratio often is of 70:30. But there is a challenge.

While 70 per cent consumers are paying, remaining investors are often unable to hold their payments and don't pay on time. But to complete a project, a developer will need 100 per cent money as receivables. Developers are already burdened by government charges, taxes etc., which are mandatory. Developers also take heavy loans to build a project. But in absence of receivables from a significantly high number of investors, they are unable to repay to banks and complete the construction. As a result, both homebuyers and developers suffer.

**How is the situation in Gurgaon and rest of NCR? How is the city doing in comparison to rest of the NCR?**

Gurgaon has been among the best performing markets in the country, from the perspective of both the end users and investors. While it is a millennial city, it is also the hub of all major multi-nationals and industries.

Moreover, the demography has also contributed to the growth of the city. More than 50 per cent people living in Gurgaon are from other cities. They need a house to live. Compared to this, Noida and neighbouring cities like Bhiwadi lack amenities and facilities. Through different expressways, Gurgaon is now well-connected with other parts of the region and Delhi. The city is very well connected to the international and domestic airports, located at Delhi's border.

**Please share some details about your projects.**

Recently, we have completed our residential projects:



**S S Group, Managing Director & CEO**  
*Ashok Singh Jaunapuria says the market is good for those who want to conduct the business in a fair manner. However, the policy framework in the country should be balanced to incorporate not just the errant builders but also those homebuyers who delay their payments and miss on their timelines*

The Coralwood & Almeria in Sector 84 Gurgaon. We have got the Occupation Certificate (OC) also. In the Sector 86, we have also delivered Omnia, our commercial project. Our ongoing project The Leaf is in Sector 85. Here, we aim to take part OC by December and take the project to an advanced stages. We have also launched another commercial project, SS High Point in Sector 86.

**Have you tied up with any fund/ institutional lending partner for your projects?**

We do our projects through our internal accruals and do not depend on money from any institutional fund houses and investment companies.

**What are the advantages of New Gurgaon in the region?**

Connectivity is the most factor for any project to succeed. Sectors of New Gurgaon are well connected and have four connecting points: First is through NH 8, second is though the Dwarka Road, third is the multi-corridor road that is connecting the region from Dwarka to Manesar, and fourth is the Manesar Village Road. All

these roads give ample space for vehicular traffic.

Compared to this, other neighbouring locations and markets in the region do not enjoy such great connectivity with other localities. On all parameters — infrastructure, connectivity and livability quotient — New Gurgaon is much better than other regions. In addition to these, New Gurgaon now has all basic amenities such as schools and markets. Superb surrounding infrastructure, including the provision of sewerage and water drains, makes the area full proof.

Other regions have challenges. For example, Golf Course Road Extension sees huge traffic due to the neighbouring villages. This proves to be an impediment for common people. In New Gurgaon, there is no such problem. The other big advantage is the pricing. New Gurgaon properties are much cheaper than those available in some other nearby regions.

**Can RERA solve the mistrust among buyers and resolve the issues relating loss of credibility?**

If the RERA machinery can work in a balanced and just manner, the problem of mistrust can be resolved. But

there are developers who are still building projects and trying deliver despite problems of non-payment from buyers and investors, and squeeze of liquidity.

Any company doing good business will also take care of procedures and follow the right path and do business in the most ethical manner. We also follow the same principle and conduct the business in the most ethical and just manner. For instance, we also try to help consumers on compassionate grounds. For example, in the past we have given leeway to some customers to not pay for more than six months, when the family has suffered due to some sudden death or loss of job. And we have still tried to deliver. When we have delayed projects, we have also compensated our buyers for the delay.

**Do you agree that sales has seen some revival in 2018 and first half of 2019?**

We have registered good sales compared to last year. And we expect the momentum to remain healthy.

**It has been observed that prospective homebuyers are looking to invest in ready to move in**

**properties. Do you see this as a challenge?**

In today's market, it is a big challenge in front of homebuyers as well as developers. This is especially true for those who are buying through mortgage. However, it also beneficial to buy in an under-construction project. Here's how: Developers are now giving schemes of 80:20. Buyer has to pay a 20 per cent advance and pay the remaining 80 percent when the developer is ready to award possession. This gives some visibility on the project completion. There is no tension on taking a loan instantly. Moreover, post RERA implementation in the country, developers are bound to deliver. Escrow mechanism brought in by RERA have made it mandatory for developers to block 70 percent of the money received from buyers in an account for construction. To withdraw money, developer need to go through an approval process at each of the construction stage. Hence, at a cheaper rate you buy a property, which otherwise will be at a premium if one buys when it is in a ready stage. However, it is important to see the track record of developers, locational advantages of the project and other amenities in and around the project.

**What are the prospects of Gurgaon in terms of commercial projects?**

Commercial projects are doing well. However, certain developers who ran schemes such as assured rental schemes, will certainly not be able to sustain themselves. So there is a threat to Gurgaon's commercial market, as sustainability is an issue going ahead.

**What advice do you have for prospective buyers looking to invest in the current market?**

One should check the background of the developer. He should also go and check the status of the project on ground. Seeing the project location from the angle of connectivity helps. Look at problems in the region if the infrastructure is ready. See the surroundings also. And finally, do no fall for marketing gimmicks.

Think about the model of selling and understand the viability of the projects. If the project is just launched, go for construction linked plan. For projects nearing completion, you should opt for plans that are safest. Here one can go for a scheme of 25:75.



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\*1 Sq. meter = 10.764 Sq. Ft. and 1 acre = 4048 Sq. Meter.

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## Unhappy with food, man sets wife on fire

New Delhi: Unhappy with his dinner, a 26-year-old man allegedly set his pregnant wife on fire in Sangam Vihar. The woman sustained 20% burn injuries and the husband, Vivek Kumar, was arrested, police said.

According to police, the incident took place on September 8 after Kumar returned home and asked for food. “He threw the plate and got into an argument with his wife. Around 1.30 am, when she was sleeping, he set her on fire. Hearing her screams, her in-laws came to her rescue and took her to the hospital,” police said.

In a separate incident, a 21-year-old man was arrested for allegedly strangling his wife over a suspected affair in North West Delhi’s Jahangirpuri. Police said the accused confessed to the crime on being questioned. **ENS**

## Four journalists held over ‘scuffle with police’

Noida: Three journalists were arrested following a scuffle over an alleged traffic violation in Noida’s Sector 58, police claimed, adding that another journalist was also held for joining the altercation.

Police claimed the men were stopped during patrolling as the motorcycle they were on didn’t have proper registration plates.

“It was found that they did not have documents of the vehicle. They tried to pressure personnel into withdrawing the complaint. A scuffle broke out and the accused manhandled the policemen,” claimed an officer. **ENS**

# Housing survey hopes to capture city ‘nomads’ too

**SOURAV ROY BARMAN**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE DELHI government’s housing board has started ground work to decide if the city’s nomadic communities should be a part of its ongoing survey to assess housing needs of slum dwellers, according to officials privy to the development.

The demand survey, being carried out since mid-June by an NGO chosen through a bidding process, has covered approximately 1 lakh households in slums so far. The submissions were made to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal’s office by the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) Thursday. “A few members of nomadic communities met CM Kejriwal recently. They requested that the demand survey include them as well, as the young generation is more keen on settling down and taking up professions other than what they have been doing traditionally. Subsequently, the CM’s office forwarded the proposal to DUSIB,” an official said.

The official said for now, DUSIB has asked its area engineers to map such communities in their areas. “Before we include them in the survey, we need to hear them out. Such a decision cannot be taken based on the views presented by a delegation. Many of them would not like to move away from their sources of earnings. We will have to ensure that we provide them with work places to showcase their skills. After the local assessments, a re-

port will be sent to the CM’s office,” the official said.

The nomadic communities, which also include members of denotified tribes, are mostly into puppetry, singing, acrobatics, construction work, showing tricks with animals, etc.

Meanwhile, as part of the survey, teams of volunteers are covering an average of 2,200 households daily. They have been given a deadline of November.

Delhi has around 675 slum clusters officially, which are mostly on government land. The land-owning agencies include DDA, the municipal corporations, DUSIB and railways.

In case of the ongoing survey, the DDA has communicated to the Delhi government that it will take care of rehabilitation of around 55 slum clusters falling on its land. Once a slum cluster is surveyed, the NGO submits a report to DUSIB after sorting out data collected from ration cards, Aadhaar cards, voter IDs along with pictures through an in-house mobile app. “Later, DUSIB does a verification covering around 10% of households surveyed in a cluster. After that, households eligible for rehabilitation under the Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana are frozen. Eligible families will then be given certificates,” the official explained.

Initially, the survey was supposed to take place to identify potential beneficiaries under the Centre’s Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) scheme, which has been replaced by the Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana (MMAY).

## DUSU POLLS: VOTER TURNOUT AT 39.9%

# Fewer students vote in DU, some hiccups

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

VOTING PERCENTAGE in the Delhi University Students’ Union (DUSU) polls saw a considerable dip — of 4 percentage points — this year. The overall voter turnout was recorded at 39.9%. The 43 morning colleges and departments which had concluded voting by 1 pm registered a voting percentage just below 40%, at 39.89%, which is over 3 percentage points less than last year’s 43.8%.

Polling at nine centres — where voting went on till 7.30 pm — did little to pull up the voter turnout and lifted the percentage by a whisker to 39.9%. Over 1.3 lakh students were eligible to vote in this year’s polls.

Last year, the students’ elections had seen the highest voting percentage in 11 years. This year’s lower percentage turnout dipped below 2017’s 42.5%. Barring 2016 polls, where the turnout was 36.9%, this year’s voter turnout has been the lowest since 2012.

In this year’s DUSU polls, the three major organisations contending for the positions of president, vice-president, secretary and joint secretary are RSS-affiliated ABVP, Congress-backed NSUI and Left-affiliated AISA. Last year, the ABVP had won all posts barring that of secretary, which was bagged by NSUI.

Colleges also voted for their individual college unions and even as the counting was under-



At Ramjas College, Thursday. Abhinav Saha

way, the ABVP stated that it had won at least one post out of 35 posts. “We have swept the entire panel in Bhaskaracharya College, Ramanujan College, Rajdhani College and Shri Ram College of Commerce. We are finding out the numbers by and by,” claimed ABVP media in-charge Ashutosh Singh.

Meanwhile, NSUI claimed that it was leading the union and was in the majority in 22 colleges.

The day’s voting also saw a couple of hiccups along the way. The NSUI complained about police presence after their joint secretary candidate Abhishek Chaprana was detained by police from Dyal Singh College.

According to police, Chaprana was canvassing for votes in the college. Police said he also “misbehaved” when they tried to intervene. Chaprana was detained and released later after questioning, said police.

The NSUI also complained about EVM malfunctioning at Aryabhata College. “Again, in Aryabhata College, EVM is malfunctioning against NSUI. When ballot is pressed for NSUI candidate, EVM does not light up to indicate the registration of vote... We say no to elections being hijacked by thugs and frauds,” said NSUI national in-charge Ruchi Gupta.

The university’s election office denied it to be a case of EVM malfunctioning, but replaced the machine nonetheless.

“Votes were being registered and the machine was making the sound when a vote was cast. Because the issue was raised, the machine was replaced. Until then, 152 votes had been registered on it,” said Chief Election Officer Ashok Prasad.

The counting of votes will be conducted and results declared Friday.

# Math to fashion, CBSE awards its A-plus teachers

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THIRTY FOUR teachers from schools across the country were given the CBSE Teachers Award 2018-2019 by HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Thursday. Twelve of the teachers are from Delhi schools. From trying to make math less intimidating and creating opportunities in fashion to encouraging social work, here are some of those whose contributions were recognised.

**RANJUL MALHOTRA**  
**SLNS DAV Public School**

As a teacher of fashion studies to students of classes XI and XII, Malhotra has had many an issue to address — motivating students, convincing parents of the value of fashion studies and teaching students that fashion is hard work. Fashion studies is a vocational subject in the CBSE and is offered in Malhotra’s school as an alternative to mathematics.

“A lot of my students are not very strong academically; it’s for me to show them that this is a skill that can help them grow... I also have to counsel parents to convince them that their kids will not become tailors and can, instead, run MSMEs which can provide opportunities for many people...,” she said.

She has played a role in getting a fashion lab set up in school. She also conducts mentoring programmes and organises visits to NIFT, Pearl Academy, Delhi Haat and the State Emporia.

**SAPNA MAKAN**  
**Bal Bharti Public School, Rohini Sector 14**

A math teacher for the last 22 years, Makan has found ways to integrate teaching with dance, cooking, sport and tribal art to make the subject more interesting.

For instance, students are roped in to perform Bharatanatyam to teach Euclid’s geometry through *mudras* and

patterns. “Through making *chapat-is*, I teach them about conversion of solids — the shape changes but volume remains the same. I integrate probability and pythagoras theorem with sport — by throwing a volleyball and studying its trajectory,” she said. Makan said she tries to dedicate one period a week to these activities.

**RAHUL SOFAT**  
**Air Force Golden Jubilee Institute, Subroto Park**

As a math teacher for classes XI and XII, Sofat’s emphasis is on making the subject less intimidating. “There is a rat-race for high grades in schools but there has to be a transformation in the way we teach the subject. We need to move away from rote learning and towards conceptual understanding — the phobia will go if we can engage their creativity,” he said.

Sofat develops mathematical kits to conduct activities for various concepts, and said he has developed around 60 different activities. His school also has a separate section for children with special needs.

He has worked as a resource person for NCERT and for the development of content for Massive Online Open Courses for the MHRD’s SWAYAM portal.

**SURUCHI GANDHI**  
**Bal Bharti Public School, Dwarka**

As the principal of her school, Gandhi pushes her students towards community work.

“Every school is in a rat-race to produce doctors and engineers, but we have only had one Mother Teresa! I truly believe that schools should work more on this aspect,” she said.

Last year in a tie-up with Sulabh International, her students had helped set up makeshift toilets and washbasins in slums located near the school: “Students conduct computer literacy classes at Basti Vikas Kendras, they have contributed to flood relief efforts... they have been trained to perform CPR.”

# Couple who ran away from home found dead

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

A YOUNG couple was found dead inside a park in Central Delhi’s Paharganj Thursday afternoon, said police. According to police, the two hailed from Haryana, and had fled their homes Tuesday to come to Delhi.

Mandeep Singh Randhawa, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central), said, “We received a PCR call at 6.30 pm from a person saying that a man and a woman were lying unconscious in the park. We rushed to the spot and saw a man aged around 24-25 years and a woman aged about 20 years lying on the ground. They were taken to a hospital where the

doctors declared them dead on arrival. No injuries have been found on their bodies. It appears they consumed a poisonous substance. Their families have been informed and a post-mortem will be conducted.”

No suicide note has been recovered from the spot, said police.

Police said the victims’ families had filed missing person reports at the local police station, and added that the woman’s family filed a complaint against the man as well.

According to an eyewitness, the couple was seen sitting in the park at 1 pm and were later found lying unconscious.

Police said that luggage and jewellery has been recovered from the spot.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE**  
No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/ NIT/31/2019-W/3 Dated: 12.09.2019  
The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work:  
1. **Name of work** Heavy Repair/ replacement of washable apron of 3 platforms at DLI main station in the section of SSE/W/DLI under ADE/W/DLI  
2. **Approx. cost of work** Rs. 4,09,30,405.64 (Rupees four crore nine lakh thirty thousand four hundred five & sixty four paise only)  
3. **Earnest money to be deposited** Rs. 3,54,700/- (Rupees three lakh fifty four thousand seven hundred only)  
4. **Cost of tender document** Rs. 11800/-  
5. **Date & time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender** 11.10.2019 @ 15.00 hrs.  
6. **Website particulars where complete details of tender document can be seen** www.ireps.gov.in  
• The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian railway E-procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for participating in the e-tender system.  
• For all terms and conditions please refer tender document.  
• No manual offers are acceptable  
• Cost of tender document and Earnest Money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.  
2926/19  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**UJVVN LTD.**  
H.O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephones : 0135-2523100 & Fax : 0135- 2763508  
CIN No.-U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website : [www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com](http://www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com)  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
The Office of Executive Engineer (E&M), Pashulok Barrage, Rishikesh invites sealed tenders from interested firms for following work/supply.  
**T-10/EE(E&M)/PB/2019-20:** Annual Routine sweeping & cleaning at Virbhadra Barrage, Pashulok, Rishikesh.  
Estimate Value of Tender : Rs.507537.00 + GST extra.  
Earnest Money : Rs.15226/-.  
Tender Cost : Rs. 590/-  
Date/Time of availability of tender on website : 11.09.2019 from 17:00 Hrs. Last date/Time of downloading tender documents : 03.10.2019 up to 11:00 Hrs.  
Last date for receipt of Tender : 03-10-2019 up to 17:00 Hrs. Date/Time of opening : 04-10-2019 from 11:00 Hrs.  
For Eligibility Criteria and full & further details kindly visit our website [www.ujvnl.com](http://www.ujvnl.com). Tenders can only be downloaded from our website & their cost has to be paid at the time of submission.  
Executive Engineer (E&M), Pashulok Barrage, Rishikesh  
Letter No. 526 Dated 12.09.2019  
**"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"**

**पश्चिमांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि. आवश्यक सूचना**  
1- सोभाग्य योजना का विस्तारिकरण।  
भारत सरकार द्वारा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सोभाग्य योजना के अंतर्गत पूर्व में संचालित योजना में जनपद-मुजफ्फरनगर के अंतर्गत समस्त ग्रामों/मज्रों में अनुबंधित कार्यदायी संस्था द्वारा इच्छुक व्यक्ति को बत्ती पंखा के विद्युत संयोजन निर्गत किये गये हैं। जिसका समापन दिनांक 31.03.2019 को हो चुका है। जिसको भारत सरकार द्वारा पुनः विस्तारित कर दिनांक 02.10.2019 तक जो भी शेष/इच्छुक व्यक्ति विद्युत संयोजन लेने से वंचित/रह गये हैं उनको वर्तमान में विद्युत संयोजन की आवश्यकता है। वह अपनी आधार कार्ड आई-डी को हस्ताक्षरित प्रति व पासपोर्ट साइज फोटों संबंधित क्षेत्र के अवर अभियन्ता से सम्पर्क स्थापित कर संयोजन ले सकते हैं।  
नोट- किसी भी परिसर पर यदि सोभाग्य योजना/अन्य किसी भी मद में विद्युत बत्ती पंखा संयोजन पूर्व में संचालित है। उन उपभोक्ताओं को विद्युत संयोजन लेने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। यदि किसी भी उपभोक्ता द्वारा अपने परिसर पर संयोजन स्वीकृत होने के अतिरिक्त पुनः संयोजन के लिये आवेदन किया जाता है तो उस दशा में दोनों संयोजनों की पूर्व जिम्मेदारी स्वयं उपभोक्ता/परिजनों की होगी।  
2- अनियमित रूप से संचालित निजी नलकूपों का नियमितीकरण।  
जनपद-मुजफ्फरनगर के संबंधित क्षेत्रों के कृषकों द्वारा स्वयं खरीदे गये ट्रांसफार्मरों/अन्य विद्युत सामग्री जो अपने संसाधनों द्वारा स्थापित कर विद्युत का प्रयोग अनियमित रूप से कर लिया गया/किया जा रहा है। जिसके कारण कृषकों के क्षतिग्रस्त ट्रांसफार्मरों को बदलने में उत्पन्न हो रही समस्याओं को समाप्त करने के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश पावर कारपोरेशन लि., लखनऊ द्वारा निम्नलिखित आदेश पारित किये गये हैं।  
उत्तर प्रदेश पावर कारपोरेशन लि., लखनऊ ने अपने पत्रांक 3864/रेसो/तकनीकी/डाक को दिनांक 06.12.2018 द्वारा क्षेत्रों में अनियमित रूप से निजी नलकूपों को विद्युत संयोजन दिये गये हैं। अनियमित रूप से विद्युत लाईनों का निर्माण कराया जाना ऐसे अनियमित संयोजनधारकों के पास पासबुक तैयार हो जाना एवं सर्विस कनेक्शन चार्ज जमा नहीं होना इत्यादि अनियमितताएं प्रकाश में आई हैं। प्रति निजी नलकूप संयोजनों की विद्युत लाईनों/परिसरों/हैटु लगभग 1.5 लाख की धनराशि का औसतन आंस्कलन लिये जाने व भण्डार से किसी अतिरिक्त सामग्री के निर्गत न किये जाने की दशा में इस आंस्कलित धनराशि का 15 प्रतिशत रु.-22,500.00 एक मुफ्त प्रसि प्रतियोजन लाईन इत्यादि के जमा कराये जाने पर नियमित किये जाने के निर्देश प्राप्त है। जिसकी दिनांक 31.10.2019 तक विस्तारित की गयी है।  
SD/-  
पत्रांक 1514/वि.वि.म. मुनगर/कैम्प दिनांक :12.09.2019

**"Save Energy for Benefit of Self and Nation"**  
**HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED**  
(A State Govt. Undertaking)  
**"CORRIGENDUM"**  
The date of sale, submission and opening of tender 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 (3X42MW), Thalot, District-Mandi (H.P.) against Tender Specification No.HPSEB/SE(E)/UHL-III/Boat/Buoy(Larji)/2019-2, which was scheduled to be opened on 12.09.2019, is hereby extended as per the following schedule:-  
Request for online tender documents: upto 27.09.2019 (17.00Hrs.)  
Issue of online tender documents (bid sheets) upto 27.09.2019 (17.00Hrs.)  
Last Date of Receipt of hard copy of EMD & Bid 04.10.2019 (17.00HRS.)  
Last date of submission of online tender upto 04.10.2019 (17.00Hrs.)  
Date of opening of Tender 05.10.2019 (11.00Hrs.)  
The detailed tender notification and above corrigendum can be viewed/downloaded free of cost from website [www.tenderwizard.com/HPSEB](http://www.tenderwizard.com/HPSEB). All other terms and conditions will remain same.  
Sd/-  
(Er. Yashwant Thakur)  
Superintending Engineer,  
Electrical (Design), UHL-III,  
HPSEB Ltd., Sundernagar,  
Distt. Mandi (HP)-175019,  
Tel/FAX:- 01907-264899,264806  
Email- ddhpseb@gmail.com.

**OFFICE OF MUNICIPAL BOARD MAHWA**  
Off. Address:- Behind Ponchayat samiti Nagar Palika Bhawan, Mahwa Rajasthan  
Email: [nagarpalikamahwa@gmail.com](mailto:nagarpalikamahwa@gmail.com)  
S.No/MBM/2019-20/2028 Date: 12.9.19  
**E-Notice Inviting Tender NIB No. 08/2019-20**  
Nagar palika MAHWA on behalf of ULBs/Local Self Government Department of Rajasthan invites online unconditional bids through e-procurement portal <https://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in> & <https://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in> from eligible bidders. Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the RTPP act 2012 and RTPP rules 2013, amended upto with Single Stage two envelop bidding procedure with pre- qualification filter is open to all bidders. **UBN NO-DLB1920WSOB09870**  

S. No.	Package No.	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lacs.)	Bid Security (Rs. In Rs.)	Period of completion
1	MB-08/2018-19 FOR NAGAR PALIKA MAHWA	249.67	499340	6 months
2	Document download/ sale	12.09.2019	6 pm	
3	Document download/ sale	03.10.2019	6 pm	
4	Bid open date	04.10.2019	10 am	

**Note-** Other term & condition can seen and read in office of municipal board mahwa.  
Sd/-  
(VIJAY SHANKER BOHRA)  
Chairman  
Nagar Palika Mahwa  
(TEJ RAM MEENA)  
Executive Officer  
Nagar Palika Mahwa

**Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd.**  
(A Government of India Undertaking)  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)**  
1. E-Tender No.: JP/EN/Vehicle Tender/3/2019-20. 2. Name of Work: Hiring of 8(Eight) Nos. Diesel driven four wheeler Vehicles for Maintenance work, Security and Crew Management under GM/Co-ordination/Jaipur. 3. Estimated Cost of Work: Rs. 57,26,735/- (Rs. Fifty Seven Lakh Twenty Six Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Five only) exclusive GST. 4. Completion Period: 12 months (Twelve months). 5. Type of BID : Open E-Tender Single Packet. 6. Tender Fee: Rs. 5000/- (Rs. Five Thousand only) + 18 % GST. 7. Earnest Money : Rs. 1,14,535/- (Rs. One Lakh Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Five only). 8. Availability of Bid documents from: 10.30 Hrs. of 12.09.2019 to 15.00 Hrs. of 15.10.2019. 9. Download bid documents upto: 15.00 Hrs. of 15.10.2019. 10. Last date & time of online receipt of bid: 15.00 Hrs. of 15.10.2019. 11. Date and time of Online opening of bid: 15.30 Hrs. of 15.10.2019. 12. Validity of offer: 90 days from the date of opening of tender. 13. Address of Communication: Office of the General Manager/Co-ordination Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. C-16, Khushi Vihar, Patrakar Colony, Mansarovar, Jaipur-302020. Tel: 0141-7196200 Web: [www.dfccil.gov.in](http://www.dfccil.gov.in). NOTE: 1. Tender documents should be downloaded from the website address [www.tenderwizard.com/DFCCIL](http://www.tenderwizard.com/DFCCIL) up to date and time mentioned above. EMD in the form of Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Pay Order, FDR and/or CFM-FDFCCIL, payable at Jaipur issued by any Nationalized / Schedule Bank to be deposited in the tender box kept in DFCCIL unit office, Jaipur or by post or through e-payment as per address/reference given in Bid documents before the schedule date and time of submission of the tender otherwise the Bid will not be considered/shall be summarily rejected. The tender document are also available on official website of DFCCIL i.e. [www.dfccil.gov.in](http://www.dfccil.gov.in). 2. No tender document will be available offline. Downloading tender documents online and submission of tender online is mandatory for this tender. 3. Any further addendum/Corrigendum for this tender will be posted in DFCCIL tendering portal website [www.tenderwizard.com/DFCCIL](http://www.tenderwizard.com/DFCCIL) only. Interested bidders are advised to check website regularly for any Addendum/Corrigendum.  
(Anurag Sharma)  
General Manager/Co-ordination  
DFCCIL, Jaipur

**यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण**  
प्रथम तल, कॉमर्शियल कॉम्प्लेक्स, पी-2, सेक्टर ओमेगा-1  
गेट नौडा - 201308, गौतमबुद्ध नगर (3090)  
दूरभाष नं०: 0120-2395201 फैक्स नं०: 0120-2395150  
Letter No. YEAG/M (PROJ/ECT)/2019/328 DATED:- 12.09.2019  
**ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**  
महाप्रबन्धक (परियोजना), यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे प्राधिकरण की ओर से यूपी.एल.सी. से ई-बिड हेतु पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों/फर्मों से ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या : YEAG/M (PROJ/ECT)/2019/327 दिनांक 12.09.2019 को माध्यम से उल्लेखित क्र. सं. 01 से 07 तक के कार्यों की ई-निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। क्र. सं. 01 के कार्यों की निविदा को दिनांक 13.09.2019 से दिनांक 20.09.2019 को 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है तथा प्राप्त निविदाएं दिनांक 23.09.2019 को 11.00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। क्र. सं. 02 से 04 तक के कार्यों की निविदाओं को दिनांक 20.09.2019 से दिनांक 30.09.2019 को 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है तथा प्राप्त निविदाएं दिनांक 01.10.2019 को 11.00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। क्र. सं. 05 से 07 तक के कार्यों की निविदाओं को दिनांक 20.09.2019 से दिनांक 03.10.2019 को 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है तथा प्राप्त निविदाएं दिनांक 04.10.2019 को 11.00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। निविदा सम्बन्धी समस्त विवरण व शर्तें यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट [www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com](http://www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com) एवं U.P.E.C.L. की वेबसाइट <http://tenderup.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। किसी परिवर्तन, संशोधन व अतिरिक्त सूचनाओं के लिए उक्त वेबसाइट देखते रहें।  
महाप्रबन्धक (परियोजना)

**DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004**  
No.GT/NOTICE/IREPS/2019-20/46, Global Tender Notice Date:09.09.2019  
E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items: S.No.: 1, Tender No.: 10191195, Due Date: 05.11.2019, Items and Part No.: Gasket to PL No. 16170313, Quantity: 594 Nos., S.No.: 2, Tender No.: 10191161, Due Date: 07.10.2019, Items and Part No.: Gasket to PL No. 16170039, Quantity: 4415 Nos., S.No.: 3, Tender No.: 10191178, Due Date: 01.11.2019, Items and Part No.: Set Gear Planet to PL No. 16210207, Quantity: 528 Nos., S.No.: 4, Tender No.: 10191128, Due Date: 14.10.2019, Items and Part No.: Manifold ASM to PL No. 16050198, Quantity: 173 Nos., S.No.: 5, Tender No.: 10191212, Due Date: 17.10.2019, Items and Part No.: Modified Aftar Cooler ASM to PL No. 16080919, Quantity: 199 Nos., S.No.: 6, Tender No.: 10191126, Due Date: 15.10.2019, Items and Part No.: Sensor-Turbo Speed to part no. 16241332, Quantity: 376 Nos., S.No.: 7, Tender No.: 10191164, Due Date: 21.10.2019, Items and Part No.: Ball Bearing assly. To part no. 16150510, Quantity: 1737 Nos.Bid No. IREPS-GT/2019-20/47, Date: 09.09.2019, S.No.: 1, Tender No.: 08191108, Due Date: 14.10.2019, Description: Bolt 1/2-13 DR Hex Drg. No. 9562662 Alt-A, Spec. As per DRG. (P.L. No. 19014363), Quantity: 2963 Nos., S.No.: 2, Tender No.: 08191091, Due Date: 14.10.2019, Description: Bolt Hexagon 1/4-20x1/2 CL 2A Plain DRG. No. 454812 Alt-A, Spec. As per DRG. (P.L. No. 19010102), Quantity: 1383 Nos., S.No.: 3, Tender No.: 08191099, Due Date: 15.10.2019, Description: Bolt 3/8-16 Hex DRG. No. 8424007 Alt-C, Spec. As per DRG. (P.L. No. 19012380), Quantity: 11991 Nos., S.No.: 4, Tender No.: 08191122, Due Date: 15.10.2019, Description: Washer Metric External Tooth Lock Drg. No. 114604 Alt-A, Spec. As per DRG. (P.L. No. 19780011), Quantity: 5324 Nos., S.No.: 5, Tender No.: 08191105, Due Date: 16.10.2019, Description: Bolt 1/2-13 12 PT DRG. No. 8460229 Alt-A, Spec. As per DRG. (P.L. No. 19014338), Quantity: 6126 Nos. S.No.: 6, Tender No.: 08191077, Due Date: 16.10.2019, Description: Thrust Washer as per Drawing No. 9528293 Alt-Cb, (P.L. No. 19397033), Quantity: 656 Nos., Note: For complete details of Tender Cost/EMD and downloading of Tender Documents, please visit Website: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).  
PRO/DLW-S/71 Controller of Stores  
f t /diesellocoworks "Website: [www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in)"



# 7 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI **CONFIDENTIAL**



## OLD VS NEW

THE TUSSLE in the Congress between Team Rahul Gandhi and members of the old guard played out once again on Thursday. A proposal mooted by the Congress's training department headed by Sachin Rao, a Rahul confidante, to appoint a group of motivators called 'preraks' to impart training to its workers was nixed at a meeting chaired by party president Sonia Gandhi. The meeting was discussing training module and the upcoming membership drive. One gets to hear that AICC treasurer Ahmed Patel raised objection to the word 'prerak' saying it sounded like 'pracharak' of the RSS. Rao tried to explain, but many others like Punjab PCC chief Sunil Jakhar spoke on similar lines. Sonia then said she was not comfortable with the word.

## FAMILIAR STREAK

INDIAN NATIONAL Lok Dal chief Om Prakash Chautala is known for his obduracy. Therefore, there was no surprise when he showed the door to grandson Dushyant Chautala after his supporters booed senior party leaders at a rally at Gohana last year. However, Dushyant, a former MP, seems to prove now that he has inherited this streak of his grandfather. While some Khap leaders of the Jat community are making frantic efforts to re-unite the squabbling family members ahead of the Assembly polls in Haryana, it is Dushyant who is apparently unwilling to fold up his Jannayak Janata Party.

## ON VACATION

BJP VETERAN L K Advani was in Kerala recently for a private visit. But his six-day visit, which started on September 2, became almost official with high-profile leaders making it a point to meet him. When Advani and his daughter Pratibha arrived in Kochi, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan happened to be there. After being told about Advani's visit, Vijayan came to him to enquire about his holiday plans. While staying in a resort in Mararikulam in Alappuzha, Advani had another visitor — Arif Mohammed Khan who had just taken over as Kerala's Governor. During his stay there, Advani got a taste of Kerala's famous boat race. Although the main events were to come up later, the oarsmen of Kerala Police Association organised a special training session for the BJP leader.

## FIGHTING FEUDS

KNOWN FOR her man-management skills, Sonia Gandhi is probably stepping in to bring peace to the Congress's Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan units. Sonia on Thursday met Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot. Incidentally, Pilot said law and order in the state is a matter of concern. Gehlot is in charge of Home Ministry. Sonia will meet both of them along with other Congress chief ministers on Friday as well. She also met Digvijaya Singh who is at the centre of a factional feud in Madhya Pradesh after Forest Minister Umang Singhar, considered close to Jyotiraditya Scindia, hit out at him.



TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee with state ministers and leaders in Kolkata. Partha Paul

## Mamata leads rally against NRC: Won't allow another Bengal Partition

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 12

TARGETING THE BJP-led central government, TMC supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday asserted that her party will not allow another 'partition of Bengal' in the name of NRC.

Banerjee on Thursday took to the streets to protest against the NRC in Assam. Addressing party workers at the end of a rally in north Kolkata, she warned the BJP not to "play with fire".

"Before Independence, there was a partition of Bengal against which Rabindranath Tagore wrote songs and held Rakshsha Bandhan...do not try to partition Bengal in the name of NRC. Do not play with fire and make no mistake, we are ready to defend the country when needed," Banerjee said.

"I want to make it very clear today that we will not let the BJP

implement NRC in Bengal in the name of language, religion, caste and creed. Those who live in Bengal are all citizens of this state. Some may speak in Bengali, others speak in Hindi or Urdu. This is the diversity and culture of Bengal," she added.

Referring to NRC in Assam, she said, "Out of the 19 lakh people who have been left out, 12 lakh are Hindus and one lakh Gorkhas. There are Hindi-speaking people, Muslims and Buddhists who have been excluded. There are many who have been left out despite submitting birth certificates and identity cards. I am a citizen of independent India. How many times do I have to prove my citizenship?"

Banerjee said Trinamool leaders cannot be silenced with the fear of investigation agencies. She also slammed the Centre for its attempts to privatise government entities and claimed that the country is witnessing an "economic landslide".

## Those who thought they were above law now in right place: PM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
RANCHI, SEPTEMBER 12

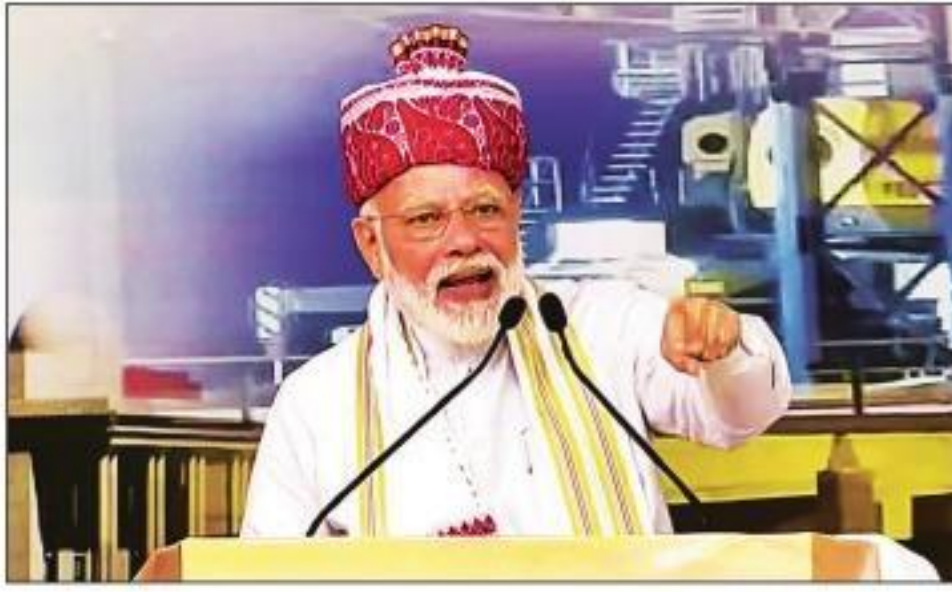
PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Thursday said development and the fight against corruption and terrorism during the first 100 days of this government was just a "trailer" and added, "puri film toh abhi baaki hai".

He also took a dig at former Finance Minister P Chidambaram, saying some people facing allegations of corruption have already been put in their "rightful place", a reference to him being sent to jail early this month.

The Prime Minister was speaking at Ranchi in poll-bound Jharkhand after launching a slew of measures, including pension schemes for farmers, shopkeepers and the self-employed. He also inaugurated a new building complex for the Assembly and a multi-modal cargo terminal, which is expected to ease transportation in the mine-rich region.

"Those who thought they are above law and above courts of the country are now approaching courts praying bail; some people have already gone inside (jail) which is their rightful place," Modi told a public meeting at Prabhat Tara maidan now renamed as Jagannath maidan here.

"Development is our pledge and commitment; never has the country seen such acceleration in development. In sabhi mamlo mein, desh ne abhi sarkar ka bas



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a public rally in Ranchi on Thursday. ANI

trailer dekha hai, puri film toh abhi baaki hai (The country has just seen the 'trailer' of the functioning of the government, the entire film remains to be seen)," he said.

The Prime Minister reiterated his commitment to securing the dignity of Muslims, citing the passage of the Triple Talaq Bill in the first session of Parliament after the new government came to power.

Speaking about Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Modi said, "We aim to bring about development in J&K and Ladakh, the work for which has begun in the first 100 days of NDA 2.0."

Modi also described the NDA as 'kaamdaar' (work-oriented) and 'damdaar' (strong).

He referred to how Jharkhand earlier witnessed

scams, but Chief Minister Raghubar Das made efforts to bring transparency in the last nearly five years.

Reeling out figures related to different welfare projects launched by the government, he said 44 lakh people availed benefits under the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme in the last one year.

More than two crore houses were constructed under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and two crore more houses are under construction in the country, he said. He also said 10 crore toilets were constructed and free LPG connections were given to eight crore beneficiaries under Ujjwala Yojana.

About the planned schemes in the state, Modi said Jharkhand



Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Deputy CM Sachin Pilot and other Congress leaders greet Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra at the AICC meet. Anil Sharma

Referring to plans to celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Punjab Congress president Sunil Jakhar said the party will be "mistaken" if it tries to harp on its "good old times" and "sacrifices" of its freedom struggle-era leaders and hopes to connect with the youth. He said the celebrations should be rooted and presented "in the present context" so that the youth can relate. Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh said the youth relate mostly to jobs, and argued his government has already provided 9 lakh jobs.

Almost all top leaders spoke about the economic slowdown and the need for an agitation. In her address, Sonia said there was a prolonged economic slump. She said job losses were mounting, confidence of investors was getting shakier and the government appeared more and more clueless and insensitive. The party then decided to organise a nation-

wide agitation from October 15 to October 25 on the issue.

Sonia argued that vendetta politics was at its peak. "Each and every institution is being diabolically subverted. The voices of dissent are being silenced. Democracy has never been at greater peril than it is now... The mandate of 2019 is now being misused and abused in a most dangerous fashion," she said.

Sonia said "we must stand up fearlessly to fight on the streets, fight in villages, towns and cities. We must have a concrete agitation agenda on issues of pressing concern to the people... It is not enough to be active and aggressive on the social media... far more important is to go to the people directly."

Sonia will meet the party's chief ministers on Friday. She told the meeting, which was attended by all CMs barring Madhya Pradesh's Kamal Nath, that the five states where the



Tejashwi Yadav

bernation, also said the BJP should accept the dearth of talent and leadership in its ranks in Bihar.

Amidst statements and counters on Kumar's leadership by BJP and JD (U) leaders and barbs by the RJD, Sushil Kumar had said on

Wednesday that Nitish is the NDA captain and there was "no need to change him when he is hitting fours and sixes".

The row was set off by BJP MLC and former Union minister Sanjay Paswan, who said Nitish should "move to the Centre" and leave Bihar to the "BJP-JD (U) second-rung leadership".

JD (U) chief spokesperson Sanjay Singh reacted to Tejashwi's remarks saying, "Tejashwi should remember that it was Nitish Kumar's leadership in 2015 polls that had revived the RJD's fortunes, or else, it would have been stuck with 20-odd seats, as it did in 2010. Nitish Kumar is a matter of Hobson's choice for Bihar".

## At SCO conference, Rajnath warns of bio-terrorism; Pak skips meeting

KRISHN KAUSHIK  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

UNDERLINING THE threat posed by bio-terrorism, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said new technologies in the battlefield are throwing up new challenges for the armed forces, and mentioned that the medical services of the armed forces are uniquely placed to tackle some of them.

"I would like to underline the importance of building capabilities to deal with the menace of bio-terrorism. Bio-terrorism is a real threat today," Singh said. "It breaks out as a contagious plague and the armed forces and its medical services have to be at the forefront of combating this menace."

Speaking at the first conference of military medicine of the member nations of the Shanghai Cooperation Group (SCO), Singh said the "ever advancing battle field technology has imposed a vast array of previously unrecognised challenges".

He said, "Newer and non-conventional formats of warfare have further added to the complexity of existing challenges."

The SCO is a Eurasian socio-political, economic and security alliance, and Singh called it the "alliance of the East" because of its "growing centrality in Asia-Pacific."

India joined the SCO as a full member in June 2017. The ongo-



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the SCO conference in New Delhi. ANI

ing SCO's theme is on Combat Medical Support, Humanitarian Assistance & Patient Safety.

Representatives of other SCO members such as China and Russia were present. However, even though an invite was sent to Pakistan, sources in the Defence Ministry said that it did not respond or send participants.

Regarding bio-terrorism, Singh said, "(The) gravity of this kind of terror threat has been recognised and the scientific programme includes articles and discussions on these topics and on managing any probable mass casualty situations."

He also mentioned patient safety as another important area that needs strengthening.

## \$5-tn economy by 2024 looks like pipe dream: Manmohan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

FORMER PRIME Minister Manmohan Singh on Thursday argued that India is in the midst of a protracted slowdown, and launched an attack on the Central government over its management of the economy.

Addressing a meeting of top Congress leaders, Singh said the atmosphere in the country is one of "gloom and doom", and that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's talk of making India a \$5-trillion economy by 2024 looks like a "pipe dream".

"The dangerous thing about the present situation is that the government is complacent enough not to realise that we are in the midst of a protracted economic slowdown," he added.

Talking about the slide in GDP growth, he said his government faced a very challenging situation in 2008 because of the international financial crisis. "We faced that situation head-on and converted that crisis into an opportunity to revitalise our economy. The situation our country is facing today, whether you look at agriculture, whether you look at real estate, whether you look at manufacturing...all along the line there is downturn in the economy," he said.

"And if this situation is not reversed, the worst... would happen on the employment situation. If income growth slows down month after month... the scope for creating more jobs for our young people is going to be



Manmohan Singh

very seriously affected," he said. "The manufacturing industries are being affected for want of demand, for want of investment incentives and the result is that there is today an all-round atmosphere of gloom and doom," he said. "There is today an atmosphere that investment is not picking up. The automobile industry is crying for help from the government and the general feeling in the industry is that if the present trend of auto sales is not reversed, there will be at least a million people who would face the prospect of unemployment."

He added, "One could hope the BJP government would come up with a package to stimulate demand, to promote investment, but you talk to anybody in the industry today, the general feeling is there is tax terrorism in place of incentivising investment..."

About the \$5-trillion economy, Singh said, "Now this looks like a pipe dream. In 2018-19, the economy was of the size of \$2.7 trillion and if we have to reach \$5-trillion economy by 2024, we need growth rate of 12 per cent per annum in nominal terms and 9 per cent in real terms..."

## EXPLAINED Challenge to make a mark on the ground

THE CONGRESS was grappling with a leadership crisis in the last few months days. The Lok Sabha poll debacle virtually stripped it of its leverage to marshal opposition parties against the government in the Rajya Sabha. The nationwide agitation is the party's first tentative step to reconnect with the masses on an issue (economic slowdown) that has bearing across the country. The challenge will be to make the agitation effective on the ground and not just on social media.

party is in power "must stand out as examples of sensitive and responsive governance, accountable and transparent administration. We must be seen to be fulfilling our manifesto commitments".

## '45% land needed for bullet train acquired in Gujarat, Maharashtra'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 12

CLAIMING THAT an estimated Rs 17,000 crore will be spent for Relief and Rehabilitation (R&R) for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project, Achal Khare, Managing Director of National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) on Thursday said 45 per cent of the total 1,380 hectares needed for the project has been acquired, which includes 360 hectares in Gujarat.

Khare, who was in Ahmedabad Thursday, said, "Till yesterday 622 hectares have been acquired for the project, of which 360 hectares are in

Gujarat.

"In Gujarat we need to acquire 5,400 private plots. Consent agreements for 2,600 plots have been signed and payments have been made. So, we have acquired 360 hectares of private land costing an estimated Rs 1,800 crore," he said.

Khare said that among the eight districts in Gujarat where land is being acquired, over 70 per cent has been completed in Vadodara and 60 per cent in Ahmedabad. "I am happy to say that all of the acquisition that has happened till now is through consent. Not one plot has been taken through compulsory acquisition," Khare said. He said as per the current assessment, R&R

including land acquisition will cost Rs 17,000 crore. "This is our assessment which can change as the compensation amounts are finalised," he added.

Claiming that NHSRCL has got good success in Maharashtra, Khare said, "Maharashtra has 97 villages covering Palghar and Thane. In Maharashtra, too, we have got good success. Among the 97 villages, only 17 are left where joint measurement survey - which is one of the first steps towards land acquisition - has not happened. We have done 41 sale deeds in Palghar and 97 have been done in Thane. So work has started there too, though work is lagging there in comparison to Gujarat."





**NORTH**

**Two killed in UP encounter hours after they shoot cop**

**Meerut:** Hours after two miscreants shot at a police constable on Wednesday, the Meerut police killed both in an encounter. Constable Sudhir Kumar Malik was injured on Wednesday when the two — Pankaj alias Bunty Singh and Shehzad — shot at him at a checkpoint in Kankarkheda. The two were

found near Bajtewra village in Sardhana, the police said. “The two miscreants opened fire at Sudhir when they were asked to stop. He was hit in the stomach. We tracked the attackers to Sardhana. They opened fire when we asked them to surrender,” Kankarkheda station in-charge, B P Rana said. **ENS**



Artistes perform in a street play called ‘Plastic Mukht Bharat’ as part of a ‘Say No to Single Use Plastic Campaign’ in Chandigarh on Thursday. *Express*

**EAST**

**Eight killed in lightning strike in Jharkhand**

**Garhwa (Jharkhand):** Eight people standing under a tree during heavy rain were killed and two others injured in a lightning strike in Garhwa district on Thursday, the police said. Ten people had taken shelter beneath the tree at Passi village when lightning struck the tree around noon, Garhwa Sub-

divisional Police Officer Om Prakash Tiwari said. While six people died on the spot, two others succumbed to injuries in the Garhwa Sadar Hospital. The two injured are being treated at the same hospital, Tiwari said. The district administration has given Rs 4 lakh to each of the family of the deceased. **PTI**

**WEST**

**6 killed, 15 injured as bus rams into truck in Satara**

**Pune:** At least six people were killed and 15 others injured when a bus rammed into a stationary truck in Satara district on Thursday morning, a police official said. The accident took place around 5 am near Mhasave village on NH 4, he said. The private bus was going from Mumbai to Belagavi in Karnataka when it hit the truck near Mhasave

village, the official said. On getting information about the incident, the Satara police and ambulances rushed to the spot. “At least six people, including the bus driver, were killed and 15 others hurt,” Satara Superintendent of Police Tejaswi Satpute said. All the injured are undergoing treatment at a state-run hospital. **PTI**

**SOUTH**

**TN fishermen allege attack by Indian Coast Guard**

**Rameswaram:** A group of Tamil Nadu fishermen on Thursday alleged they were roughed up by the Indian Coast Guard while fishing near the IMBL, a charge denied by the maritime agency. Coast Guard Commander, Mandapam Area, G Mani Kumar, while denying the allegations, said a team of four

personnel on routine patrol only asked the fishermen to return to the shore as they did not possess valid ID cards. Around 30 fishermen had ventured into the sea on Wednesday and were fishing near the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) when the ICG arrived at the spot. **PTI**

# Wheel of history doesn’t turn back, says J&K Governor

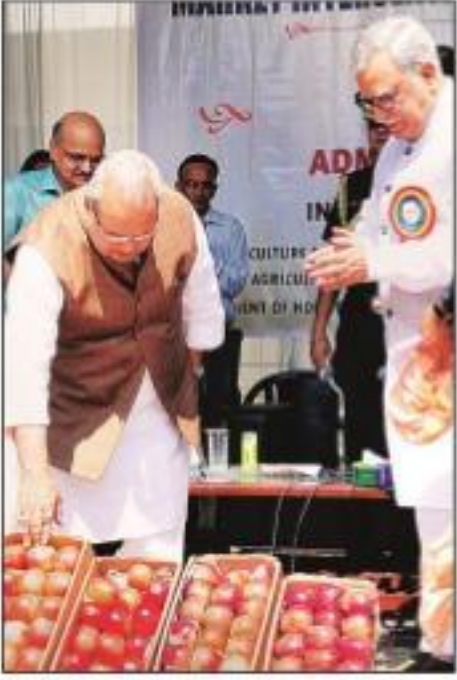
**BASHAARAT MASOOD**  
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 12

JAMMU AND KASHMIR Governor Satya Pal Malik on Thursday said the “wheel of history doesn’t turn back”, hinting at the impossibility of the roll-back of the revocation of the special status. He said Delhi would give “whatever you ask for” and there is no need for the people to worry.

“I want to tell the common people that the wheel of history doesn’t turn back,” Malik said while inaugurating the Market Intervention Scheme for the fruit growers of the Valley. “Right now, there is so much sympathy for you in Delhi that you will get whatever you ask for. The entire country is yours and you will get every thing. There is no need for you to worry.”

Governor Malik said that 75 per cent of the apples produced in India come from Kashmir and the apple industry of the Valley produces 30 lakh metric tonnes of the fruit, worth Rs 8,000 crore.

Warning militants against bothering the fruit growers, he



J&K Governor Satya Pal Malik launches an intervention scheme for apple growers in Srinagar on Thursday. *PTI*

said, “I want to warn those who are threatening our farmer brothers. They should immediately change their behaviour,” he said. “Otherwise, we will ensure proper security to our farmers and buyers. Those who intimidate them, we will punish them.”

While the Governor inaugu-

rated the Market Intervention Scheme in the morning, the government spokesperson Rohit Kansal briefed the media about the scheme in the evening.

Kansal said “tremendous provocation” from Pakistan is hampering the restoration of mobile communication in the Valley. His statement came a day after the J&K DGP Dilbagh Singh said they are “considering relaxation in voice calls”.

“You must appreciate the tremendous provocation from across the border,” Kansal said at a press briefing in Srinagar. “Therefore, any decision, as far as that aspect is concerned, must factor in that provocation also.”

Kansal, however, said the government is making a constant effort to lift the restrictions on the communications as soon as possible.

On August 5, the government snapped all forms of communication in Valley, including mobile phones, fixed line phones and internet services. While around 44,000 landline connections have been restored, mobile and internet services continue to remain snapped.

**BANDH CALL IN JAMMU ON SEPT 16**

**Jammu:** Traders, industrialists, transporters and farmers organisations on Thursday jointly called for a bandh in Jammu on September 16 saying, “the autocratic and adamant attitude of the government during the transition from State to UT has forced all the stakeholders to come together and take an agitational path”. The organisations include the Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Transport Welfare Association, the Chamber of Traders Federation and the J&K Kissan Council. Their leaders expressed concerns over the delay in roll back of recently-levied taxes, including the one-time road tax on motor vehicles at enhanced rates and enhancement of dates for filing of I-T and GST returns, besides “unabated corruption” and a lack of basic amenities. **ENS**



## BIDDING FAREWELL

Idols of Lord Ganesha being taken for immersion in Mumbai on Thursday. A total of 12 people drowned in the state during immersion festivities. Three people drowned in Ratnagiri district, two each in Nashik, Sindhudurg, Satara districts and one each in Dhule, Buldhana and Bhandara districts, officials said. *Pradip Das*

**ON PM’S BIRTHDAY**

## Ahmedabad schools asked to hold events on Art 370, 35 A

**RITU SHARMA**  
AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 12

A CIRCULAR issued by the Ahmedabad District Education department on Thursday asked all government, grant-in-aid and self-financed secondary and higher secondary schools to arrange special lectures, debate, essay and elocution competition, group discussions and other similar contests on the subject of Article 370 and Article 35A of the Constitution during the school assembly on Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s birthday (September 17).

The circular directs all school principals to submit details of the events along with photographs to the office of the Director, Secondary Education, by September 18.

“Under Article 370 and 35 A, the Indian Parliament has taken appreciative and people-oriented step which has received a lot of appreciation from the entire country. The country has received a foremost identity in the world,” the circular reads.

There are an estimated 2.75 lakh students enrolled in nearly 1,050 secondary and higher secondary schools in both Ahmedabad rural and city.

Among these, nearly 600 secondary and higher secondary schools are located in the city and have about 1.5 lakh students and 450 secondary and higher secondary schools lie in the rural zone with an enrollment of 1.25 lakh.

“This touches the Social

**EXPLAINED**

### Push to involve students in govt campaigns

THIS IS not the first time schools have been asked to arrange events on Kashmir-related issues. Last week, UP CM Yogi Adityanath said teachers must inform students about Article 370 and explain why it was opposed by S P Mookerjee. He also wanted educational institutes to discuss triple talaq and women empowerment. Over the last five years, educational institutions have been asked to observe campaigns launched by the government.

Science subject of secondary and higher secondary education. ...September 17 is Prime Minister’s birthday. So on this day, all schools should arrange in the morning assembly session elocution competition, debate competition, group discussion and essay competition along with other competitions by experts so that the students get to understand Article 370 and 35 A,” the circular states.

The schools have been asked to submit details and pictures of the events with the Shala Vikas Sankul (SVS). The SVS will then send the documents to the director of secondary education office by September 18.

Principal secretary, Education, Vinod Rao said, “I have no idea who has issued it and when. I am hearing it from you only.”

When contacted, Rakesh Vyas, District Education Officer (DEO) Rural, said, “Every school has a Social Science corner and this is a current affairs topic

which the students should have an understanding and awareness about. Also, through this we aim to make students understand the proceedings of the Parliament.”

R C Patel, Ahmedabad District Education Officer City, said, “During our discussion it came up that many students do not know about Article 370 and 35A. It is related to Social Science, so what is wrong in it (schools holding these competitions on this subject)? When competitions are already held in schools on this subject individually, why not do it collectively?”

On choosing Modi’s birthday for this, Vyas said, “Since we had to hold it on a day, we decided to hold it on the PM’s birthday.”

“Some people might raise objection to the mention of PM, but we have not named anyone in the circular other than the post. We have not written Narendra Modi but Prime Minister, so no one should have an objection,” he added.

### 3 JeM militants held in Kathua, cops say major attack foiled

**ARUN SHARMA**  
JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 12

THE JAMMU and Kashmir Police and the Punjab Police, in a joint operation Thursday, arrested three Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) militants and seized half a dozen rifles and ammunition in Kathua district’s Lakhnapur.

With the arrests, the police said they foiled a major militant attack in the region.

The three were identified as Sabeel Ahmed Baba and Ubaid ul Islam — both residents of Pulwama’s Rajpora area — and Jehangir of Budgam’s Charar-e-Sharief area. Kathua SSP Shridhar Patil said they were intercepted while travelling in a truck, and that all were in the age group of 25-35. He added that they were being questioned.

The truck they were travelling in had reportedly carried apples from Kashmir to Delhi and after unloading the consignment, it picked up cardboard meant for packaging. From there, it headed to Jalandhar and then to Amritsar. It was headed to Jammu and Kashmir when intercepted, sources said.

SSP Patil said police already had a specific intelligence input on JeM militants transporting arms and ammunition in a truck and they had accordingly set a police checkpoint at Lakhnapur.

Four of the seized weapons were AK-56 rifles and two were AK 47s, the SSP said, adding that currency with a face value of Rs 11,000, six magazines, and 180 live rounds were also seized from the three.

# Pakistan’s bid to polarise Kashmir issue rejected: MEA

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

TWO DAYS after the face-off at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), India on Thursday said Pakistan’s attempt to polarise and politicise the Kashmir issue had been rejected. It said Pakistan needs to understand that “repeating a lie four or five times does not turn it into a gospel truth”.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said, “Pakistan’s attempt to polarise and politicise the situation that has been rejected at the (UNHRC), it was very clear. The global community is aware about Pakistan’s role in aiding, abetting and supporting terror infrastructure which they have in their country.”

Kumar added, “It is quite audacious on the part of Pakistan that the country which is harbouring terrorists, which is the epicentre of terrorism, is pretending to speak on behalf of the global community on human rights. Their record of persecution of minorities, both ethnic and religious, I don’t need to amplify... The credibility of the messenger here is highly suspect. This is something which the global community is aware of.”

On September 10, Pakistan

called on the UNHRC to not remain “indifferent” after India revoked J&K’s special status under Article 370, following which New Delhi hit out at Islamabad for “misusing” the platform for “malicious political agenda under the garb of human rights”.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has, once again, refused to get drawn into the J&K situation and appealed to India and Pakistan to engage on the issue “through dialogue”. The Secretary General’s position was made clear after Pakistan’s Permanent Representative to the UN Maleeha Lodhi met him in New York.

The MEA spokesperson on Thursday also sought to question Pakistan’s claim that around 60 countries have supported its joint statement on the human rights situation in J&K, which it said was submitted to the UNHRC. “The UNHRC has 47 countries as members. They (Pakistan) are claiming support of 60 countries,” he said, adding that India does not have the list of countries which Pakistan claimed supported it.

Kumar said the international community was aware of the reasons behind India’s decisions and the steps being taken to ensure normalcy in the region. He said every effort was being made to bring the situation to normal.

# Govt should win hearts of Kashmiris: Jamiat resolution

**ABANTIKA GHOSH**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

MUSLIM SOCIO-RELIGIOUS organisation Jamiat ulama-i-Hind has appealed to the government to bring normalcy back to Jammu and Kashmir using every possible constitutional means and protect the life and property of Kashmiri people, while respecting human rights.

In a resolution adopted by its general council on Thursday, the Jamiat said that protection of democratic and human rights of Kashmiris is a “national duty”.

“In the light of the current situation, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind appeals to the Government of India that while respecting the human rights, it must protect the life and property of Kashmiri people and use every possible constitutional means for bringing back normalcy in the region and winning the hearts of the people of Kashmir,” reads the resolution adopted in the meeting chaired by Maulana Qari Mohammad Usman Mansoorpuri, president of Jamiat.

It was presented by Jamiat general secretary Maulana Mahmood Madani.

Speaking about the resolution, Jamiat secretary Niaz

Farooqui told *The Indian Express*: “Article 370 or no Article 370, we are with the country. Our duty and loyalty are not subject to any condition. We have certain duties towards the country and we will not compromise on any condition. Pakistan is using all means in its fight against India, including a diplomatic war. It has made Muslim countries a part of their propaganda... That is why we felt the need to adopt this resolution.”

The Jamiat resolution noted the Kashmiri desire for preservation of their cultural identity. “We feel it our national duty to protect their democratic and human rights. Nevertheless, it is our firm belief that the welfare of the people of Kashmir lies in getting integrated with India... The enemy has made Kashmir a battlefield using Kashmiris as shield which makes it the biggest hurdle in rescuing the people from the impasse,” the resolution said, adding that breaking the impasse is in the interest of Kashmiri people.

Replying to a question about NRC, Madani said: “If I had my way, I would say do it in the entire country so that you know once and for all who is an illegal immigrant. The noise taints real citizens.”

# Shah Faesal retracts plea against ‘illegal detention’ from HC

**PRITAM PAL SINGH**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

FORMER IAS officer-turned-politician Shah Faesal on Thursday withdrew his plea from the Delhi High Court against his “illegal detention” on the grounds that hundreds of other residents of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), who have been allegedly unlawfully detained following the abrogation of the state’s special status, have “not been released as of yet”.

A bench of Justice

Manmohan and Justice Sangita

Dhingra Sehgal allowed Faesal to

withdraw his habeas corpus writ

petition after his wife filed an af-

fidavit in this regard.

The affidavit, filed by Faesal’s counsel, said that “on September 10, 2019, I met the petitioner (Faesal) from 11:30 am to 12 noon, in the lobby of the detention Centre... In the meeting, I received clear oral instructions from the petitioner to withdraw

the present petition. The petitioner communicated to me that in consideration of the fact that hundreds of other residents of the State of J&K have been unlawfully detained in the intervening weeks and have not been released as of yet, being aware of the fact that many or most of those detained have no access to legal counsel or other remedies, he no longer wishes to pursue the present petition...” the affidavit reads.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Bureau of Immigration and the State of J&K, objected and said, “I do not admit the facts... and they are false”. However, he had no objection to the withdrawal plea.

The bench said it would not express its opinion on the merits of the case and allowed them to withdraw it.

Faesal had approached the Delhi high court alleging that he was detained illegally at the New Delhi airport on August 14, while he was travelling to the US.



Khattar govt accepts Babita’s resignation from Haryana Police, paves way for contesting polls

NITIN SHARMA  
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 12

THE HARYANA government has accepted the resignation of international wrestler Babita Phogat from state police, paving way for the grappler, who had last month joined the BJP, to pursue a political career.

Babita and her Dronacharya awardee father Mahavir Phogat — whose struggle to coach his daughters and their eventual success inspired the Bollywood movie *Dangal* — had joined the BJP on August 12. Sources said the BJP is likely to field Babita from either Badhra or Dadri Assembly constituency in the upcoming state polls.

The 29-year-old sub-inspector with Haryana Police had submitted her resignation a month ago, which was accepted on September 10, Surinder Pal Singh, Commandant, 5th Battalion, Haryana Armed Police, Madhuban, said Thursday. “There is a process which has to be followed before any such resignation is accepted. After due process, the resignation has been accepted now,” he said.

Babita, who had won the silver medal in the Commonwealth Games in Australia more than a year ago, confirmed she submitted her resignation on August 8, days before she joined the BJP.

“As a government servant, I couldn’t have been a part of any political party. Hence, I had submitted my resignation. I wanted to join a nationalist party and I believe that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar think about the welfare of the nation,” said Babita, who was posted as sub-inspector at Madhuban.

Then chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda had appointed Babita in the Haryana Police in the sports quota after she won the gold medal in the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland.

On speculations that she will contest the Assembly polls, Babita said she will discharge whatever role the BJP gives her. “Being given a ticket to contest elections is not in my hands. Whatever the party decides, I will be ready for the role. I have been meeting people from the villages in my district and listening to them. My aim is to listen to the people and to work for their betterment,” she said.

The grappler, who has been away from the wrestling scene for the last six months due to a knee injury, said she has not ended her career. “Once the injury heals, I will return to wrestling and compete again. Whatever I am, it is only due to wrestling and I cannot leave that,” she added.

IN THE HONOURABLE COURT OF  
THE MACT CUM 2<sup>nd</sup> ADDITIONAL  
DISTRICT JUDGE PARVATIPURAM  
MOP - 75/2018

Between:  
**Smt. Panda Lakshmi** ...Petitioner  
And :  
**Naresh Yadav and others** ...Respondents

To :  
**R1. Naresh Yadav**, S/o Ananth Yadav, Driver of Lorry Bearing No. CG04JC5216, Tendu village, Magada Division, Arunagabad Dist, Bihar.  
**R2. Smt. Rahmsi Bagga**, W/o Atul Bagga, Owner of Lorry Bearing No. CG04JC5216, Anupam Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

Take notice that the Petitioner filed a claim petition against you claiming compensation for the injuries received by her in the accident and the said petition has been posted to CG04JC5216 on 09.09.2019 in the above court at **10.30 AM**. Take notice that if you fail to attend the court on the day above mentioned either in person or through authorized person, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

By Order of the Court //  
Date : 05.09.2019

**P. Rajeswara Rao**  
ADVOCATE  
PARVATIPURAM

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that M/s S.S. GROUP PVT. LTD. having its Registered office at SS House, Plot no. 77, Sector-44, Gurgaon, Haryana-122003 has been granted vide License No. 04 of 2019 on dated 17.01.2019 by the Town and Country Planning, Haryana, to set up a Commercial Colony over an area measuring 2.80625 Acres at revenue estate of village-Badha Sector-86 Gurugram (Haryana). Consequently, Environment Clearance has been granted by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Haryana, Bays No-55-58, Paryatan Bhawan, Sector-2, Panchkula, Haryana vide their letter no. SEIAA/HR/2018/258 dated 30.08.2019. General Public is further informed that copy of said Environment Clearance Letter is available in the office of State Pollution Control Board, Panchkula and State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Panchkula, Haryana.

M/s S.S. Group Pvt. Ltd.  
SS House, Plot no. 77,  
Sector-44, Gurgaon-122003,  
Haryana

# India, China troops face-off in Ladakh, resolved after talks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

A FACE-OFF between the Indian and Chinese troops on Wednesday was disengaged after senior Army officers on both sides held discussion the same evening. The face-off, first in Ladakh this year between the two armies, comes about a month before Chinese President Xi Jinping is slated to visit India in October.

Sources in the Army mentioned that the face-off occurred near the northern bank of the Pangong Tso when the movement of about a dozen Indian troops, who were out on a patrol, was ob-

jected to by troops of the China’s People’s Liberation Army (PLA). The Indians and Chinese troops, sources mentioned, had called for reinforcements. It is learned though that the Indian troops were within the Indian territory.

Nearly two thirds of the Pangong Tso, which is a large lake between Ladakh and Tibet, lies with the Chinese.

Senior Army sources said that the situation was “de-escalated and disengaged fully” after discussions at the “delegation level” were held later in the day. “This occurs due to differing perceptions of Line of Actual Control,” senior sources in the Army said.

Though it is the first such incident in 2019, the Chinese

troops had in July 2018 constructed a temporary hut in northern Ladakh, which had led to a confrontation between the forces of the two countries.

When asked about the incident, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said it was important to note that how quickly the matter was resolved. “The matter stands resolved. I think what is important to note is that there are existing mechanisms between India and China to resolve such issues,” he said. “It is also important to note how quickly the matter got resolved. It means that the mechanisms which exist between India and China are working very well,” Kumar added.

## Rajasthan: Tiger kills man in Kailadevi wildlife forest area

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
JAIPUR, SEPTEMBER 12

A MAN was killed by a tiger in Karauli district on Thursday, an official said. The incident took place in the Kailadevi wildlife forest area, when Pintu, in his 20s, was on the way to his fields.

His body was found a few

metres away from the spot where the tiger attacked him, Karauli DCF Shrawan Kumar said, adding that the victim had injury marks on his neck.

Kumar said it was the second such attack after September 8 and it could be by the same tiger.

However, the DCF said it couldn’t be said that the tiger had turned man-eater.



**भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान भुवनेश्वर**  
**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BHUBANESWAR**

**8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVOCATION**

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation of the Institute will be held on **21<sup>st</sup> September, 2019** at the Institute campus, Argul, Khordha. Dr. K. Sivan, Chairman, ISRO, Govt. of India has kindly agreed to grace the occasion as Chief Guest. Degree recipients are requested to visit the Institute website and follow the link [http://www.iitbbs.ac.in/convocation\\_2019/2019/index.php](http://www.iitbbs.ac.in/convocation_2019/2019/index.php) for further information, updates and to complete the requisite formalities for attending the convocation.

**Sd/- Registrar**

**REVISED DIVERSION OF TRAIN SERVICES**

Due to yard remodeling and EI work at Tundla station, the following trains will be diverted as under:

1. 15707 Katihar - Amritsar Express scheduled to leave on 30-09-19 to 09-10-19 will be diverted via Lucknow-Kanpur Central-Chiprana Buzurg-Delhi. 2. 15707 Katihar - Amritsar Express scheduled to leave on 10-10-19 to 19-10-19 will be diverted via Burhwal Jn.-Sitapur City-Roza Jn.-Moradabad-Ghaziabad. 3. 15708 Amritsar-Katihar Express scheduled to leave on 01-10-19 to 20-10-19 will be diverted via Kanpur Central-Moradabad-Roza Jn.-Sitapur City-Burhwal Jn.

Inconvenience caused to the Passengers is regretted the earlier notification of 12-09-2019 is to be treated as cancelled

**General Manager (Operations)**  
**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**

**HSIIDC**  
**Expression of Interest (Eoi)**

HSIIDC, invites proposals Expression of Interest for allotment of land for Development of Worldclass University in IMT Sohna over an area of 140 acres (Approx.). Further information with regard to eligibility and terms & conditions of allotment etc. can be downloaded from HSIIDC’s website at <http://hsiidc.org.in> from **20.09.2019**. Last date of submitting application is **31st October 2019 by 03.00 P.M.**

**Note:** HSIIDC reserves the right to make changes to the terms of the EOI Document & can reject any or all offers without assigning any reason thereof.

All details including any Proposal Due Date extensions, clarifications amendments addenda, corrigenda, etc. will be uploaded only on the website of HSIIDC and will not be published in newspapers. Hence, Applicants may regularly visit the website of HSIIDC to keep themselves updated about such developments.

**Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Dev. Corpn. Ltd.**  
Regd. Office: C-13 & 14, Sector-6, Panchkula. Ph.: 0172-2590481-83  
Fax: 0172-2590474, E-mail: [info@hsiidc.org.in](mailto:info@hsiidc.org.in), Web Page: [www.hsiidc.org.in](http://www.hsiidc.org.in)  
CIN: U29199HR1987SGC034545  
78679/HR/

## DEPARTMENT FOR THE WELFARE OF SC/ST/OBC GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI “JAI BHIM MUKHYAMANTRI PRATIBHA VIKAS YOJNA” FREE COACHING SCHEME FOR SC/ST/OBC/EWS STUDENTS

Department for the welfare of SC/ST/OBC, GNCT of Delhi invites applications in the prescribed format from eligible institutions/organizations registered under relevant act engaged in professional coaching activities for empanelment under “Jai Bhim Mukhyamantri Pratibha Vikas Yojna”.

### IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS.

- The details of the scheme including eligibility criteria for coaching institutions, fee payable to the coaching institutes for various coaching programmes and application format etc. can be seen and downloaded from “**What’s New**” on the website of the Department i.e. [Scstwelfare.delhigovt.nic.in](http://Scstwelfare.delhigovt.nic.in).
- The coaching institutes/ organizations will submit their complete proposals in the prescribed format along with all the necessary documents. The proposals should be forwarded to the Special Secretary, Department for the Welfare of SC/ST/OBC, GNCT of Delhi, B-Block, 2nd floor, Vikas Bhawan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002.
- Application form should be duly filled and signed by President/Secretary/CEO/Head of the institution or the authorized signatory of the NGO/Organization/Society.
- Department for the welfare of SC/ST/OBC, GNCT of Delhi reserves the right, without any obligation or liability, to accept or reject any or all of the proposals at any stage of the process, to cancel or modify the process or any part thereof, or to change any of the terms and conditions at any time, without assigning any reasons thereof. The Decision of the Department in this regard shall be final and binding on the Organization/Society/Institution.
- The last date for receipt of proposals in the Department is 7 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. Interested NGO/Organization/Society/Institution can contact the Department on these telephone numbers 011-23378278, 011-23378279 for clarification, if any.

DIP/Shabdarth/0643/19-20

## UP woman dies after she sits on snakes

Goarakhpur (UP): A 30-year-old woman died of a snake bite after she sat on a pair of snakes, which were on her bed police said Thursday. The incident took

place on Saturday when Gita Yadav was talking to her husband on the cell phone. A pair of snakes were mating on the bed, but she did not notice them. PTI


**DEPTT. OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT**  
**GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI**  
**SEWA KUTIR COMPLEX, KINGSWAY CAMP, DELHI-110 009**  
**NOTICE**  
**INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT-IN- AID TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS**

Applications are invited from eligible voluntary organizations for the year 2019-20 under the scheme of “**The Grants to Social Welfare Institutions/Organizations by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Rules, 2008**” to be processed by the Voluntary Action Cell of the Department of Women & Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

The organizations have to submit two set (hard copy) of applications duly signed and stamped by authorized signatory (along with name and designation) in branch of Voluntary Action Cell of Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sewa Kutir Complex, Kingsway Camp, Delhi-110 009.

The last date for submission of application is **30.09.2019 till 5:30 PM**. The details regarding scheme and procedural instructions are available at the hyperlink <http://www.wccdeli.in/delhigrant.html>.

**Sd/-**  
DIP/Shabdarth/0658/19-20 **JOINT DIRECTOR**  
Department of Women & Child Development, GNCTD



**इण्डियन ओवरसीज़ बैंक**  
**Indian Overseas Bank**  
आपकी प्रगति का सच्चा साथी  
Good People to grow with

**Sheohar Branch (3398) : Ward No.-15, Above Hero Agency Dist-Sheohar-843329, Bihar. Ph.: 06222-257071**

**POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immoveable Property)**

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Indian Overseas Bank under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice dated 25.03.2019 calling upon the borrower/mortgagor/guarantor mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/mortgagor/guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act, read with rule 8 of the said rule.

The borrower/mortgagor/guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property herein below and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Indian Overseas Bank for the amount mentioned against their names and interest thereon. The borrower’s attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time, available to them to redeem the secured assets.

**Name of the Borrower:-Shri Brajesh Kumar Singh S/o Satyadev Pd Singh, Smt Reema Devi w/o Shri Brajesh Kumar Singh and Smt Asha Devi (Borrower & Mortgagor) w/o Satyadev Pd Singh resident of At-1, Madhopur Anant, P.O.- Khairwa Darp, Dist-Sheohar (Bihar), Pin- 843329. Date of Demand Notice:-25.03.2019, Date of Possession:-09.09.2019. Outstanding amount as per demand notice:- ₹6,28,044.99/- as on 28.02.2019 with further interest at contractual rates and rests, charges etc till date of realization, The dues payable as on the date of taking possession:- ₹6,30,430.99/- payable with further interest at contractual rates and rests, charges etc till date of payment, Description of the Immoveable Property:-All that part and parcel of the equitable mortgage property consisting Land & Kutcha House measuring 9 decimal located at Madhopur Anant, P.O- Khairwa Darp, PS – Sheohar, Thana No 167, Khata No 234, Khesra No 2198, Anchal + Sub Registry & Dist – Sheohar vide sale deed no: 2184 dated 10.05.2004 in name of Smt Asha Devi W/o Satyadev Pd Singh. Bounded by: North-Jitendra Singh, South-Dinkar Singh, East-Mokirallah, West-Road.**

**Date : 09.09.2019** **Authorized Officer**  
**Place : Sheohar** **Indian Overseas Bank**



Unnao rape case: Sengar's counsel cross-examines victim at AIIMS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE UNNAO rape victim was cross-examined by Bangarmau MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar's counsel at AIIMS Thursday. She deposed while lying on a stretcher, and was accompanied by her elder sister, while a nursing attendant kept an eye on her condition. During the cross-examination by Sengar's counsel Tanvir Ahmed Mir, the victim was given 15-minute breaks, apart from a 45-minute break for lunch. Sengar and co-accused Shashi Singh were also brought to AIIMS, as per the directions of the court.

The victim's counsel told *The Indian Express*, "The victim's cross-examination started at 10.30 am and continued till 6 pm. Her cross-examination is expected to continue tomorrow (Friday) as well." Shashi Singh's lawyer is expected to start the cross-examination on Friday.

District and Sessions Judge Dharmesh Sharma had earlier directed the recording of testimony of the victim from Wednesday on a day-to-day basis till her testimony is concluded.

The court had issued several instructions for the in-camera trial at AIIMS trauma centre, including a direction to the management to place a stand with curtains so as to facilitate the accused persons to be seated in the court, hear and observe the proceedings behind the curtains, and it would ensure that the victim shall not come face-to-face in contact with the accused persons.

## E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

Executive Engineer, Civil Division No. IV, Irrigation & Flood Control Department Govt. of NCT of Delhi, L.M. Bund Office Complex, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-31 invites on behalf of President of India online Percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractors registered with Irrigation & Flood Control Department upto 3.00PM dated on 17.09.2019 for the works:

**H.O.A.:** MLALAD FUND UNDER DEPTT.OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
**1. NIT No. 92/EE/CD-IV/FC/2019-20** (ID No. 2019\_IFC\_179633\_1) **Name of work:-** Improvement of damaged street of G-block New seelampur in Gandhi Nagar AC-61. **Estimated Cost of Rs 80,35,271/- Earnest Money Rs 1,60,705/- period of completion 120 days**

**H.O.A.:** MLALAD FUND UNDER DEPTT.OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
**2. NIT No. 93/EE/CD-IV/FC/2019-20** (ID No. 2019\_IFC\_179636\_1) **Name of work:-** Improvement of damaged street of Gurudwara road & Links to A1 block, New Seelampur in Gandhi Nagar AC-61. **Estimated Cost of Rs 89,20,795/- Earnest Money Rs 1,78,416/- period of completion 120 days**

**H.O.A.:** MLALAD FUND UNDER DEPTT.OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
**3. NIT No. 94/EE/CD-IV/FC/2019-20** (ID No. 2019\_IFC\_179669\_1) **Name of work:-** Improvement of damaged street of Shanti mohalla colony in Gandhi Nagar AC-61. **Estimated Cost of Rs 87,30,513/- Earnest Money Rs 1,74,610/- period of completion 120 days**

**H.O.A.:** MLALAD FUND UNDER DEPTT.OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
**4. NIT No. 95/EE/CD-IV/FC/2019-20** (ID No. 2019\_IFC\_179660\_1) **Name of work:-** Improvement of damaged street in East Azad Nagar & providing & fixing precast slabs over Ajeet Nagar drain in Gandhi Nagar AC-61. **Estimated Cost of Rs 66,94,283/- Earnest Money Rs 1,33,886/- period of completion 120 days**

**H.O.A.:** MLALAD FUND UNDER DEPTT.OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
**5. NIT No. 96/EE/CD-IV/FC/2019-20** (ID No. 2019\_IFC\_179649\_1) **Name of work:-** Improvement of damaged street of Raghubarpara No. 1 & 2 in Gandhi Nagar AC-61. **Estimated Cost of Rs 71,16,039/- Earnest Money Rs 1,42,321/- period of completion 120days**

**H.O.A.:** MLALAD FUND UNDER DEPTT.OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
**6. NIT No. 97/EE/CD-IV/FC/2019-20** (ID No. 2019\_IFC\_179643\_1) **Name of work:-** Improvement of main road with link gall of Khajani nagar Colony in Gokalpur Constituency (AC-68). **Estimated Cost of Rs 61,28,039/- Earnest Money Rs 1,22,561/- period of completion 120 days**

Note: 1) The enlistment of the contractors should be valid on the last date of opening of tender. In case only the last date of opening of tender is extended, the enlistment of contractor should be valid on the original date of opening of tenders. 2) The following Scanned copies are required to be uploaded - (i) Copy of GST Registration upto date file returned proof (ii) Registration of enlistment in the appropriate class.(iii) Scanned Copy of EMD.(iv) Scanned copy of ESI and EPF registration.(v) Copy of Pan Number. (vi) Valid Mobile Number, WhatsApp Number and E-mail ID. (3) EMD's in the form of DD/FDR in favour of EE, CD-IV, may be submitted in the O/o of EE, CD-IV physically upto 3.00 P.M. in the date of opening tender. If the same shall not be deposited physically, the tender shall be treated as cancelled. The Detail of above mentioned work can be seen and downloaded from website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> 4) No manual tender shall be accepted; only tender submitted through e-procurement portal shall be considered.

Sd/-  
**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
DIP/Shabdarth/0663/19-20

# Waqf Board to SC: Akhara will have shebait rights even if suit dismissed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE SUNNI Waqf Board on Thursday told the Supreme Court that Nirmohi Akhara would continue to have 'shebait' rights with respect to the idols of Hindu deities which were being worshipped in the outer courtyard of the disputed 2.77 acres in Ayodhya even if the Akhara's suit is dismissed on the ground of limitation.

Senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan, appearing for the board and one of the appellants M Siddiq, told a five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi that he did not agree with the finding of the Allahabad High Court that the Akhara could not

be recognised as having shebait rights, saying it was based on "insufficient grounds".

A shebait under Hindu law is entrusted with the task of maintaining and preserving an idol and its property.

Dhavan had earlier accepted that idols of Hindu deities were being worshipped in Ram Chabutara on the outer courtyard of the disputed site and that Nirmohi Akhara had shebait rights but did not have ownership rights.

"They did have shebait rights and I can't say dismissal of suit on grounds of limitation deprives them of it. That right continues all the way through," Dhavan told the bench, which also comprised Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S A Nazeer.



The bench is hearing appeals against the September 30, 2010, verdict of the Allahabad High Court ordering a three-way division of the disputed area.

Justice Bobde then questioned Dhavan about the findings of the High Court in respect of the Akhara's shebait rights. Dhavan read out from the High Court decision, which ruled against the Akhara's shebait rights, and said, "I'm supporting the appeal of Nirmohi

Akhara. The decision denying them shebait rights is on insufficient grounds, Till 1989, it was shebait unchallenged who was performing puja in the outer courtyard. Shebait doesn't disappear. This is not a case of vanishing shebait, but of contentious shebait."

Dhavan also contended that the Akhara's suit fell outside the period of limitation and deserved to be dismissed.

In a related development, the senior advocate complained to the bench about some people, allegedly clerks of some other lawyers, intimidating a member of his legal team outside the court on Wednesday over his appearance for the Muslim side. He said that though his relations with the lawyers on the other side in the court were cordial, "pressure outside leaves some-

thing to be desired".

Dhavan also told the court that a minister had stated that '*jagah bhi hamari, mandir bhi hamara, court bhi hamara*' (the place, temple and court is ours).

Taking note, CJI Gogoi said, "We will put it on record that such behaviour is to be deprecated. This is something that should not be happening. We are in the midst of arguments. Counsel for both sides must be free to make their submissions free from all influences, however subtle they might be. We strongly condemn it."

Dhavan said he had also appeared for the Hindu side in cases like the one concerning Kamakhya Temple and Kashi, and added, "I'm not partisan and I certainly don't argue against the Hindu faith."

## MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

# ED questions Shivakumar's daughter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) on Thursday questioned the daughter of Karnataka Congress leader D K Shivakumar in connection with a money laundering case it is probing against him. Shivakumar's daughter Aishwarya, 22, arrived at the agency headquarters around noon and was questioned till evening, sources said.

The agency sought clarification from Aishwarya on a trip she had made with her father to Singapore in 2017. She was also

questioned about a trust she is associated with. Sources said she was confronted with certain documents associated with this trip and its connection to the money laundering case against her father.

The agency has recorded her statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Shivakumar was arrested by the ED on September 3. The central agency had in September last year registered a money laundering case against him, along with Haumanthaiah, an employee at Karnataka Bhavan in New Delhi, and others. This criminal case was filed on the basis of an Income Tax



Shivakumar's daughter Aishwarya arrives for questioning Thursday. PTI

Department chargesheet against the Congress leader and others before a court in Bengaluru for alleged tax evasion and hawala dealings.

Following his arrest, Shivakumar had tweeted, "I congratulate my BJP friends for finally being successful in their mission of arresting me. The I-T and ED cases against me are politically motivated and I am a victim of BJP's politics of vengeance and vendetta."

He further said, "I appeal to my party cadre, supporters and well-wishers to not be disheartened as I have done nothing illegal. I have full faith in God & in our

country's Judiciary and am very confident that I will emerge victorious both legally and politically against this vendetta politics."

Shivakumar has in the past denied any wrongdoing and has said he was being targeted for having played an instrumental role in keeping the Congress flock together during the Rajya Sabha polls in 2017. Shivakumar had arranged the stay of 44 Congress MLAs from Gujarat at a Karnataka resort when senior Congress leader Ahmed Patel was contesting to secure a Rajya Sabha seat.

Following this, I-T searches were conducted against him and the ED subsequently took action.

## MADHYA PRADESH

# Death toll in rain-related incidents 202: minister

**Bhopal:** As heavy rainfall continues to batter most parts of Madhya Pradesh, the toll in rain-related incidents has gone up to 202, said state Revenue Minister Govind Rajput on Thursday.

Heavy rain has been forecast in 14 districts in the next 24 hours.

Rajput said more than 30 districts in the state have received more than average rainfall causing widespread damage to property and crops. He said 202 lives have been lost and 32 people suffered injuries. The death compensation is Rs 4 lakh. As many as 631 cattle heads have also been killed in the rainfall. He said the government's first priority was to ensure safety of human lives and nearly 8,000 temporary relief camps have been set up to provide shelter and food to those affected by the rain. **ENS**

उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि. निविद विस्तारिकण सूचना अपरिहार्य कारणां से ई-निविदा संख्या टी-90/19-20 दिनांक 21.09.2019 तक विस्तारित की जाती है। हस्ता./- अध्यक्षीय अभियंता विद्युत पारेषण मंडल, उ.प्र.पा.ट्रा.का.लि., 400 केवी. उपकेन्द्र, पाली, ग्रेटर नोएडा। "राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचाए" कृपया वेब साईट etender.up.nic.in पर सभी सूचना अन्य संशोधन/ विस्तार हेतु निविदा खुलने की तिथि तक लॉग ऑन करें। पत्रांक 1666/ वि.पा.मं./ ग्रे.न./ T-90/ 2019-20, दिनांक: 07.09.2019

## CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

### GLOBAL TENDER

**No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162 Date: 10.09.2019.** The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in). Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in) to login to **E-Tender Stores/Supply**. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594 or Dy CMM/III/CLW, Mobile Number 9163340708. **Sl. No.; Tender No.; Brief Description of Item; Qty.; Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees); Earnest Money Deposit (USD); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST); [1]; 81190623F; [1] Top Coating Paint. [2] Hardener for Top Coating Paint. [3] Primer paint. [4] Thinner for Top Coating Paint; [1] 3479 Kg. [2] 335 Kg. [3] 2206 Kg. [4] 2155 Kg.; 415560; 5940; 21.10.2019, 11:00 a.m. [2]; 81190266B; Primer G-790 Of WACKER METROARK CHEMICALS or Equivalent; 612 Kg; 33500; 480; 21.10.2019, 11:00 a.m.** Principal Chief Materials Manager ABC-176 CLW/Chittaranjan Like us on: [www.facebook.com/clwrailways](http://www.facebook.com/clwrailways)

## TIRUCHIRAPPALLI SMART CITY LIMITED

Rec.No.E17/7838/2019(Main) Tender Notice No.:210/2019-20 Dt.10.09.2019

### TENDER NOTIFICATION EXTENSION NOTICE

Receipt and submission of tenders as per Tender Notice No.210/2019-20 is postponed due to administrative reason as detailed below.

Details	Date already notified	Date postponed
Last date for download of Bid documents	11.09.2019 Upto 15.00 Hours.	19.09.2019 Upto 15.00 Hours..
Submission of bids through e-submission	12.09.2019 Upto 15.00 Hours.	20.09.2019 Upto 15.00 Hours.
Tender Opening Date and Time	12.09.2019 Upto 16.00 Hours.	20.09.2019 Upto 16.00 Hours.

DIPR/ 3165 /TENDER/2019 Managing Director, Tiruchirappalli Smart City Ltd.,

## NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT NO:6/Lalyana-Ramgarh Dated: 09.09.2019

For and on behalf of the Governor, Jammu and Kashmir State, e-Tenders (In Two Cover System) are hereby invited from registered A class Electrical Contractors registered with Inspection Agency of JKPD or any other relevant Government agency enlisted with CPWD, MES, Railway, DGBRO of appropriate class for **SITC of 33 KV line on 11 mtr. ST pole (ST-410 SP56) (Complete Job), for Laying of 22.5 kms (approx.) of new 33 KV line from Lalyana to Rangoor Camp via Ram Garh with 200 mm sq ACSRS, for reliable power supply to Rangoor Camp and Ram Garh** as per terms, conditions, technical specifications and schedules forming part of this tender document. Intending bidders are requested to submit their offer along with terms, conditions, technical specifications and annexures forming part of this tender document.

1. The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online upto the date and time mentioned in the table below:

A	Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document	09.09.2019 16:00 Hours
B	Clarifications start date	09.09.2019 16:00 Hours
C	Clarifications end date	11.09.2019 16:00 Hours
D	e-Bid submission(start) date & time (Submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format)	12.09.2019 12:00 Hours
E	e-Bid submission(end) date & Time	23.09.2019 16:00 Hours
F	Online Commercial and Technical e-Bid opening date & Time	25.09.2019 16:00 Hours
G	Venue of opening of technical & financial-Bids	Office of Chief Engineer, M&RE Wing, Jammu
H	Cost of e-Bid document	INR 3000.00 (Rupees Three thousand only)
I	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	INR 5.30 Lacs
J	Estimated amount	Rs. 265.45 Lacs

Sd/-  
**Chief Engineer, EM&RE Wing, Jammu**

No: CEJ/TS-II/11919-29  
DIP/J-2615-P/19

# SC on Collegium transfer choices: ‘unanimous, for cogent reasons’

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday defended recent recommendations made by its Collegium for transfer of Chief Justices and judges of various High Courts, saying these were made "unanimously" for "cogent reasons... in the interest of better administration of justice".

The development comes amid reports of protest by Madras High Court Chief Justice V K Tahilramani over the Collegium's decision to transfer her to Meghalaya High Court.

A statement signed by the Supreme Court Secretary General Sanjeev S Kalgaonkar and uploaded on the top court's official webpage said "certain reports relating to recommendations recently made by the Collegium regarding transfer of Chief Justices/Judges of the High Courts have appeared in the media. As directed, it is stated that each of the recommendations for transfer was made for cogent reasons after complying with the required procedure in the interest of better administration of justice."

The statement added that "though it would not be in the interest of the institution to disclose the

reasons for transfer, if found necessary, the Collegium will have no hesitation in disclosing the same". The Supreme Court also said that "each of the recommendations was made after full and complete deliberations and the same were unanimously agreed upon by the Collegium".

The Collegium, comprising Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justices S A Bobde, N V Ramana, Arun Mishra and R F Nariman, had decided to recommend Justice Tahilramani's transfer on August 28 and sought her response. She urged reconsideration of the proposal, but the Collegium which met again on September 3 rejected this.

"The Collegium has carefully gone through the aforesaid representation and taken into consideration all relevant factors. On reconsideration, the Collegium is of the considered view that it is not possible to accede to her request. The Collegium, accordingly, reiterates its recommendation dated 28th August, 2019 for transfer of Mrs. Justice V.K. Tahilramani to Meghalaya High Court," the September 3 resolution of the Collegium said.

The Collegium also recommended that Meghalaya HC Chief Justice A K Mittal be transferred to the Madras High Court.

## LATUR

# Lawyers to boycott work to protest transfer of Madras CJ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 12

AROUND 2,000 advocates in Latur district of Maharashtra will boycott court proceedings on Friday to protest against the transfer of Chief Justice Vijaya K Tahilramani from Madras High Court to Meghalaya High Court.

Tahilramani hails from Latur in Marathwada region.

"Around 1,800 lawyers from the Latur Bar Association and others from district bar associations will abstain from attending court proceedings on Friday," said advocate Balaji Panchal, for-

mer vice president of the Latur Bar Association. Panchal said the lawyers are protesting the order passed by the Supreme Court Collegium transferring Madras High Court Chief Justice Tahilramani to Meghalaya High Court.

Chief Justice Tahilramani last week reportedly tendered her resignation to the Chief Justice of India after the Collegium refused to reconsider its decision. Her resignation is yet to be accepted.

The advocates plan to appeal to the Supreme Court Collegium to reconsider its decision along with a simultaneous appeal to Chief Justice Tahilramani to withdraw her resignation.

## WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

# First time since 2012, no Indian institution in top 300 varsities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

FOR THE first time since 2012, no Indian institution featured among the top 300 in the latest edition of the World University Rankings released by the UK-based Times Higher Education on Wednesday.

The country's best performing institution, IISc-Bangalore, slipped 50 places from the 251-300 ranking cohort into the 301-350 bracket. The dip was on account of "a significant fall in its citation impact score offsetting improvements in research environment, teaching environment and industry income", states the Times Higher Education release.

"The Indian government has strong ambitions to boost the global standing of its top universities and attract foreign students, academics and research collaboration. It now needs to back up these aspirations with high levels of investment — or risk declining further amid increasing global competition, especially from other parts of Asia," Ellie Bothwell, Times Higher Education rankings editor, was quoted as saying in the release.

Even as India dropped out of the top 300, it increased its repre-

sentation in the rankings from 49 universities last year to 56 this time. "As a result, India holds on to its place as the fifth most-represented nation in the world and the third most-represented in Asia (behind Japan and mainland China). It has eight more universities than Germany, which is sixth in the country ranking, but 25 fewer than China," the release stated.

Among those that made their debut in World University Rankings are IIT-Ropar, Institute of Chemical Technology, IIT-Gandhinagar, IIT-Patna, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Anna University, Banasthali University, Delhi Technological University, University of Mumbai and Siksha 'O' Anusandhan.

According to Times Higher Education, "The best Indian institutions are generally characterised by relatively strong scores for teaching environment and industry income, but perform poorly when it comes to international outlook in comparison to both regional and international counterparts."

Oxford University continues to lead the rankings table followed by California Institute of Technology and University of Cambridge. Stanford University and MIT complete the top five table.

# Narada: CBI carries out voice sample test of Trinamool MP

**Kolkata:** The anti-corruption wing of CBI on Thursday carried out voice sample tests of Trinamool Congress MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar in connection with the Narada sting operation. Ghosh Dastidar is among the seven leaders and ministers of the Trinamool Congress who have

been summoned by the agency for the test.

Over the past two weeks, several TMC ministers and leaders, including Subrata Mukherjee, Sougata Roy and Madan Mitra, have been subjected to voice sample tests in connection with the purported sting operation. **PTI**



INX MEDIA CASE

# Delhi HC seeks CBI stand on bail plea of Chidambaram

PRITAM PAL SINGH  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE DELHI High Court on Thursday sought to know the CBI's stand on former Union minister P Chidambaram's plea for bail in the INX Media case, but turned down his request for home-cooked food in Tihar and to meet his family members daily.

"Same food is available for everyone. Sorry," Justice Suresh Kumar Kait said after Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal requested that home-cooked food be allowed to Chidambaram in jail.

Sibal replied, "My Lord, he (Chidambaram) is 74 years old."

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the CBI, said, "Even Chautala (Haryana former CM O P Chautala is serving a 10-year jail term in a teachers' recruitment scam) is old.... As a state, we can't distinguish anyone."

The S-G apprised the court that Chidambaram's family members are already visiting him in jail twice a week.

Chidambaram turns 74 on September 16 and will still be in Tihar as his judicial custody ends on September 19.

The court asked the CBI to spell out their stand on the Congress leader's bail application within seven days. Chidambaram has alleged that the criminal proceedings against him is "borne out of political vendetta".

The agency has been asked to place their response before the next date of hearing, September 23.

The court also declined Sibal's request to hear the matter as soon as possible in view of the fact that Chidambaram's judicial custody ends on September 19.

The judge remarked that he should have moved the bail ap-



P Chidambaram

plication sooner. "When you can approach the Supreme Court on the same day, why not file the bail on the same day?", referring to the Delhi High Court's August 20 order rejecting the anticipatory bail plea.

Sibal, accompanied by senior counsel Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Salman Khurshid, Dayan Krishnan, Vivek Tankha, N Hariharan and advocate Arshdeep Singh, responded, "There were holidays in between and on the day their client was sent to judicial custody, it was already 5 pm..."

A second petition by Chidambaram, challenging the special judge's September 5 decision remanding him to judicial custody in Tihar till September 19, was withdrawn.

During the hearing on the bail application, Sibal argued that the alleged offences against his client pertain to the 2007-2008 and an FIR was registered 10 years later. He argued that the charges of section 420 of the IPC can't even be made out as he has no role.

Opposing this same, the S-G submitted, "We are at the pre chargesheet stage. The petitioner was arrested on August 21, the offences were committed in 2007. Chidambaram was involved in corrupt practices."

He also apprised the court that Chidambaram's anticipatory bail plea was rejected by the high court with the observation that "this is a very strong case".

# Poor families, girls lead encephalitis death tally, says Bihar survey

KAUSHIK DAS GUPTA  
MUZAFFARPUR, SEPT 12

MORE THAN 85 per cent of the families whose children succumbed to acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) in Bihar this year work as daily wagers or seasonal labourers. Of the 168 children who died — in Bihar's first major AES outbreak since 2014 — 104 were girls.

Compiled by the Bihar government, these figures substantiate what experts have been saying for long: that one underlying, common factor in the mortality of AES is the poor economic and health conditions of the people it strikes.

The Bihar socio-economic survey, conducted in June this year at the peak of the AES outbreak, besides putting the income of affected families at between Rs 2,500 and Rs 5,500 a month, pointed out that less than 10 per cent of them were beneficiaries of the Mukhya Mantri Kanya Suraksha Yojna (entailing Rs 2,000 per month for up to two girl children per family).

Kavita Devi, of Ali Neora village in Muzaffarpur district, says they rushed their four-year-old daughter Sandhya to Shri Krishna Memorial Charitable Hospital (SKMCH) in Muzaffarpur when her condition worsened on June 13, after mild fever for two evenings. "She passed away within hours."

Her eyes welling over, an incomprehending Kavita says, "Sandhya did not play outside the day before she passed away. But, we are daily wagers, this is the lean season and we have to go out looking for work. Where



At the AES ward of a community health centre in Muzaffarpur. *Express file*

do we keep our children? So, they play in the sun. It's quite likely Sandhya did so too." A Central team has identified heat stroke as a contributing factor in AES deaths.

While Kavita did not take Sandhya to a primary health centre (PHC) as SKMCH was nearer, the Bihar survey found that most patients who approached PHCs were told to go to bigger hospitals.

Mohammed Shajan of Sahpur says that medical workers at the PHC where he and his wife Chandni Khatoon took their three-year-old daughter Gulfsha were clueless. "They advised us to go to SKMCH. The doctors there told me we had wasted precious hours. We are poor people. How do we know of such complications?" Shajan says.

Dr Shakeel of the Jan Swasthya Abhiyan believes that, "left to auxilliary nurses and midwives", Bihar PHCs are not equipped to handle AES. Dr Ravikant Singh, whose Mumbai-

based outfit Doctors For You aided the Bihar government's relief operations, says the state's medical system failed to prepare for the seasonal outbreak.

In 2016, the Bihar government had drafted a well-appreciated standard operating procedure (SoP) to deal with AES, and revised the same in 2018. As per the SoP, ASHA workers and auxilliary nurse midwives (ANMs) were to visit vulnerable areas from the last week of April to end of June to spread awareness about the disease.

According to Dr Ravikant Singh, the drive has been losing steam, and especially suffered this time on account of the general elections.

Mintu Devi, an ANM from Minapur block of Muzaffarnagar district, says that while it was wrong to say there was no push behind awareness drives, they "did not receive much guidance from higher-ups".

"In earlier years, we got written orders from the Health

BIHAR MALNUTRITION FIGURES FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5 YRS	
THOSE STUNTED (height for age)	
2015-16	2005-06
48.3%	55.6%
WASTED (weight for height)	
2015-16	2005-06
20.8%	27.1%
UNDERWEIGHT (weight for age)	
2015-16	2005-06
43.9%	55.9%
<i>Source: National Family Health Survey-4, Bihar Factsheet</i>	

Department in mid-April. This time the orders came only in June, after the disease had struck," adds an ASHA worker from Vaishali district who did not want to be identified.

Denying there had been laxity, Bihar Principal Secretary, Health, Sanjay Kumar, says, "What role does the Health Department have in elections?" Claiming they had conducted sensitisation drives for "more than 270 PHC doctors a month" before the outbreak, Kumar adds, "We will probe if there have been any shortcomings."

He also denies that the PHCs turned away patients, saying that while families of 374 had consulted them, only 170 were referred to other medical centres.

Both Kavita and Chandni Khatoon deny having been ap-



## BREAKING NEW GROUND

A drive for recruitment of 4,458 women for 'Sainik general duty' began in Lucknow cantonment on Thursday. A total of 595 aspirants took part in the drive, Army recruitment director for Lucknow Ashutosh Mehta said. The candidates will be tested for physical measurement and physical fitness. "Their documents will also be verified. Those who will pass these tests and verification will give a medical test on September 15," said a statement. *Vishal Srivastav*

### CORPS OF MILITARY POLICE

# At recruitment rally for women, grit and resolve win the day

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA  
AMBALA, SEPTEMBER 12

SAROJ AND Sunita, aged 16 and 18, respectively, travelled 700 km from Nagaur district in Rajasthan to reach Ambala early morning to take part in a recruitment rally for women in Corps of Military Police (CMP). Hours later, they prepared to head back home after failing to clear the physical fitness test. "We will come again," said a determined Sunita.

The recruitment rally in Ambala from September 7 to 11 saw young women aspirants for the Army comes from far-off places across northern India. Candidates from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Chandigarh, Rajasthan and Delhi had been allotted Ambala recruitment centre.

This is the first time that roles in the Army other than officer-level have been opened for women. The Army intends to recruit 100 women in CMP in the first phase, taking the total number up to 1,700 eventually.

"I did three-and-a-half rounds of the 1,600 metre run

and then fell down due to stomach ache," said Saroj. Many girls were unable to clear the run, she added.

"We reached Ambala at 2.30 am. The girls did not get much sleep and were tired after the journey. But they were determined to do their best," said Rampal, uncle of Saroj and Sunita who accompanied them from Nagaur. He added that it was too hot and candidates were fainting.

When asked why did they not consider joining police or central police organisations, most of the aspirants said the Army was their first choice. "I cannot clear the entrance test for officers, so I thought this was a golden opportunity to don the Army uniform," said Dolly from New Delhi.

Dolly's father, Om Parkash, who runs a tailoring shop, said his daughter was insistent on joining the Army. Dolly, sitting exhausted, was also unable to complete her physical fitness test.

A few yards away, Sandeep and Ravi, both friends, were happy that their respective sisters — Sunita and Roshni — had cleared the physical examina-

tion. Both had come from Sikar district in Rajasthan after travelling nearly 10 hours. "My sister prepared very hard for it," said Ravi.

"About 1,700 turned up for the recruitment rally while call letters had been sent to 5,000 candidates," said Col Som Nath Gupta, in-charge of the event. He said that 45-50 per cent candidates failed to clear the physical fitness tests. "They did not come prepared. They were very motivated but should have been better prepared physically," he said.

Colonel Gupta said that women candidates have to clear the 1,600-metre run in seven minutes as compared to five minutes given to male candidates. "A written test will be held for the candidates who passed today's tests on October 26, and a merit list will be made for final selection by the Army headquarters," he said.

Most candidates were pursuing graduation or had completed their graduation. The minimum qualification demanded by the Army for recruitment in military police was Class 10 with 45 per cent marks in aggregate and minimum 33 per cent marks in each subject studied.

## CBI arrests three more aides of Talwar in misuse of funds case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE CBI has arrested three more aides of corporate lobbyist Deepak Talwar in connection with a case of alleged misuse of funds by his NGO Advantage India.

The case relates to allegations of mis-utilisation of foreign contribution, which were received under the CSR scheme for carrying out educational and social activities in India. The CBI began probing the case on a complaint from Ministry of Home Affairs.

The arrests were made late Wednesday after Yasmin Kapoor, a close aide of Talwar, was taken into custody by the agency, sources said. Following Yasmin's arrest, the agency also arrested Tarun Kapoor, Pradeep Sood and Jatun Wadhwa, sources said.

According to CBI, while Yasmin played an active role in diverting funds received by Talwar's NGO, the other three were directors in certain companies that were used to move funds.

Talwar is in judicial custody following his arrest by the CBI in July. He was deported from the UAE in January.

## Muzaffarpur shelter home: SC allows 8 inmates to reunite with their families

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday gave its nod to reunite eight of the 44 minor inmates of the Muzaffarpur shelter home, which was at the centre of a sex abuse scandal, with their families.

A bench of Justices N V Ramana, M M Shantanagoudar and Ajay Rastogi also asked the Bihar government to provide financial and medical assistance to the girls who would be moved.

The direction came after the court perused a report by Tata Institute of Social Sciences' (TISS) field action project 'Koshish'. The report had identified these girls as fit for repatriation with their families.

The bench also asked TISS to file a status report with respect to the other 36 girls.

The Supreme Court asked the state government to assess the compensation payable under the victim compensation scheme to the affected girls and submit a report.

Appearing for TISS, Advocate Vrinda Grover submitted that the said 44 girls were housed in four shelter homes after the alleged abuse came to light.

While some girls who had extended families were ready to take them back, some had special needs.

One of the girls remembered only the locality where her family lived.

The scandal at the shelter home run by an NGO had come to light last year following a social audit report by TISS.

# Tejas trains to offer free travel insurance, luggage pick and drop

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE LUCKNOW-DELHI Tejas Express, the first regular train service to be managed entirely by the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), will offer free travel insurance of Rs 25 lakh to each passenger and a host of add-on services that include a luggage pick and drop service, the company said on Thursday.

The train will be launched in October and is a part of a deal to run two such services — the other one being between Ahmedabad and Mumbai — as a kind of pilot project by Railways to develop a model for private operators to run passenger trains in the future.

These trains will not have any concessions and tatkaal quotas. A unique facility available on Tejas trains will be the pick and drop of passenger luggage, the logistics of which are still being worked out.

"IRCTC is planning a scheme whereby it will ferry the luggage of passengers from their homes to their seats and from the seat to their destination on a payment basis. For this, discussions are underway with service providers. This is to ensure that passengers can travel without being concerned about their luggage. All the luggage will be insured," the document said.

A similar system is followed in Japan for Shinkansen trains in which passengers travel without any onboard luggage.

Bringing in private train operators to provide world-class passenger service was a proposal mooted by the Railways in its

100-day agenda as part of its move to hand over certain trains to private operators.

"Passengers of IRCTC's Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express to get free Rs 25 lakh rail travel insurance. The passengers of this train will also be given the facility of using retiring rooms at Lucknow junction station and executive lounge at New Delhi Railway station and lounge for meetings on demand," an official statement said.

The document also said the fares of the train will be dynamic and competitive as against taxi, bus and flight fares on the same route. Fares will be decided based on peak or lean season, festival season and according to demand, it said.

Unlike the 120-day advance booking period, IRCTC's trains will allow bookings 60 days prior to the day of journey.

The train will also have a chair car which will give passengers the opportunity to book group tickets on first-cum-first-serve basis. For group bookings, 78 seats in one AC chair car will be available and they have to be booked at least three days in advance from the date of journey. This facility will be available online.

Free tea and coffee will be in the offing through vending machines and water will be provided through RO machines on demand. Just like in flights, meals will be served by on-board staff using trolleys.

The train is likely to depart from Delhi at 4.30 pm and reach Lucknow at 10.45 pm and on its return journey, it will depart at 6.10 am and reach the Capital at 12.25 pm. The train will run six days a week, except on Tuesdays. The timings are yet to be finalised.

# MHA official arrested for bribing CBI officer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE CBI on Thursday arrested an official from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for allegedly trying to bribe an agency officer to influence the investigation in a case of corruption.

The official, identified as Dheeraj Kumar Singh, is a section officer with the Police 1 division of the ministry. The division looks after matters related to empanelment of IPS officers.

Singh was arrested along with a middleman, Dinesh Chand Gupta, while he was handing over

a bribe of Rs 16 lakh.

According to sources, Singh was trying to influence the outcome of a preliminary inquiry in a case related to alleged irregularities in a project related to the National Highway Authority of India. "The probe is open and will also look if anyone superior to Singh in the police 1 division was also involved," a CBI official said.

Agency officials "laid a trap and caught the Section Officer of MHA and a co-accused while delivering illegal gratification of Rs 16 lakh to the CBI officer. Searches are being conducted at the premises of the accused," CBI spokesperson Nitin Wakankar said.



Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Narang S/o Sh. Balu R/o B-1/182, J.J. Colony, Raghubir Nagar, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Narain for all purposes. 0040511471-1

I, Smita Khade, W/o Sh. Santosh Kumar R/o J-154, 3rd Floor, Saket, New Delhi-110017, have changed the name of my daughter SHANAYA aged 06 years and she shall hereinafter be known as SHANAYA SHARAN. 0040511992-5

I, Amida Devi D/O Brijnandan Singh Yadav, R/O-42, Kalyani-Appt. Sec-4, Plot No-31, Dwarka, N.Delhi. CHANGED My Name To AMINDA YADAV. 0040511799-2

I, Sangeeta Gupta W/O Ashutosh Goel R/O-CP-145 Maurya-Enclave Pitampura Delhi-110034, changed my name to Sangeeta. 0040512113-3

I, Sanchi Grover W/o Sachin Grover R/o 40A/7, 11nd Floor Ashok Nagar Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Chitra Grover permanently. 0040512115-1

I, Rohit Rawat S/O Meharban Singh R/O Flat No-UGF-C, Plot No-94-95, Kh.No-501, Shakti Enclave, Burari, Delhi-110084 do hereby solemnly inform that my father name is inadvertently written as Meharban Singh Rawat in 10th & 12th class certificate/ Marksheet/Professional Degree instead of Meharban Singh. 0040512089-1

I, Raman Kumar S/o. Sh. Uday Chand Kanoria R/O. A-1/68A, Gali No.11, Chanakya Place,Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have change my minor Daughter's name Surbhi to Surbhi Kanoria for future purposes.Videaffidavit dated 11.9.19 sworn before Notary Public, Delhi. 0040512085-1

I, Raman Kumar S/o. Sh. Uday Chand Kanoria R/O. A-1/68A, Gali No.11, Chanakya Place,Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have change my minor Son's name Yash to Yash Kanoria for future purposes Videaffidavit dated 11.9.19 sworn before Notary Public, Delhi. 0040512086-1

I, Rajput Nizaamrin Nasim Alam W/O Mohd Shadab Alam, R/O H.No. 110 Street No.2 Kardampuri, Shahdra, Delhi-110094, have changed my name to Niza Aamrin Rajput for all purposes. Both are same person. 0040512098-1

I, Rajesh Kumar Kanda S/O Ved Parkash R/O-678/3, Main-Road Vijay-Park MaujPur, Delhi-110053, has changed name to Rajesh Kanda. 0040512113-10

I, Rajesh S/o Ram Uday Singh R/O-113 Gali.No-1 Rajeev Nagar DLF,Area, Faridabad, have Changed my Name to Rajesh Singh 0040512083-1

I, Praveen Kumar, S/o Sh.Gordhan Singh R/o A/6 H No-208/1, Flat.No.-10, Savitri-Nagar, New Delhi-110017, have changed my name,from Praveen Kumar to Aman Kumar, for all future or correspondence purposes. 0040512138-7

I, Pooja W/O Akhil Aggarwal, R/O-K-3/133, Vsr1 Wireless-Colony, Greater-Kailash Part-1, New Delhi-110048., changed my name to Pooja Sood. 0040512150-8

I, Milan Gupta S/O-Umesh Rawat R/O-S-237/121, Shanker Camp Rang-Puri Pahadi, Delhi-110037, have changed my name to Pooja. 0040512138-2

I, Parveen W/o Krishan R/O-SRS-204,Village-Peeragarhi, New Delhi-110087, have changed my name from Vanita to Parveen for all purposes. 0040512138-1

I, Parul D/o Tej Pal Singh Upadhyay r/o Plot No.-19, Sector-28, Faridabad, Haryana -121002, have changed my name to PARUL UPADHYAY. 0040512105-2

I, Nitish Sharma S/o Anoop Sharma R/O 182/75 Mashak Ganj Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226018 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Nitish Singh. 0060009375-1

I, Nitin Aggarwal R/O-Radya R/O-2421-23 Tilak-Street, Paharganj, Delhi, have changed my minor daughter's name, from Radya to Radya Aggarwal. 0040512113-2

I, Niraj S/O Kailash Chand R/O-Ground- Floor, Property-No. B,K-52, West-Shalimar-Bagh, North-West Delhi-110088. have changed my name to Neeraj Garg. 0040512113-6

I, Neelam W/O-Sandeep Arora R/O-H.No-1-927, Bagh-Raoji, Aryanagar, Kishanganj, Delhi-110006, have changed my name from Neelam to Neelam Arora., permanently. 0040512123-5

I, Mukesh Kumar S/O-Late Shri.Bhal Singh R/O-H.No.183-184, Shiv-Vihar, Rishal-Garden, Nangloi, Delhi-110041, declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly-written as Mukesh Kumar Kaushik and Sabita in my minor son Akash Attri school-records.The actual-name of mine and my wife is Mukesh Kumar and Savita. 0040512113-9

I, Mohammad Ahmed Siddiqi S/O-Mohammad Zaki, R/O-Rz-3258A,2nd-Floor, GaliNo-36, Tughlakabad-Extn, Kalkaji, N.Delhi-110019.,CHANGED My Name To Mohammad Ahmad. 0040512138-5

I, Mohamad Haneef S/o Hazi Bashir Ahmad R/o-E-50 Behind Samrat-Cinema Shakurpur-Market Delhi-34,changed my name to Mohammed Hanif. also my DOB is wrongly mentioned 12.08.1954.in my passport but Correct DOB is 12.04.1958. 0040512138-10

I, Mamta D/o Sh. Jai Prakash W/o Sh. Arjun Singh R/o H.No.171, Purana Bazar, Burari, North Delhi,Delhi-110084 have changed my name to Mansi for all purposes. 0040512075-1

I, Laltesh S/o Sh. Dushasan Mudgal R/o Deen Dayal Dham, Nagla Chandrabhan, Baqalpur Farah, Mathura, UP-281122, have changed my name to Lalitesh Mudgal for all purposes. 0040512155-1

I, Lakshay Sharma S/o Sh.Devender Kumar Sharma R/O-WZ-19 Mukh-Ram Park Tilak-Nagar Delhi-18,inform that my father name has been wrongly-written as Davender Kumar Sharma in my 10th-class marksheet and certificate the actual-name of my father is Devender Kumar Sharma. 0040512123-2

I, Krishna w/o Tej Pal Singh Upadhyay r/o Plot No.-19, Sector-28, Faridabad, Haryana-121002, have changed my name to KRISHNA SINGH UPADHYAY. 0040512105-3

I, Krishan Dev Yadav S/O Ramsukh, B-17, Saraiipalthala Adarshnagar Delhi-33, have changed My Name To Krishna Dev Yadav Permanently. 0040512138-3

I, Khalid Parvez S/O Mohammad Naqi R/O 956, Gali Tota Maina Behind Novelty Cinema Delhi-6 have changed my name to Mohammad Khalid for all purposes. 0040512099-1

I, Mehak D/o Sh.Mohan Lal R/O G/6-38 Ground-Floor Sector-11 Rohini Delhi-85.changed my name to Poonam, for all purposes. 0040512113-4

I, Vishnu Kumar Verma S/o Shri Gauri Shankar Verma R/o F-59, Gali No.7, Subhash Chowk, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name from Vishanu Verma to Vishnu Kumar Verma forever. 0040512074-1

I, Ved Prakash Aggarwal/Ved Prakash Gupta S/O-Mahender Kumar Singhal R/O-H.No.117, Pocket-4-5,Sector-23, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed name to Ved Parkash Singhal. 0040512130-1

I, Usha Rani W/o-Sanjay Jindal R/O-H.No.31, First Floor, Block-I, Pkt-5, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Usha Jindal for all purposes. 0040512130-1

I, Trivender S/o Sh. Sheoraj Singh Rawat R/o H.No-1903, Sec-2, Ballabgarh, Faridabad-121004 have changed my name to Trivender Rawat for all purposes. 0040512150-1

I, Tej Pal Singh s/o Karan Singh r/o Plot No.-19, Sector-28, Faridabad, Haryana -121002, have changed my name to TEJ PAL SINGH UPADHYAY. 0040512105-4

I, Tej Pal Singh Upadhyay s/o Karan Singh r/o Plot No.-19, Sector-28, Faridabad, Haryana -121002, have changed my name to TEJ PAL SINGH UPADHYAY. 0040512138-7

I, Usha Rani W/o-Sanjay Jindal R/O-H.No.31, First Floor, Block-I, Pkt-5, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Usha Jindal for all purposes. 0040512130-1

I, Deepak Chadha S/o Mr. Subhash Chadha R/O F-75, First Floor Lajpat Nagar -I, new Delhi-24 have changed my son's name Sameer Chadha to Rehaan Singh for all future purposes. 0040512093-1

I, Brij Mohan Singh,S/o Sh.Mohan Singh R/o-Balchetan-Villa, Mandofal-Road, Sir-Hind-Tehsil & District-Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab-140406.,that inadvertently in the school-records birth-certificate and Passport my son's name has been wrongly-written aged about 15 years as Binaypal Singh instead of Balrajpreet Singh which may be amended accordingly. 0040512150-6

I, Deepak Chadha S/o Mr. Subhash Chadha R/O F-75, First Floor Lajpat Nagar -I, new Delhi-24 have changed my son's name Sameer Chadha to Rehaan Singh for all future purposes. 0040512093-1

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I, Tarun Kumar S/O.Lt.Sh.Satish Kumar, R/O-C-5/Plot-183, Gyankhand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P. have changed my name to Taruun Gupta for all future purposes. 0040512123-3

I, Swarupkumar Tikadar S/O Jyotirmoy Tikadar, R/O-C-174, DDA-Flats, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, CHANGED My Name To Swarut Tikadar. 0040512138-6

I, Sunil Singh Bhati R/O-D-198,Sector-47,Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar(U.P.),have change my son's name from Dev Singh Bhati to Dev Bhati Permanently. 0040512120-1

I, Sunil Bhatia S/O Tilak Raj Bhatia R/O H.No-1a/132 Nit-1 Faridabad-121001. Have Change My Name To Sunil Kumar Bhatia. 0040512138-9

I, Sourabh Tiwari S/O, Ramesh Chandra Tiwari R/O New Mig Apartment, Flat No. 159-A, Mayur Vihar Phase 3, ND-96, have changed my name to Saurabh Tiwari for all purposes. 0040512174-1

I, Sonu W/o Vinod Kumar R/o. House. No.602,D/9, Ward No.3, Mehrauli, Gadaipur, New Delhi-110030, have changed my name to Sunita. 0040512123-1

I, Shreeya Sharma D/O, Yogesh Kumar Sharma R/o Flat No-64, Mahabradral Apartment Plot No-6, Sec-13, Dwarka ND-75 have changed my name to Shreya Sharma for all purposes. 0040512150-2

I, Shankar Bai W/o Sh. Arjun Singh Meena R/O Sewa Ka Pura, Baroli, Tah. Wazirpur, Baroli, Sawai Madhupur Rajasthan-322219 have changed my name from shankar Bai to Sangeeta for all future purposes. 0040512095-1

I, Kamlesh Kumar at Sarkaghat, Himachal Pradesh do hereby declare vide affidavit. That my mother's actual & correct name is VEENA DEVI.But wrongly mentioned in my service records BEENA DEVI. 0040512087-2

I Shashi @ Shalini @ Shalini Tomar D/o Sh.Om Pal Singh W/o Sh. Anurag Tomar R/o 1/5557,Gali No.16, Balbir Nagar Extn., Shahdara,Delhi-110032 have changed my name to Shalini for all purposes. 0040512075-4

I,Shashni Kumar S/o-Gyanti Ram-Jindal R/O-H.No.31, First Floor, Block-I, Pkt-5, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Sanjay Jindal for all purposes. 0040512125-1

I, Grace Hendry Moradi W/O-Hendry Moradi R/O-R-54, Flat.No. U-8, Khirki Extn, Malviya-Nagar, New Delhi-110017.Changed My Name To Grace Moradi. 0040512138-4

I,Sachin Jain S/o Sh. Satish Kumar Jain R/o B-63,Near Kailash Dham, Sector-50,Noida, Uttar Pradesh have changed the name of my minor daughter from Anya Jain to Preksha Jain for all purposes. 0040512075-5

I,Pankaj Thakran,s/o Sh.Ram Kanwar Thakran R/O-A-219 Ground-Floor Today blossom-1 Mayfield-garden Sector-47,Gurgaum,have changed my name,from Pankaj Kumar to Pankaj Thakran,for all purposes. 0040512123-6

I,Mohd Hasn S/O-Abdul Hasn,R/O-A-733 J.J.Colony-Phase-2 Nangloi,Delhi-110041.My Father Correct-Name Abdul Hasan. My Father-Document S Mention Abdul Hussain. Abdul Hasan And Abdul Hussain Both Are Same Person . 0040512150-9

I,Kurban Shekh S/O-Kabeel Shaikh R/O-House No.246, Shahbad Daultapur, Delhi-110029, have changed my name to Bablu Shekh for all purposes. 0040512116-1

I,Hitherto known as Saraveet Singh Son of Shri Kawal Singh Residing at Ward No.11 Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, Garhshankar District Hoshiarpur Punjab-144527, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sarbjeet Singh Saini 0040512104-4

I,Hitherto known as Manjeet Kaur wife of Shri Harbans Lal Residing at Village Bhajjal,Tehsil Garhshankar District Hoshiarpur Punjab-144528,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Manjit Kaur 0040512104-3

I,Clifford Angelo Alphonso S/o-Peter Alphonso,R/O-Flat no-60, Shama-Apartment,Plot no-32, Sector-10,Dwarka, New-Delhi-110075,Have Changed My Surname to Clifford Angelo Afonso,for all purposes. 0040512113-1

I,Anchal Jain S/O Alok Kumar Jain R/O-5 Tanjong Rhu Road, the waterside 07-01, Singapore 436882 have changed name of my minor daughter, Indian Passport number P6313480 from Daanyah Kaur Chhatwal to Daanyah Kaur Jain- Chhatwal Vide Affidavit No IN-DL30762987535761R, dt 29/07/2019. 0050155050-1

I,Ajay Kumar Choudhary S/O Sh. Jawahar Lal R/O 2491,Bagichi Raghunath, Sadar Bazar,Delhi-110066 have changed my name to Ajay Kumar for all purposes. 0040512075-3

I, Munish Kumar S/O Mangat Ram R/O C-31, 1st Floor, Chanakya Place Part-I, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-59 have changed my name to Munish Kumar Verma. 0040512084-1

I,Deepak Kumar S/O Diwan Singh R/O H.No-26, Gali.No-2,B-Block, Nasirpur Colony, Palam Village,New Delhi-45, have Changed my name to Deepak Dagar 0040512083-3

I,Deepak Chadha S/o Mr. Subhash Chadha R/O F-75, First Floor Lajpat Nagar -I, new Delhi-24 have changed my son's name Sameer Chadha to Rehaan Singh for all future purposes. 0040512093-1

I, Brij Mohan Singh,S/o Sh.Mohan Singh R/o-Balchetan-Villa, Mandofal-Road, Sir-Hind-Tehsil & District-Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab-140406.,that inadvertently in the school-records birth-certificate and Passport my son's name has been wrongly-written aged about 15 years as Binaypal Singh instead of Balrajpreet Singh which may be amended accordingly. 0040512150-6

I, Brij Mohan Singh,S/o Sh.Mohan Singh R/o-Balchetan-Villa, Mandofal-Road, Sir-Hind-Tehsil & District-Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab-140406.,that inadvertently in the school-records birth-certificate and Passport my son's name has been wrongly-written aged about 15 years as Binaypal Singh instead of Balrajpreet Singh which may be amended accordingly. 0040512150-6

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My clients Sh. Gulshan Rai S/o Late Sh. R. R. Makol and Smt. Seeta Devi W/o Sh. Gulshan Rai R/o-A-120, Surya Nagar -I,Chander Nagar,Ghaziabad, UP have severed all their relations with their son Aril Kumar Makol who has initiated a "Suit for and his wife Harsha Makol for being not dutiful and obedient. Whosoever deals with them in any manner, shall be doing so at his/her own risk and responsibility. My clients and/or family member of my clients shall not be responsible for the same. MANU MINOCHA (Advocate) Ch.No.438, Vi Wing, Ti Hazari Courts, Delhi

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Be it known to all that my clients namely Sh. Jai Nand Singh S/o Late Sh. R. R. Makol and Smt. Seeta Devi W/o Sh. Gulshan Rai R/o-A-120, Surya Nagar -I,Chander Nagar,Ghaziabad, UP have severed and ceased all their relations with their son namely Aril Kumar Makol who has initiated a "Suit for and his wife Harsha Makol for being not dutiful and obedient. Whosoever deals with them in any manner, shall be doing so at his/her own risk and responsibility. My clients and/or family member of my clients shall not be responsible for the same. MANU MINOCHA (Advocate) Ch.No.18, Tola Building Ta Hazari Courts, Delhi

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform to public at large that my client, Suresh Kumar, S/o. Sh. Satya Narai, Singhal R/O A-457, Sector-2 Pocket no.00, Avantika Market, Rohini, North-West, Delhi-110085 purchased the agricultural and bearing land known as No. 12839 min., Khassa No. 260m(11.00) & 260m(1-00) total land measuring 02 bighas situated in Revenue Estate of Village Dandabadi, District, Delhi-110042 from Mr. Mehruddin S/O Mr. Nuruddin R/O H. No. 346, Village Tejpur Karna, Delhi-110036 and original sale deed vide documents dated 28/02/2006, 1 Volume No.6089 from pages 97 to 99 registered on 22.5.1989 was misplaced from previous owner Sh. Jawahar Lal and Jawahar Lal vide FIR/Unique No.196957 dated 3.5.2019 Rajpura District, Patiala, Punjab and if any person will raise any objection in respect of the said property, then please contact undersigned within 15 days from date of publishing the said notice. Sd/- MADAN LAL GUPTA (Advocate) Ch. No. B-36, B-65, BLOCK, TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI-54

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
General Public is hereby informed that my clients namely Smt. Pushpa W/o Late Sagori R/o J-23, Block-J, Malika Vihar, Delhi -110007, have severed all their relations and ties from her both sons (1) Joginder Pal Chopra and his family, (2) Nara Rajesh Chopra and his family, who have severed all their relations due to their cruel and harassing behaviour towards my client. My client has claimed and obtained decree in court for her moveable & immovable properties. Anyone dealing with them in future in any manner shall be doing so at their own risk and consequences. My client shall not be responsible for any acts, deeds and things done by them. Sd/- BRUNISH TIWARI (Advocate) Ch. No. L-10, Near Tehsil Building, Ti Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform to the general public at large for and on behalf of my clients that namely Sh. Dhanraj Pal S/o Sh. Hari Chand, & Smt. Binwari R/o 208, Shiv Mandir, Alipur, Gurgaon, Haryana-121002, that my clients have severed all their relations and connections with their son Sh. Lalit Dagar & daughter Sh. Smt. Pinki, and have disowned them from all their moveable and immovable properties. My clients will not be responsible for any of their acts and deeds. Any person whosoever deals with them in any manner shall be doing so at his/her own risk and responsibility. Jitender Singh (Advocate) Ch. No. 325 Saket Courts, Delhi-110017

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I Meena Salwan W/o Kiranjeet Salwan R/O 198-A, GF, Pocket F, Mig Flats, GTB, Enclave, Delhi 110093, have lost my original documents, demand letter, site possession slip, allotment letter, possession slip. Any person claiming any rights, interest having any objection or found in a possession of original documents may right/contact with above name person at above address phone N.-9971611265.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public at large hereby informed that my client Sh. Ved Prakash S/o Late Shri Iwari Lal R/o House No. 2832, Gali No.70, Sant Nagar, Baroli, New Delhi-110084 has disinherited and debarred his son Sh. Manoj Kumar, from his share in the property and his moveable and immovable property on account of his non co-operative attitude and behavior and instead of the best efforts of my client he failed to reform himself and his indulging in the indulgence which is prejudicial to the interest of my client and consequently, under compelling circumstances my client has severed all his relation and connections with him and in case any one deals with him, he or she shall be doing so at his/her risk and my client shall not be responsible for his act and deed in any manner what so ever. Ratnakar Malviyar Advocate Chamber No-P.46, Post Office Lane, Ti Hazari Court, Delhi-110054

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public at large is hereby informed that Sh. Roshan S/o Sh. Salis Ram and Smt. Kamlesh w/o Sh. Roshan both r/o C-4/292, Sultampur, Delhi-110083 have disinherited their elder son Ajay aged 25 years and Smt. Komal w/o Jugnu their daughter 04 yrs. approx. and younger son Pardeep aged 23 yrs. approx. and Smt. Aarti w/o Pardeep their daughters 03 yrs. & 2 yrs. approx. and their future children from the inheritance of all their moveable & immovable properties and have severed all relations with them immediately. Whosoever deals with them shall be at their own risks and consequences thereof. Sd/- Rajesh Aggarwal (Advocate) Enrl. No. D/5046/16 4522, Bhushan Bhawan, Ring Road, Saketpur, Delhi-33

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My client Sani Gang W/o Sh. Rajinder Gang R/o C-19, RAMGARH, NEAR JAHANGIR PURI METRO STATION, Delhi-110033 has given public notice that my client have disown her sons PAVNEER GANG, PARVEEN GANG, DEEPAK GANG daughter in law RADHA W/o PARVEEN GANG, ANU GANG W/O DEEPAK GANG and her grandsons granddaughters from all her moveable and immovable properties and severed all relations from them absolutely and forever, because their acts, deeds and things are adverse and prejudicial to right, interest, natural feelings and sentiments of us, any one dealing with them would be responsible for the same and we shall not be responsible or liable for the same. Sd/- NISHA GARG (Advocate) 141, Varadhan Premium Mall, Pitam Pura, Delhi-33

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I, Chatter Singh S/o Late Sh. Zile Annuh R/o H.No.16, Patparganj, Delhi-110042, do hereby sever all my relations with my son, Pawan Kumar S/o Sh. Chatter Singh and his wife Mamta Sindhu, his sister Namely Harash Sindhu and Anju Sindhu Ali R/o H.No. 416 V.P.O. Pharadpur, Bagheri, Delhi-110042, absolutely and completely, with immediate effect and I disown all of them from all my moveable and immovable property. I shall not be responsible for his/their acts, in any manner whatsoever. Any person dealing with his/their shall do so on his own risk and responsibility. Sd/- MOOL CHAND VERMA (Advocate) Ch. No. 812, Rohini Courts, Delhi-85

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I, Chatter Singh S/o Late Sh. Zile Annuh R/o H.No.16, Patparganj, Delhi-110042, do hereby sever all my relations with my son, Pawan Kumar S/o Sh. Chatter Singh and his wife Mamta Sindhu, his sister Namely Harash Sindhu and Anju Sindhu Ali R/o H.No. 416 V.P.O. Pharadpur, Bagheri, Delhi-110042, absolutely and completely, with immediate effect and I disown all of them from all my moveable and immovable property. I shall not be responsible for his/their acts, in any manner whatsoever. Any person dealing with his/their shall do so on his own risk and responsibility. Sd/- MOOL CHAND VERMA (Advocate) Ch. No. 812, Rohini Courts, Delhi-85

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that my Client, Mis Sachdeva Land and Finance Private Limited, having its registered office at Plot No.C-3 & C-4, Kharsa No.104, Sardar Nagar, Near C.C. Colony, Delhi -110009, has initiated a "Suit for Specific Performance" titled "Mis Sachdeva Land and Finance Private Limited Vs. Hema Gupta & Ors." Vide Reg



# SAD, Cong start drives to paint holy town

To know more about NPS or your nearest POP-SP, call on our toll-free number **1800 110 708** OR SMS NPS to **56677\*** (\*Standard charges applicable) OR visit our website **[www.npstrust.org.in](http://www.npstrust.org.in)**



# ANDHRA SPECTRES

Jagan Reddy government needs to pursue a governance agenda instead of working to erase Naidu's legacy

RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS in Andhra Pradesh suggest that the state could find itself a victim of the vendetta politics unleashed by its chief minister, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. Apparently blinded by his antipathy to political rival and TDP supremo, Chandrababu Naidu, Reddy has been focused on undoing the schemes and projects initiated when the former was chief minister. This seeming witch-hunt is likely to have serious economic costs and impact Reddy's own plans to stamp his legacy on the new state. The move to keep Naidu and his son, Nara Lokesh, under house arrest during the weekend ahead of a TDP rally confirms that the government has lost the plot.

Despite sweeping the assembly elections in May, Reddy seems to be haunted by Naidu at every step. In the past 100 days, Reddy has cancelled power purchase agreements signed by the Naidu government, ordered re-tendering of the multi-river basin Polavaram project, and most importantly, stalled the building of Amaravati, the capital city. Thousands of crores are now stuck in these projects, though the Andhra Pradesh High Court stopped the Polavaram re-tendering. Reddy has spooked industry and financiers by proposing multiple capital cities for the state, instead of completing the work at Amaravati. The World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank have dropped their plans to lend to the Amaravati project, which will put pressure on the state's finances, and cause cost overruns when work restarts in the future. Construction majors have shifted men and material out of the under-construction city, while the government has been busy pulling down buildings that served as the offices of Naidu. Simultaneously, the Reddy government has introduced the AP Employment of Local Candidates in Industries and Factories Bill, 2019 that makes it mandatory for industry to hire 75 per cent of its workforce from the local population. Reddy, who is fighting corruption cases, has justified his actions as part of an attempt to detect "irregularities" in contracts and projects, and course correct. However, few seem persuaded by this argument as the lack of continuity in policies and the populist move to reserve employment for locals turns industrialists wary of investing in Andhra. Business sentiment in a state once known for its entrepreneurial energy is low, which could impact Reddy's own political plans. How is he going to raise funds for the expansive welfare schemes and enhanced emoluments he promised in the campaign if investments dry up?

Reddy's father, the late YSR, won consecutive elections by expanding the welfare state. He could do that because the economy of undivided Andhra Pradesh was doing well. Jagan Reddy doesn't have that luxury — with Hyderabad going to Telangana, he will need a booming Amaravati and more to shore up the state's finances. He should seek a lasting legacy not by erasing Naidu's work, but by building a stronger economy and ensuring political freedoms.

# LET'S TALK SAFETY

Centre's amended Motor Vehicles Act addresses urgent need, provokes a welcome discussion. States must join in

THE NEW MOTOR Vehicles Act, which came into effect on September 1, has provoked controversy. The overarching aim of the new law — to bring down the number of road accidents in the country — has wide support. But the penalties stipulated under the Act have attracted criticism. Gujarat, where the BJP is in power, has slashed the fines for 15 violations under the Act, reducing the quantum of penalties by 50 to 70 per cent. Two other BJP-run state governments, Uttarakhand and Karnataka, have also expressed reservations about the new law. Four Opposition-helmed states have put the implementation of the Act on hold. Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has responded by saying "that the states are well within their rights to bring down the fines". He has, however, argued that stringent penalties are necessary. Because, as he said, "people's lives must be saved".

Given that 1,50,000 people die in road accidents in the country — 10 per cent of all such fatalities worldwide — the necessity of a road safety law cannot be overstated. The Motor Vehicles Act stipulates a 10-fold increase in fines for road safety traffic violations, driving under the influence of alcohol, not using seat belts and driving without seat belts. Its litmus test will lie in effective implementation by enforcement agencies. Punitive measures, however stringent, will not achieve much without adequate number of traffic police personnel and road-safety devices like traffic lights. Moreover, unless law enforcement officials haul up wrongdoers without succumbing to old habits like bribery, the purpose of the new law will be defeated. The Motor Vehicles Act does recognise these imperatives. "The Central Government shall make rules for the electronic monitoring and enforcement of road safety including speed cameras, closed-circuit television cameras, speed guns, body wearable cameras and such other technology," it says. It also asks state governments to ensure "electronic monitoring on national and state highways".

The critics of the amended law haven't disputed its rationale. For instance, the Odisha government, which has relaxed the implementation of the law for three months, has asked traffic regulators "to counsel and handhold the public". Rajasthan, which has partially implemented the Act, has decided to take steps to "self-motivate people". In the context of road safety, the self-motivation versus deterrence debate is not new. It's heartening that the new Motor Vehicles Act has rekindled this discussion. This conversation must be joined.

# OUTSIDE THE BOX

There is freedom out there. Freedom to make, to make up. And, with some imagination, to make good the deficits of policy

SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE always held that the chief utility of mathematics is to harass them. Now, they have found a friend in Piyush Goyal, commerce minister, ephemeral finance minister and whilom national treasurer of the BJP. He has been a numbers man in all three roles, and yet he discourages critics of government policy from allowing themselves to be confused by the numbers, and by the structural restrictions that formal logic has imposed upon their thought. To get out of a financial hole, he seems to suggest, you must think out of the box.

Goyal has masterfully formalised and expanded the scope of a new strain of economic thought whose spark was lit by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, when she blamed the grim downturn in the automobile sector to the unholy nexus of millennials and taxicab aggregators. The kernel of the new vision was in plain sight, but it was sectorally limited. It remained to take the spirit of the thing and run with it, right out of the box and out to the great open spaces, where the mind is without fear and speech is free.

In keeping with the spirit of times, Goyal confidently attributed the gravitational theory to Albert Einstein, who had apparently arrived at it without getting confused by the numbers. True, there were few numbers involved in tracing the curvature of space-time. There were a lot of baffling Greek alphabets in those equations, instead. Let us set aside such confusions and concentrate on the achievement of bursting the bonds of numbers and logic that have held us hostage for so long. It is a transcendental, Promethean triumph. Let us celebrate it, but within reason. For the long tradition of Indian thought, back to Aryabhata and Brahmagupta, has been quite reasonable.



ASHISH DHAWAN

BY NEXT YEAR, the average age of an Indian is expected to be 29 years, while it will be 37 in China and 48 in Japan. Additionally, around 12 million youth in India are now reaching the employable age each year. Perhaps, it is this demographic trend that prompted the government to announce its ambition of making India a \$10 trillion economy by 2030. However, the country's youth will be able to do very little to push the economy upward if we fail to invest in universal quality education. School education is the most important socio-economic issue that will generate the demographic dividend needed to power India's growth story.

During the past 10 years, the Right to Education Act ensured a steady increase in school enrollment with more than 260 million children in the age group of six to 14 years enrolled in schools. However, this is only half the job done as just ensuring schooling does not result in learning. In India, according to ASER 2018, only a little over one-quarter of third grade students can read second grade text or subtract one two-digit number from another. Further, the Indian government's own National Achievement Survey (NAS), too, indicates that a large proportion of children are not picking up critical skills in the early grades. To say that we have a crisis in school education would be an understatement, and to address it, its outlines and nature will have to be diagnosed well.

Benefits of good quality school education accrue only when students complete and leave school after having acquired the gateway skills. Like one learns to walk before running, similarly one picks up advanced skills only after picking the basic foundational skills. The advent of the knowledge economy poses new challenges, and one of the severe consequences of having an uneducated workforce will be our inability to keep pace with the global economy. Without a strong learning foundation at the primary level,

India's growth story will stand, or slip, on the foundational skills it gives its children

there can be little or no improvement in higher education or skill development.

The draft National Education Policy (NEP) identifies foundational literacy and numeracy — the ability to read, write and perform basic calculations — as prerequisites for all learning. The draft NEP states that attainment of foundational skills has to be given the highest priority, which, if not achieved, would render all other efforts irrelevant for a large section of population.

As research indicates, Class 3 is the inflection point. Children are expected to "learn to read" by class 3 so that they can "read to learn" after that. Beyond this critical stage, it becomes extremely difficult for children to pick up these basics and if they are still unable to read simple text or do simple math, they start to fall behind. A longitudinal study of 40,000 students in Andhra Pradesh from class 1 to 5 clearly brought to light the widening gap in learning levels for a huge majority of students who were falling behind due to lack of foundational skills. Almost all of these students were never able to catch up as their learning trajectory flattened over a period of time and additional years of schooling beyond the inflection point yielded little or no improvement in learning.

The absence of foundational skills hits children from poor households or first generation learners the most. Their ill-equipped home environment combined with the lack of other external influences makes it even more difficult for them to make up for the lack of gateway skills. In primary schools, teachers are usually guided by the curriculum-based textbooks, and they choose to focus on the children who are easiest to teach or who are most likely to follow and finish the curriculum. Due to this challenge in our school education system, children who don't know these critical skills tend to get left behind. Universal acquisition of foundational literacy and numeracy skills can be a great

One of the severe consequences of having an uneducated workforce will be our inability to keep pace with the global economy. Without a strong learning foundation at the primary level, there can be little or no improvement in higher education or skill development. The draft National Education Policy (NEP) identifies foundational literacy and numeracy — the ability to read, write and perform basic calculations — as prerequisites for all learning.



PRATIK DATTA

FORMER FINANCE MINISTER Arun Jaitley had ushered in a critical, yet often overlooked, reform — the Depository Receipts Scheme, 2014. On paper, this scheme generously liberalised the overseas listing regime for Indian corporates. But, it was never fully operationalised. This was a major setback for Indian corporates. From 2013 to 2018, only one Indian company raised \$185 million on the New York Stock Exchange.

Fortunately, this situation may soon change. Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently unveiled a set of measures to boost economic growth. This includes the operationalisation of the scheme by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Indian companies use depository receipts (DRs) to access international capital markets. DR issuance involves two steps — Indian securities are deposited with a custodian in India; against such deposited securities, DRs are issued by a depository bank in a foreign jurisdiction. Consequently, DRs are foreign securities which are traded and settled off-shore. This arrangement has three major advantages for Indian corporates.

First, DRs help Indian companies overcome the home bias problem. Home bias refers to the tendency of foreign investors to disproportionately allocate their funds to their domestic jurisdiction. Consequently, very few Indian companies are able to attract foreign investment. DRs avoid this home bias since foreign investors invest in DRs just like any other security in their home jurisdiction.

Second, DRs unlock valuation potential of Indian companies in innovative sectors like technology and e-commerce. Valuation of a business depends on the market analysts' exposure to comparable businesses. Since in-

# CAPITAL FREEDOM

SEBI should operationalise framework for easing restrictions on raising money abroad

ternational capital markets are more likely to have comparable businesses in innovative sectors, the analysts in those markets are better equipped to unlock the valuation potential of these Indian companies. In the absence of a functional DR route, Indian businesses are forced to use an overseas holding structure to list abroad.

Third, DRs offer various commercial advantages to Indian companies. An Indian company issuing DRs submits itself to the corporate governance standards of that foreign jurisdiction. This "legal bonding" helps gain trust of local customers, government and earn brand recognition in that foreign market.

India's tryst with DRs began with the first scheme in 1993. Liberalisation gave a major boost to export-oriented services sector companies. Given their high growth potential, they could easily raise equity capital. International financial centres offered sophisticated analysts who could unlock their valuation potential. Their marquee clients were also in developed countries like USA. All these factors shaped the 1993 scheme. From 1993 to 2013, over 330 Indian companies used DRs to access international capital markets.

In 2013, the Indian Finance Ministry set up the Sahoo Committee to review the 1993 scheme. The Committee recommended liberalising the 1993 scheme. Jaitley accepted the recommendation and announced a liberalised DR scheme in his maiden budget speech in July 2014.

This scheme recognised the principle of competitive neutrality. It allowed DRs to be issued on any Indian security in which a non-resident could invest under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA). The scheme also allowed any Indian com-

## INC PRESIDENT

DEVARAJ URS WAS declared elected, unanimously, president of the Indian National Congress at the pre-split session of the AICC. As soon as the session resumed its deliberations after the lunch break, Mohamed Shafi Qureshi, the returning officer, announced to the cheering delegates that Urs' was the only nomination to be received and six papers had been filed on his behalf.

## MARUTI REPORT

FIVE FORMER CHIEF ministers have attracted adverse comments from Justice Alak Chandra Gupta of the Supreme Court for committing irregularities in official proce-

dures to help Sanjay Gandhi's Maruti concerns. While Bansri Lai of Haryana has been indicted for helping Sanjay Gandhi acquire land at the cost of defence interests, Harideo Joshi of Rajasthan, S C Shukla of Madhya Pradesh and N D Tewari of Uttar Pradesh have been indicted for helping him with bus-body building orders.

## ELECTION LAWS

CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER S L Shakdher said according to the law, no person could be debarred from contesting elections merely because he was being tried in a court of law. The disqualification clause could only be applied after a person had been "finally"

equaliser for such students and can go a long way in making learning for all possible.

The challenge is that, in our country, delivering quality education is complex, and we do not have the resources to simultaneously focus on multiple things. But, we also now have sufficient learnings from successful foundational learning programmes in India and around the world that tell us that there are four critical pillars for any state-driven reform to achieve scalable long-term impact.

Firstly, the government needs to, urgently and ruthlessly, focus on foundational learning. They need to address key issues — be it the gaps in expectation setting across the entire chain of stakeholders or the lack of sharp and actionable literacy and numeracy skills-based goals or limited involvement of parents. The gaps in classroom instruction practices is the second pillar that need a more holistic approach. Appropriate teaching-learning material, tools, training and teacher support need to be made available.

Thirdly, we need to ensure system enabling conditions, such as teacher training, for teaching foundational skills and dedicated teacher allocation for primary classes. Lastly, improved accountability through independent monitoring and measurement can play a critical role in setting the system reform agenda. To cite an example, in Peru, every stakeholder in school education knows that a student has to fluently read 40 words per minute in class 2 and 60 words per minute in class 3.

Improvement in the education system is crucial for India to cement its position as a global leader. Making foundational learning a priority is the need of the hour. For, foundational learning opens up opportunities for better income, health, sanitation, safety, and so on.

*The writer is founder-chairman of Central Square Foundation, a founding member of Ashoka University*



## SEPTEMBER 13, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

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convicted. Elaborating, he said that if after conviction a person went in appeal to a superior court, he could still contest the election because the very fact that the appeal was under consideration meant the conviction had been stayed till the pending of the appeal.

## IOC WORKERS' STRIKE

THE COUNTRY-WIDE STRIKE by over 11,000 workers of the Indian Oil Corporation threatens to disrupt normal life unless a settlement is arrived soon. The strike, led by mainly CPI-controlled unions, was complete in the 700-km product pipeline sector: Between Barauni and Kanpur, two refineries and the marketing network in the northern and southern regions.



# Quota questions

Let’s listen to the RSS chief. Contentious issues about India’s reservation policies need to be examined



FAIZAN MUSTAFA

“THE WORST FORM of inequality is to try to make unequal things equal,” said Aristotle. India has all kinds of unequals who were historically disadvantaged and exploited. Should they be treated now at par with the upper castes or as equals is the crux of the matter that RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat has raised. He has not opposed reservation and the Opposition is unnecessarily targeting him. He has just called for a debate on reservation in a harmonious atmosphere between those who are for social justice through quotas and those who favour “merit”. Reservation is considered anti-merit and a compromise on quality and efficiency of administration. Of course, no one really knows what “merit” and “efficiency” really mean. The RSS itself does not have clarity on reservation and that’s why not only has it been talking in multiple voices but even Bhagwat has been contradicting himself on the issue.

The Congress has promptly termed the RSS and BJP as anti-Dalit. It seems to be still in denial and overlooks the remarkable achievement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in not only making caste irrelevant in the 2019 general elections but in making substantial inroads into the so-called Dalit vote bank.

The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) reservation in Parliament was made initially for just 10 years. Thus, unlike Article 370 that referred to no time frame, this reservation was indeed temporary. As far as reservation in jobs and educational institutions is concerned, this is on a weaker ground as there is no fundamental right to reservation. Articles 15 and 16 are merely enabling provisions that lay down that if the state decides to make reservation in favour of SC/ST/OBC, this will not be considered as violation of the right to equality. Thus, any government is free to end reservation as and when it wants. With the abrogation of Article 370 and the abolition of privy purses, pre-constitution solemn pacts/agreements like the Poona Pact between caste Hindus and depressed classes no more have any sanctity.

This is not the first time that the RSS chief has made a demand for a debate on reservation. In September 2016, he had given a similar call for a review of our reservation policies and suggested setting up of an apolitical committee to undertake this exercise. In an interview to the RSS mouthpiece, *Organiser*, he had said that “we believe in forming a committee of people genuinely concerned for the interest of the whole nation and committed for social equality, including representatives from the society, they should decide which categories require reservation and for how long.” Though Bhagwat had not advocated the abolition of reservation, the BJP quickly disowned him. By December 2016, Bhagwat himself made a U-turn and conceded ground probably due to another round of assembly elections and said “as long as discrimination remains in the society, reservation is needed.” Meanwhile, at the Jaipur Literary Festival, Manmohan Vaidya, head of RSS’s communication department, again advocated the abolition of reservation and said that “it is against the principle of equality. (Give them) opportunities, not reservation.” In yet another damage control



CR Sasikumar

exercise, the RSS joint secretary clarified that the “underprivileged deserve reservation.”

Since the RSS and BJP are two faces of a coin, it is difficult to understand why the BJP government in Maharashtra recently extended reservation to Marathas though the Mandal commission had identified them as forward caste and state backward class commissions had twice refused to consider them as OBC. In the process, the BJP government breached even the 50 per cent upper ceiling on reservation. Similarly, BJP governments have extended reservation to Gujjars in Rajasthan and Patidars in Gujarat. There was no statement from the RSS in opposition of these extensions to newer and politically dominant groups. Prior to the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, even the Modi government created a new category of economically backward classes and provided 10 per cent reservation for them over and above existing quotas. The Modi government also argued in the Supreme Court in favour of reservation in promotions in Jarnail Singh (2018). All these actions of the BJP demonstrate that it is not opposed to reservation. In fact, it favours extending reservation to newer groups.

As a matter of fact, there is some merit in Bhagwat’s argument. We need to examine some highly contentious issues about our reservation policies: How far have the benefits percolated down the ladder? Has an elite within the SCs/STs monopolised all the benefits of reservation? Should we extend the exclusion of the creamy layer to SCs/STs as well? Should benefits of reservation be confined to admissions or jobs? Should reservation at promotions be withdrawn? How do we define backwardness? Should social backwardness be replaced with economic backwardness?

We need to certainly examine some highly contentious issues about our reservation policies: How far have benefits percolated down the ladder? Has an elite within the SCs/STs monopolised all the benefits of reservation? Should we extend the exclusion of the creamy layer to SCs/STs as well? Should benefits of reservation be confined to admissions or jobs? Should reservation at promotions be withdrawn? How do we define backwardness? Should social backwardness be replaced with economic backwardness?

well? Should benefits of reservation be confined to either admissions or jobs? Should reservation at promotion be withdrawn? How do we define backwardness? Should social backwardness be replaced with economic backwardness? Have the 11 parameters of social and educational backwardness identified by the Mandal commission and approved by the nine judge bench of the apex court in Indira Sawhney (1992) become outdated and need revision? Should reservation be extended to the private sector? Similarly, in some states, if the number of SCs/STs and OBCs is more than 75 per cent, should we still insist on the 50 per cent upper limit of reservation? The “carrying forward” rule under which unfilled posts are carried forward to subsequent years, needs a critical examination. Similarly, the “catch up” rule on consequential seniority too must be seriously debated as officers of unreserved categories do feel frustrated when their own batchmates are promoted and become their bosses.

Even western countries promote the use of several mechanisms to ensure that societal diversity is reflected in all public institutions. The reservation system has indeed contributed to the diversity in our state institutions. If we are convinced that reservation does promote equality, the question of its abolition till we achieve substantial equality becomes redundant.

The writer is vice-chancellor, NALSAR University of Law. Views are personal

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“The Israeli political leadership, with the help of Donald Trump, is making finding a way out of conflict with the Palestinians impossible.” — **THE GUARDIAN**

# Orphaned by State

A state-directed stripping of rights is rendering citizens alien and inaudible



PAMELA PHILIPOSE

THE CIVIC DEATH of nearly two million in Assam has been met with an odd response from the rest of the country. How does one describe it? Ennui? Apathy? Acquiescence? Denial? Considering its ramifications, there has been surprisingly little public action or even conversation on it. A People’s Tribunal on “Contested Citizenship in Assam”, held recently in New Delhi, which unpacked the enormous human suffering and chaos unleashed by NRC procedures, was a rare initiative of its kind.

Could this indifference be because Assam has always stood on the periphery of the mainland’s consciousness, and the fate of its newly declared “non-citizens” even more so? Could it be because there is some cold comfort in the fact that those left out of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) were not quite so many as initially projected? The argument has been raised, after all, that the final NRC result has been somehow “fair”; that the very fact that nobody is happy over its outcome; that there are both Hindus and Muslims among those now deprived of citizenship, should buttress faith in the system.

Could it also reflect a certain relief that the “Bangladeshi” spectre will finally get to be exorcised? It’s been three decades now since Shiv Sena-led governments in Maharashtra drew political capital out of much publicised “deportation” drives involving the rounding up of terrified Bangla-speaking slum-dwellers, and packing them into trains headed for Kolkata. From election speech to election speech, their numbers were bumped up exponentially, growing from a few thousands to unstoppable millions. With religion as their main marker, they were profiled as job-stealers, bomb planters, destroyers of local cultures, grabbers of land.

The militarised terminology used to refer to people in search of better lives as “Muslim infiltrators”, marked not just the first information reports of the police. It permeated the language of the highest judiciary. The Supreme Court verdict in *Sarbananda Sonowal vs Union Of India & Anr*, delivered by the bench of R C Lahoti, G P Mathur and P K Balasubramanyan in 2005, quoted approvingly and without context, the communally coloured observations of a British official in the 1931 Census report, which saw migration as an “invasion” of “land-hungry immigrants, mostly Muslims”. The bench observed that the state of Assam is facing “external aggression and internal disturbance” on account of “large scale illegal migration of Bangladeshi nationals”. Such a communal framing has dominated the narrative on the issue over decades. But today, with a party committed to Hindutva in power both at the Centre and in Assam, such a framing has become

politically weaponised.

The irony is that this seeming indifference to the NRC process and the possibility that it could alter forever the constitutional notion of citizenship, is taking place against a steel-like political resolve to extend it to the rest of India. Union Minister of Home Amit Shah has not just termed “illegal immigrants” as “termites”, he has continuously and emphatically iterated that his government will not allow “one single immigrant” to stay in India.

President Ram Nath Kovind was only reflecting this in his address to Parliament in July when he affirmed that his government “has decided to implement the process of National Register of Citizens on priority basis in areas affected by infiltration”. Baby steps in this regard have already been undertaken. On the very day it was sworn back to power on May 30, the Modi government moved to decentralise decision-making on foreigners’ tribunals. State governments and even lowly district collectors now have the power to set them up without a formal nod from the Centre. Another significant notification, involving the National Population Register, followed three months later. It is to be updated in 2020 and will allow the government to aggregate the personal data of people living across the country as a first step towards mapping, marking and classifying the population, should it choose to do so.

There is a curious paradox in all of this. At a time when India is searching for a top slot in the global order and possibly a seat in the Security Council, obligations undertaken by India vis-a-vis a slew of international treaties have either been discarded or trampled upon in NRC procedures. For instance, the right to the protection of the family as the “natural and fundamental group unit of society”, guaranteed under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, has been violated extensively. Under the Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989, to cite another example, a child “shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents”. Yet, among the most searing testimonies during the recent people’s tribunal, were the impacts on children. In innumerable cases, parents are in the NRC but their children’s names don’t figure in it, and vice versa. A mother, who had lost her newborn while she stood under the sun without water to get her certification, wanted to know who had killed her baby.

Those who argue that India is under no obligation to conform to the letter and spirit of international treaties, need to be reminded that Article 51(c) of the Indian Constitution enjoins the fostering of respect for treaty obligations and many of these principles now inform national law today.

We understand citizenship as state-guaranteed right to have rights. We now need to become more conscious of statelessness as state-directed stripping of rights, and what it entails for the lives of those who are rendered alien and inaudible.

Philipose is author of *‘Media’s Shifting Terrain: Five Years that Transformed the Way India Communicates’*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SAFETY FOR DOCTORS

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Doctors as victims’ (IE, September 12). The author author makes a case for special provisions for doctors because violence against them may impact the health care of the patients. This is an irrational argument. The Constitution talks of equality. By the author’s argument, there should be a case for the special provision for engineers as their services enable many to access hospitals.

**Suchak D Patel, Ahmedabad**

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Doctors as victims’ (IE, September 12). The Centre has met the long-pending demand of medical fraternity by presenting a draft bill which has provisions to penalise those involved in violence against doctors. Causes for such assaults range from skewed patient-doctor ratio and a lack of understanding of medical phenomena among patients and their relatives, many of whom have unrealistic expectations from doctors. Increasing safety provisions in hospitals is essential to reverse the situations. Behaviour therapy is usually part of medical training and most doctors are trained in dealing with patients. But the increasing incidents of violence has created fear in their minds.

**Sanjay Chopra, Mohali**

### GREENING LAND

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Shades of green’ (IE, September 12). Nearly 30 per cent of the country’s land area has

### LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

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

THE WINNER RECEIVES SELECT EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS

been degraded through deforestation, over cultivation and depletion of wetlands. The ambition of restoring degraded lands needs to be followed up by re-evaluating the methods used to measure the country’s green cover. PM Narendra Modi said desertification will be reversed by adopting a landscape-restoration approach. This requires a strict land-use policy and better watershed management initiatives.

**Sakshi Mathur Jaipur**



AMIT MALVIYA AND KISHORE DESAI

# Poised for a turnaround

Government’s measures show that it is responsive to the economic slowdown

THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL Office recently released estimates of the GDP for Q1 2019-20. As per the release, India’s GDP in the first quarter grew by 5 per cent. This was one of the slowest quarterly growth rates in the recent past and it comes in the backdrop of a consistent slowdown in growth for the last five quarters.

The release has kicked off intense speculation on the state of the economy. Picking on the recent data releases, certain sections of stakeholders have concluded, rather hastily, that the Indian economy is in a recession and that the country is staring at a “financial emergency”. Is the economic situation really this worrisome? Is panic and fear mongering over the health of economy really justified? Perhaps a dispassionate assessment of hardcore economic data is needed to understand if indeed there is any merit in the doom and gloom scenario being painted by those sections.

Consider the macro fundamentals first. First, in 2011-12, India’s GDP grew at 5.2 per cent. Compared to that, during the last 5 years (2014-15 to 2018-19), GDP grew at an average annual growth rate of 7.5 per cent. Growth touched 8.2 per cent in 2016-17 before moderating to 6.8 per cent last year. At this rate, India’s economic growth surpassed most large and developed economies across the world. Moreover, this economic expan-

sion was accompanied by significant moderation in inflation and deficits on the fiscal and current account.

Second, annual inflation has been brought down from more than 10 per cent prior to 2014-15 to 3.4 per cent in 2018-19, one of the lowest in recent times. In fact, the average inflation (over the period 2014-15 to 2018-19) stayed at 4.4 per cent. Third, the fiscal deficit, that had reached unsustainable levels of about 6 per cent of the GDP in 2011-12, was brought down to 3.4 per cent in 2018-19. The current account deficit was also halved from 4.2 per cent of GDP in 2011-12 to 2.1 per cent in 2018-19.

Effectively, at the close of 2018-19, the annual GDP growth was 7 per cent, inflation was 3.4 per cent, the fiscal deficit was at 3.4 per cent and the current account deficit was 2.1 per cent. It is, therefore, not surprising that global investors and multi-national corporations saw merit in committing their hard-earned monies into India. Foreign direct investment increased from \$34 billion in 2012-13 to \$65 billion in 2018-19 (as per the Union budget).

Let’s consider the external environment next. Globally, most economies are facing downward pressures to growth. The annual growth rates of large economies like the US, Germany, Japan, UK (excluding China) remained below 3 per cent during the last 5

years. To make matters worse, trade remained sluggish because of tariff wars between the US and China. As a result, Indian exports stayed more or less flat growing from \$310 billion in 2014-15 to \$330 billion in 2018-19. The less than desired growth in exports did put a stress on the Indian economy. Despite this, India’s trade balance stayed at comfortable levels due to increased import substitution and softening of crude oil prices.

Data and arguments presented in the above paragraphs indicate that the economy today is “structurally” robust and stronger than it has been in the recent past. In other words, the vitals of the economy like inflation, deficit levels, trade balance are well within the comfortable range. These key indicators allude to the long-term stability and soundness of the Indian economy and that it is resilient enough to withstand the short to medium term domestic and external headwinds.

At the same time, the economy today is facing pressures from multiple quarters. This is evident from the slowing growth rate and other indicators such as PMI, core industry growth. While reduced domestic demand and global externalities may be contributing to this, the signs of a slowdown are evident. That said, fortunately, the government has not buried its head in the sand and has taken several proactive policy initiatives to tackle

the slowdown head on. Some of these include merger of public sector banks, credit expansion through NBFCs, bank recapitalisation and easy loans to MSME’s, faster dispute resolution and so on. Consultations are also on with stakeholders of other major sectors such as auto and real estate to urgently devise ways to address sector specific issues.

The above moves show that the government is cognisant of the urgency of the situation and its responsiveness is evident from its proportionate and swift action. It is listening, assessing and willing to take decisive steps to safely navigate the economy through the current turbulence. One may expect that the recent initiatives as well as those taken in the last few years should start bearing desired results pretty soon. While the next one or two quarters may still be difficult, the structural soundness of Indian economy will help weather the cyclical downturn. While economic alarmists from certain quarters may continue to spread the not so festive cheer, hard facts point towards a healthy Indian economy well on its way towards a decisive turnaround.

Malviya is National Convener, Technology Cell, Bharatiya Janata Party and Desai is a former Officer on Special Duty at Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and NITI Aayog



## THIS WORD MEANS

### K2-18B

A planet with temperatures that can potentially support life, now found to have water vapour too



Artist's impression of K2-18b and its host star. *M Kormmesser, ESA/Hubble, via NASA*

ABOUT 110 light years from Earth, an exoplanet eight times the mass of Earth orbits a star. Called K2-18b, it was discovered in 2015 by NASA's Kepler spacecraft. It resides in a habitable zone — the region around a star in which liquid water could potentially pool on the surface of a rocky planet. Now, scientists have found signatures of water vapour in the atmosphere of K2-18b. That makes it the only planet orbiting a star outside the Solar System that is known to have both water and temperatures that could support life.

Its atmosphere was studied by astronomers at the University College London (UCL). The results are published in *Nature Astronomy*.

The discovery of water vapour is not the

final word on the possibility of life. For one thing, K2-18b's size and surface gravity are much larger than Earth's. Its radiation environment, too, may be hostile. "K2-18b is not 'Earth 2.0' as it is significantly heavier and has a different atmospheric composition. However, it brings us closer to answering the fundamental question: Is the Earth unique?" study first author Dr Angelos Tsaras said in a statement issued by UCL.

The researchers used 2016-17 data from the Hubble Space Telescope and developed algorithms to analyse the starlight filtered through K2-18b's atmosphere. The results revealed the molecular signature of water vapour, also indicating the presence of hydrogen and helium in the planet's atmosphere.

## TELLING NUMBERS

### 27,000 H1N1 cases in 2019 so far, peak years were 2015 and 2017

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1, the year 2019 has had over 27,505 reported cases of H1N1 (swine flu) in India, with 1,137 deaths. A report by the National Centre for Disease Control, listing H1N1 cases since 2012, shows that two full calendar years (2015 and 2017) have had more cases than 2019 so far.

In 2019, the highest number of cases has been recorded in Rajasthan (5,052 cases and 206 deaths until September 1), followed by Gujarat (4,832 and 149), Delhi (3,583 and 31), Maharashtra (2,173 and 208 until August 31), Uttar Pradesh (1,057 and 25 until July 14) and Karnataka (1,882 and 88 until August 30). In 2018, which saw 15,266 cases and 1,128 deaths, the states with the most cases were Tamil Nadu (2,812), Maharashtra (2,593), Rajasthan (2,375), Gujarat (2,164) and Karnataka (1,733).

Across all years, the largest outbreaks in terms of cases have happened in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan. H1N1 cases in these three states have contributed significantly to 2015 and 2017 being peak years, followed by 2019 so far.

#### H1N1 IN INDIA, SINCE 2012

2012	5,044 cases (405 deaths)
2013	5,253 cases (699 deaths)
2014	937 cases (218 deaths)
2015	42,592 cases (2,991 deaths)
2016	1,786 cases (263 deaths)
2017	38,811 cases (2,270 deaths)
2018	15,266 cases (1,128 deaths)
2019*	27,505 cases (1,137 deaths)

\*Until September 1

#### LARGE OUTBREAKS, BY CASES

Maharashtra, 2015	8,583
Gujarat, 2017	7,709
Gujarat, 2015	7,180
Rajasthan, 2015	6,858
Maharashtra, 2017	6,144

Source: National Centre for Disease Control

## SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

# How world is losing fertile land

UN Convention to Combat Desertification meeting nears conclusion in Greater Noida. What is causing desertification of land around the world, and what role does the Convention play in trying to combat it?

AMITABH SINHA  
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 12

For the last two weeks, India has been hosting the meeting of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. A major global agreement on issues related to land, the convention (UNCCD) seeks to address the phenomenon of desertification, the process through which fertile and productive land become degraded and unfit for useful activities like agriculture. The UNCCD meeting takes place every two years and the ongoing one in Greater Noida is the 14th such meeting. At the end of talks on Friday, the conference is expected to come out with a declaration on the decisions taken here to deal with desertification.

#### Why is desertification a concern?

A variety of factors, both natural and human-induced, are known to be affecting the productivity of land, and making them desert-like. Increasing populations and the resultant rise in demand for food and water, feed for cattle, and a wide variety of ecosystem services these offer, have prompted human beings to clear forests, use chemicals, cultivate multiple crops, and over-exploit groundwater. This has affected both the health and productivity of land. Natural processes such as rising global temperatures increase the frequency and intensity of droughts, and changing weather patterns have put further pressure on the land.

A recent report by the International Resources Panel, a scientific body hosted by the UN Environment Programme, said that about 25 per cent of world's land area has been degraded. Another report, by the Intergovernmental Science Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, said that nearly 40 per cent of world's population was being impacted negatively because of land degradation.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) too came out with a special report on land a few months ago, in which it said that the rate of soil erosion in many areas of the world was up to 100 times faster than the rate of soil formation. It also said the annual area of drylands in drought had been increasing at more than 1 per cent every year in the last 50 years, and that nearly 500 million people lived in areas that have experienced desertification after the 1980s.



Parched fields near a dam in Beed, Maharashtra, during a drought in June 2019. Natural factors such as drought and various man-made factors are affecting the productivity of land worldwide. *Amit Chakravarty/File photo*

Desertification has implications for food and water security, livelihoods, migration, conflicts and even international security. Combating desertification refers to activities that prevent or reduce land degradation, and restore partially or fully degraded land.

#### What is the Convention to Combat Desertification?

The UNCCD is one of three Conventions that have come out of the historic 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It is, however, possibly the least known of the three. The Rio summit gave rise to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) under which countries have agreed to restrict the emissions of greenhouse gases, first through the Kyoto Protocol of 1997 and now through the Paris Agreement that was finalised in 2015 and becomes operational next year. It also gave rise to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which too has delivered an international arrangement to protect and use biodiversity. The UNCCD has not yet resulted in any international treaty or protocol to fight desertification.

The UNFCCC holds its general meetings every year, while CBD and CCD meet every two years.

#### Why was the need felt for such a convention?

At the time the UNCCD was born in Rio, degradation of land was mostly viewed as a localised problem, one that was mainly affecting countries in Africa. In fact, it was on the demand of the African countries that CCD came into being. The Convention repeatedly makes a mention of the special needs of Africa in fighting desertification.

Over the years, it has become increasingly clear that land degradation was impacting the global network of food and commodity supply chains and was getting impacted in return. The crops being grown and the quantities in which they were being grown were dictated not by local needs but by global demands. Changes in food habits and international trade have altered cropping patterns in many areas. Large-scale migration to urban centres and industrial hubs has seen a heavy concentration of populations in small

areas, putting unsustainable pressure on land and water resources.

As an issue, therefore, land degradation of land is, therefore, much more complex than it appears.

#### To what extent does land degradation fit into the context of climate change?

Land has always been an important conversation in the climate change debate. That is because land affects, and is affected by, climate change. Forests, trees and vegetation cover are important sinks of carbon dioxide. Land degradation, therefore, reduces the amount of carbon dioxide that is absorbed, and consequently leads to a rise in emissions. At the same time, agriculture and activities such as cattle rearing contribute to emissions and are a major source of methane which is a much stronger greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. Restoration of degraded land can, therefore, have major co-benefits for climate change objectives. According to the report by the International Resources Panel referred to earlier, restoring 350 million hectares of degraded landscape by 2030 would take out between 13 to 26 billion tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere. This would more than offset the emissions from activities like agriculture and cattle-rearing. The IPCC report mentioned earlier had estimated that such activities contribute about 25 per cent of annual greenhouse gas emissions, or about 12 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.

#### What change can be expected on the basis of a CCD meeting?

A meeting of the UNCCD is not expected to come up with any headline-grabbing decision. The discussions at the CCD have so far remained academic and technical, mainly focusing on the kinds of activities that can be undertaken to restore degraded lands. During the conference that is ending Friday, India announced that it would restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.

Working on a recent mandate of the CCD, countries are making efforts towards achieving what is called Land Degradation Neutrality, or LDN, within their territories, and trying to ensure that the amount and quality of land necessary to support ecosystem services and strengthen food security remains stable or increases within time periods targeted by them.

# MIT & Epstein: 'good money, bad guy' issue

YASHEE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

JOICHI "Joi" Ito, director of MIT's Media Lab, resigned on September 7, a day after *The New Yorker* blew the lid off efforts by the high-profile research hub to hide a deep fundraising relationship with Jeffrey Epstein, the financier who committed suicide in prison last month while awaiting trial for sex-trafficking.

While MIT has ordered an investigation into the institution's ties with Epstein, the revelations in *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times* have raised questions about the ethics of accepting money for "good causes" from tainted sources and, by ignoring accusations of sexual offences against powerful men, seemingly enabling them to claw back to acceptability, even respectability.

#### Ito and Epstein

Ito, a tech evangelist who came to head the Media Lab in 2011, has been described as a "master networker" who connected equally effectively with both idealistic students and



Joichi 'Joi' Ito has resigned as the director of MIT Media Lab. *MIT*

fatcat donors. The media reports have established that he accepted money from Epstein while being fully aware of the sexual abuse charges. Ito admitted to having taken a \$525,000 donation from Epstein for the Lab, and \$1.2 million for his personal investment funds. *The New Yorker* investigation showed that the Lab got, at Epstein's behest, gifts of \$2 million from philanthropist Bill Gates, and \$5.5 million from the investor Leon Black.

"The effort to conceal the lab's contact with Epstein was so widely known that some staff in the office of the lab's director... referred to Epstein as Voldemort or 'he who must not be named'," Ronan Farrow wrote in *The New Yorker*. Signe Swenson, who worked at the Lab between 2014 to 2016, told *The New York Times* that her repeated expressions of "disgust" at Epstein's involvement "was never listened to" — and that when she pointed out that MIT had officially "disqualified" Epstein as a donor, she was told that Ito had a "relationship" with the financier.

Epstein was accused of sexually abusing scores of women and underage girls, and using some of his victims to get to more girls. He was given a favourable 18-month sentence in 2008, and arrested again on July 6 this year.

#### Donations and ethics

Epstein donated large sums for scientists, which made him acceptable, despite the allegations he faced, to large sections of society.

In an analysis of "Why MIT Media Lab thought it was doing right by secretly accepting Jeffrey Epstein's money", *Vox* summed

up the argument that "anonymous donations from bad people are good": "Who would you rather have \$5 million: Jeffrey Epstein, or a scientist who wants to use it for research? Presumably the scientist, right?"

This argument — that "if someone is a bad person, taking their anonymous donations is actually the best thing you can do" — wasn't totally absurd within philanthropy, the *Vox* explainer said.

In a post on Medium, Harvard law professor Larry Lessig said that institutions like MIT receive donations from four kinds or people or entities: (1) wealthy individuals who only do good; (2) entities like Google or Facebook, whom some love and some hate; (3) criminals, but whose wealth is *not* the proceeds of crime; and (4) people whose wealth clearly comes from crime.

Epstein was in the third category, Lessig said, and argued that while a great university "should say, absolutely, it won't take money from criminals", if it does, then those contributions should be anonymous. Because, according to Lessig, "secrecy is the only saving virtue of accepting money like this".

# Failed Rohingya repatriation from Bangladesh to Myanmar: a status check

NEHA BANKA  
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 12

ON WEDNESDAY, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina blamed Myanmar for the failure of a recent attempt to repatriate Rohingya refugees. "We've seen Myanmar could not win Rohingyas' trust in creating a conducive situation for their dignified return," Hasina was quoted as saying in Parliament.

Her comment came two weeks after Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh had refused to board buses that would have taken them to Myanmar. This resulted in Myanmar missing the August 2019 target for repatriation. An earlier deadline was missed in January 2018, when Bangladesh delayed repatriation plans.

#### Repatriation targets

According to United Nations estimates, some 1 million Rohingyas have fled Myanmar since August 2017, and have been set up in two camps by the Bangladesh government in Cox's Bazar. In November 2017, following talks, Bangladesh announced that a

joint working group of UNHCR, Bangladesh, and Myanmar would be set up to work out the terms of repatriation, which would be completed by 2019. In March 2018, Bangladesh submitted a list of 8,000 refugees for repatriation, but Myanmar accepted the names of only 374, citing incomplete documentation. In May 2018, Myanmar announced that 1,100 verified Rohingya refugees would be repatriated.

Myanmar and the UN signed a confidential memorandum of understanding in June 2018. When details were leaked online, refugees rejected it. Bangladesh-based Rohingya political activist Ko Ko Linn told *The Guardian*, "We have long been seeking a guarantee from the Burmese government of restoration of our citizenship rights before we return. But they have skirted this issue of citizenship in the MoU..."

In 2018, Reuters reported on a list of demands by Rohingya elders at one refugee camp. They wanted Myanmar to announce that it would give the refugees citizenship; recognise them as an ethnic group; return land they once occupied; rebuild their homes, mosques and schools; and hold the



Rohingya refugees in a Bangladesh camp reach out to receive aid in 2017. *Reuters*

Myanmarese military accountable for killings.

#### The failed repatriation

*The Dhaka Tribune* quoted Bangladesh

Foreign Minister A K Abdul Momen as saying that Bangladesh and Myanmar were "fully ready" to resume repatriation, "but some Rohingya leaders and NGOs were reportedly

discouraging them to return". Four refugee families with some 18 people had almost boarded a bus, but were reportedly dissuaded by fellow refugees who told them they would not be able to return to their villages or get citizenship. The UNHCR said in a statement: "So far none of those interviewed have indicated a willingness to repatriate at this time. UNHCR will continue assisting the government of Bangladesh in this process..."

#### The genesis of the crisis

The Rohingyas are a Bengali-speaking Muslim minority in Myanmar, whose government considers them illegal migrants from Bangladesh, and does not recognise them as citizens under the Burmese Citizenship Law of 1972. The Rohingyas live mainly in the northern region of Myanmar's Rakhine state, which was once part of the Kingdom of Arakan (1429-1785) that also included modern-day Chittagong (Chittagong) in Bangladesh.

The refugee crisis followed attacks on Myanmar border police in October 2016 in Rakhine, for which the insurgent group Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army took re-

sponsibility. In retaliation by the military, several Rohingya villagers were killed, raped and jailed. Human rights groups said Myanmar's soldiers were responsible for rape and killings even while Rohingyas were trying to escape.

#### Rohingya and Bangladesh

*The Daily Star* has reported that since 2017, 4,300 acres of hills and forests have been sacrificed to make space for refugee shelters. Some 1,485 hectares of forests have been razed and encroached upon for firewood.

In March 2019, Reuters reported that Bangladesh was "struggling to cope with the influx" of refugees, and wanted to start relocating them to the island of Bhasan Char in the Bay of Bengal, with UN help. Refugees began protesting and refused to relocate.

Inside camps, according to UN and media reports, refugees were facing violence, assault and kidnapping by fellow Rohingya. Bangladesh had to significantly increase police strength inside the camps. Human rights activists reported that Rohingya women were being trafficked to various countries, or being forced into prostitution in Bangladesh.



TOPOF THE WORLD



USA  
Trump says will ban flavoured e-cigarettes

*Washington:* The Trump administration said Wednesday it would ban the sale of most flavoured e-cigarettes, at a time when hundreds of people have been sickened by lung illnesses and teenage vaping continues to rise. Sitting in the Oval Office with the government's top health officials, President Donald Trump acknowledged there was a vaping problem and said: "We can't allow people to get sick. And we can't have our kids be so affected." Alex Azar, the health and human services secretary, said that the Food and Drug Administration would outline a plan within the coming weeks for removing flavoured e-cigarettes and nicotine pods from the market, excluding tobacco flavours.

ZIMBABWE  
'Mugabe to be buried in village early next week'

*Harare:* Zimbabwe's former president Robert Mugabe will be buried early next week in his village and not at a national monument for liberation heroes, his family said on Thursday. The family of Mugabe, who died in Singapore last week, and Zimbabwe's government have been at odds over whether he would be buried in his homestead in Kutama, northwest of Harare, or at the National Heroes Acre in the capital. "His body will lie in state at Kutama on Sunday night..., followed by a private burial," his nephew Leo Mugabe said.

FRANCE  
Paris bans use of pesticides

*Paris:* Paris and four other French cities on Thursday banned the use of synthetic pesticides within their boundaries as an anti-chemicals movement that began in the countryside gains momentum. Lille in the north, Nantes in the west, Grenoble in the southeast and the central city of Clermont-Ferrand joined Paris in implementing the ban, citing the need to safeguard biodiversity and public health. The move is mainly symbolic in urban areas given that the law already bans the use of synthetic pesticides in parks and other green spaces by public authorities.

UK PARLIAMENT FORCED GOVT TO RELEASE OFFICIAL ASSESSMENT

# No-deal Brexit could lead to food, medicine shortages: Govt papers

PM says document shows worst-case scenario, insists he didn't lie to Queen on Parliament suspension

JILL LAWLESS  
LONDON, SEPTEMBER 12

THE BRITISH government insisted Thursday that its forecast of food and medicine shortages, gridlock at ports and riots in the streets after a no-deal Brexit is an avoidable worst-case scenario, as Prime Minister Boris Johnson denied misleading Queen Elizabeth II about his reasons for suspending Parliament just weeks before the country is due to leave the European Union.

In better news for the embattled British leader, a Belfast court rejected claims that his Brexit strategy should be ruled illegal because it harmed Northern Ireland's peace process.

Johnson, who took office in July vowing to get Brexit done on the scheduled Oct. 31 date "do or die," and even if there is not a divorce deal to smooth the way. But many fear a no-deal Brexit would be economically devastating.

Lawmakers forced the government to publish its official assessment of the impact of leaving the EU on Oct. 31 without a divorce agreement. The document described potential food and medicine shortages, gridlock at ports and riots in the streets.

Johnson insisted the bleak scenario was "not where we intend to end up."

"This is a worst-case scenario which civil servants obviously have to prepare for, but in the last few months, and particularly in the 50 days since I've been Prime Minister, we've been massively accelerating our preparations," he said.

Opposition politicians said the "Operation Yellowhammer"



Britain's Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, takes part in an activity with school children as he visits the *NLV Pharos*, a lighthouse tender moored on the river Thames to mark London International Shipping Week on Thursday. *Reuters*

document — the government's code name for its Brexit preparations — proved that Johnson is reckless to consider leaving the EU without a deal.

Former Attorney General Dominic Grieve said it was extraordinary that a UK government "is content on inflicting on the British public the level of disruption which is set out in the Yellowhammer papers."

Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said the scenario was a "planning assumption" and would only come true if the government did nothing to offset it.

The six-page classified document, dated Aug. 2, said customs

**"...In the last few months, and particularly in the 50 days since I've been Prime Minister, we've been massively accelerating our preparations."**

— BORIS JOHNSON, PRIME MINISTER OF UK

checks meant the number of trucks crossing the main freight route between Calais and Dover would drop by between 40% and 60% within a day of a no-deal Brexit, with disruptions possibly lasting up to three months. The supply of certain types of fresh foods and essential medicines would decrease, it said.

The paper also described major disruption for travellers be-

tween Britain and the EU, uncertainty for UK citizens living in Europe, and said attempts to maintain an open border between Ireland and Northern Ireland would probably fail. It also said a no-deal exit could trigger major protests and even riots.

The government refused to comply with another part of Parliament's demand — that it hand over emails and texts

POLLUTION

## ENGLISH CHANNEL DOLPHINS RIDDLED WITH TOXINS

The skin and blubber of bottlenose dolphins in the English Channel contain alarmingly high concentrations of mercury and other toxic pollutants, researchers said Thursday. The toxins — which become concentrated in mother's milk — are linked to declining birthrates among marine mammals.



Trump reiterated that the Taliban bombing in Kabul that killed a US soldier and 11 others was why he called off talks. *AP*

## US hitting Taliban harder than ever, Trump says after peace talks collapse

LALIT K JHA  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 12

ASSERTING THAT the Afghan peace talks are dead, US President Donald Trump attributed the end in the negotiations to the Taliban and said that the group is now being hit harder than ever before.

Speaking to reporters at the White House on Wednesday, Trump blamed the Taliban for the end in the deliberations after the group claimed responsibility of a terrorist attack in Kabul last week that left 12 dead, including an American soldier.

"I'll tell you one thing—we are hitting the Taliban right now harder than they've ever been hit," Trump said.

The US President said the Taliban did this because they thought by doing this, they will have an upper hand in negotiations. "What they did was horrible. When they killed a great American soldier—when they killed 12 people—innocent people—essentially, innocent people because if you look, I mean many of these people were civil-

ians," he said.

"You also had a NATO soldier in addition to our great soldier. But when they did what they did in order to create what they thought was a better negotiating stance I said that's the end of them — get them out. I don't want anything to do with them. They've been hit very hard," he said.

"I know for a fact they said that was a big mistake that they made and it was. But, that was my decision and what we're doing now is my decision," he said when asked about his decision to invite the Taliban to Camp David for talks and then cancelling it abruptly.

"The talks with the Taliban are dead," Trump said.

On Saturday last, the US president cancelled a "secret" summit with Taliban leaders and his Afghan counterpart following the attack in Kabul, dealing a blow to protracted negotiations that were nearing a peace deal to end America's longest war.

Trump's US negotiator Zalmay Khalilzad had announced a peace deal "in principle" with the Taliban on Monday last. **PTI**

## US top court allows asylum restrictions

ADAM LIPTAK  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 12

THE US Supreme Court on Wednesday allowed the Trump administration to bar many Central American migrants from seeking asylum in the United States. The court said the administration may enforce new rules that generally forbid asylum applications from people who had traveled through another country on their way to the United States without being denied asylum in that country.

A federal appeals court had largely blocked the new policy, but the justices, in a brief, unsigned order, allowed it to go into effect while legal challenges move forward. Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor dissented.

In a Supreme Court brief, the solicitor general, Noel Francisco, representing the administration, said the new policy was needed to address "an unprecedented surge in the number of aliens who enter the country unlawfully across the southern border and, if apprehended, claim asylum and remain in the country while their claims are



The rules approved by the Supreme Court reverses longstanding asylum policies of the US

adjudicated."

Under the policy, which was announced July 15, only immigrants who have been denied asylum in another country or who have been victims of "severe" human trafficking are permitted to apply in the United States.

Under the rules, Hondurans and Salvadorans must seek and be denied asylum in Guatemala or Mexico before they can apply in the United States. Guatemalans must seek and be denied asylum in Mexico.

The rules reversed longstanding asylum policies that allowed people to seek haven no matter how they got to the United States. **NYT**

## 50 killed in train derailment in southeast Congo

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
LUBUMBASHI, SEPTEMBER 12

FIFTY PEOPLE were killed early Thursday when a train derailed in southeastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the minister for humanitarian action, Steve Mbikayi, said in a tweet.

"Another disaster! Derailing at 3 am (local time) in Tanganyika (province) near Mayibaridi. Provisional toll: 50 dead and several injured," he wrote.

Railways in the DRC have a poor record for safety, hampered by poor tracks and decrepit locomotives, many of them dating from the 1960s.

In March, at least 24 people were killed and 31 were injured Sunday when a freight train carrying illegal passengers crashed in the central region of Kasai.

In November last year, 10 stowaways were killed and 24 injured near the eastern town of Samba when the brakes failed on a freight train.

In November 2017, 35 people were killed when a freight train carrying 13 oil tankers plunged into a ravine in southern Lualaba province.

## Water found in atmosphere of planet beyond our solar system

REUTERS  
LONDON, SEPTEMBER 12

SCIENTISTS FOR the first time have detected water in the atmosphere of an Earth-like planet orbiting a distant star, evidence that a key ingredient for life exists beyond our solar system, according to a study published on Wednesday.

Water vapor was found in the atmosphere of K2-18b, one of hundreds of "super-Earths" — worlds ranging in size between Earth and Neptune — documented in a growing new field of astronomy devoted to the exploration of so-called exoplanets elsewhere in the Milky Way galaxy.

More than 4,000 exoplanets of all types and sizes have been detected overall.

The latest discovery was reported in research by a team of scientists at University College London (UCL) published in the peer-reviewed journal *Nature Astronomy*.

"We found water," UCL astrophysicist Ingo Waldmann told *Reuters* of the breakthrough, revealed from observations made with the Hubble Space Telescope, which analysed starlight filtered



An artist's impression of the planet K2-18b and its star. *Reuters*

**WHAT DO WE KNOW?**  
A planet named K2-18b, which is just over twice the size of Earth and over a 100 light years away from our planet, contains water in its atmosphere. This is the first time water has been detected on a planet that orbits in the 'habitable zone' of its star.

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**  
Because the planet orbits at just the right distance from its sun to sustain life, it is a candidate in the search of alien life. However, being 100 light years away, we cannot yet send a probe to study it further. Some scientists say the large size and gravity of the planet may make it difficult for life to exist there.

through K2-18b's atmosphere.

More precisely, it marks the first time scientists have found water in the atmosphere around a super-Earth — as opposed to a gas giant — orbiting a star within its "habitable zone," just the right

distance for liquid water to potentially exist on the surface.

Angelos Tsiaras, an astronomer at UCL, said the team is focusing its attention on identifying exoplanets with conditions similar to those on Earth.



Most of the raided leaders were allies of Putin's opponent, Alexei Navalny

## Russian police raid homes of Opp activists across country

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
MOSCOW, SEPTEMBER 12

POLICE ARE raiding homes and offices of supporters of Russian Opposition leader Alexei Navalny in 43 Russian cities, his close allies said Thursday.

So far, more than 150 raids have taken place across the country, from Vladivostok on the Pacific to Krasnodar in Russia's south.

Police have also searched the home of Sergei Boyko, a Navalny associate who came second with nearly 20 percent of the vote in the mayoral election in Russia's third-largest city of Novosibirsk last Sunday.

Police appear to be targeting those who were part of Navalny's 2018 presidential election campaign. Though Navalny was not allowed to run, his supporters in local election headquarters in dozens of Russian cities have grown in force, investigating high-level corruption and mobilising supporters for opposition rallies.

Many of his allies in the regions ran in local elections last Sunday and monitored the voting, documenting wide-spread violations in some regions like St. Petersburg. They have followed his lead in harnessing the new technology including YouTube live broadcasts and slickly produced video investigations.

"We're obviously talking about an attempt to hamper the operations of our regional network," Leonid Volkov said. He said he expected the police to confiscate equipment and described the raids as a "robbery attempt".

## AFTER FIRST APPEARING ON YOUTUBE ON AUG 31, IT HAS QUICKLY TURNED INTO A RALLYING CRY IN THE CITY

# 'Glory to Hong Kong': New anthem embraced by protesters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
HONG KONG, SEPTEMBER 12

A DEFIANT protest anthem penned by an anonymous composer has become the unofficial new soundtrack to Hong Kong's pro-democracy protests, belted out by crowds at flashmobs in malls, on the streets and in the football stands.

"Glory to Hong Kong" first appeared on YouTube on 31 August and has quickly won a huge following among those pushing for greater democratic freedoms in the semi-autonomous Chinese city.

In less than a fortnight the

original version has racked up more than 1.3 million views while multiple copycats videos have been made — including one featuring an entire orchestra decked out in the helmets, goggles and gas masks worn by those on the barricades.

Each night this week protesters have gathered at different malls across the city for impromptu flashmob concerts.

At a mall in the town of Sha Tin on Wednesday night hundreds of activists gathered to sing, many of them reading from scraps of paper with the lyrics on them.

"For all our tears on our land/Do you feel the rage in our cries," the latest song begins.



Protests in Hong Kong on Thursday. *Reuters*

"Rise up and speak up, our voice echoes/Freedom shall shine upon us".

Alongside the Christian hymn "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord", "Glory to Hong Kong" is a

riposte to the city's unelected leaders and Beijing after more than three months of huge and sometimes violent protests.

Little is known about the composer, who gave himself the online pseudonym "Thomas dgxyhl".

But the song's lyrics and melody have quickly spread within the movement.

During a football match on Tuesday night between Hong Kong and Iran, crowds of local fans booted the Chinese national anthem, and then sung the new protest song as the match began.

Insulting China's flag and anthem is banned on the mainland and Hong Kong's local government are currently trying to pass

a similar law.

Critics say that move is another blow to the free speech guarantees Hong Kong is supposed to maintain under the handover deal China agreed with Britain.

Christopher Chung, 22, said he planned to sing the new protest song over China's communist anthem "March of the Volunteers".

"I think the respect people pay when singing a national anthem should come out from one's heart, instead of using law and rules to force people to respect it," he said.

"We really dislike the Chinese national anthem," added Billy, 16, who declined to give his surname.



THE OTHER ISRAELIS

# Arab-Israelis or Palestinians?

Israel’s Arab citizens could hold the key to political change

IT IS easy to spot the Jewish and Arab neighbourhoods in Ramle, one of Israel’s few “mixed” cities. The Jewish ones consist mainly of tall, fairly new apartment buildings, with neat pavements. Arab areas, clustered around the city’s old centre, are haphazard and dilapidated. Naif Abu-Swiss, an independent city councillor, insists that things are changing. After being elected last year, he joined the municipal ruling coalition, headed by a mayor from the right-wing Likud party, and has been put in charge of urban renewal.

“A Likudnik mayor is best for us,” says Mr Abu-Swiss. “He’s close to the government and gets funds for Ramle. He’s not prejudiced and is investing in planning and renewal in the Arab neighbourhoods.” Even so, the councillor hopes the long-serving Likud prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, loses the parliamentary election on September 17th, Israel’s second this year (Mr Netanyahu failed to form a coalition after the first, in April). “He needs to be replaced, so Israel won’t be like an Arab dictatorship,” says Mr Abu-Swiss. Arab voters could be key to turfing him out.

Mr Abu-Swiss, a property developer, is one of a new wave of Arab-Israeli politicians who advocate a change of political strategy for Israel’s main minority. A fifth of Israeli citizens are Arabs. They have had the right to vote in every Israeli election since the country was founded in 1948. But their main parties have never joined a national coalition government. This is partly because of the ruling parties’ refusal to include them, but it also reflects the reluctance of Arab politicians themselves. Joining an Israeli government, many have argued, would make them complicit in mistreatment of their fellow Arabs.

In recent years, though, a big shift has been under way. In a poll in March, 87% of Israeli Arabs said they would like to see an Arab party join the ruling coalition. The same poll found that those who considered themselves “Arab-Israeli” outnumbered those who preferred to identify themselves as “Palestinian” or “Palestinian-Israeli”.

Though the broader Israeli-Palestinian conflict is far from being solved, Israel’s Palestinian citizens (unlike their brothers living without political rights under military occupation in the West Bank) have more to gain from integration. And though inequality and discrimination are still part of their daily lives, some advances have occurred. The improvement in education and health has been dramatic. Arab citizens have almost closed the gap with Jews in life expectancy and years of schooling, though they are a lot less rich. Israeli Jews on average earn over 50% more than Arabs. Half of Arab families fall below Israel’s official poverty line.

In 2015 the Likud government passed a five-year plan to spend an extra 15bn shekels (\$4.25bn) in ways that might help Arabs. This was meant mainly to help Arab local authorities which were planning new neighbourhoods and industrial zones in their jurisdiction and to improve education and job prospects. Arab politicians grumble that these projects are happening too slowly, but



Arab citizens have almost closed the gap with Jews in life expectancy and years of schooling, though they are a lot less rich. *Reuters*

admit that the money is making a difference.

The political climate matters, too, however. “It’s like eating in a fine restaurant, where the waitress says: ‘I hope you choke on your food,’” says Issawi Frej, an Arab member of parliament. “Netanyahu is correct when he says that under his government more money than ever went to the Arab community. But it was also a period of peak incitement against Arab citizens.” Mr Netanyahu has periodically accused Arab citizens of lawlessness and disloyalty. On election day in 2015 he warned that “Arab voters are moving in droves to the polling stations.” In 2018 he pushed through a “nation state law” declaring that Israel is the exclusive homeland of the Jewish people and downgrading Arabic from the status of an official national language.

Despite this, Mr Frej, a member of a predominantly Jewish left-wing party, Meretz,

insists that “to serve the interests of the Arab community, we need to be in coalitions and government. I’m prepared to sit with anyone, except outright racists, to achieve that.” However, Mr Netanyahu’s propaganda

**A fifth of Israeli citizens are Arabs. They have had the right to vote in every Israeli election since the country was founded in 1948. But their main parties have never joined a national coalition government. This is partly because of the ruling parties’ refusal to include them, but it also reflects the reluctance of Arab politicians themselves**

works. Even Benny Gantz, leader of Blue and White, the main opposition party, will not say in public that he is prepared to include Arab parties in his coalition if he wins.

“How can we endorse as prime minister someone who won’t even talk to us?” asks Ayman Odeh, Israel’s most prominent Arab politician and leader of the Joint List, an electoral alliance of four Arab parties. Nonetheless, in an interview less than four weeks before the election, Mr Odeh said he would be prepared under certain conditions to join a government under Mr Gantz. That suggestion did not go down well. Blue and White, anxious not to anger its Jewish voters, gave Mr Odeh the cold shoulder. Some of his

more nationalist Arab colleagues huffily insisted that he was speaking only for himself.

In this year’s first election in April the turnout of Arab voters plunged to 49%, from 64% in 2015. This has been ascribed partly to a feeling among Arabs that their votes have no influence, partly to Arab politicians’ focus on nationalist issues at the expense of their constituents’ domestic concerns, and partly to Jewish hostility. Attitudes on the Arab side are beginning to change. But the Jewish side, including most of the centre-left opposition, is still loth to accept Arabs as equal citizens.

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THAILAND’S ARMED FORCES

## Changing of the guard

Relations between Thailand’s army and king are becoming one-sided

RIGID AND austere, King Chulalongkorn, the fifth monarch of Thailand’s Chakri dynasty, gazes across Bangkok’s Royal Plaza from a gleaming steed. The bronze statue is just one immovable legacy of the Thai monarchy. The mindset of the country’s armed forces is another. The king overhauled them late in the 19th century, founding a military and naval academy, creating a ministry of defence and indelibly associating them with the crown.

Thailand’s generals have seized power 12 times since a revolution brought an end to absolute monarchy in 1932. The most recent coup was in 2014. The general who led it, Prayuth Chan-ocha, has remained prime minister ever since. But his authority over the army he once commanded is fading.

Instead it is King Maha Vajiralongkorn who is fast becoming the biggest influence over Thailand’s men and women in uniform. The armed forces have never really proved themselves in war. Instead they have focused on battling their country’s politicians. Their most fearsome foe was Thaksin Shinawatra, whom they ousted as prime minister in 2006. The feud between his supporters and opponents has tortured Thai politics ever since. But the army appears finally to have bested its enemy, presiding over a rigged election in March that relegated the Thaksinites to a parliamentary minority for the first time since 2001. Politicians backing the army have formed a coalition government led by Mr Prayuth. But the coalition is a rickety one, composed of 18 different parties. That leaves Mr Prayuth ever more dependent on the veneer of legitimacy provided by the king. The army’s penchant for politics has al-

**Thailand’s generals have seized power 12 times since a revolution brought an end to absolute monarchy in 1932. The most recent coup was in 2014. The general who led it, Prayuth Chan-ocha, has remained prime minister ever since. But his authority over the army he once commanded is fading**

ways been tied to the prestige of the monarchy. “The consent of the governed is less important than the imprimatur of the monarch,” explains Gregory Raymond of the Australian National University. Military regimes bolster their legitimacy by slavish devotion to the crown. A symbiotic relationship between the barracks and the palace has endured since the 1950s, each defending the other’s standing.

Close ties to the royals help the armed forces avoid change. The last coup voided a constitution which had established legislative scrutiny over defence policy. Modest reforms occurred after soldiers killed dozens of democratic protesters in 1992 and again after the Asian financial crisis of 1997. Mr Thaksin managed to reduce the army’s budget and placed allies in senior military posts, but achieved little lasting change. Governments which make serious attempts to clip the army’s wings tend to get ousted, as Mr Thaksin’s was. Even so, a

popular new party, Future Forward, wants to reduce the number of generals, end conscription and cut military budgets.

The main impetus for change is coming from the palace itself, however. King Vajiralongkorn, who attended an Australian military academy, served in the army and holds the ranks of field marshal, admiral and air marshal, is obsessed with military titles, training and hierarchy. He expects others to share his passion. The queen, a former flight attendant, has risen through the ranks of his personal guard. Her ascent was not purely a show of grace and favour: she had to complete gruelling training with her men. She now holds the rank of general. His official concubine, a former nurse, was promoted to major-general this year. While crown prince, the king made his pet poodle, since deceased, an air marshal.

Since he came to the throne almost three years ago, the king has increased the clout of the monarchy in various ways, dispensing with a regent when he is abroad and taking direct control over the administration of all crown property. He has also inserted himself into the administration of the army. A new unit, the Royal Command Guard, has been created at his behest. It includes many of his former bodyguards. Its 5,000-odd soldiers will be under the direct command of the monarch and will be stationed in the heart of Bangkok. At the same time, an infantry regiment and a cavalry battalion that were instrumental in past coups have been ordered out of the capital. This will make it much harder for the army to launch coups without securing the support of the king in advance. King Vajiralongkorn has stoked faction-



Since King Vajiralongkorn came to the throne almost three years ago, he has increased the clout of the monarchy. *Reuters*

alism, too, weakening the bond between the army and the government that it installed. Mr Prayuth and his deputy prime minister, Prawit Wongsuwan, are both former army chiefs. They rose up through the Queen’s Guard, elite troops from a regiment within the army’s Second Infantry Division. The current army chief, Apirat Kongsompong, belongs to the King’s Guard, a faction nestled instead within the First Infantry Division. The king himself once served in it. General Apirat must retire next year and his most likely successor is also from the King’s Guard.

During the reign of the king’s father, Bhumibol, the relationship between the armed forces and the monarchy was ambiguous. The king’s advisers had a role in the appointment of senior generals, but then again, most of them were former generals themselves. The king never visibly opposed the many coups that took place during his reign, but he did once give a dressing down to a coup leader who had violently suppressed public protests, causing the offending general to resign.

Under King Vajiralongkorn, the ambiguity has diminished. Mr Prayuth has meekly

complied with even the most awkward of the king’s demands, agreeing, for instance, to change the text of the new constitution even after Thai voters had signed off on it. The king left the generals squirming by declining to accept the crown for almost two months after his father’s death, in an unexpected show of modesty. “Prayuth’s days are numbered,” predicts Paul Chambers of Naresuan University. And when the inevitable happens and the army next mounts a coup, the king will be in a commanding position.

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OVERALL RETAIL INFLATION AT 3.21%, SLIGHTLY ABOVE RBI PROJECTION

# IIP growth rises to 4.3% in July on stronger manufacturing; Retail inflation at 10-mth high

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

FACTORY OUTPUT rose to a two-month high of 4.3 per cent in July, primarily on account of higher output growth in manufacturing and mining sectors, data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) showed. Retail inflation, based on Consumer Price Index (Combined), climbed to a 10-month high of 3.21 in August, on the back of rise in food inflation, a separate set of data released by MoSPI showed. The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) growth for July 2019 rebounded from 1.2 per cent growth, despite a high base effect. IIP growth for July last year was recorded at 6.5 per cent. Manufacturing output, which carries weight of 77.63 per cent in IIP, picked up pace to 4.2 per cent

growth rate in July as against a growth of 0.2 per cent in the previous month, though it was lower than 7.0 per cent in the year-ago period. Mining sector output grew at 4.9 per cent in July as against 3.4 per cent in the year-ago period, while consumer non-durables output grew at 8.3 per cent as against 5.3 per cent a year ago.

Electricity output recorded a growth of 4.8 per cent in July as against 8.2 per cent a month ago and 6.6 per cent in the year-ago period. However, capital goods output, an indicator of investment activity, continued to stay in the negative territory for the seventh straight month, contracting 7.1 per cent in July as against a growth of 2.3 per cent in the year-ago period.

Consumer durables output also contracted for the second month running, recording a contraction of 2.7 per cent as against a contraction of 10.2 per cent a

**EXPLAINED**  
**RBI might go for another rate cut**

WHILE THE high growth of intermediate goods output and primary goods output offers hope of output picking up, capital goods and durables continue to disappoint. Even as the headline IIP number is positive, there is bound to be support from the RBI in terms of more rate cuts in the next month's policy meet.

month ago and a growth of 14.1 per cent in the year-ago period.

Economists said the high growth of intermediate goods output and primary goods output give hope of output picking up but it may be too early to term it as a recovery. Devendra Kumar Pant, chief economist, India Ratings & Research said, "Continued double digit growth of intermediate goods growth in last three months and 3.5 per cent growth in primary goods in July 2019 give a glimmer of hope of minor industrial recovery in coming months. However, it will be too early to term this as recovery and one has to wait for some more time and completion of forthcoming festive season to judge whether industrial recovery is there for real. In the past we had seen pattern of some industrial revival and then collapse in industrial recovery."

Sector-wise data showed that

the growth in intermediate goods grew in double digits for the third consecutive month at 13.9 per cent in July as against 1.3 per cent last year. Cumulatively, industrial output grew at 3.3 per cent in April-July as against 5.4 per cent a year ago.

Retail inflation in August rose significantly primarily due to rise in food inflation. Consumer Food Price Index (CPII) inflation stood at 2.99 per cent in August as against 2.36 per cent in July. Urban areas recorded higher food inflation than rural areas, with urban food inflation being recorded at 7.07 per cent in August, while rural inflation stood at 0.85 per cent.

At 3.21 per cent, the overall retail inflation rate is slightly higher than the RBI's inflation projection of 3.1 per cent for July-September 2019-20, but well within the medium term target of 4 per cent within a band of +/- 2 per cent.

## ‘\$1 tn exports in next 5 years to get to a \$5 tn economy doable’



Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal with Housing & Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant at the Board of Trade meeting in New Delhi on Thursday. Renuka Puri

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

COMMERCE AND Industry Minister Piyush Goyal Thursday urged states and exporters to study measures to boost the country's exports to \$1 trillion in the next five years to achieve the government's vision of becoming a \$5 trillion economy.

"A \$5 trillion economy cannot be complete unless we once again get back to the 19-20 per cent export levels. So, we're really looking at \$1 trillion of exports in the next five years and that is something which is very eminently doable. It is not at all beyond imagination, but we need to dare to accept a large target," he said here at the second meeting of the Board of Trade. "So, I would urge all of you to seriously start looking at what can be done to achieve \$1 trillion of exports to boost the entire economy and ensure that we have our fair share (of the global export market)," he added.

The government is expected to "soon" come out with its credit scheme for exporters, which will enhance insurance cover up to 90 per cent from 60 per cent currently, the Commerce Ministry stated in a release following the minister's statement.

"Export credit — we are very concerned — has fallen. I assure you that, very soon, we will come out with the contours of a very vibrant programme which will particularly support MSMEs and, more importantly, it will make

available foreign exchange export credit ... at very very competitive rates — something like sub-four per cent rates for foreign exchange credit," said Goyal.

India's exports crossed the half trillion-dollar mark at \$537 billion in 2018-19, with goods exports at \$331 billion and services exports at \$205 billion, as per the Ministry. While industries would have to increase domestic production and improve competitiveness, the central and state governments have to take measures to improve ease of doing business, decrease logistics cost and simplify regulatory procedures, said Goyal.

According to him, India has a huge potential for exports due to the ongoing trade dispute between the US and China.

"We have a trade surplus of \$17 billion with USA, while we have a trade deficit of \$53 billion with China, added the minister and, for this, India needs to work on its strengths by exploring market access for agriculture and pharma products in different regions," said the Ministry.

Goyal also said that the merger of banks will now enable them to disburse enhanced credit, raise their risk appetite and raise resources from the market, adding that Rs 70,000 crore will be released to public sector banks upfront. Additional lending and liquidity to the tune of Rs 5 lakh crore expected to benefit corporate, retail borrowers, MSMEs, small traders and exporters, will also be released, according to the Ministry release.

## Goyal's light reference, Einstein's gravity

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

COMMERCE AND Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said Thursday that businesses should think big, rather than get obsessed with calculations. Speaking to reporters on boosting India's exports at a meeting with the Board of Trade here, Goyal said, "Don't get into the calculations that you see on television: Oh, if you're looking at a \$5 trillion economy, the country will have to grow at 12 per cent. Today it's growing at 6-7 per cent. Don't get into those maths. Those maths have never helped Einstein discover gravity."

Goyal said that if Einstein had only gone by structured formula and what was past knowledge, "I don't think there would have been any innovation in this world".

While it was Isaac Newton who formulated the law of universal gravitation in late 17th century, gravity is most accurately described by the general theory of relativity proposed by Albert Einstein in 1915 which describes gravity not as a force, but as a consequence of the curvature of space-time caused by the uneven distribution of mass.

Goyal issued a statement and cited "mischievous attempts" to quote him out of context. "There is a very mischievous and baseless narrative sought to be presented about my closing comments at the Board of Trade meeting this morning ... The comment I made had a certain context," he said. In a subsequent statement, he said, "I think the Twitter world tries to tap every word. So, while maths helped Einstein discover gravity, it is because he had an open mind and the ability to think big that he could use maths to discover gravity. He didn't go by the traditional maths only..."

## Stocks climb on easing trade concerns, euro stimulus

REUTERS  
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 12

US STOCKS were on track for a second straight session of gains on Thursday, after a stimulus drive by the European Central Bank added to an upbeat mood from trade concessions by Washington and Beijing ahead of planned negotiations in October.

At 12:51 pm ET the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 130.49 points, or 0.48 per cent, at 27,267.53, the S&P 500 was up 15.64 points, or 0.52 per cent, at 3,016.57 and the Nasdaq Composite was up 47.52 points, or 0.58 per cent, at 8,217.19.

Stocks in Europe were whipped by the trade reports as well after climbing on the earlier ECB policy statement, with the broad STOXX 600 index rising as much as 0.75 per cent.

The pan-European STOXX 600 index rose 0.18 per cent and MSCI's gauge of stocks across the globe gained 0.41 per cent.

Chinese firms have started to inquire about prices for US agricultural goods," Gao noted. "China" hopes both sides would continue to meet each other half way and adopt concrete actions to create favourable conditions for negotiations." Possible purchases of US farm goods included pork and soybeans, Gao said, both of which are still subject to hefty Chinese duties.

On Wednesday, the United States agreed to delay increasing tariffs on \$250 billion worth of Chinese imports from October 1 to October 15 "as a gesture of goodwill." The tariffs on those goods were set to increase to 30 per cent from 25 per cent.

Earlier on Wednesday, China announced it was exempting 16 types of US products from tariffs.

## ‘Gujarat retains top slot on logistics performance index’

Gujarat has retained the top slot on the logistics index chart, an indicator of the efficiency of logistical services necessary for promoting exports and economic growth, according to a Commerce Ministry report

**LEADS 2019:** According to the report by the Commerce Ministry - LEADS (Logistics Ease Across Different States) 2019, prepared with the help of consultancy firm Deloitte, the findings would help in identifying the problem areas in the sector and prepare policy responses to deal with them

**AIMED AT IMPROVING LOGISTICS PERFORMANCE:** The objective of the index is to enhance the focus on improving logistics performance across states, which is essential for improving the country's trade and reducing transactions cost

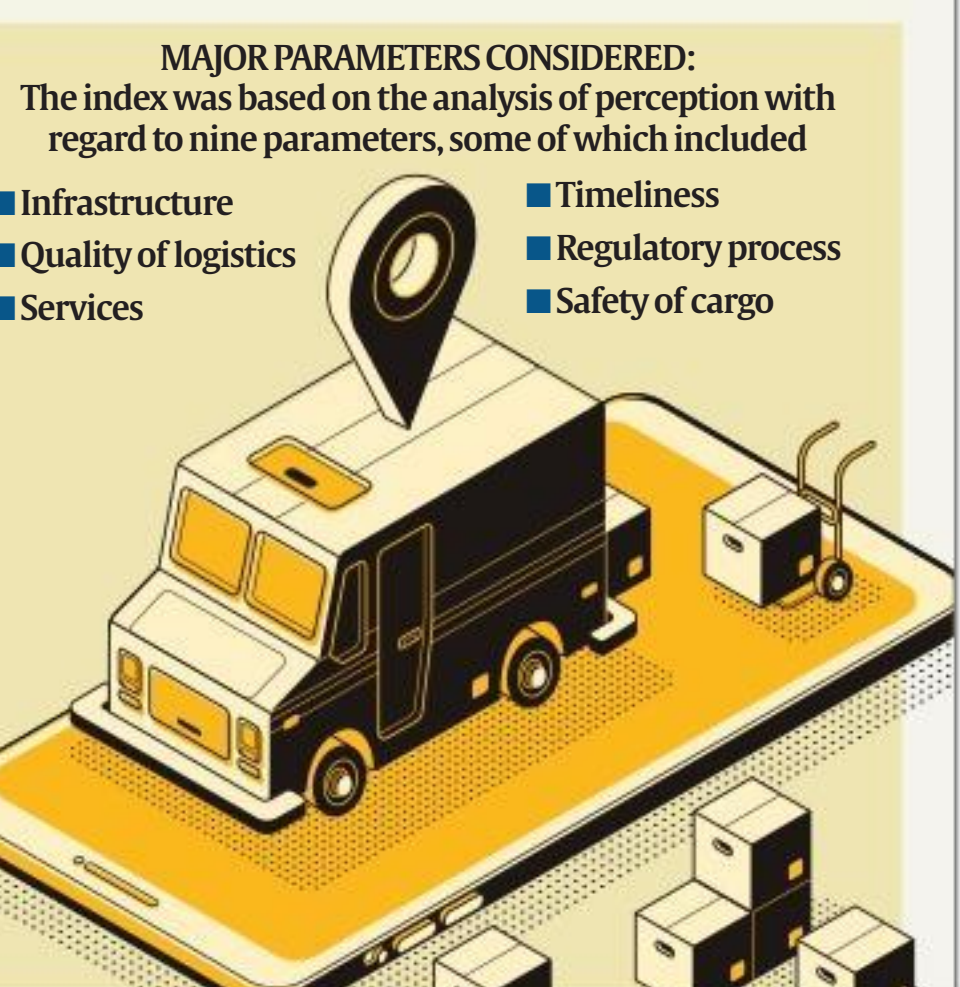
**TOP THREE STATES IN LOGISTICS PERFORMANCE**

- Gujarat
- Punjab
- Andhra Pradesh

**BIHAR, HIMACHAL PRADESH AT BOTTOM:** Among the 22 states considered for the report, Himachal Pradesh stood last on the chart while Bihar ranked at 20th position

**TOP THREE UNION TERRITORIES:**

- Chandigarh, replacing previous topper Daman and Diu
- Delhi
- Puducherry



DEPOSIT RATE CUT TO A RECORD LOW -0.5% FROM -0.4%; TO RESTART BOND PURCHASES OF €20 BILLION A MONTH FROM NOVEMBER

## ECB promises stimulus buys ‘as long as necessary’, cuts rates

REUTERS  
FRANKFURT, SEPTEMBER 12

THE EUROPEAN Central Bank promised an indefinite supply of fresh asset purchases and cut interest rates deeper into negative territory on Thursday, an effort to prop up the ailing euro zone economy that was cheered by financial markets. The moves come in the final weeks of ECB President Mario Draghi's mandate.

Yet there were immediate doubts as to whether the ECB measures — the few remaining in its monetary policy arsenal — would be enough to boost a euro zone recovery in the face of a US-China trade war and possible disruption from Brexit.

The ECB cut its deposit rate by 10 basis points to a record low of -0.5 per cent, promised that rates would stay low for longer and said it would restart bond purchases at a rate of 20 billion euros a month from November 1.

"The Governing Council expects (bond purchases) to run for as long as necessary to reinforce the accommodative impact of its policy rates, and to end shortly before it starts raising the key ECB in-

terest rates," it said in a statement.

Given that markets do not expect rates to rise for nearly a decade, such a formulation suggests that purchases could go on for years — an eventuality Draghi did not challenge. "We have a relevant headroom to go on for quite a long time at this rhythm without the need to raise the discussion about limits," he told a regular news conference after the meeting. The rate cut will however increase the cost to commercial banks of parking their more than 1 trillion euros worth of excess reserves at the central bank. The ECB said it would compensate lenders for part of this charge to ensure they continued to lend to the real economy.

The ECB also eased the terms of its long-term loan facility to banks and said it would introduce a multi-tier deposit rate facility to help them. Draghi, whose pledge in 2012 that the ECB would do "whatever it takes" to save the euro is credited with helping restore stability at the peak of the bloc's debt crisis, stressed the currency zone needed more support.

"Incoming information since the last Governing Council meeting indicates a more protracted



European Central Bank (ECB) President Mario Draghi in Frankfurt on Thursday. Reuters

weakness of the euro area economy, the persistence of prominent downside risks, and muted inflationary pressures," he said.

Indeed the ECB's initial, unprecedented 2.6-trillion-euro bond purchase scheme since the financial crisis has had only limited success in stimulating activity. Data earlier showed euro zone industrial production fell for a second month in July, while Germany's Ifo institute predicted a recession in Europe's economic powerhouse in the third quarter.

"Will the more aggressive ECB stance make a difference? Not

much," concluded analyst Holger Schmieding at Berenberg.

The decision suggests that many of these sceptics eventually agreed, giving Draghi a comfortable enough majority in what is likely to be his last major policy move before handing over to Christine Lagarde later this year.

The ECB has undershot its inflation target of almost 2 per cent since 2013 so stimulus was essential to maintain credibility. But policy easing by central banks around the globe, including the US Federal Reserve, also put the ECB in a bind.

## Ahead of talks, China & US prepare ground for deal

REUTERS  
BEIJING/WASHINGTON, SEPT 12

THE US on Thursday welcomed China's promise to buy agricultural goods while maintaining the threat of tariff hikes as the world's two largest economies sought to prepare the ground for upcoming in-person talks.

Lower-level US and Chinese officials are expected to meet within days in Washington ahead of talks between top trade negotiators in early October aimed at easing a trade war that has rattled financial markets and fueled fears of a looming global recession.

On Thursday, Beijing said Chinese companies have started to inquire about prices for US agricultural goods purchases. US

### Tariffs may lower 2020 GDP: IMF

Washington: Tariffs that have been imposed or threatened by the US and China could shave 0.8 per cent off global economic output in 2020 and trigger additional losses in future

farmers have been among the hardest hit by the tit-for-tat tariff battle that began more than a year ago and escalated in recent weeks.

"It is expected that China will be buying large amounts of our agricultural products!" Trump said in a Tweet on Thursday.

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin sought to temper optimism, however, telling CNBC that Trump was prepared to keep

years, the International Monetary Fund said. IMF spokesman Gerry Rice said trade tensions were beginning to affect a world economy that is already facing challenges. **REUTERS**

or even raise tariffs on Chinese imports and that Beijing had asked for more concessions beyond the removal of tariffs.

Speaking at a weekly news briefing in Beijing on Thursday, Chinese Commerce Ministry spokesman Gao Feng said China welcomed the US delay to its schedule tariff hike on billions of dollars worth of Chinese goods. "According to my understanding,



## Manufacturers get relaxation in compulsory licence norms

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE COMMERCE and Industry Ministry Thursday said no compulsory licence would be required for manufacturers of goods, barring four segments of tobacco items, defence equipment, hazardous chemicals and industrial explosives. The DPIIT clarified that no industrial/arms licence is required for the manufacturer of any parts or accessories in the defence sector, unless they are specifically listed for procuring licences.

"As the DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) is not issuing licence in any other case, Press Note 17 (1984 series) has become irrelevant. Accordingly, this Press Note is withdrawn," the Ministry said. Earlier this year, the Ministry had proposed to simplify filing procedure for industrial entrepreneur memorandums (IEMs) and said requirement of filing IEMs at two stages stood dispensed with for all businesses that didn't then require an industrial licence. **FE**

## ITC fraud: Revenue dept busts fake invoice racket worth ₹470 cr

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE INVESTIGATIVE agencies of the revenue department have busted a fake invoice racket involving input tax credit (ITC) worth at least Rs 470 crore (Rs 3,500 crore in invoice value), in a day-long operation spanning 336 locations across 15 states, a government statement said.

The joint operation was carried out by the Directorate General of GST Intelligence and Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence against exporters, as per the statement.

"The joint operation of the two premier intelligence agencies of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) was a first of

## SC quashes high court bail order to former CFO of Bhushan Steel

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday quashed the Delhi High Court order that granted bail to Bhushan Steel's former chief financial officer Nittin Johari, who was arrested by the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) for alleged fraudulent activities, including filing false documents with various banks.

A bench headed by Justice NV Ramana cancelled the bail granted to Johari, who is a co-accused in the Bhushan Steel case, on an appeal by the SFIO challenging the August order of the high court.

The SFIO had arrested Johari on May 2 on the grounds that he was managing the affairs of Bhushan Steel and was looking after raising of funds from banks and financial institutions and was also one of the signatories to the financial statements of the company till fiscal year 2016-17.

The SFIO probe found that there were several fraudulent

practices at the company, including manipulations in the accounts and financial statements during Johri's term, who was a whole-time director of the company.

It was also alleged that Johri was one of the perpetrators of manipulations through the instrument of letters of credit (LCs), which was done by filing false documents with various banks.

A large number of LCs, amounting to over Rs 20,000 crore, were opened using false documents on behalf of the company over a period of time starting from fiscal 2014-15.

By way of the said modus operandi, Bhushan Steel availed working capital to avoid getting their loan/credit accounts declared as non-performing assets by the banks. LCs worth more than Rs 3,000 crore finally devolved, the SFIO said.

The agency further alleged that Johri was a member of the committee of board of directors on borrowing, investment and loans along with former promoters Brij Bhushan Singal and Neeraj Singal. **FE**

## ALSO OFFERS MORE RAKES FOR TRANSPORTING AUTOMOBILES

# For auto sector, Railways defers busy season surcharge on freight

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

WITH THE economic slowdown impacting its freight business, Indian Railways has decided to defer its busy season surcharge of 15 per cent on freight and increased the number of rakes to be provided for the auto sector, in an attempt to increase freight loading.

On Thursday, the Railways announced it was suspending its busy season surcharge of 15 per cent — which is levied between October 1 and June 30 — for the current season.

"Considering the current economic scenario, to give a boost to the industry and freight, the Railways has taken measures to facilitate industry, especially in reducing rail transport cost," Railway Board Member (Traffic) P S Mishra told reporters.

An additional waiver of 5 per

### 'TO GIVE BOOST TO INDUSTRY AND FREIGHT'

■ On Thursday, Railway Board Member (Traffic) PS Mishra said that considering the current economic scenario and to give a boost to the industry and freight, the Railways has taken measures to facilitate industry, especially in reducing rail transport cost

■ Earlier, Railways used to provide eight auto rakes, which has now been increased to 26, and the national transporter has plans to provide as many as 50 rakes to the sector to transport their goods by this year end, with Mishra adding the auto industry had requested for it

cent will be provided on loading mini rakes or smaller parcel size.

To give some support to the beleaguered sector, which is looking to reduce costs, the Railways has decided to offer more rakes for the transportation of automobiles.

Earlier, Railways used to provide eight auto rakes, which has now been increased to 26, and the national transporter has plans to provide as many as 50

rakes to the sector to transport their goods by this year end.

"The auto sector requested for it," Mishra added.

He further said that the Railways has also come out with a scheme for round-trip charging on container traffic under which the haulage charges for 0-100 km slab will be charged for total to and fro movement, instead of charging for 0-50 km slab each way which will come

## 'Gems, jewellery exports falls by 12.29% in August'

Overall gems and jewellery exports fell 12.29 per cent in August to Rs 20,242.20 crore due to fall in manufacturing following liquidity crunch in the market, data by Gem Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) showed

**₹23,077.26 CR**  
Exports during August 2018

**6.43%**  
Year-on-year (y-o-y) fall in gems and jewellery shipments during April-August, Rs 1,06,902.23 crore from Rs 1,14,236.15 crore in year-ago period

**23.10%**  
Y-o-y fall in cut and polished diamonds (CPD) exports in August, i.e. Rs 11,656.97 crore as against Rs 15,158.69 crore in August 2018

**16.78%**  
Y-o-y dip in CPD exports from

**NEED OF THE HOUR FOR INDUSTRY:**

- Lower duty on gold and polished diamonds
- Ease of doing business on GST and customs side
- Progressive SEZ policy that encourages investment
- Stable set of rules on DTA sale and property transfer with an e-commerce policy

**April-August, i.e. Rs 58,177.52 crore from Rs 69,906.76 crore in April-August 2018**

**6,000.24 crore in August 2018**

**1.58%**  
Y-o-y fall in jewellery exports during April-August, i.e. Rs 34,982.69 crore from Rs 35,544.47 crore during year-ago period

## Aviation Minister holds meeting with industry representatives

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

CIVIL AVIATION Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday held a meeting with industry executives of the sector to discuss current pressing matters such as fare environment, slot allocation and taxation on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), an official said.

"The meeting was held by the minister with airport operators, MRO (maintenance and repair and overhaul) companies as well as airlines," a senior government official said.

Airlines such as IndiGo, Vistara, SpiceJet etcetera and airport operators such as Airports Authority of India (AAI), Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) and others participated in the meeting. "Issues related to slot allocation — especially since Jet Airways is not in operation and its slots have been temporarily allocated — were discussed. Taxation on ATF as well as the current fare environment were also taken up in the meeting," the official said.

Issues related to Jet Airways' foreign traffic rights — which have also been allocated to other

airlines just like its slots — were also discussed at the meeting, the official said.

Jet had shut down its operations on April 17 due to lack of funds. The airline is currently undergoing insolvency proceedings.

Later in the day, the minister said on Twitter, "Deliberated upon issues & exchanged ideas related to aviation sector in an interactive meeting with key stakeholders of the sector today. Considering we are already ranked 7th in the world with 345 million passengers, we hope to climb to 3rd spot by 2024."

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

FACEBOOK GLOBAL executive Nick Clegg on Thursday met IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and discussed issues including cross-border data flows, information privacy, and sharing of data between the governments for citizen safety.

Clegg, Facebook's vice president (global affairs and communications), said the governments should engage in data sharing among themselves to ensure security of its citizens, and that such

### 'It is more important how you share data across jurisdictions than where you physically locate it'

NICK CLEGG  
VICE PRESIDENT, GLOBAL AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS, FACEBOOK

collaboration across jurisdiction is more important than the issue of physical location of data, per se.

Speaking with PTI, after the 45-minute meeting with the minister, Clegg said, "One of the things that came up (during the meeting) was that one of the effective ways that governments can cooperate with each other to keep their citizens safe is to enter into new

agreements with each other to share data for security purposes."

Terming India as a "huge market" for Facebook and its group companies, Clegg said the US tech giant is "keen to make progress" on rolling out its payments services on WhatsApp.

Asked about his views on India's plans to mandate data localisation and tighten rules for so-

cial media platforms, he said data-sharing across jurisdictions is more important than where that information is located physically.

"It is more important how you share data across jurisdictions than where you physically locate it. If you want to use data particularly to make sure people are kept safe and, in our view, the fact that US Congress has allowed CLOUD (Clarifying Lawful Overseas Use of Data) Act which allows for agreements with Governments such as India for speedier and automatic data sharing ... that is far more effective way of ensuring data is put to good use," he said.

## Oil prices down 1.5% on US-China trade doubts, OPEC+ talks

LAILA KEARNEY  
NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 12

OIL PRICES fell about 1.5 per cent on Thursday after a media report cast doubt on the possibility of an interim US-China trade deal and as a meeting of the OPEC+ alliance yielded no decision on deepening crude supply cuts. It was pressured further after European Central Bank cut its deposit rate to a record low -0.5 per cent from -0.4 per cent and said it will restart bond purchases of 20 billion euros a month from November.

Brent crude futures were down 74 cents, or 1.2 per cent, at \$60.07 a barrel by 1754 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures fell 92 cents, or 1.7 per cent, to \$54.83 a barrel.

Saudi Arabia's new energy minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman's said deeper cuts would not be decided upon before a meeting of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) planned for December. Thursday's meeting yielded a promise to keep countries within production quotas they committed to in a global supply deal, which would limit oil coming to the market. **REUTERS**

## Reserve Bank cuts risk weight on consumer credit to 100%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Thursday said it has reduced the risk weight requirement for consumer loans to 100 per cent, a move that will reduce cost of such loans.

Currently, the risk weight requirement for such loans is 125 per cent.

The relaxed requirement would not be applicable to credit cards. Risk weight refers to the capital banks keep aside as provisioning to cover any loan defaults.

The RBI's move is likely to boost consumer spending in the coming festive season.

Under the standardised approach for credit risk management, all unsecured consumer credit, including personal loans and credit card receivables, which are both unsecured lending, attract a higher risk weight of 125 per cent or higher, if warranted by an external rating of the counter-party.

"On a review, it has been decided to reduce the risk weight for consumer credit, including personal loans, but excluding credit card receivables, to 100 per cent. Other stipulations remain the same," the RBI said in a statement.

In another development, the banking regulator increased loan

### Bank credit growth slows to 10.24%, deposits at 9.73%

*Mumbai:* Bank credit and deposits growth slowed to 10.24 percent and 9.73 percent to Rs 96.80 lakh crore and Rs 127.80 lakh crore, respectively, in the fortnight to August 30, show the latest RBI data.

In the year-ago fortnight, advances were at Rs 87.80 lakh crore while deposits stood at Rs 116.46 lakh crore.

In the previous fortnight to August 16, advances grew 11.64 percent to Rs 96.82 lakh crore and deposits by 10.15 percent to Rs 126.80 lakh crore. In July, the non-food bank credit rose 11.4 percent

on year-on-year basis from 10.6 percent in July 2018.

Advances to the services sector decelerated to 15.2 percent in the month from 23 percent in the year-ago month. Credit to agriculture & allied activities rose 6.8 percent compared with an increase of 6.6 percent in the same month last year.

Loans to industry rose 6.1 percent in July from 0.3 percent a year ago.

Personal loans rose 17 percent in July compared to an increase of 16.7 percent in July 2018. **PTI**

circumstances.

"It has been decided that a bank's exposure to a single NBFC (excluding gold loan companies) from 15 per cent to 20 per cent of its capital base, a move that will help increase credit supply to the crisis-ridden shadow banking sector.

According to the extant 'Large Exposures Framework (LEF)', banks' exposure to a single non-banking financial company (NBFC) is restricted to 15 per cent of their available eligible capital base, while general single counter-party exposure limit is 20 per cent, which can be extended to 25 per cent by banks' boards under exceptional

circumstances.

"It has been decided that a bank's exposure to a single NBFC (excluding gold loan companies) will be restricted to 20 per cent of that bank's eligible capital base," the central bank said in a circular.

The government on its part has also been taking steps to increase liquidity in the NBFC sector, which was hit after default by Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS) Group.

The liquidity crunch in the NBFC sector has hit the retail loan segment in the country leading to slowdown in key consumer sector lending.

## Sebi to firms: Before filing 'scheme of arrangement', settle dues

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

SEBI ON Thursday asked listed companies to settle their outstanding dues to the capital markets regulator, bourses and depositories before filing 'schemes of arrangement' such as mergers and demergers with the exchanges.

The markets regulator also said listed entities will be liable for punitive action in case of furnishing any false information.

The decision is part of the watchdog's effort to streamline the processing of draft schemes, as Sebi has decided to seek additional information at one go.

"All listed entities shall ensure that all dues to, and/or fines/penalties imposed by Sebi, stock exchanges and the depositories have been paid/settled before filing the draft scheme with the designated stock exchange," Sebi said in a circular.

In case of unpaid dues or fines, the listed entity will have to submit to stock exchanges a 'Report on the Unpaid Dues' having details of such unpaid dues in a prescribed format, before obtaining 'observation letter' from exchanges on the draft scheme.

## Uber, Lyft vow to keep fighting sweeping California labour bill

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
SACRAMENTO, SEPTEMBER 12

CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS confronting the changing definition of work have approved sweeping legislation designed to give many contract workers new pay and benefit protections, but tech giants Uber and Lyft vowed to keep fighting the changes, possibly by bankrolling an expensive fight on the 2020 ballot.

The move, passed Wednesday, that is heading to Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom outlines a three-part test, making it harder for companies to classify workers as independent contractors who aren't entitled to minimum wage and benefits like workers compensation.

Uber has argued that forcing its drivers to become employees would upend a business model that is built on flexibility. General counsel Tony West suggested to reporters that the ride-hailing company won't start treating its workers as employees come January 1, instead defending its model if it faces legal challenges.

"Just because the test is hard does not mean we will not be able to pass it," he said.

Newsom has pledged to sign the measure, but his office hopes to bring ride-hailing and meal delivery companies to the table with labor unions to negotiate a separate set of rules for workers who

### Driver files class action suit against Uber

*New York:* A driver for Uber has sued the company for misclassifying its drivers as independent contractors, hours after California legislators voted to help thousands of those workers become, and enjoy the benefits of being, employees.

The proposed class action filed Wednesday night by Angela McRay appears to be the first since California's senate passed landmark legislation that could affect workers in many industries, in addition to ride-sharing companies such as Uber Technologies Inc. **REUTERS**

pick up jobs on their own schedules in the so-called gig economy. The freshman governor faces a test of his ability to broker a compromise between powerful interest groups in Silicon Valley and organized labor.

Steve Smith of the California Labor Federation, a sponsor of the legislation, said the companies so far haven't made acceptable proposals. "We're committed to creating the conditions for (negotiations) to happen," Newsom spokesman Nathan Click said. If

## BRIEFLY

### 'Finance Secy to meet heads of PSU banks'

*New Delhi:* Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar is set to meet heads of public sector banks on September 19 to review progress made by them to help boost growth, including follow up action after reduction of interest rates by RBI, sources said Thursday.

### BoB seeks to sell Dena Bank HQ in Mumbai

*Mumbai:* State-run Bank of Baroda (BoB) has put on block the erstwhile headquarters of Dena Bank in the financial capital at a reserve price of Rs 530 crore. Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank got amalgamated with Bank of Baroda from this April.

### 'One nation, one standard to ensure quality'

*New Delhi:* The Centre is seriously working on setting 'One nation, one standard' to ensure quality products and services to consumers, Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan said Thursday. "Like 'one nation, one ration card', we are going to have 'one nation, one standard' in order to ensure quality products in the country," he told reporters.

### Oct 31 pulses report deadline for traders

*New Delhi:* Rejecting the demand of traders, the commerce ministry has asked them to complete import of pulses by October 31 for 2019-20 and submit a report by November 7.

### DHFL, Altico default on payments

*New Delhi:* Crisis-ridden non-banking financial company DHFL on Thursday reported a fresh case of default amounting to Rs 196.65 crore on bond repayment obligation. **PTI**

### BAT planning to lay off 2,300 employees

*Bengaluru:* British American Tobacco (BAT) plans to lay off 4 per cent of its workforce as recently-promoted CEO Jack Bowles grapples with challenges to the group's legacy products and health fears over vaping. **REUTERS**

## Newsom signs the legislation, it could have national implications as politicians and businesses confront the shifting nature of work.

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat, has indicated interest in pursuing a similar measure, and almost all the Democratic presidential contenders have offered similar proposals at the federal level.

"It's forced the nation to take a look at what the future of work is going to look like," Democratic Assemblyman Ian Calderon of Whittier said in supporting the bill. The measure would enshrine in law a 2018 California Supreme Court decision that makes it harder for companies to classify workers as independent contractors instead of employees. While the court's decision has set legal precedent since last year, the legislation provides enforcement tactics to the state and to city attorneys, who could sue companies they believe are failing to comply.

But Uber, Lyft and delivery companies such as DoorDash and Postmates aren't ready to concede. Uber and Lyft have already dumped \$60 million into a committee for a ballot measure next year if Newsom doesn't broker a deal. They have said the ballot measure would set a base hourly wage, give workers access to benefits they can take with them to other companies and allow drivers to collectively bargain without making them employees.



# फिर एक बार मनोहर सौगात

सर्वजन  
हितायःसर्वजन  
सुखायःसर्वे  
भवन्तु  
सुखिनः

## Public Welfare Schemes & Announcements

### Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Ayushman Bharat Scheme

- Free treatment facilities of up to Rs. 5 lakh to families with annual income of Rs 1.80 lakh and having two acres of land under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Ayushman Bharat Scheme (This benefit will also extend to various categories announced earlier including Numbardars, Chowkidars, BPL Families, Construction Workers, ex-servicemen of Indian National Army, soldiers who participated in the Second World War and others).

### Wages of Safai Karamcharis Enhanced

- Monthly wages of Safai Karamcharis working in rural areas increased from Rs. 11,000 to Rs. 12,500 per month.
- Monthly wages of Safai Karamcharis working in urban areas increased from Rs. 13,500 to Rs. 15,000 per month.

### Haryana First State to Implement Niji Durghatna and Kshatipurti Insurance Schemes for Traders

- Insurance cover of up to Rs 5 lakh under Mukhyamantri Vyapari Niji Durghatna Beema Yojana.
- Insurance cover of up to Rs 25 lakh under Mukhyamantri Vyapari Kshatipurti Beema Yojana.
- Premium amount of Rs.36.13 crore of both the insurance schemes will be paid by State Government.
- These insurance schemes will benefit about 4 lakh traders.

### Manohar Jyoti Yojana

- Scheduled Castes and families living in Dhanis to get one ceiling fan, three lights and mobile phone charging facility.
- Subsidy of Rs.15,000 on equipments costing Rs. 22,500.
- Those families which are residing in Dhanis outside a radius of 1 Km from villages and do not have electricity connection will be given priority.
- Apart from this they would also be provided solar inverter charger of 300 watt for charging one battery and 500 watt for charging two batteries.

### Benefits to Employees

- Employees working under Urban Health Mission to be given benefit of service bye-laws on the pattern of NHM.
- Enhancement of 14.29% in wages of daily wage earners working in Cooperative Sugar Mills.
- Model Service Bye-laws for employees of District Information Technology Society (DITS).
- Part-time tube well operators hired by Panchayats will now be made full-time.
- 10% Promotion Quota for employees of Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS) in Central Cooperative Banks.
- Gramin Chowkidars to be covered under Employee Provident Fund.
- Mid Day Meal workers will be eligible to draw benefits under Mukhya Mantri Parivar Samriddhi Yojana. Special camps will be organised in every block.
- Disabled employees and officers of Electricity Corporations will be given benefit of 3% reservation in promotion.

### Welfare of Gadaria Caste

- Gadaria Sub-caste included in the SC category on the pattern of Sansi caste

फर्क  
साफ है  
क्योंकि  
नीयत  
साफ है

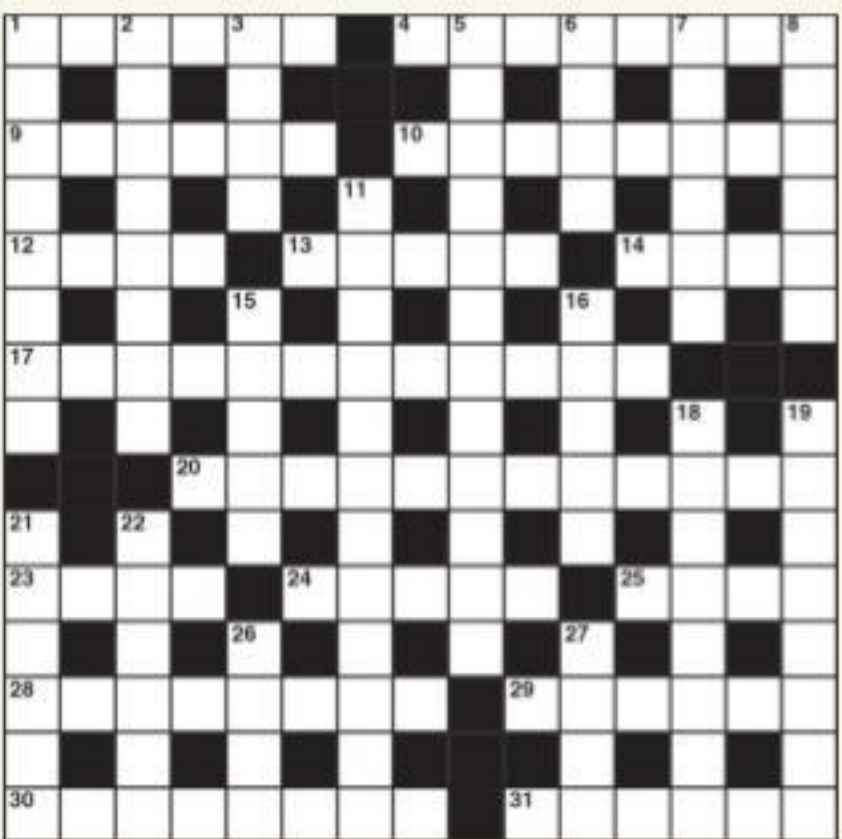


Say No To Plastic Save Environment





CROSSWORD 3909



- ACROSS**
- Seat is put out for a snooze after lunch (6)
  - Strange oriental tale (8)
  - Trick makes cat turn and twitch (6)
  - Stock market reaction to panic? (8)
  - Game bird? (4)
  - Feature of barley that may be used to make bread (5)
  - A centre of revolution (4)
  - In need of a rest-cure? (4,3,5)
  - London, perhaps, profits from a cause of taxation (7,5)
  - A test for which there is something to be said (4)
  - Husbands may hold different views (5)
  - I stole away to an isolated spot (4)
  - Justifies battle cries (8)
  - No score in even game (6)
  - Dray behind the house (8)
  - Friend who can't keep still? (6)
- DOWN**
- He scorns to earn a living as a writer (8)
  - Intrude by chance or mistake (8)
  - An outing in the fall (4)
  - Once finished, destroyed (12)
  - They're given to those who beg for weapons, we hear (4)
  - It cuts the pack (3,3)
  - Scene I produced for the girls (6)
  - Bred in, set about showing one's pedigree? (4,8)
  - Where to find father in the beginning of the year (5)
  - Club lodge (5)
  - Oral application for beauty treatment (8)
  - He values a vessel having an arrangement of roses (8)
  - Homespun gin? (6)
  - Building frame (6)
  - One doesn't do much to earn such a reputation (4)
  - Two similar bits of tulle for a ballet skirt (4)

**Solutions Crossword 3908:** Across: 1 UMBER, 4 SPARED, 8 HAS, 9 PLACATORY, 10 REAPERS, 11 ARGON, 13 DIDDLE, 15 STRAIN, 18 CORGI, 19 IMAGINE, 21 UNTOUCHED, 23 NUT, 24 STUDENT, 25 ESSAY, Down: 1 USHERED, 2 BYSTANDER, 3 RUPEE, 4 SPARSE, 5 ADAMANT, 6 RIO, 7 DOYEN, 12 GRADIENTS, 14 LEISURE, 16 NO ENTRY, 17 WITH-IT, 18 CLUBS, 20 ADDLE, 22 TAU.

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.

It is impossible for one \_\_\_ to appreciate the \_\_\_ of another. - Elizabeth Cady Stanton (5,...,6)

CHAOR



AYSSS



CLONUS



ANTYGW



SOLUTION: ROACH/ORACH/CH/SSAY, CONSU/LT, TWANG/CLAS. Answer: It is impossible for one class to appreciate the wrongs of another.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson

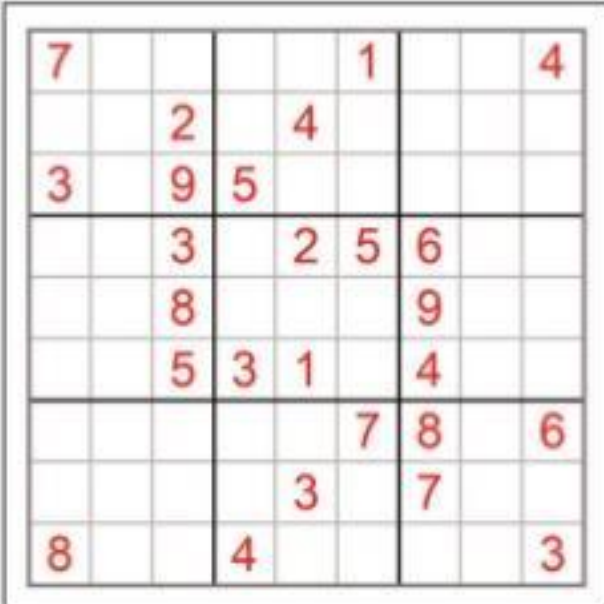


MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 3968

**Difficulty Level 5s**  
**Instructions**  
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.



**Difficulty Level**  
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 3967



**भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड**  
**CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.**  
एक नगरन कंपनी (भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)  
(A Govt. of India Navratna Undertaking)  
C-3, Mathura Road, Opp. Apollo Hospital, New Delhi-110076.

**Expression of Interest**  
Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) PF, Gratuity, Medical and Pension Trusts invites EOI for appointment of Investment Consultant for a 3 years term. Kindly visit the website [www.concorindia.com](http://www.concorindia.com) under the tender section for further details.

Sd/-  
(G.B. Dash)  
GGM (F&L) & Treasurer (Trust)

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**MECHANICAL DIVISION RTIC KATHUA**  
Telefax:- 01922-238973, Email ID:- mdvrtic@gmail.com

**GIST of e-Tender**  
e-NIT No: 10 of 2019-20 Dated: 09.09.2019 due on 20.09.2019

For and on behalf of Governor of Jammu & Kashmir State, Executive Engineer Mechanical Division RTIC Kathua invites e-tenders from well reputed contractors/workshop holders/in two covers for Rebuilding/ replacement of guide/thrust/journal pads and allied works of 1500HP HT Motor of unit Nos. 06 installed at Lift Irrigation Station Basantpur. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, Specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be Seen/downloaded from the Govt. website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) on 09.09.2019 (17.00 hrs).

- The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site from 10.09.2019 (10.00 hrs) to 19.09.2019 (16.00 hrs) in two covers.
- The bid uploaded on the Website upto due date and time will be opened on 20.09.2019 (12.00 hrs) or any other convenient date in the Office of Executive Engineer Mech. Divn. RTIC Kathua.
- The intending bidders should keep a check on bid website for any change in the technical specifications/terms and conditions if any.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Mechanical Division Ravi Tawi  
Irrigation Complex, Kathua

**Delhi urban shelter improvement board**  
Govt. of NCT of Delhi  
**Office of the Executive Engineer: C-10**  
Inderlok, Delhi-110035  
Email ID : eec10.dusib@gmail.com  
Cell No. 852795929

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
Executive Engineer, C-10, DUSIB, Inderlok, Delhi-110035 invites, on behalf of Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, percentage rate bid (Online) in two bid system for the following work(s):

- (1) NIT No. 45/EEC-10/DUSIB/2019-20 Tender No. 2019\_DUSIB\_179757\_1 Name of work: MLA LAD FUND. Sub Head: Providing & laying cement concrete pavement and storm water drainage system in existing shopping complex at Vivekanand Puri Sarai Rohilla in AC-19 Sadar Bazar. Estimated cost: Rs. 56,42,273.00 Earnest Money: Rs. 1,13,000.00 Tender Cost: Rs. 1000.00 Period of completion: 180 Days
- (2) NIT No. 50/EEC-10/DUSIB/2019-20 Tender No. 2019\_DUSIB\_179746\_1 Name of work: Improvement of SC/ST Basties, GNCTD. Sub Head: Providing & laying CC pavement and improvement of Sewerage System in various lanes of Block-B, F and A: JJR Colony, Inder Puri (EB No. 15, 18, 0016-01, 28, 29, 33, 37, 38, 40, 41 & 42) in AC-39 (Rajinder Nagar). Estimated cost: Rs.40 59,613.00 Earnest Money: Rs. 81,200.00 Tender Cost: Rs. 500.00 Period of completion: 180 Days
- (3) NIT No. 51/EEC-10/DUSIB/2019-20 Tender No. 2019\_DUSIB\_179747\_1 Name of work: MLA LAD Fund, GNCTD. Sub Head: Providing & laying Cement Concrete pavement in various lanes deteriorated lanes of Block- B, E, F and A of JJR Colony, Inder Puri in AC-39 (Rajinder Nagar). Estimated cost: Rs. 45,33,915.00 Earnest Money: Rs. 91,000.00 Tender Cost: Rs. 500.00 Period of completion: 180 Days
- (4) NIT No. 52/EEC-10/DUSIB/2019-20 Tender No. 2019\_DUSIB\_179748\_1 Name of work: Structural Improvement & Rehabilitation of Katra Dwellers. Sub Head: Structural Improvement of Katra No. 1435-36/VII, Mazhar-ul Islam School, Chatta Nawab Shah, FarashKhana in Ballimaran AC-22. Estimated cost: Rs. 46,41,891.00 Earnest Money: Rs. 59,850.00 Tender Cost: Rs. 500.00 Period of completion: 300 Days
- (5) NIT No. 53/EEC-10/DUSIB/2019-20 Tender No. 2019\_DUSIB\_179749\_1 Name of work: Improvement of SC/ST Basties, GNCTD. Sub Head: Providing & laying CC pavement and improvement of Sewerage System in various lanes of Block-A and B: JJR Colony, Pandav Nagar (EB No. 33, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 & 45) in AC-39 (Rajinder Nagar). Estimated cost: Rs. 59,42,930.00 Earnest Money: Rs. 1,18,900.00 Tender Cost: Rs. 1000.00 Period of completion: 180 Days

\*Last Date & Time of submission of e-Bids will remain on: 24th Sept.2019 upto 15:00 Hours

\*The Date of Opening is scheduled to be on: 24th Sept.2019 after 15:30 Hours

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website [www.eprocurement.delhi.gov.in](http://www.eprocurement.delhi.gov.in)

\*The intending bidders are advised to visit above mentioned site regularly for any update / corrigendum related to the tenders. The corrigendum, if any, shall not be published in newspapers.

Sd/-  
DIP/Shabdath/0646/19-20 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER C-10, DUSIB

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**1st CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**

The advertised Tender Notice No.128-W/280/NIT-26/2019-20/W-III dated 06.09.2019 in which one tender was scheduled to be opened on 01.10.2019. Due to typographical error the date of opening has been published for 01.10.2019, the same will be opened on 04.10.2019. **Name of the work:** DLI-Proposed updating, reconciling, certification and computerization of land plans for station and Railway colony area etc. in Delhi Division. **No: 128-W/280/NIT-23/2019-20/W-III Dated : 12.09.2019** 2924/19

**Serving Customers With A Smile**

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल तेनुघाट**

**शुद्धि-पत्र**

इस प्रमंडल द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या- (तेनुघाट)(DMFT) 09/2019-20 दिनांक 24-08-2019 जिसका PR No. 215236 है मैं परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रघन की राशि की मूल प्रति जमा करने का स्थान पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल तेनुघाट के अलावे अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता अंचल धनबाद / क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग दुमका प्रक्षेत्र दुमका में भी जमा कर सकते है।

निविदा की शेष नियम एवं शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,  
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल तेनुघाट

**PR216772 (Drinking Water and Sanitation)19-20\*D**

**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU**  
**RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT**  
**SALEM DISTRICT**

**CGF (80% OF CAPITAL GRANT FUND) - 2019 - 2020**  
**STRENGTHENING AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE ROADS WITH MORE THAN 1 KM**

Roc.No.1310/2019/A5 **ELECTRONIC TENDER NOTICE** Dt. 10.09.2019.

- For details, visit [www.tntenders.gov.in](http://www.tntenders.gov.in)
- E-Bids are invited by Project Director, DRDA, Salem District for Improvement, **Strengthening and Upgradation** to the Panchayat & Panchayat Union roads with more than 1 KM, Package wise, with two Cover System
- The Package wise bid documents can be downloaded free of cost from [www.tntenders.gov.in](http://www.tntenders.gov.in) from 13.09.2019 to 26.09.2019.
- Last Date and Time

i)	Last Date and Time for downloading & Submission of E-Bid Documents	26.09.2019 03.00 P.M.
ii)	Date and Time of online opening of Bid Documents	27.09.2019 04.00 P.M.

DIPR/3126/TENDER/2019 Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Salem.

**भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड**  
**CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.**  
एक नगरन कंपनी (भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)  
(A Govt. of India Navratna Undertaking)  
C-3, Mathura Road, Opp. Apollo Hospital, New Delhi-110076.

**TENDER NOTICE**

CONCOR invites Open E-Tender two bids for the following work:-

Tender No.	CON/D&L/Chennai-II/2019
Name of Work	Selection of Warehouse Partner for Construction, Operation & Maintenance of Integrated Modern Warehousing Facility at leased or owned land of Warehouse Partner under CONCOR's branding in and around Chennai.
Tender No.	CON/D&L/Mumbai/2019
Name of Work	Selection of Warehouse Partner for Construction, Operation & Maintenance of Integrated Modern Warehousing Facility at leased or owned land of Warehouse Partner under CONCOR's branding in and around Mumbai.
Tender No.	CON/D&L/Bengaluru/2019
Name of Work	Selection of Warehouse Partner for Construction, Operation & Maintenance of Integrated Modern Warehousing Facility at leased or owned land of Warehouse Partner under CONCOR's branding in and around Bengaluru
Period of Contract/Date of Sale (Online)	30 Years/From 13.09.2019 11.00 hrs. to 04.10.2019

For other details and important dates, please visit our website [www.concorindia.co.in](http://www.concorindia.co.in). Amendments/Corrigendum, if any, would be uploaded on website only. The complete tender document can be downloaded from website: [www.tenderwizd.com](http://www.tenderwizd.com)/CCIL only.

Executive Director (DL & COASTAL)

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Shikha, D/o: Sita Ram, R/o: Q-105, Prem Nagar-II, Delhi, Age: 15 Years, Height: 4'6", Face: Round, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Green suit & green salwar** has been missing/kidnapped since 25.08.2019 from the area of PS Prem Nagar, Delhi.

**Shikha**

In this regard **FIR No. 473/19 u/s 363 IPC dated 31.08.2019** has been lodged at **PS. Prem Nagar, Narela, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/ kidnapped girl please inform the undersigned.

**E-Mail ID: ctc@cbl.gov.in**  
**Fax: 011-24368639**  
**DP/3249/RD/19**

**SHO**  
**PS. Prem Nagar, Delhi**  
**Ph.: 011-25489080**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE**

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work: (1) **Name of work:** Execution of AT welds in NDLS yard, TKJ Yard etc. using TPP/N.R./LKO Portion in the section of SSE/P-Way/NDLS under ADEN/NDLS. (2) **Approx. cost of work:** Rs. 87,46,240.10 (Rupees Eighty Seven Lakh Forty Six Thousand Two Hundred Forty & Ten Paise only). (3) **Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 1,74,900 (Rupees One Lakh Seventy Four Thousand Nine Hundred Only). (4) **Cost of tender document:** Rs. 5,900/-. (5) **Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender:** 04.10.2019 @ 15:00 Hrs. (6) **Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen:** [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in). The tenderer's must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in) for participating in the e-tender system. For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. No manual offers are acceptable. Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. **No: 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/29/2019-20/W-3 Dated: 11.09.2019.** 2920/2019

**Serving Customers with a Smile**

**NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED**  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
(CIN:L74899DL1974GOI007417)  
A-11, Sector-24, Noida-201301, Phone No. 0120-2412294, Extn.2220

**Ref. No. 14-1920-ARC-LPIA Date: 13.09.2019**  
**NOTICE INVITING Global E-Tender**

BIDS ARE INVITED FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION COM ANNUAL RATE CONTRACT WITH LOAD PORT INSPECTION AGENCIES FOR INSPECTION OF FERTILIZERS TO BE LOADED FROM SAUDI ARABIA & CHINA. For details, visit websites: [www.nationalfertilizers.com](http://www.nationalfertilizers.com), [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in) and [tenderwizd.com/NFL](http://tenderwizd.com/NFL) (E-Tender No. NFL- 1287). Last date for online bid submission is 03<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019 (1400 hrs IST). Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, shall be published only on above websites.

**Executive Director (Materials)**

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय**  
**ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला**

पत्रांक ..... /सरायकेला दिनांक .....

शुद्धि-पत्र

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 818, दिनांक 05.09.2019 द्वारा आमंत्रित निविदा (e-Procurement) notice no. RDD/SD/SKELLA/02/2019-20, जिसका PR. No. 216238(Rural Development)19-20-D है, का आंशिक संशोधन निम्नप्रकार क्रमवार किया गया है :

1. बेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन तिथि- 21.09.2019
2. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय- 28.09.2019 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे।
3. ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला / मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रक्षेत्र, एफओएपीओ भवन, धुवाँ, राँची में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रघन की राशि, Bank Credit Certificate एवं Affidavit जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय 30.09. 2019 अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक।
4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 03.10.2019 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे।

अन्य शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेंगी। कार्यपालक अभियंता

**बूद - बूद नहीं बरसेंगे तो बूद को तरसेंगे** ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, PR 216781 (Rural Work Department)19-20\*D सरायकेला

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

**ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**  
You usually act on the spur of the moment, and quite right too! If you have unfinished business to complete, waste no time. otherwise you'll find that the goal posts have moved. Next week may be too late, partly because other people may have changed their minds.

**LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**  
There is no need to stifle your creativity or dampen your emotions. You might feel under the weather, but celestial relief will soon arrive in the form of beneficial lunar alignments, helping you to get back on your feet and turn the tables on a rival.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**  
Whether you feel you have been let down at work, or prevented from attaining your wishes at home, you may recognise that such disappointments are not final, only temporary. You'll be back in the fray in no more than four weeks, ready to do your level best.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**  
Adverse or challenging aspects indicate that you have experienced a personal upheaval lately. It may be quite true that someone hasn't been entirely fair, but there are only another two weeks to go before harsh words should be completely forgotten.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**  
Given that your celestial alignments have indeed been most confusing, the patience and tolerance you have shown in dealing with a financial matter deserve congratulations. Right now recent expenditure however, may have been but a rehearsal for the real thing.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**  
You do tend to take on rather way too much, don't you? You may be wondering if you have set yourself an impossible task. If so, you have done right. The only way to get what you want and end up where you need to be, is to take on more than you can cope with.

**PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**  
You should reach a final solution over family finances and domestic spending today, if possible, or, at least, over the next three days. You see, Mercury and Mars are perfectly poised to fulfil your wishes. However, don't let cash questions distract you from the fact that the real issues are personal: you need to understand that a partner's impatience or irritation is not really directed against you.

**TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**  
Information which has been postponed, news which has been kept secret, and dreams which have been long-forgotten, are soon to burst forth. You may be best advised to delay putting the finishing touches to personal plans until next week. That will give loved ones time to settle down.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**  
A delicate mixture of courage and conservatism suits you best at the moment. You have been happy to sail on uncharted waters, but by next week a sense of caution may return. Compare notes with close friends sooner rather than later and set aside some time this evening to pamper yourself.

**CANCER (July 22 - July 23)**  
Seldom has so much needed to be reviewed and reorganised, but arrangements should be complete very soon. Then you will realise that certain home and family commitments are more time-consuming than you once thought. If you want to blame anyone, don't. Blame the stars instead.

**LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**  
Your emotional ties are being put to the test, and you may wonder if one particular commitment is really worth the grief. My advice would be to try to distinguish between genuine feelings of affection on the one hand and a need for security at any price on the other.

**VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**  
You're in a strong, decisive and determined state of mind, but it's just at times like these that you'll do best to put other people first. Once again, it is a fine moment to remember the occasions when family members have done you a good turn. There seems to be a change of mood during the day, most likely resulting in a more relaxed and generous attitude.

**जल संसाधन विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार**  
**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, जलपथ प्रमण्डल सं०-१, सिमडेगा**

**शुद्धि-पत्र**

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण संख्या-WRD/WWD No-1, Simdega/02/2019-20 एवं इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 366 दिनांक 13.08.2019 द्वारा प्रकाशित (PR 214448 Water Resources19-20(D) एवं शुद्धि-पत्र का पत्रांक-393 सिमडेगा, दिनांक-27.08.2019 को अपरिहार्य कारणों से Upload करने की अंतिम तिथि 11.09.2019 समय 3.00 बजे अपराह्न से बढ़ाकर दिनांक 19. 09.2019 समय 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक की जाती है। Last date and time (Submission of Bid Cost and EMD) तिथि 11.09.2019 समय 4.00 अपराह्न के स्थान पर 21.09.2019 समय 4.00 बजे अपराह्न की जाती है। तथा Date of opening (Pre Qualification Bid) खोलने की अंतिम तिथि 12.09. 2019 समय 4.00 बजे अपराह्न से बढ़ाकर दिनांक 23.09.2019 समय 4.00 बजे अपराह्न की जाती है। उक्त निविदा सूचना को इस हद तक संशोधित समझा जाय। निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत् रहेंगी।

**PR216726 Water Resource(19-20)D** कार्यपालक अभियंता,  
**बूद - बूद नहीं बरसेंगे तो बूद को तरसेंगे** जलपथ प्रमण्डल सं०-१, सिमडेगा।

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**  
**No. COM/PUB/HWH/TRAINS/GOVT.ORG/19 Date : 11.09.2019**

Expression of Interest (EOI) is invited by Howrah Division of Eastern Railway from Government Ministries/Departments to issue social message/advertisements, at a fixed rate, through exterior vinyl wrapping and display advertisement inside coaches of EMU trains plying within Howrah Division and Mail/Express trains originating from Howrah station. **Fixed Rate :** (i) Exterior Vinyl Wrapping of one or more coaches of EMU/DMU/MEMU @ ₹ 1.5 lakh per coach per year. (ii) Exterior Vinyl Wrapping of one or more coaches of Mail/ Express trains @ ₹ 2 lakh per coach per year. (iii) Displaying advertisement inside EMU/DMU/MEMU coaches @ ₹ 400 per sft. per coach per year. (iv) Displaying advertisement inside coaches of Mail/Express trains @ ₹ 6000 per sft. per coach per year. Detail proposal may please be submitted at the earliest at the following address : **Sr Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, Rail Yatri Niwas Building (4th Floor), Howrah Station, Howrah-711101, e-mail: compubhwh@gmail.com** Divisional Commercial Manager (Commt), Howrah

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PROJECT) ROHINI**  
**2ND FLOOR, SUB ZONAL OFFICE BUILDING**  
**SECTOR-17, ROHINI: DELHI**

**E-mail address: eeprojectrohini.1@gmail.com**  
**N.I.T. No. EE (Pr.) Rohini/TC/2019-20/07 Dated: 11.09.2019**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Last date of purchase & download of : **01.10.2019** upto 15:00 Hours  
Tender Document

Last date of Bid Preparation : **03.10.2019** upto 11:00 Hours  
Opening of Financial Bid : **03.10.2019** at 11:01 Hours

The Executive Engineer (Project) Rohini invites on behalf of the Commissioner, North DMC sealed percentage/item rate tenders from the approved and eligible contractors. The tenders will be opened on the website [www.tenderwizd.com/NORTHDMCTENDER](http://www.tenderwizd.com/NORTHDMCTENDER) by Executive Engineer (Project) Rohini. The rates hold good for 6 months.

**S.N.: 1, Name of Work:** Imp. & Dev. Of cremation ground village Nithari Khasra no. 16/25 ward no. 40N in Rohini Zone. **Head of A/c:** XL-VII-Education, FTC code: 19/66/XL-VII-Edu/PC-201, **Estimated cost (Rs.):** 9274722/-, **Tender amount (Rs.):** 7120188/- for part A and Item Rate for part B, **Earnest Money (Rs.):** 185500/-, **Tender cost (Rs.):** 1000/-, **Time of completion:** 9 months

Tender document can be downloaded from website <http://www.tenderwizd.com> for bidding by approved/eligible contractors in M.C.D. The detailed NIT can be seen on this website. **Sd/- R.O. No. 85/North/DPI/2019-20 Executive Engineer (Pr.) Rohini Zone, NDMC**





FLIGHT PATH

As an ode to the LGBTQ+ community, the San Francisco International Airport has opened Harvey Milk Terminal 1, the first airport terminal in the world named after a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Milk was the first openly gay elected public official in California.

AROUND TOWN



The Right Note

THE CULTURAL evening titled 'Geetam Vadyam Nrityam', put together by Pandit Siyaram Tiwari Memorial Sangeet Trust, will feature performances by noted vocalist Nirmalya Dey, Kathak exponent Maya K Nigam (pictured) and flautist Chetan Joshi. On September 15, at Studio155 Arts Collaborative, Sector 43, Gurugram, 4pm to 8pm. Passes available for Rs 500. Contact: [studio155ac@gmail.com](mailto:studio155ac@gmail.com)



Plum Post

CLOSE ON the heels of its outlets in Mumbai's Lower Parel and Delhi's Aerocity, Plum By Bent Chair has come up with another 'retail restaurant' at Janpath, called Plum By Bent Chair Lutyens. With quirky decor, furniture and fixtures by Bent Chair, the new place also allows visitors to purchase everything they see, from the eccentric light in the ceiling to the quirky chair one might be seated on.

A Moment of Joy

A group show, titled 'Close Your Eye And', is displaying the works of artists Arunava Mondal, Avijit Mukherjee, Katayun Saklat and Asis Kumar Sanyal, presenting interesting tidbits from everyday life. At Open Palm Court Gallery, India Habitat Centre, from September 15 to 18.

Temple Trail

BHUBANESWAR-BORN Suryasnata Mohanty's exhibition 'Universe in a Mobius Strip: Submergence and Emergence of Structures and Life' comprises abstract renditions of temples and notions of faith, inspired by her hometown. At DLF Promenade, Vasant Kunj, till September 13.

TALK CHECKS OUT

The Hanoi Vibe

A new restaurant shows how Vietnamese cuisine can be cool, fuss-free and even Keto-compliant

DIVYAA

IF ONE were to say that a pop of colour is what defines all that VietNom — the latest Vietnamese restaurant in town — has to offer to its visitors, it wouldn't be off the mark. Right from the furniture to the walls, from the crockery to the cutlery, from the food to the drinks, colours define everything here.

But green is the colour of food here — healthy, fresh and vegetarian-friendly. "Half of the menu here, due to the very nature of Vietnamese cuisine, is low-fat, gluten-free and relies on fresh seasonal veggies; almost one-third of our dishes would be vegan," says Chef Bhim Tamang, who is steering the kitchen. "A lot of our food is even Keto-compliant, considering that the Vietnamese palate doesn't depend too much on carbohydrates," he says.

Vegan dishes here include Wok Tossed Vegetable, Stir Fried Morning Glory and Bok Choi while highlights of the Keto selection are Fresh Vegetable Summer Roll, White Rose Dumplings and Seafood Salad. There are options for meat eaters as well. A typical Vietnamese meal includes soup, rice, grilled or steamed meats, a vegetable dish, fresh fruit and salad; and VietNom aims to bring out all of these different components to the plates, adds the chef.

On the menu, there's a blast of all things Vietnamese — with La Lot (chicken wrapped in betel leaves), Banh Xeo (crispy pancake), Stone Hot Pot Fish, Lemongrass Tenderloin and Vietnamese Salmon, besides a range of Tim Sams (dim sums) and salads. The expansive menu uses a lot of fresh ingredients in almost everything, claiming it to be their USP, even though it is fraught with the risk of making all courses look similar.

We tried the Fresh Vegetable Summer Roll, one of the most popular starters at the restaurant — which is basically rice paper rolls filled with coconut mayonnaise, seasonal vegetables and vermicelli noodles. Served with a rich peanut sauce, the rolls were refreshing. There is also the Keto-friendly Seafood Salad, served in a bowl placed on ice, and is loaded with prawns, fish tossed with vegetables and herbs.

VietNom has a diverse range of dumplings suited for all palates. If you like it spicy, there is chicken and chilli dumplings, served on a bed of hot chilli oil; while for the lovers of mushrooms, there's the 7 Treasure Mushroom Gyoza.

Among the mains, the chef claims the



A serving of Fresh Vegetable Summer Roll; (above) interiors of the restaurant

simple Chicken Mango Curry to be their most popular dish, while Pho — meal in a bowl, considered Vietnam's gift to the world — remains their mainstay. There's the vegetarian Home Made Pho, with vegetables, straw mushrooms and rice noodles, which is mild, aromatic, tampered with herbs and crunchily vegetables. A bowl goes out to nearly all the tables here, as one could see. The non-veg variant is loaded with chicken.

The restaurant has also introduced Vietnamese coffee, which goes well with Banh Tieu Donuts. But if you want to just have the dessert, Pearl Jewels with Mango is a winner. Sago pearls are soaked in coconut water, basil seeds, coconut cream and condensed milk, giving it a rich pudding texture. There's also the Espresso Panna Cotta, a thick coffee-flavoured dessert for those looking for a caffeine boost.

**MEAL FOR TWO:** Rs 2,500 approx  
**ADDRESS:** DLF CyberHub, DLF Phase 2, Sector 24, Gurugram  
**CONTACT:** 9582274622

Fit for Royalty

India's first photographer king, Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh II captured the country and its people

VANDANA KALRA

IN THE India of the 1850s and '60s, when photography was still to reach many in India, Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh II of Jaipur was an exception. Known for his forward-looking approach — including gifting the city its first art and craft college — Singh was distinct from his contemporaries in pursuing photography. Recognised as 'India's first photographer king', he captured the country and its people. "We tried to cover different aspects of the works of this remarkable, little-known photographer," says Giles Tillotson, consultant director at the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum in Jaipur. Along with Mrinalini Venkateswaran, museum consultant at City Palace in Jaipur, and Rahaab Allana, curator at Alkazi Foundation for the Arts, he has co-curated the exhibition "A Reflective Oeuvre". On at Delhi's Art Heritage gallery, the showcase explores Singh's engagement with photography with 120 works.

Kept near the entrance are Singh's works as a copyist, who would photograph other photographs, perhaps to test his skills and improvise his techniques. We see, among others, copy images of a print of Raphael's Sistine Madonna and an oil painting of Lord Dufferin, Viceroy of India. There are also images of cabinet cards of Marchioness of Ripon (a British patron of arts) and a cabinet card depicting Singh's successor, Kayam Singh. "It shows that he is experimenting with the very medium of photography... We give a sense of Ram Singh as an accomplished photographer but also someone who is experimenting with different kinds of approaches," says Tillotson. He notes how one of the objectives of the exhibition is to make the photography of Singh better known to the public. Known among specialists in the history of Indian photography, Tillotson regards him as a major 19th-century Indian artist.

While there is no certainty if there was any singular impetus to Singh's passion for photography, he did reportedly learn the art from British photographer T Murray when he was in Jaipur in 1860. "Singh did work with Murray but he was one among



(Clockwise from above) Self-portrait with folded arms; Wrestlers in an akhara; Copy image of a print of Raphael's Sistine Madonna; General view of the City Palace looking towards the North; Unidentified woman of the zenana Courtesy: Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum, City Palace, Jaipur/ACP

several other photographers whom he met and conversed with. For instance, he also met French photographer Louis Rousselet. When he became a member of the Bengal Photographic Society, he was also introduced to Eugene Impey, who was the British resident in Jodhpur and also a photographer. He recommended Singh to become a member of the Society... In the 1860s and '70s, when Singh is working, almost everyone is experimenting, the process is developing very rapidly and the technology is changing," says Tillotson. While the other royal courts were also patrons of photography, Singh, too, was a collector who owned large albums of Bourne & Shepherd, among others.



Juxtaposed alongside his prints are photographs of some of the other photographers of the time and Jaipur-based photographer Nandan Ghiya, who also works with vintage photographs. "Nandan uses history as an archive of information and there seems to be dialogue between him and Singh, a 21st-century artist and 19th-century artist. We thought it will be interesting to bring them together. Singh was an artist who was engaging with people around him and using photography as a medium, and Ghiya does the same," says Tillotson.

Curated from a collection of over 2,000 photographs, one of the most unique and intriguing sections of the exhibition comprises photographs of the women from his zenana (section of the house where the women lived). These were some of the first photos taken of women during the British Raj, when the purdah practice was prevalent. "Though later that becomes a more accepted trait, he is very much a pi-

oneer," says Tillotson. Confident and well-dressed, the women are probably concubines. "They are not shy and the way they are posing suggests a very relaxed relationship between the photographer and the women," notes Tillotson.

There is also the Maharaja himself — valiant on a horse, dressed plainly, and even of him meditating. For him, photograph was both an artistic pursuit as well as a documentation of the times, of the landscapes and the buildings that occupy the scene. "He is also interested in documenting what he is doing. Several photographs are of the buildings he had constructed and commissioned, and the gardens he had laid out, including the Ram Niwas Bagh and the General Hospital that he had commissioned. So, he is recording his own achievements and his own reign as well," notes Tillotson.

The exhibition at Art Heritage gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, Delhi, is on till September 18

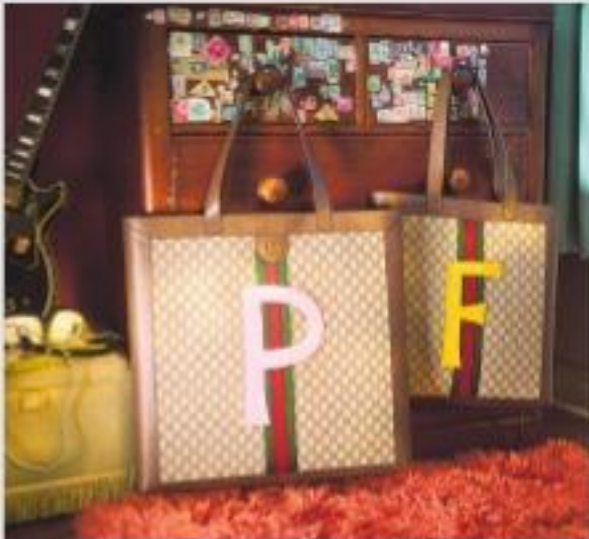
Making a Mark

IFYOU thought carrying an oversized Gucci tote with its flagship three stripes in red and green was not enough to grab everyone's attention, how about your initials embossed in a big size on the bag, over the three stripes? In shades of orange, blue or parrot green? And if large letters screaming out your name is not your style, how about small, miniature-ish alpha-numeric imprint of your choosing on the side of their Ace statement sneakers? Or a knitted cardigan in bright yellow, and your initials emblazoned on it in dark blue? This is all possible courtesy the latest DIY (do-it-

yourself) service being offered by the Italian luxury giant in the Capital.

Select items from the label's collection, such as tote bags, Ace sneakers and small leather goods like wallets and knitwear, are part of the Gucci DIY service. One can choose from the swatches of leather and fabrics which can be played around with, and mix and match colours and textures.

Gucci, launched in 1921 by Guccio Gucci in Tuscany, is one of the oldest fashion luxury fashion labels of the world. The DIY service, which is the brainchild of Alessandro Michele, the label's creative di-



Personalised Gucci tote bags at the workshop in Delhi Petra Collins

rector, is a reflection of a larger global trend. Many luxury brands such as Burberry and Louis Vuitton offer to put ones names on their products. Hermes, which already made customised saddles and other equestrian paraphernalia, now have a special division, Sur-Mesure, where they can make anything for you, out of everything. There have been requests for boxing gloves, roller skates and even a rickshaw, they claim.

The Gucci DIY workshop was a first for New Delhi. The label launched this service in India last year, at their Mumbai outlet. The service is being offered till September 14, at Emporio, New Delhi.

EKTAA MALIK

A Sprinkling of Stardust

Ranu Mondal's story is everything reel dreams are made of

ANUSHREE MAJUMDAR

IN THE story of Ranu Mondal's life, there are two principal characters — Jesus Christ and Himesh Reshammiya. On Wednesday afternoon, she thanked them both profusely at the launch of her first song, *Teri meri kahani*. "I want to thank Jesus, because he loves me and has given me so much," she says in English, her voice barely reaching the back of Screen 1 at PVR Juhu in Mumbai. But it's loud enough to make a woman in the audience gasp — "She speaks English!" — and the rest of the room murmur appreciatively.

Mondal, 58, sees the effect on the crowd, switches to Hindi, and continues, "I'm so happy to be here. It's been possible because of Jesus and Himeshji — he turned my tears

of sorrow into tears of joy." The audience applauds the sentiment, and Reshammiya cries as well, refusing a handkerchief from his wife to wipe away his tears. Can you blame him? It's not often that a press conference mimics cinema, but Mondal's story is everything reel dreams are made of.

By now, most of us know how it all began — nearly a month ago, Atindra Chakraborty, a 20-something engineer, heard Mondal hum a song while he was waiting for a train at the Ranaghat junction platform in West Bengal. He asked her if she would sing a song for him and Mondal obliged; the video he made of her singing Lata Mangeshkar's *Ek pyaar ka nagma hai* (Shor, 1972) went viral on social media before news channels swooped in, calling Mondal "the next Lata", something that grand lady of playback singing doesn't ap-

prove of. A performance on *Superstar Singer* on Sony TV brought her to Reshammiya's attention — he promised her a recording contract on the spot. Overnight, Mondal became a star, amassing thousands of fans, a backstory featuring Feroz Khan, and a Wikipedia page that says she's a "distant relative of Dhinchak Pooja".

A few weeks later, another video surfaced. This time, it was of Reshammiya making good on his promise, encouraging Mondal as she sang *Teri meri kahani*, the first of three songs Reshammiya is said to be working on with her. Mondal's Bollywood career coincides with Reshammiya's comeback as an actor, sans cap, in a double role in the upcoming film, *Happy Hardy and Heer*. "I hadn't seen the video before I heard her live on *Superstar Singer*. Her voice has a power that led me to sign her on. I was looking for



Himesh Reshammiya and Ranu Mondal at the song-release event in Mumbai

a voice that could sing a beautiful *alaap*. When I began my career, I was only a producer of serials, but I was supported by so many people, my father, Salman Khan...now, I'm just paying it forward," says Reshammiya. In addition to *Teri meri kahani*, the com-

poser-singer-actor also screened the video of *Heeriye* from the film; the prelude is a straight lift from Coldplay's *Life in technicolor* from their 2008 album, *Viva La Vida*. Dressed in a cherry-red silk saree, Mondal is still getting used to public adula-

tion. "I always loved singing, and if I didn't sing, I felt unfulfilled. I taught myself to sing by listening to Hindi film songs by Lataji, Rafi saab. I lived in Feroz Khan's house as a helper, but he'd never heard me sing. I saw a lot of people from the industry at his house, but I never approached anybody. My life took a different turn, but I never lost hope that, one day, I would become a professional singer," she says.

Even before its official release, *Teri meri kahani* has become a hit — it's being played on phones, being used as a ringtone, and even as a background score for a TikTok video of a man playing carrom. As the press conference draws to an end, the audience clamours for a live performance. Reshammiya's fans in the audience shout "HR! HR! HR! Jai Mata Di!" as he prepares to sing but Mondal beats him to it. She takes the microphone and begins; her voice comes out shaky and uneven. "She's new to this, so please don't judge this performance," says Reshammiya, and sings his part in his characteristically nasal style. Mondal looks on, dazed and grateful, with a slight recognition of what stardom looks like.



SRIRAM VEERA  
SEPTEMBER 12

EVEN CRICKET journalists aren't as frequent visitors to the cricketarchive site, which documents scores of club and domestic games, as Shubman Gill. Every now and then, he would land up on that site, digging obscure games that Virat Kohli or Rohit Sharma or Cheteshwar Pujara had played when they were at the U-16 or U-19 level.

"Especially Kohli. *Yaar Virat Kohli jab 16 or 19 years tha, to kya karta tha?* (what did he do?) How many runs he used to make? I would open up his record and check!" Gill once told this newspaper: *"Achcha itna... inse to hamara zyadaa hai yaar! Matlab sahi ja raha hai!"* (Ah, These many... I have more runs than him. It means it's going well!).

That curious boy with his delightful cocktail of innocence and ambition will now be sharing the same dressing room with them.

During chats, he once said something rather startling so calmly that it made one sit up. "I have never failed three games in a row." Never? *"No bhai."* How would you react if that happens as it's bound to as you move up the grade? Will you be okay? Laughter. *"Socha nahin!* I would handle it then. Don't worry."

And so, one dials former India cricketer Karsan Ghavri, who used to mentor an 11-year-

old Gill and was instrumental in getting him into Punjab U-14 teams.

"Oh, he is right," Ghavri says on the day Gill is selected for India's Test squad against South Africa. "He is a special cricketer, haven't seen him fail too many games in a row. And he is temperamentally so sound, that one doesn't have to worry about him."

For a boy who possessed all the shots - even the pull, courtesy his father asking his farm helps to bounce at him repeatedly and paying 100 rupees to anyone who got him out at his home — it was the way he left the ball, that caught Ghavri's attention.

Ghavri was overseeing an u-19 pace camp at the PCA stadium in Mohali when he spotted the little boy, about 11 or 12 years of age, playing at a small ground opposite the stadium. Ghavri wanted more batsmen to face his bowlers and impressed with Gill, asked his father to send him to practice.

"It was a pure pace camp and the 18-19-year-olds I had were all out to impress and they bounced the kid. He would pull the ball, sway from a few, defend solidly, but the way he left the ball outside off impressed me. It would have been understandable had the boy tried to impress and try to play a shot to every ball, as kids generally do. But he played so properly that I was left admiring," Ghavri says.

It was Ghavri who planted the belief that Gill could one day play for India. "Such was the

**Gill has got help from many — Rahul Dravid sorted out his backlift during an 'A' tour — and success now would perhaps depend on how the Indian team uses him.**

talent and, more importantly, his hard work. He would come to our sessions two times a day and work so hard. As years went by, I told him to aim big, not settle for less. If you can continue be so serious about the game and be fearless, you are going to play for India one day. He is lucky that his parents encouraged him a lot, spending so much time and energy in his cricket training."

In these times, if one is to make it big in cricket, one has to start very early, and have an obsessed passionate parent to push and encourage. The days of strolling through adolescence, falling in love with the game at some stage, then trying one's luck, seem gone. Gill's father planted the seed pretty early in the piece.

*"jaise bhi ho, India khelna hi hai."* (Whatever it takes, have to play for India) The Gills remember that thought floating in his head years before. It started very young, aged four, when his father, a well-to-do landlord, threw the ball at

him in village Chak Kherewala, near Jalalabad in Punjab. The father liked what he saw, the son loved what came at him, and the father deployed his farmhands, 18 to 20-year olds, to throw balls at him. As time went, the lure of easy money, 100 rupees, was long gone, they now took shifts to bowl at the boy without luck. Then the likes of Ghavri came into the picture once the family moved to Chandigarh just to pursue the boy's cricketing dreams. Not that Gill was flailing at school: "Till 8th class, I would get about 90 per cent. *Uske baad, neeche gaya* (After that, it came down)."

Gill sneezes at any sentimental notion of "lost childhood". "I just love this game, I love batting. It's not sacrifice. It's all choice. I had the choice to go for some *masti* (enjoyment) or go to practice. I chose practice." And here he is, in the Indian Test squad.

En route, he has got help from many — Rahul Dravid sorted out his backlift during an 'A' tour, and success now would perhaps depend on how the Indian team uses him, and at what position in the batting order, and how they back him. They have chosen him as the back-up opener and Ghavri feels that "he can open, he will face any challenges, he has the game, but ideally I would like to see him at No. 4 or thereabouts. He is temperamentally sound, has the skill, and the desire to do well. Hope he gets enough chances wherever they play him. This boy is the real deal."



Former India cricketer Karsan Ghavri, who used to mentor an 11-year-old Gill, says 'the boy is the real deal'.

## Father remembers Shubman's appetite for runs

NITIN SHARMA  
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 12

FIVE YEARS ago, on a humid April afternoon, Lakwinder Singh Gill watched his son Shubman bat almost the whole day against Amritsar in a Punjab Inter-District U-16 Markhan Trophy at the MCA Ground in Mohali. Gill scored 351 during a record 587-run opening partnership with Nirmal Singh and got out with four balls remaining in the day.

The senior Gill had some encouraging words for the youngster.

"You should have batted with patience for the last four balls and 400 was yours", I told him after the knock," the father reminisced on Thursday after Shubman made it to the Indian Test squad for the first time. "As a kid, he loved batting and it was the only rash shot he played that day. He faced 272 balls for that knock and hit 49 boundaries. He has got the hunger for runs and to see him bat in Indian Test team colours will be dream for him and the whole family.

The then 14-year-old Gill would amass 1,018 runs at 92.54 from seven matches in Punjab's winning campaign in the U-16 Vijay Merchant Trophy in the 2014-2015 season, where he smashed a century in each innings against Bengal in the semifinal and another against Madhya Pradesh in the final at Cuttack.

The youngster won BCCI's best U-16 cricketer award for the second year in succession that season before Gill would amass more than 500 runs in the 2015-2016 Cooch Behar trophy. While Gill had scored runs as an opener before, he hit an unbeaten 263 against Tamil Nadu at Patiala in the Cooch Behar Trophy.

"I had heard about his partnership along with Nirmal in an U-16 match. When I first saw him in the U-19 Punjab team, I remember I talked to other coaches about his control and calmness. He would never get tired at the nets and would always call us again and again for advice. That knock against Tamil Nadu made him believe in his ability," says Munish Bali, now the Punjab head coach.

The last two years have seen Gill becoming the hero for India in the U-19 world Cup last year, where he amassed 372 runs in six matches, including a century against Pakistan in the semifinals. He scored a 728 runs at an average of 104, including a double century (268) against Tamil Nadu during the last Ranji season.

Last year, Gill also scored 365 runs during the India A tour to England. Gill, who smashed 90 runs for India A against South Africa earlier this week, was also man of the series in the India A-West Indies A unofficial ODI series. He became the youngest Indian to score a double century in first-class cricket when he hit 204 against West Indies A recently.

Prior to the West Indies tour, Gill practised with wet tennis balls at the PCA Stadium, Mohali to prepare for the bounce in Caribbean pitches. "During his maiden ODI tour, Shubman could not score much and was dropped. He was disappointed about his form in New Zealand but knew that he had to start the process again to achieve his dream. Coming as an opener for Kolkata Knight Riders this season helped his confidence a lot," said the senior Gill.

SANDIPIG

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

A STRAIGHTFORWARD synopsis of the selection committee meeting on Thursday that picked the Test squad for the South Africa series would read thus: Shubman Gill for KL Rahul, an impressionable young batsman replacing a weary opener. Gill's sustained run-making was too irresistible to go unrewarded while Rahul's run-drought was too long to ignore. It's the way selection debates usually whirl, between the expelled and the newbie.

But the crux of the meeting, for all practical purposes, would read thus: Rohit Sharma for KL Rahul. The chief selector MSK Prasad confirmed that the former would open alongside Mayank Agarwal. "Yes, we are definitely looking at him as an opener, and we want to give him an opportunity. He is keen, and all of us in the selection committee are keen as well. We want to push him, and give him some opportunities up the order, and see where does he stand, and then we will take a call," Prasad elaborated.

There are layers to this narrative that could potentially turn out to be the central thread of the series, and multiple prisms through which the decision would be viewed. There's hope and scepticism, fear and risk, pragmatism and even a sense of desperation about Rohit opening in Tests.

#### Limited-overs template

Hope because of his own precedent. Six years ago, in white-ball cricket, he was struggling down the order before a move up turned his career around. He has since installed himself as one of the finest batsmen in limited-overs cricket. So maybe, this move would rejuvenate Rohit's Test career, which though hasn't been as flattering as people thought it would be or as ordinary as it's sometimes projected. There's also a likeability about him that everybody wants to see him prosper in the longer format as well. Since returning to Test cricket with a resounding hundred against Sri Lanka in Nagpur in 2017, he has averaged 50.12 in seven Tests. Though the defining, spot-nailing knock has eluded him — he did have opportunities in Australia and South Africa — he has looked equipped at this level to carry out his middle-order duties.

Only that the utilitarian Hanuma Vihari has superseded him. Now if Rohit could translate his white-ball dynamism to Test cricket, India could kill two birds with one stone: solve the opening woes, which has been plaguing them since Murali Vijay, Shikhar Dhawan and Rahul ran into a wretched patch; and stimulate Rohit's Test career, which's considered too precious to go wasted without being fully tested.

In the backdrop, lurks Virender Sehwag too, someone who was branded a white-ball marauder, or at best a middle-order buccaneer in Tests, rewriting the grammar and syntax of opening in Test cricket in a manner as only he could. Which brings us to scepticism regarding Rohit.

Sehwag was a glorious exception and Test cricket is a different beast. There are others like Justin Langer Langer, Sanath Jayasuriya, and to a lesser extent Ravi Shastri too, men who morphed the game to become Test-cricket openers. But few other batsmen have imperceptibly transitioned like Sehwag. Not that it's beyond Rohit, but it's a tough act to follow.

The Jason Roy conundrum that has followed England in the Ashes serves as a cautionary tale. The dynamic opener, England's batting enforcer in the World Cup, was ruthlessly exposed when he opened in the Ashes, when his technique was stripped to the bones by Pat Cummins and Josh Hazlewood. He was shoved down the order, where unexposed to the shining red ball, he at least managed starts. It's a task even some of India's legendary figures have shirked away from. Sachin Tendulkar and Sourav Ganguly, India's most prolific 50-over firm, both shied away from it. After initial experimentation, VVS Laxman too expressed



Rohit Sharma will captain the Board President's XI in a three-day warmup match against the Proteas in Vizianagaram from September 26. *File*

his discontent. Even the all-weather man and India's go-to alternative in contingency, Rahul Dravid, was not always a keen opener, despite his terrific record as one.

#### Fear and risk

There's fear because Rohit, like Roy, could be a suspect against the moving red ball with pronounced stitches, unlike the white ball that loses its venom after the first 10 overs. The devastation an SG ball could wreak on placid Indian decks is considerably less, but still, Rohit would be tasked with negotiating the seam movement that Kagiso Rabada could produce. At rapid pace and hostile aggression. Against one of the sharpest bowling brains in the world looking to exploit the faintest of his weaknesses. And Rohit, for all his grand stroke-play, is not invulnerable. Ironically, the very strength of his in 50-over cricket — the minimaslim of movement, the tendency to play from the crease — could prove to be his nemesis.

As much as technique and temperament, a batsman would require grit to survive and prosper. Like his limited-over partner Shikhar Dhawan once said: *"Yeh sabse mushkil kaam hain. Hamare jigrevale kaam hain, bhai."* Talk to Graham Gooch or Alastair Cook, David Boon or Matthew Hayden, all of them would agree with Dhawan.

Risk because he has barely opened in first-class cricket — in 90 first-class outings (excluding Test cricket), he has opened just once, during the second innings against Saurashtra in a Ranji Trophy quarterfinal in Chennai in 2008 when Mumbai were looking to set a stiff target. So Rohit, at the age of 32, is on the verge of treading an uncharted territory, though the selectors are not apprehensive.

"He has been opening in white-ball cricket for more than a decade. We feel he

has the capability to bat up the order, and we have seen that in white-ball cricket, and if he can do that in red-ball cricket, then nothing like it. We have a lot of practice matches coming up, which will be a boost to this side," explained Prasad.

There a whiff of desperation in the air because he has reached that stage of his career where time is running out to stretch his Test career. In other words, opening was the only vacant role in the team. It was the only spot where he could be accommodated, the last song before dusk en-croaches. Rohit, therefore, would gleefully accept any role the management wants him to don, making the opportunity a last-ditch chance to achieve at least half of what he was expected to scale in Test cricket.

There's pragmatism from the selectors, partly because they appear to have moved on from Murali Vijay and Shikhar Dhawan. Prasad admitted in as many words.

"With Dhawan and Vijay gone, we can't keep changing both the openers in the side," he says.

Add Prithvi Shaw's ban till November and they have decided to invest in young talents. Gill's inclusion was a nod towards the future. But then what do you do with Rohit, who's neither young to be considered the future, nor tested enough to be jet-tisoned like Dhawan and Vijay? So the best way to solve both dilemmas was to make him open. In one stroke, they would solve the opening puzzle and give Rohit an extended run (if he doesn't prosper, he could be overlooked for good).

**TEST SQUAD:** Virat Kohli (C), Mayank Agarwal, Rohit Sharma, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane, Hanuma Vihari, Rishabh Pant (wk), Wriddhiman Saha (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Shami, Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma, Shubman Gill.

## ‘If he does well, the world opens up for him, if he doesn’t, then move on’

VISHAL MENON

SEPTEMBER 12

ON A day when the national selectors handed Rohit Sharma a chance to revive his start-stop Test career by including him as an opener for the upcoming three-match Test series against South Africa, Gautam Gambhir, who has enjoyed a fair degree of success at the top of the order across all formats, said this series will be a 'make-or-break' challenge for the Mumbai batsman.

"He has been a sensational player in the shorter formats, but let's accept it, the series against South Africa will be make-or-break for him as far as Test cricket is concerned," Gambhir said while speaking at *The Indian Express* Idea Exchange programme.

The India ODI team vice-captain was handed this lifeline after KL Rahul was axed following indifferent form, having gone without a half-century in 12 Test innings. Rohit was selected for the recent Test series in the West Indies as a middle-order batsman, but the success of Ajinkya Rahane and Hanuma Vihari meant he had to warm the bench in both matches that India won in the Caribbean.

Terming Rohit as the most destructive batsman in white-ball cricket, Gambhir confessed he had endured sleepless nights as captain of the Kolkata Knight Riders franchise. "Rohit is the most destructive batsman in the shorter formats. As a captain in IPL, I have had sleepless nights thinking about him and probably AB de Villiers. No

**Rohit has been given a longer run... in fact, I cannot think of any other batsman who has got so many opportunities in international cricket."**

GAUTAM GAMBHIR

other batsman has given me sleepless nights in T20 cricket."

Gambhir reckoned that if Rohit comes good as an opener against South Africa, it would open up a plethora of opportunities for the 32-year-old.

"If he does well, the world opens up for him. But if he doesn't, then it's time to look at someone else for this slot. For the home series, I have always wanted Rohit to open and have a youngster as a back-up opener, rather than have a situation where he is selected and is warming the bench. If you select him in the Test squad, make him open because I have always maintained that he is too good a player to be sitting out. If there's no place for him in the middle order, he should take up the opportunity and open... because the way I see it, if Rohit has to play Test cricket, he must open," he opined.

There's a good reason why Gambhir is backing Rohit as India's Test opener. In six years, spanning 27 Tests, he has been pigeon-holed as a middle-order batsman, where his returns have not been anything special — 1,585 runs at 39.62. Worse still, two of his three centuries in this format came in his debut series against the West Indies in 2013.





# ‘Have kept an empty space in cabinet for Olympic gold’

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 12

THE WORLD Championship gold has healed the wounds of all past final debacles except the Rio Olympics, says Indian badminton ace PV Sindhu, who has kept an empty space in her trophy cabinet for the top prize, which she hopes to claim in Tokyo next year.

An Olympic silver-medallist, Sindhu clinched the historic World Championship gold at Basel after beating Japan's Nozomi Okuhara 21-7 21-7 in her third successive final. Before that historic day, the 24-year-old Indian faced incessant for losing lost in the finals of major events such as the Rio Games, World Championships (2017,2018), 2017 Dubai Super Series Finals, the 2018 Commonwealth Games and the Jakarta Asian Games.

"It (World Championships gold) takes care of all those losses. People have been talking about my final phobia, how I take pressure in the finals and I can say I gave the answer with my racket," Sindhu, who has been recommended for Padma Bhushan, told PTI in an interview.

"But Olympics is a completely different feeling. Rio (Games) and World Championship gave me different memories, but, yeah, one gold medal is missing, so definitely I will work hard for that and would love to see myself win that Olympic gold at Tokyo. "There is a vacant space (laughs) in my cabinet for that gold. The Olympic qualification is on and this win will give me the confidence to go further."

Sindhu, however, says the path to the Tokyo Olympic gold will be a tough one as now her opponents will look to exploit her weaknesses and she will need to add something new to her game to achieve success.

"(Rio) 2016 was my first Olympics and nobody knew me much. I was just one of the players but after Rio, everything changed and now after the world championship, everybody will try and learn new things. I should also learn new things in each tournament, because people will have some kind of strategy for me," she said. "I have been working with Kim. She had some changes for me and it helped me. But now I have to learn few new things. I need to work on net-play."

Ranked fifth in the World currently, Sindhu has virtually sealed her Olympic qualification. A higher ranking will help her avoid meeting top players when the draw is made at the Tokyo Games but Sindhu said she is unfazed about standings.

"Ranking matters because the draw depends on it but I don't really think about it because if I can play well, it will come up. At the end of the day, you will have to beat these top players again to achieve the gold," she said.

Asked if achieving the world No.1 ranking is on her mind, the former world No.2 said: "Yeah.. but I am not very particular about ranking and for now it is Olympics, it is ultimate goal, so after that it will be step by step. "Next for me is China, so focusing on that," said the Hyderabad, who is taking part in the China Open (September 17) and Korea Open (September 24) in the next two weeks.

While Sindhu and Saina Nehwal have put Indian badminton on top, there is a dearth of quality women's singles players in the country beyond them.

On whether she is concerned about lack of women's singles players, Sindhu said: "Well, after me and Saina, there is a little bit of gap. There are some junior players but it will take time. It is not going to be easy.

"A lot of players from other countries are doing well at the junior level whether it is Korea, Thailand or China. So I think it will take a few years till we have some players coming up. "But they need to work hard. They have to be smart and be strong themselves about what they want," she signed off.



## DELHI'S DAREDEVILS

India captain Virat Kohli with team-mates Shikhar Dhawan, Rishabh Pant and Navdeep Saini at a function on Thursday to rename Feroz Shah Kotla as the Arun Jaitley Stadium in memory of the late politician-cum-sports-administrator. A stand was also officially named after Kohli. *Renuka Puri*

# Comeback man leads comeback

All-rounder Mitch Marsh nails four wickets to dismantle England after a steady start on Day 1

ASSOCIATED PRESS/REUTERS  
LONDON, SEPTEMBER 12

MITCH MARSH marked his first appearance of the Ashes series by returning 4-35 to help restrict England to 271-8 on the first day of the fifth test at The Oval on Thursday. Put into bat by Australia in a gamble by captain Tim Paine, England was pegged back from a strong position at 103-1 after lunch as Marsh ran through the middle order to immediately justify the decision to call him up in place of Travis Head.

Joe Root, dropped three times, scored 57 and Jos Buttler was 64 not out after putting on an unbeaten 45-run partnership with tailender Jack Leach (10 not out) to frustrate the Australians late in the day. Australia has already retained the urn after winning the fourth test at Old Trafford last week to take a 2-1 lead in the series. England still has a chance to tie the series at 2-2, though, to end on a high a summer that saw the team win the Cricket World Cup for the first time. The English haven't lost an Ashes series at home since 2001, either.

Marsh, who was playing his first test since December last year, had a brilliant spell of 3-16 in seven overs after tea and is likely to finish with the best bowling figures of his career in Tests.

The only other time he took four wickets in an innings was when he had 4-61 against West Indies in Melbourne in 2015. "I had a fair bit of adrenaline running through my body and I probably haven't bowled a spell that long ever," said Marsh, who had to cut short his 17th over of the day after just one ball because of cramp.

"I was like a kid at Christmas this morning. It can be a long tour when you are not playing. I just wanted to try and get an opportunity at some stage and it was nice to produce today."

From 170-3, England lost five wickets for 56 runs only for Buttler to launch his fight-back. Hit on the chest on 17, he decided to take matters into his own hands and peppered the boundary, unloading three sixes and six fours in his 84-ball knock. "With the new ball not being far away, I thought it was the best time to go for it and I was just trying to have some fun, too," Buttler said. "Batting



Mitch Marsh finished with figures of 4/35. *Reuters*

has been hard work and not enjoyable this series so I wanted to take the shackles off and play with a smile on my face."

Paine was influenced by what he described as a "strange-looking" pitch with a tinge of grass, pressing Pat Cummins and Josh Hazlewood back into service just four days on from the rigors of the fifth day at Old Trafford when Australia retained the urn. Rory Burns and Joe Denly managed to scramble together 27 runs in just under 10 overs, remarkably the highest opening stand of the series, before Cummins parted them, Denly (14) with a familiar waft outside off stump and Steve Smith taking the slip catch after a couple of fumbles.

Any doubts Paine had over his decision at the toss would only have intensified when Root top-edged a pull from Cummins only for Peter Siddle to let the ball slip through his hands at fine leg.

Root was spared again moments later when Cummins took his outside edge but

Paine put down the chance having leapt one-handed in front of David Warner at first slip. Burns took the opportunity to settle things down, guiding the score to 86-1 at lunch.

Australia's profligacy in the field continued in the first over of the afternoon session, Siddle this time the victim rather than the perpetrator.

He tempted Root into flashing away from his body, only for Smith to parry a simple chance in the cordon. Unlike Root, Burns didn't get to his half-century, trying to do too much with a well-directed short ball from Hazlewood on 47 and looping the easiest possible catch to Marsh as he strolled in from mid-on.

That brought Ben Stokes to the crease, complete with a shoulder injury and the added responsibility of batting a place up at No. 4. He could only make a scratchy 20 before an ugly mis-hit pull lobbed to Nathan Lyon at point. Cummins squared Root up and coaxed enough from the pitch to knock back off stump and Jonny Bairstow was close be-

NUMBERS GAME

5

Only five batsmen in Test cricket have a worse conversion rate than Joe Root, who has 16 hundreds and 45 half-centuries to his name. Since August 2017, he has registered just three hundreds in 51 innings. In the same span, Kohli smacked 8 in 34 outings, Smith 6 in only 22 innings.

27

The first-wicket stand between Joe Denly and Rory Burns was the highest opening partnership of the series.

hind, lbw to an inswinging yorker from Marsh for 22. Sam Curran had a brief but entertaining stay, hooking a six, lbw to a Cummins no-ball, carving a four and slashing Marsh to second slip for 15, all in the space of 13 deliveries. Marsh made it four wickets with another yorker at Chris Woakes (2) and Hazlewood was quick to dispatch Jofra Archer (9). For England, Ben Stokes is playing as a specialist batsman due to a shoulder injury. All-rounders Sam Curran and Chris Woakes replace Jason Roy and Craig Overton.

### Surprise choice

Surprisingly, Australia captain Tim Paine won the toss and chose to bowl, as they chase their first series win in England since 2001. The tourists won at Old Trafford last week to take a 2-1 lead in the five-match series, meaning they will retain the urn regardless of the result in London.

But Paine said his side were "very hungry" to complete the job. To stand any chance of levelling the series, World Cup winners England will have to find a way to solve the riddle of the immovable Steve Smith, who has scored 671 runs in just five innings at an astonishing average of more than 134. All-rounder Mitchell Marsh and seamer Peter Siddle have been brought in for the tourists, with batsman Travis Head and paceman Mitchell Starc missing out.

**BRIEF SCORES:** England 271/8 (Buttler 64\*, Root 57, Marsh 4-35) vs Australia.

# On final day, India A complete formalities

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, SEPTEMBER 12

INDIA 'A' defeated South Africa 'A' comfortably by seven wickets on the final day morning of the first unofficial Test to take a 1-0 lead in the two-match series here on Thursday. Mumbai all-rounder Shivam Dube smashed two sixes off successive balls to seal the win for the hosts.

Chasing just 48 runs in their second innings, India 'A' endured a mild stutter as skipper Shubman Gill (5), Ankit Bawne (6) and K S Bharat (5) fell in early before Dube (12 not out) and Ricky Bhui (20 not out) completed the formalities for the home team. South Africa 'A' fast bowler Lungi Ngidi, on a comeback trail after injury, bowled Gill, who made a classy 90 in the first innings to leave India 'A' at 10 for one.

Bawne was then dismissed for a 17-ball 6, caught by Senuran Muthusamy off Ngidi, while Bharat, who is contention for a spot as the back-up wicketkeeper in the Test squad, was sent back by off-spinner Dane Piedt. Left-handed Dube, who had showcased his hitting abilities in the unofficial ODI series preceding the Test matches, smacked Piedt for two huge sixes to finish the job in style. Resuming at the overnight score of 179 for 9, South Africa 'A' were bowled out for

186 in their second innings as the hosts needed only 3.5 overs to wrap things up. Shardul Thakur bowled Lutho Sipamla for 8 to finish with figures of 2 for 31. Spinners Shahbaz Nadeem (3/17) and Lalaj Saxena (2/22) were the best bowlers for India 'A' in the second innings. Only 20 overs were possible at the Greenfield stadium on Wednesday due to overnight rains and a wet outfield, but India 'A' snatched four wickets to edge close to victory. Gill's 90 and all-rounder Saxena (61 not out) had helped India 'A' make 303 in reply to the visiting team's first innings score of 164.

**BRIEF SCORES:** South Africa 'A': 164 in 51.5 overs and 186 in 58.2 overs (Zubayr Hamza 44, Heinrich Klaasen 48, Wiaan Mulder 46; Shahbaz Nadeem 3/17, Lalaj Saxena 2/22, Shardul Thakur 2/31, Krishnappa Gowtham 1/52) lost to India 'A': 303 in 87.5 overs (Shubman Gill 90, Lalaj Saxena 61 not out, Shardul Thakur 34; Lungi Ngidi 3/50, Dane Piedt 3/84) and 49 for 3 in 9.4 overs (Ricky Bhui 20 not out, Shivam Dube 12 not out; Lungi Ngidi 2/22) by seven wickets.

## Will have to work harder to get into Test team: Navdeep Saini

*New Delhi:* An impressive T20 International debut under his belt, speedster Navdeep Saini hopes to play Test cricket in future but feels he will need extra hard work to break into the "strong" bowling unit of the national team. The 26-year-old Saini, who plays domestic cricket for Delhi, made his T20 International debut against the West Indies in Florida and won the Man of the Match award in his maiden appearance last month.

"Our bowling unit in the Test format is very strong. When I was with the team (in West Indies) I realised that I'll have to work harder to get into the side. Only by doing that a I might get a chance," Saini said.

The Indian pace trio of Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma and Mohammed Shami have been extremely consistent helping the side claim some of its biggest overseas Test wins in the last couple of years. With Umesh Yadav and Bhuvneshwar Kumar also competing for spots in the playing XI, breaking in to the Indian Test side seems tough.

However, the Indian team management sees Saini as a future prospect in red-ball cricket. Togroom him in the longest format of the game, the management used him as a net bowler in the Test series against West Indies and the youngster said he learnt a lot from his experience with the senior team.

## [SPORTS BAR]

### Shakib dislikes Test format: BCB president

Bangladesh cricket chief Nazmul Hassan said Shakib Al Hasan will remain as Test captain despite disliking the format and expressing his reluctance to stay on following this week's embarrassing defeat to Afghanistan. Nazmul admitted the all-rounder had shown little interest or enthusiasm for the five-day game -- an attitude which would not have been helped by Monday's 224-run loss to Afghanistan in Chittagong. "We have noticed he did not have much interest in Test (cricket). You have seen that when we were touring foreign countries, he wanted to have a break during the Tests," Nazmul told reporters in Dhaka late Wednesday.

### Southgate fears further racist abuse in Bulgaria

England manager Gareth Southgate fears his players could face more racial abuse in Bulgaria after an away supporter allegedly targeted Raheem Sterling when the teams met at Wembley last weekend. The Football Association has said an individual was ejected from the national stadium for "discriminatory abuse" during Saturday's 4-0 Euro 2020 qualifying victory over Bulgaria. Bulgarian supporters made monkey chants at England's black players when the side last visited Sofia in 2011, prompting UEFA to fine the Bulgarian Football Union 40,000 euros (\$44,000).



Dutee did not meet the qualification mark of 11.24 seconds but found herself within the required number of competitors for the event. *Express*

### IAAF sends Dutee an invite for Worlds

Sprinter Dutee Chand has been added to India's team for the World Athletics Championships to be held in Doha later this month after the national federation accepted an invite for her participation from the international parent body. The Athletics Federation of India had on September 9 named a 25-member team for the (September 27-October 6) World Championships while also approving World University Games 100m champion Dutee's name, pending an invite from the IAAF. Dutee did not meet the qualification mark of 11.24 seconds but found herself within the required number of competitors for the event. "The IAAF sent an invite, saying Dutee can compete in the World Championships and the AFI has accepted it. So, her participation is confirmed," an AFI source said. The selection committee of the AFI had also approved the names of Archana Suseentran (200m women) and high jumper Tejaswin Shankar, subject to invitation from the IAAF.

### Kaushik advances to Round 2 of Worlds

Commonwealth Games silver-medallist Manish Kaushik (63kg) hardly broke a sweat as he out-punched Kyrgyzstan's Uulu Argen Kadyrbek to enter the second round of the World men's Boxing Championship here on Thursday. Kaushik prevailed 5-0 in the thoroughly lopsided opening-round bout. He will next face the Netherlands' Enrico Lacruz. The only Indian in action on Thursday, Kaushik was advised to keep his distance from Kadyrbek by his corner and he executed the plan to perfection. The first round was relatively uneventful before Kaushik took control of the proceedings with his accurately-placed combination punches.

### Coleman seeks apology from USADA

Christian Coleman wants an apology from the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) now that the body has dropped a whereabouts charge against him. In a video posted on YouTube ahead of the world championships in Doha, Coleman said the charge had damaged his reputation as a clean athlete and he had foregone over \$150,000 in potential earnings to fight it. "I can afford a lawyer and have the best people defending me but a lot of people don't make a lot of money and if you're a lower name you might get run over by US-ADA," he said.



### Verma enters quarters of Vietnam Open

A gritty Sourabh Verma dug deep to get the better off Japan's Yu Igarashi and enter the men's singles quarterfinals of the Vietnam Open BWF Tour Super 100 tournament here on Thursday. The second seeded Indian edged out Igarashi 25-23 24-22 to set up a quarterfinal clash with local favourite Tien Minh Nguyen. Earlier, Sourabh, who had received a bye in the opening round, had defeated Japan's Kodai Naraoka 22-20 22-20 in the men's singles second round. Sourabh, the reigning national champion, emerged as the lone Indian in the fray following the ouster of Siril Verma and Shubhankar Dey earlier in the day. Siril, who is ranked 97th in the world, stunned top seed and world no 22 Darren Liew of Malaysia 17-21 21-19 21-12 in a second round duel.





# Messi’s wishlist: Neymar

The Argentine believes the Brazilian could help club take a leap forward

REUTERS  
BARCELONA, SEPTEMBER 12

LIONEL MESSI says he wanted Neymar to return to Barcelona this year as the Brazilian would have helped the club take a leap forward, adding that his former team mate was looking forward to rejoining the La Liga champions. Barca spent the bulk of the close season negotiating with Paris St Germain to bring Neymar back to the Camp Nou two years after he left for a world record 222 million euros (\$245 million) but the Catalans failed to strike a deal with the Ligue 1 champions.

“The truth is I would have loved him to come back to us,” Barca captain Messi told Spanish newspaper Sport on Thursday. “I understand some people were against it and that’s normal considering everything that happened and how he left us, but thinking about it on a sporting level, for me Neymar is one of the best players in the world. Obviously he would have increased our chances of getting the results that we all want. The club would have taken a leap forward, in terms of sponsors, our image, our growth, but in the end it didn’t happen.”

Barca president Josep Maria Bartomeu said last week that the club did everything possible to sign Neymar, but admitted they could not meet PSG’s asking price for the forward, who hit 105 goals in four seasons for the Catalans. “I don’t know what happened with the directors, I know they were speaking with Neymar, he told me how things were going. He was really looking forward to coming back,” Messi, who has been unable to play this season due to a calf injury, said.

“I understand it’s difficult to negotiate with PSG and with Neymar because he’s one of the best. These negotiations are



Messi has not played this season because of a calf injury. File

“The truth is I would have loved him to come back to us. I understand some people were against it and that’s normal considering everything that happened and how he left us, but thinking about it on a sporting level, for me Neymar is one of the best players in the world.”

LIONEL MESSI,  
ON NEYMAR

never easy.”

Barca’s all-time top scorer also said he had no plans to quit the Catalans any time soon after it was confirmed by the club that his contract contains a clause that allows him to decide at the end of each season whether he wants to leave for free.

“I can say that I want to be at Barcelona for as long as I can and end my career here because this is my home. I want to stay here if I can stay in good shape, play well, feel important and if I see we have a winning project.”

## Saturday test

With Lionel Messi still injured, faltering La Liga champions Barcelona host Valencia on Saturday needing to prove they can produce big performances without their talisman. Messi has not played a minute of football this season due to a calf injury and without him Barca have made their worst start to a campaign since 2008, taking four points from three games.

While they thrashed Real Betis 5-2 in their previous home game, they stumbled to a 2-2 draw at promoted Osasuna in their last outing, failing to have a shot on goal in the first half in a performance coach Ernesto Valverde described as “awful”. Messi, who confirmed he will not be back to face Valencia and still does not know when he will return, urged his team mates to take a step up after their haphazard start. “It has been a strange start because we have had a lot more injuries than normal,” Messi told newspaper Sport.

“I’m not worried although we are all aware that we cannot afford to make a bad start like

## Mordic out injured

Madrid: Real Madrid says Luka Modric has a right leg muscle injury. The club says the abductor injury was diagnosed on Thursday. It did not say how long the midfielder will be sidelined. Madrid hosts Levante in the Spanish league on Saturday, then visits PSG in the Champions League on Wednesday. Other Madrid players still injured include Marco Asensio and Francisco Alarcon.

REUTERS

this and after the international break we need to make things click, strengthen as a team and start winning matches.”

Messi’s fellow forwards Ousmane Dembele and Luis Suarez also remain injured ahead of the visit of Valencia, who Barca failed to beat in three games last season, including losing 2-1 to them in the Copa del Rey final. Valencia are in a turmoil of their own, however, after coach Marcelino, who transformed them from fallen giants to fiercely competitive top-four contenders, was sacked due to a reported fall out with owner Peter Lim over transfer policy.

The inexperienced Albert Celades, the former coach of Spain’s under-21 side, has been given the job amid widespread criticism. “Marcelino fulfilled every objective he was hired for, sacking him is an outrage,” said former Valencia goalkeeper Santiago Canizares. “Celades has only coached youth players and has no credentials to work in the top flight. He has no idea what he has gotten himself in for and what the dressing room is like.

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