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## PM hardsells tax sops to investors Modi pitches India as 'the' investment destination

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Fresh from slashing the tax rate for companies to lowest in almost three decades, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday pitched India as "the" investment destination for global investors, saying reforms by his Government are just the beginning of a long innings.

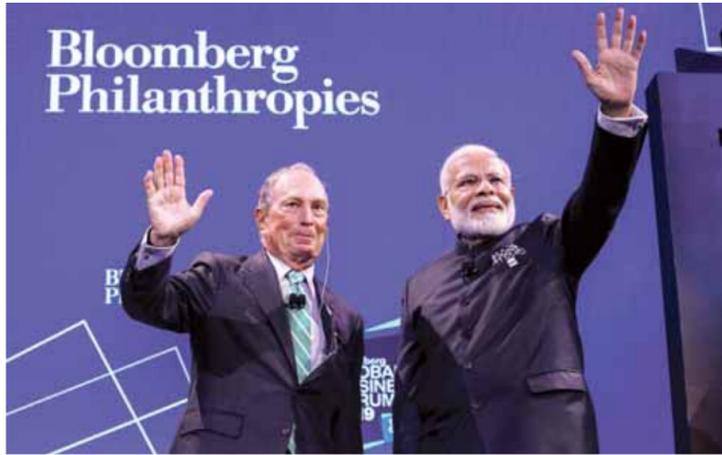
Modi promised to personally act as a bridge for businesses and said India has a Government which respects corporates and wealth creators.

"India's growth story has four important factors that are rare to find anywhere else in the world. These factors are democracy, demography, demand, and decisiveness. Democracy together with political stability, predictable policy and independent judiciary gives confidence of safety and security of investment and of growth," he said.

Speaking at the Bloomberg Global Business Forum here, he said last week's decision to slash corporate tax rate is a "big revolutionary step" for investment and the move has been hailed by businesses as historic.

The government last week announced a surprise reduction in the corporate tax rate from close to 35 per cent to 25.17 per cent, a move that is being dubbed as a massive trigger for revving up growth and, more importantly, resurrecting sentiments that were down in the dumps.

The immediate benefit is



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the CEO of Bloomberg, Michael Bloomberg, at Global Business Forum in New York on Wednesday

increased cash flows to corporate India that will be channelised into debt reduction or incremental investments in increasing capacity.

"If you want to invest in a market where there is scale, come to India," Modi said. "If you want to invest in a market where the latest trends and features are appreciated, come to India. If you want to invest in start-ups with a huge market, come to India. If you want to invest in one of the world's largest infrastructure ecosystems, come to India."

Asia's third largest economy is rapidly modernising its

cities, and equipping them with the latest technology and citizen-friendly infrastructure, the Prime Minister said.

"Thus if you want to invest in urbanisation, come to India," he said. "We have opened our defence sector like never before. If you want to Make in India, for India and for the world, come to India."

India, he said, is waiting for global investors. "India is your only destination. I am waiting to welcome you."

"Your desires and our dreams match perfectly. Your technology and our talent can change the world. Your scale

and our skills can speed up global economic growth," he said. "Your prudent method and our pragmatic mind can write new stories in management. Your rational ways and our human values can show the path which the world is looking for."

"And if there is any gap anywhere, I will personally act as a bridge," he said.

Modi said democracy and an English-based judicial system gives added confidence to investors as there would be no problem of interpretation.

The government is looking at investing ₹100 lakh crore in

building new airports, railway lines, electrification, laying new roads and giving houses to all. "Infrastructure is a priority," Modi emphasised.

"We have taken numerous decisions to increase investors confidence including scrapping of 50 old laws which were coming in way of development," he said. "This is just the beginning. We have a long innings ahead. The world business has a golden opportunity to partner with India."

Modi said his Government does not shy away from taking the biggest of steps to improve the business environment.

Continued on Page 4

## Modi 'Global Goalkeeper' for Swachhh India

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on Wednesday conferred "Global Goalkeeper" award by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the Swachhh Bharat Abhiyan.

In a series of tweets in Hindi, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said Modi lauded the countrymen for contributing to the grand success of the cleanliness mission, saying he shared the honour with them.

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## Centre plans to sell BPCL, CONCOR

### Centre mulls strategic disinvestment of several other PSUs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Modi Government plans to go for aggressive strategic disinvestment of several State-owned companies and also reduce its stakes in many other PSUs to raise funds to offset the massive revenue loss it undertook in announcing corporate tax cut. Shares of many of these companies surged despite a massive correction in Sensex on Wednesday.

According to a CNBC-TV 18 report, the Government has planned to sell its entire stake in BPCL, Container Corporation of India, THDC & NEEPCO. The proposal includes selling complete 75 per cent stake in THDC to NTPC.

In addition, the Government also plans to go for disinvestment of Power grid and raise ₹20,000 crore in two tranches.

Shares of Power Grid Corporation of India was up by 4.10 per cent, third straight day of gain to touch a 52-week high level after reports that the Government seeks stake sale in the firm in FY20 itself. CONCOR share rose by 3 per cent and SCI 2.89 per cent while BPCL saw double digit gain in



the last two days.

The Government has 53.29 per cent stake in BPCL, 54.79 per cent in CONCOR, 63.75 per cent in SCI, 75 per cent in THDC and 100 per cent stake in NEEPCO.

Meanwhile, the Government has already expressed its intent for 100 per cent stake sale in Air India.

Unlike in the past when the Government mostly went for selling its stake in the loss-making companies, the focus has now shifted to strategic disinvestment of profit-making companies. This is because finding a buyer for a loss making company was bound to be difficult exercise in a tough economic environment.

The Government will also not transfer its stake from one PSU to another in the name of disinvestment as was done in the case of ONGC acquisition of HPCL last year. As per its now disinvestment plan, the

Government will offload its entire stake to some private bidder in case of strategic disinvestment.

In her Budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had set a disinvestment target of ₹1.05 lakh crore for 2019-20. This was ₹15,000 crore more than the target of ₹90,000 crore set by Piyush Goyal as the interim FM in the interim Budget on February 1.

Disinvestment proceeds for FY19 stood at ₹85,000 crore, up 6.2 per cent from the Budget estimate of ₹80,000 crore.

The Government is now likely to seek Cabinet nod for these strategic disinvestment proposals and then appoint consultant and merchant bankers for arriving at valuations. After this, the Group of Ministers on disinvestment headed by the Finance Minister will finalise the bid price and open the floor for sell.

## CAPSULE

### NETANYAHU TO FORM NEW GOVT IN ISRAEL

**Jerusalem:** Israel's President on Wednesday tasked Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with forming a new Government after last week's deadlocked elections, his office announced.

### GOVT NAMES UNITY AWARD AFTER PATEL

**New Delhi:** The Government has instituted the highest civilian award for contribution to India's unity and integrity in the name of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

### YOGI ANNOUNCES ₹6K AID FOR TALAQ VICTIMS

**Lucknow:** UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday announced an annual assistance of ₹6,000 to the victims of triple talaq till their rehabilitation.

### JAISHANKAR: CANNOT TALK TO TERRORIST

**New York:** India has no problem talking to Pakistan but it has a problem talking to "Terroristan", External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said.

### 2 DALIT KIDS LYNCHED FOR OPEN DEFECATION IN MP

**Shivpuri:** Two Dalit children were beaten to death by some people for defecating in front of a panchayat building in MP's Shivpuri district on Wednesday.

## Will not bow down to Delhi takht, says Pawar

### Will go to ED office himself, cooperate in scam probe

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Unfazed by the Enforcement Directorate's move to register a money laundering case against him and others in the ₹25,000-crore Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSCB) scam, NCP president Sharad Pawar said on Wednesday that he would visit the ED's office on September 27 and give the investigating agency "whatever information" it needed in the case.

On a day when Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis distanced his Government from the ED investigations into the MSCB scam and denied there was any political vendetta behind the money laundering case registered against the NCP chief and others, Pawar played the



Nationalist Congress Party president Sharad Pawar addresses a Press conference in Mumbai on Wednesday

Maratha card, by saying, "Ours is a land of (Maratha warrior) Chhatrapati Shivaji. We have grown following Shivaji's ideology. We have ever been taught to bow before the Delhi takht (throne)."

Deftly blunting the ruling BJP's possible effort to use his alleged involvement in the MSCB scam as a weapon to sully him in the campaign for the October 21 Assembly polls, Pawar said he himself would go to the ED's office on Friday to "understand" as to what are the

charges against him.

Maintaining that he had neither heard anything officially from the ED nor had he received any notice from the investigating agency, the NCP chief said, "I want to understand what my crime is all about. Since I will be mostly away from Mumbai, campaigning for the next one month, I will personally visit the ED's office at 2 pm on Friday and provide whatever information they need."

Continued on Page 4

## Chinmayanand's rape victim put behind bars

### Student accused of extortion bids, sent to 14-day judicial custody

PNS ■ SHAHJAHANPUR

Hours before her bail plea was rejected, the law student who has accused former Union Minister Swami Chinmayanand of rape was arrested by the special investigation team (SIT) of Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday around 9.15 am. The SIT team swooped on her Shahjahanpur house and arrested her on charges of extortion.

Soon after the woman's arrest, her counsel Anoop Trivedi filed a bail plea that was to be heard in court later in the day. Assistant Prosecution Officer Lal Sahab said the plea was rejected by the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate.

Chinmayanand's own bail



The woman law student (face covered), who alleged BJP leader Chinmayanand of raping her, is seen outside a Government hospital after a medical examination in Shahjahanpur on Wednesday

application in the sexual assault case is coming up for hearing on Monday. The 23-year-old woman studied at a college run by the leader's ashram.

The BJP, meanwhile, disowned itself from the 72-year-old politician, saying he is not a party member. But it did not

specify when the he stopped being a BJP member.

"We have sufficient evidence that ₹5-crore extortion money was demanded from Chinmayanandi," SIT chief Inspector General Naveen Arora told reporters.

Continued on Page 4

## UNNAO CASE

### Rape survivor recovers, but to stay in AIIMS' hostel for week

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Unnao rape survivor was discharged on Wednesday from the AIIMS where she was admitted for treatment following a car accident. She and her family members, mother, two sisters and a brother, will stay at the hostel of the AIIMS' Jai Prakash Narayan Trauma Centre for a week on the directions of a Delhi court.

However, her advocate — also injured in the accident — is still recuperating in the hospital. Doctors will take a call on discharging him only after he recovers fully.

On the Supreme Court's order, her family has been provided CRPF security. The woman was brought to AIIMS from a Lucknow hospital on the orders of the SC. The girl was critically injured in ahead on collision of the car in which she was travelling along with her counsel with a truck in Rae Bareilly district on July 28.

Continued on Page 4

## Kejriwal extends 200 units free electricity to tenants

### NOC by landlord not required for separate meters

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday announced "Mukhyamantri Kirayedar Bijli Meter Yojana", under which tenants residing in Delhi will avail power subsidy paying no bills for electricity up to 200 units.

The AAP Government also provides 50 per cent subsidy on bills for power consumption between 201 units and 400 units. To avail power subsidy tenants will now get a prepaid meter using the rent agreement or rent receipt and the current



address ID proof.

Kejriwal said tenants till now were not able to get a separate power meter because they were required to take an NOC from the homeowner to get an independent connection.

"Now tenants will also get free electricity. The Mukhyamantri Kirayedar Bijli Meter Yojana extends the sub-

sidy to all tenants. 24 hours, cheap electricity is a right of every Delhiite," said Kejriwal. "It was a long-pending demand of tenants in Delhi. Tenants will have to get prepaid meter installed after depositing security money of ₹3,000," the CM said.

The cost of installing one meter will be around ₹6,000 out of which ₹3,000 will be the security deposit and ₹3000 will be the service charges for the installation work.

To make the installation process easier for the tenants, meters will now be delivered to their houses on call to the helpline numbers of power distribution companies — 19122 for BSES Yamuna, 19123 for BSES Rajdhani and 19124 for Tata Power.

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## Andaman & Nicobar may go under

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The residents of Andaman and Nicobar might not have contributed much in carbon emission, but the impact of the climate change resulting in the rise in sea level and increase in natural disasters like cyclones is set to threaten their survival.

Anjal Prakash, coordinating lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, has warned that rise in sea level and increase in climatic events like cyclones may leave the islands like Andaman and Nicobar uninhabitable in a few years and people would have to be evacuated from there. He stressed that the focus has to be on adaptation and building climate resilience.

The IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC) has cautioned that

warming of oceans will increase the frequency and severity of climatic events like cyclones in India.

"Islands like Andaman and Nicobar, Maldives, etc, will have to be vacated. People will have to be migrated from there as due to rising sea levels, these places will become non-inhabitable," Prakash said.

"Even with an under two-degree rise in global temperature, there will be sea level rise, glaciers will melt and many communities will be affected. Some of these events are irreversible. So focus has to be on adaptation for the coming future," said Prakash, who is also an associate professor of Regional Water Studies at TERI School of Advanced Studies.

The Andaman and Nicobar islands are already struggling with waste generation and disposal, negative acculturation, sprouting economies and problems of



drug and alcohol addictions.

All this is creating challenges for the 3,80,000 people who live on the archipelago, more than a quarter of them in the capital, Port Blair, according to data from the last nationwide census in 2011.

The report also painted a grim picture of the future that awaits the Hindu Kush Himalayan region, an area covering high mountains chains of central, south and inner Asia. It noted that the region faces the risk of losing over 60 per

cent of its glaciers by 2100. It said that glacier retreat and snow cover changes have already contributed to localised declines in agricultural yields in high mountain regions, including Hindu Kush Himalaya.

Continued on Page 4

# Prakhar vans to reduce street crimes

## Single emergency helpline number 112 launched

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Now dial 112 for police assistance and emergency in the national Capital. G Kishan Reddy, Minister of State for Home Affairs on Wednesday launched Delhi Police single emergency helpline number 112, replacing the old — 100, 101 and 102 — for immediate assistance. The Minister also flagged off 'Prakhar' vans to control street crimes in national Capital.

According to S K Singh, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Operations and Communications, the citizens of Delhi can avail the facility of all these three emergency services by dialing a single number '112'.

"With the implementation of new Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112), the police response time is reduced tremendously. In this new system, the call simultaneously passes to Police Control Room (PCR) as well as to at least nearby five persons

through mobile app which are volunteers to help the people in need. The main Call Centre has been setup at Shalimar Bagh," said the DCP. "Delhi Police have also inducted 15 Scorpios with modern devices for extensive patrolling in street crime prone areas of Delhi. These Prakhar Vans will initially be deployed at 15 crime prone locations and will be increased further as per the requirements of Delhi," said the DCP.

Speaking on the occasion, Amulya Patnaik, the Delhi Commissioner of Police underlined that ERSS-112 is a flagship project of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and it will expand the grievance redressal system of police and other civic agencies.

"It will prove to be a big step in the long run. Over the years, Delhi Police has taken several steps such as identifying vulnerable spots, enhanced visibility, anti-snatching squads, all-women patrolling and YUVA scheme etc. resulting in



MoS Home G Kishan Reddy flags off emergency response vehicles to control street crime in the city. Delhi Police Commissioner AK Patnaik is also in the frame

decline of over 20 percent in street crime like snatching and robberies," said CP.

"Prakhar street crime control patrol vans were conceptualized under 'Safe City Project' to curb street crime. Prakhar vans are different from PCRs as these vans carry more

firepower and are equipped with modern technology. Initially one van will be deployed in each district," said the CP.

Reddy commended the efforts of Delhi Police in launching ERSS-112 and Prakhar vans and said that the

# Man lures 14-yr-old with gift in upscale society, rapes her

STAFF REPORTER ■ GURUGRAM

A 14-year-old girl, who is a student of a reputed school in Gurugram, was allegedly raped by a lift engineer in an upscale society located at DLF Phase-2. Police have arrested the accused who was absconding after the crime.

The matter was reported to police on Tuesday. Police took the girl for medical examination where the report confirmed rape. The victim's mother filed a complaint against Arun Sharma (21) of Sonapat district. The accused is currently living in Patel Nagar, Gurugram.

The complainant stated in her police complaint that "on September 23 she had gone to Delhi for personal work. During this time, her neighbour called her and informed about her daughter's condition." Soon, she returned to her flat where the victim revealed her ordeal to her mother.



She said Arun, who used to work as a lift engineer in the society, called her on the pretext of giving her a gift and took her to the roof of society in the lift.

"There the boy forcefully raped her and gave her a medicine and ran away from the spot," said the complainant.

Thereafter her health deteriorated and later the victim was admitted to a private hospital for treatment.

After committing the crime, the accused threatened the victim of dire consequences if she revealed the incident to anyone.

However, the victim revealed the incident to her

mother and the matter was reported to the police.

"The accused was arrested from Patel Nagar in old Gurugram," the police said.

"During the investigation, the accused revealed that he knew the girl as he used to work as a lift engineer in the society about 3 months ago. At present, the accused was working in a private company in Manesar.

On Monday around 7 pm, he called the girl on the pretext of giving her a gift and took her to the roof of the society via lift and raped her," woman Sub-Inspector Mukesh said.

"A case under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) has been registered against the accused at the DLF Phase-2 Police Station. The culprit was produced before the local court on Wednesday which sent him to judicial custody. The minor survivor is being counselled," the officer added.

# Firm booked for supplying ₹9 cr faulty traffic signals

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has registered a cheating case

against a Delhi-based firm for duping the Traffic Police in the national Capital of ₹9 crore by supplying it with faulty traffic signals and speed violation check camera systems.

According to a senior police official, Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police has registered the FIR on Monday against Turbo Consultancy Private Limited on a complaint filed by the Delhi Traffic Police.

"Based on enquiry it was observed that the contract of installing and maintaining red light and speed violation check camera systems was awarded to M/s Turbo consultancy private limited for 10 years by Delhi Police," said the senior police official.

"But it was found that the after sometime equipments remained idle or unutilized as they needed maintenance and repair. From 2000 to 2017, the company could neither provide the traffic police department with the right equipment nor could carry out any maintenance and repair work," said the police official adding that most of the purchased equipment lay unused and soon turned into waste.

# Manhunt for bike-borne shooters as realtor's murder in Dwarka viral

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A video of a 48-year-old property dealer, who was gunned down in his car right outside his office in Delhi's Dwarka area, went viral on social media.

The man identified as Narendra Gehlot was shot dead by an unidentified man on Tuesday evening. Police said they are investigating the incident with all angles including the personal enmity.

According to a senior police official, the incident was reported around 6.30 pm on Tuesday at the Old Palam Vihar road in Dwarka.

The whole incident was captured in CCTV camera installed nearby.

In video, Narendra is seen sitting on driver side of the SUV and talking to a person. After a few seconds a man wearing a helmet walked up to the car after the other person left the spot.

The man wearing helmet started pumping bullets into the car's windshield and

through the window on the driver's side.

An effort to escape the assassination bid is also seen as Narendra tried to drive his car but then it veered and stopped in its tracks, almost hitting the killer, who then jumped up on the roof of another parked car.

In sheer desperation to save himself, Narendra got out of his car and ran towards his office but the man fired some more bullets on Narendra, which pierced through his body. The bullet hit on his chest which proved fatal. The criminal fled the spot unchallenged.

"Police have CCTV footage and they are also scanning others CCTV cameras in the area to identify the criminals and trace them.

There were two bike borne criminals and both of them were wearing sporty helmets. Narendra had fought the Delhi civic polls and a case of attempt to murder was also registered against him," said a police official privy to investigation.

# NDMC secy bags Smart City award in Bengaluru



NDMC secretary Rashmi Singh receives Smart City award in a function on Wednesday

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Secretary of New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) Dr Rashmi Singh received the 'Smart City' award at a function held at Bengaluru on Wednesday.

According to a NDMC official the award is given for mobile application for city centric services delivery under "smart cit-

izen service delivery" and "smart metering solution" under "Smart Energy" categories.

These awards were presented by Anjum Parwez, Principal Secretary, Urban Development department, Government of Karnataka and Kunal Kumar, Joint secretary and mission director (Smart city mission) MOHUA, Government of India.

# Auto driver flashes in front of students at JNU campus, held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested a 27-year-old auto-rickshaw driver, who had allegedly flashed and masturbated in front of three students of the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). Police said the incident occurred on late Tuesday night at gate no-1 of the University campus and the accused was arrested on the spot. The accused has been identified as Akhilesh Kumar, who hails from Uttar Pradesh's Kannauj and was presently living in Delhi.

According to a senior police official, around 10 pm on Tuesday, three students of JNU were on their way to hostel when they saw a man outside gate no-1 of the JNU campus, who had unzipped his trousers and was flashing at them.

"While the accused started to masturbate in front of them, one of the girls raised alarm following which security guards deputed at gate came and caught hold of the accused while he was trying to flee," said the senior police official.

"After nabbing the man, a police control room (PCR) call was made following which a police team reached the spot. On the basis of the statement given by the victim a First Information Report (FIR) has been registered at Kishangarh Police Station and accused has been arrested," said the senior police official.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the Public that SMC stating legal heirs of Late Mr. Ram Kumar in respect of Property Bearing No. C-57 & C-58, Measuring 153.84 Sq.Mtrs., Situated at Mansa Ram Park, in Block C, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi has been Lost / Misplaced. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing SMC. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 7 days of the present.

For Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, Second Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, New Delhi-15 Ph : 011-4112527-28 kumarassociates.advocate@gmail.com

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COMPANY NOTICE BANNARI AMMAN SUGARS LIMITED Registered Office: 1212, TRICHY ROAD, COIMBATORE 641 018.

Notice is hereby given that share certificates No. 103184 (Distinctive Nos from 5973555 TO 5973604, Folio No.-R0005692) for 50 Shares issued by the company to Ms RADHIKA BAHIL and Mr. AJAY BAHIL is reported lost or misplaced or stolen and the Registered holder thereof has applied to the company for issue of duplicate share certificate. The public are hereby warned against purchasing or dealing in any way with the above share certificate. Any person who has any claim in respect of the above share certificate should lodge complaint with the company at its registered office at the address given above within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice after which no claim will be entertained and the company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificate. For BANNARI AMMAN SUGARS LIMITED C Palaniswamy (Company Secretary) Place: New Delhi Date: 26/9/2019

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# 3 members of Dheelu gang arrested after encounter

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Wednesday morning arrested three members of infamous Dheelu gang after an exchange of gunfire in Delhi's Dhansa-Najafgarh road. Police said the trio were wanted in more than 8 cases of extortion, robbery, car-jacking and attempt to murder registered across the national Capital.

The accused have been identified as Pramod and Nishant, both residents of Delhi's Bawana and Surjeet, a resident of Rohtak in Haryana.

According to Sanjeev Kumar Yadav, the Deputy



Special Cell sleuths at the encounter site in Najafgarh area

Commissioner of Police (DCP), Special Cell, on September 25 specific inputs were received that Surjeet and Parmod along with one more criminal will be coming to their hideout in South Delhi and they would be coming from the Dhansa-Najafgarh road.

"Acting on the inputs a trap was laid and when the accused were seen coming, they were asked by the police team to surrender but they opened fire at the police team. Two of the accused sustained gunshot

injuries during the exchange of gunfire. The injured are stated to be stable and they are undergoing treatment at the hospital," said the DCP.

"The car used by the accused has been seized and three firearms along with ammunition have been recovered from the possession of the accused," said the DCP.

"Pramod was wanted in over nine different cases including attempt to murder, extortion and robbery. He was the prime shooter involved in the escape of Sandeep from police custody in 2018. Surjeet was earlier sentenced to seven years in a case which was registered in Haryana," said the DCP.

# Havells, TPDDL sign MoU to ensure safety against hazards of electricity



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In order to ensure safety of users against hazards of electric leakage, TATA Power - DDL and Havells India signed an MoU (Memorandum of understanding) to strengthen the distribution of electrical protection devices in North and North-Western parts of Delhi.

Sanjay Banga, CEO of TPDDL said, "The discom is committed to consumer safety and has joined hands with Havells to drastically reduce the electricity related accidents which result in loss of life and property," he said. "I urge all consumers to install a suitable device for earth leakage protection at their homes or premises. To further reinforce the need of electricity safety, the discom will also be sensitizing consumers and arranging for trainings of local electricians on the importance and implementation of safe technology," he added.

Earth Leakage Circuit Breaker (ELCBs) is extremely

critical in ensuring human safety as they protect us from current leakage, a senior discom official said, adding that today we are surrounded by electrical devices and most of us are not aware about the hazards that come along due to lack of proper protection devices not being used.

Delhi has recorded maximum electrical related fatalities over the last decade. Deploying 'Miniature Circuit Breakers' (MCB) is the most common practice that is followed to ensure protection of electrical devices from short circuit and overload.

However, MCB does not ensure safety of the users when it comes to current leakage. As per the Regulatory Guidelines (DERC) ELCB are a must as no new connection will be energized in Delhi unless a suitable earth leakage protection device has been installed at consumer premises. The official further informed that the electrical leakage circuit breaker (ELCB) will be made available across all 12 Tata Power-DDL Customer Care Centers at subsidized price from Oct. 1 2019 onwards.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Supriya Sukhija is the Owner of Entire Second Floor, (the said floor) of Property No. E-226, measuring 250 Sq.yds., Situated at Greater Kailash Part-II, New Delhi, vide a Sale Deed Dated 31.07.19 Registration No. 5389, the above mentioned owner want to take a loan against the said floor from our client. All persons are hereby informed that if anyone has any objection over the ownership and its title kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 7 days of the present.

For Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, Second Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, New Delhi-15 Ph : 011-4112527-28 kumarassociates.advocate@gmail.com

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the Public that SMC stating legal heirs of Late Mrs. Raj kaur in respect of Property No. WZ-263/262-B, 75 Sq.yds., part of Plot No. 262, 150 Sq.yds., Situated at Vishnu Garden Extn. New Delhi has been Lost / misplaced. Who further sold First Floor to Mrs. Amarjeet Kaur & Mrs. Beena Devi vide Sale Deed Dated 26.09.2014. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing SMC. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the below mentioned address within 7 days of the present.

For Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, Second Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, New Delhi-15 Ph : 011-4112527-28 kumarassociates.advocate@gmail.com

### PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mr. Harish Kumar Sharma is the registered owner of Freehold Residential Plot No. F-537, measuring 90.04 Sq.Mtrs, situated in the colony known as Indraprastha Awasiya Yojna, Ghaziabad, U.P. by virtue of Sale Deed dated 08.12.2017 registered as Document No. 43668 who had lost the Original Reservation cum Allotment Letter dated 18.07.2004 and now my client Mr. Harish Kumar Sharma intends to sell the said property to Mr. Pramod Kumar Sharma, if any body found the same may return to the undersigned, if anybody misuses the same, the same shall be at his/her/their own risk. If any body has any claim, right, interest in the said flat shall also inform within 15 days to the undersigned on Telephone No. 011-24324137, 9953683363 & 9811163363.

Karnail Singh & Co. K-8, LGF, Basement, Jungpura Extn, New Delhi

### PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to all concerned that Sh. Brahm Singh S/o Shri Bhagwan Das R/o village & P.O. Bilsuri, Bulandshahr, U.P. who was the original allottee of Residential Plot No. A-16, Sector-49, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, J.P., had executed a Registered Will in favour of Mrs. Aka W/o Shri Sanjeev Kumar R/o 320-B, Pocket-C, Mayur Vihar, Phase-II, Delhi-91, which is registered in the Sub-Registrar-VII, New Delhi / Delhi, on dated 02.08.2006, at Registration No. 801, in Book No. 3, Volume No. 491, Pages 148 to 147. Sh. Brahm Singh S/o Shri Bhagwan Das died on 17.11.2012. So it is informed to all concerned that the said plot is going to be transferred in favour of Mrs. Aka W/o Shri Sanjeev Kumar R/o 320-B, Pocket-C, Mayur Vihar, Phase-II, Delhi-91, on basis of Registered Will. If any one has/have any objection he/she may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Residential (Plot) Department of Noida Authority within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. Mrs. Aka

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS									
The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No. VIII, Irrigation & Flood Control Deptt., Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sector- 15, Rohini, Delhi invites online Item Rate E-tenders on behalf of the President of India from approved and eligible contractors of I&FC Deptt. The contractors who are registered with other Departments but granted provisional permission by the Chief Engineer (I&FC) are also eligible for participation of e-tendering for the following works:-									
Sr. No.	NIT No.	Name of Work	Head of Account	Estimate Cost (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed	Tender ID No	Last date & time for submission of Price Bid.	
5	EE/CD-VIII/2019-20/14 (2nd Call)	Providing and fixing outdoor exercise fitness equipments (Open Gym) at village Savada in Mundka Assembly Constituency.	4217 Plan	15,25,910	30,518	03 Months	2019_IFC_180327_1	03.10.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs.	
6	EE/CD-VIII/2019-20/15 (2nd Call)	Providing and fixing outdoor exercise fitness equipments (Open Gym) at village Tatesar in Mundka Assembly Constituency.	4217 Plan	26,69,245	57,385	04 Months	2019_IFC_180334_1	03.10.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs.	
7	EE/CD-VIII/2019-20/50	Development of Pond near Mandir in Ghewra in Kanjhawala Block.	4515 Plan	45,11,903	90,238	04 Months	2019_IFC_180337_1	03.10.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs.	

1. The enlistment of the contractors should be valid on the last date of opening of tenders. In case, 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. Earnest money in physical form and self attested copy of Registration of enlistment & other documents (eg. ESI & EPF registration, copy of PAN card, Copy of VAT documents) should be submitted in the Office of Executive Engineer, Civil Division-VIII, I&FC Deptt., Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110085 before the last date and time of submission of technical bids.

3. The details of above mentioned work(s) can be seen and downloaded from the website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

4. The agencies who do not fulfil eligibility criteria/ do not submit required documents upto the stipulated time, their tenders shall be rejected summarily at technical bid stage.

5. Tenders submitted through e-procurement portal shall only be considered and no manual tender shall be accepted. 6. Intending tenders participating in tendering process in EE CD-VIII, I&FC shall furnish ESI & EPF registration along with other required documents and the same shall be uploaded while bidding. Moreover the ESI & EPF registration documents of all contractors shall be kept on records and ESI & EPF registration documents of lowest tenderer to whom the award shall form the part of the agreement. (I&FC department office order No.1417-48 dated 29.01.2016).

Sd/-  
(J. NARENDER SAGAR)  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER-CD-VIII

DIP/Shabdarth/0716/19-20

# 25 buses with hydraulic lifts for divyang arrive

GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI

In a major relief to the commuters especially the physically disabled persons, another set of 25 semi standard floor buses with hydraulic lifts for handicapped persons have arrived in Rani Kheda depot under 'cluster bus scheme'. In a first of its kind, these buses will have three doors along with the unique features. Out of these, two gates will be usual to enter and exit but the remaining one is completely dedicated for persons with disability and senior citizens persons and are fitted with hydraulic lifts.

According to officials, 50 more buses are awaited in this month. Delhi is the first city in the country to have buses with hydraulic lift facility. The 25 buses were delivered at the Rani Kheda bus depot on Tuesday. Manufactured by Tata Motors, these buses will start plying by the next month i.e. October.

It may be noted that the 25 buses that were rolled out in the first phase with hydraulic lifts were manufactured by Ashoka Leyland. These buses were also

Standard Floor buses (SFB) with Hydraulic Lifts to facilitate differently abled passengers and senior citizens	
Scheme	Cluster services
No. of buses arrived	25
Exiting SFB buses	25
Total no. of buses in Delhi	5500 (1679 under cluster services)
Unique features-	3 doors (entry, exit and a door with lifts), CCTV cameras, panic buttons with hooters, GPS tracking, anti vandalism seats
Target	1000 buses by Jan 2020

procured under the same scheme but these have two gates and hydraulic lifts were fitted in the back door.

"Another 245 buses are awaited at Rani Kheda depot. These buses have three doors with hydraulic lifts fitted in the middle one door which will be used only when a differently-abled person or a senior citizen will board the buses. The conductors will be trained to operate the lifts. Although, operating the hydraulic lifts are not that difficult," said a transport official.

The Delhi Transport

Department has floated tender for procuring a total number of 1000 Standard Floor Buses with Hydraulic lifts, which is expected to arrive in lots. According to the government, Delhi will get these 1000 buses by January 2020.

Besides, these buses will have CCTV Cameras, panic buttons with hooter, GPS units for tracking of bus, Anti-vandalism seats for safety and security of the passengers especially for women.

Currently, there are 5500 buses in the National Capital out of which 1679 buses come



Disabled persons friendly buses were handed over to Rani Kheda bus depot

Pioneer photo

under Cluster Scheme and induction of the remaining buses was delayed primarily due to non-availability of bus depot space. The last tender under Cluster Scheme was released on 07.01.2011 and the Contract was signed on 20.06.2013. New buses are being brought in Delhi after a gap of more than six years.

The 1,000 new buses will be catering to rural area in Delhi which was facing shortage of buses so far. Additional routes providing connectivity to Metro Stations, hospitals and traffic interchange hubs at Inter State Bus Terminals at Kashmere Gate, Anand Vihar Terminal and Sarai Kalen Khan will be served by these buses.

The cost of fitment of lifts is being borne by the Delhi government.

Further, the transport department has created depot space at Rewla Khanpur, Dwarka Sector-22, Kharkhari Nahar, Bawana Sector-1 and Rani Kheda -I, II and III, from where these 1000 new buses will be operated.

# Deputy CM Sisodia invited to share happiness curriculum concept with B'desh teachers

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Bangladesh Minister for Primary Education Zakir Hussain on Wednesday invited Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia to visit his country and share the concept of "happiness curriculum" with teachers and students there.

"We will review this programme and take the benefits from this. I am moved by the active participation from students, teachers and parents alike. We are focussed towards providing quality education to our children. I invite the deputy CM to come to my country and share the good things of this curriculum amongst my children too," he said.

Hussain, the Minister of State for Primary and Mass Education, on Wednesday visited a Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya (RPVV) in Shalimar Bagh with a team of delegates from Bangladesh.



"We are targeting kids from nursery class itself and reserving 45 minutes of their time daily for the happiness class. This is to ensure that the kids grow up to be more emotionally sound and become more focussed towards their studies. We have got positive results on this. The minds of the student don't wander anymore. They are giving more respect to their kids are giving more respect to their families," said Sisodia, who is also Delhi's Education minister.

The two ministers also discussed about the entrepreneurship curriculum. The Delhi government celebrated a 15-day "Happiness Utsav" in its schools to mark one year of the launch of the curriculum.

# CM informs L-G about Govt's plan to implement odd-even

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday met the Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Anil Bajjal at the Raj Niwas and apprised him about the decision of the Delhi Government to implement the odd-even transport scheme from November 4-15 this year.

"The Chief Minister informed the L-G about the need to implement the odd-even scheme when Delhi will be facing a challenge to maintain its air quality due to stubble burning from neighbouring states and crackers bursting during the Diwali season," said an official.

Kejriwal also requested the L-G to direct the departments under his jurisdiction to ensure inter-departmental coordination with the Delhi government departments to ensure hassle-



Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal meets Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal and apprised about the measures taken for Odd-Even scheme

Pioneer photo

free implementation of the odd-even scheme to make it a success like Delhi had witnessed in 2016, when this unique scheme was implemented for the first time.

"Discussed measures to reduce air pollution and congestion in Delhi. Requested to explore amongst other measures, option of staggered opening/closing hours of offices & other establishments to reduce congestion and resultant air pollution," the L-G tweeted.

The Chief Minister wrote on Twitter, "Met LG Anil Bajjal and briefed him about the steps planned by Delhi govt to reduce air pollution, including Odd Even. He assured us of his support and suggested that opening/closing hours of offices be staggered. The Govt will definitely implement this.

# Min conducts surprise inspection of taxi meter recalibration

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Minister Imran Hussain on Wednesday conducted a surprise inspection of Taxi Meter Unit of Legal Metrology Department in Wazirpur Industrial Area to check the functioning of recalibration work of Taxi Fare Meter being undertaken by the Department consequent upon the Government's decision to revise auto fares in Delhi.

Recalibration of Auto Fare Meters is undertaken in the Auto Taxi Meter Unit of Legal Metrology Department after the decision of review of auto fares. The decision was to provide a relief to the auto rickshaw drivers who were earlier had to travel far to the other part of the city i.e., Nangloi.

During the inspection, Minister expressed satisfaction over the functioning of TMU Unit.

He further directed the Secretary (LM),

Controller (LM), Zonal Officer and Junior Metrology Assistant that the Public Notices for the convenience of Auto rickshaw drivers and general public should be prominently displayed. Even the Schedule for auto rickshaws calibration should be properly displayed.

Witnessing filthy and insanitary conditions at the Wazirabad office premises, Hussain directed the concerned Zonal officers/officials to remove insanitary conditions and maintain cleanliness in the office premises.

"During inspection, Minister inspected the procedure of recalibration done for the auto fare meters. Minister directed that the Department must ensure that auto fare meters are properly and correctly recalibrated and under no circumstance any defective meter be allowed to be calibrated. If any such instance of issuance of defective calibrated meter comes into the notice, strict action will be taken against the guilty officers/offi-



Food and Civil Supplies Minister Imran Hussain during surprise inspection at Wazirabad Industrial area

Pioneer photo

cial," said a Government official.

The officials further added that the minister will take all

necessary actions and measures for ensuring the convenience of auto rickshaw drivers and will conduct more inspec-

tions in future so as to ensure that proper and smooth functioning of Auto Taxi Meter Unit.

# Cong slams AAP, BJP over soaring onion prices

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Blaming shortsightedness and complicity of the AAP (Aam Aadmi Party) and the BJP that led to soaring prices of onions in the national Capital, Delhi Congress on Wednesday said the Government trying to fool the people by saying that there is shortage of onion in the city the situation will be brought under control in ten days.

Congress working presidents Haroon Yusuf, Devender Yadav and Rajesh Lilothia in a joint Press conference said that onions supply from Gujarat and Rajasthan would start arriving in Delhi within ten days and the prices would automatically start falling. "The consumption of onion comes down by 60 per cent during Navaratra and that would also



lead to slump in the demand for onions," they added.

Yusuf said that when the Congress Government was in power, it used to take advance steps to ensure that there would no shortage of onions in the Capital at any time. He said that when the supply of onions from the traditional sources becomes dearer, the Congress

Government used to buy onions even from Tamilnadu to ensure that there was ever any shortage of onions when Congress was in power in Delhi for 15 years.

"The Modi Government at the Centre and the Kejriwal Government in Delhi were in league and they were making people queue up for every-

thing even for onions. NAFED has a stock of 50,000 tons of onions, which was bought when the price of onion was Rs 8 per kg, but was now selling these onions to wholesalers and hoarders, leading to the present soaring prices and shortage of onions in Delhi," he said.

Lilothia said that the Congress workers in Delhi will hold a "Chhalawa Diwas" outside the residence of Kejriwal on Thursday for not fulfilling the promises made to the sanitation workers. He said that in the last four and a half years, Kejriwal, who had made many promises to the sanitation workers by promising a hike in their wages and an end to the contract system, not only did not fulfill any of the promises he made to the sanitation workers.

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday said if the National Register of Citizens (NRC) is implemented in the national Capital, BJP president Manoj Tiwari will be the first to leave the city.

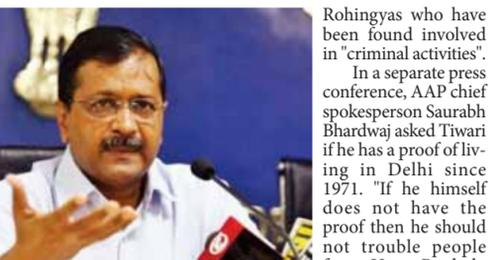
However, Tiwari said the remark has exposed Kejriwal's "real face" and alleged that the AAP chief wants to evict migrants such as 'Purvanchalis'. 'Purvanchalis' are people from the eastern parts of the country such as Bihar and east Uttar Pradesh and they play an important role in any election in Delhi.

Responding to a question at a Press conference, Kejriwal said, "If NRC is implemented in Delhi, Manoj Tiwari will be the first to leave Delhi."

Tiwari, who is the MP from north-east Delhi, also claimed that Kejriwal "wants to remove people from (West) Bengal, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and other states in Delhi".

"Does Kejriwal, who is an IRS (Indian Revenue Service) officer, does not know what NRC is? It seems Kejriwal has lost his mental balance," Tiwari said during a Facebook Live interaction.

"This statement exposes Kejriwal's real face. It means he wants to evict the migrants like Purvanchalis from Delhi," he said, adding that "I have criticised him (Kejriwal) for his policies but I never abused him".



In the past, the BJP MP has on several occasions demanded that NRC should be implemented in the national capital on the lines of Assam.

Last month, Tiwari had said the situation in Delhi had become "dangerous" due to the presence of a "large number" of illegal immigrants including Bangladeshis and

Rohingyas who have been found involved in "criminal activities".

In a separate press conference, AAP chief spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj asked Tiwari if he has a proof of living in Delhi since 1971. "If he himself does not have the proof then he should not trouble people from Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Bihar who have come to Delhi looking for employment opportunities," Bhardwaj told reporters.

Bhardwaj further claimed that the three BJP leaders - Tiwari, Vijender Gupta and Vijay Goel - keep competing with each other for giving statements, which is a clear sign of infighting in the party.

# Vardhan disapproves reintroduction of vehicle rationing scheme

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan on Wednesday disapproved Delhi Government's move to reintroduce the odd-even traffic rationing scheme, citing absence of any scientific rationale behind it.

Instead, he said, "We would deploy around 50 Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) teams to take readings of major pollutants... Would inform the Delhi government and notify them on our website."

Vardhan who was long back Delhi's Environment Minister too said that on one hand Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal claims that the air quality has improved in the national capital, on the other hand he is resorting to drastic measures like odd-even, which will be in effect from November 4 to 15.



ment Minister and I know what steps are to be taken according to Graded Response Action Plan," Vardhan said in response to a question at an event on Tuesday.

"Now, on one hand you (Kejriwal) are making noise that Delhi's air quality has improved and on the other hand, you are implementing the odd-even scheme. There is neither any science behind it nor has the air quality deteriorated to the level that you implement odd-even," he

added. GRAP, devised by the CPCB, ensures stringent actions are taken based on the air quality. Under it, the odd-even scheme should come into effect when the pollution level at 'severe plus' category persists for 48 hours or more.

On September 13, Kejriwal had said that air pollution in Delhi had come down by 25 per cent in the last four years. The chief minister had also announced that the odd-even scheme will return in the national capital to combat high levels of pollution in winters when crop burning takes place in neighbouring states.

Vardhan said as the Union environment minister, he has conducted campaigns that spanned over 15 days. "We would deploy around 50 CPCB teams to take readings of major pollutants... Would inform the Delhi government and notify them on our website," he said.

# Formulate guidelines to regulate banquet halls: NGT to Govt

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal has directed the AAP government to formulate guidelines for the regulation of banquet halls in the national capital. A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel said the violation of environment norms is having adverse impact on environment and public health cannot be ignored.

"The Delhi government may also have consultation with the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and within a broad framework of pan India Guidelines, Delhi government can have its own guidelines to suit the local requirements to mitigate the adverse impact on environment and public health in the light of the orders already passed by the tribunal," the bench said in a recent order.

The tribunal made it clear that it is not concerned with the individual cases involved which may be dealt with as per the guidelines and mechanism to be laid down by the CPCB.



The Delhi government told the tribunal that noise regulatory mechanism has been evolved, norms for waste disposal and installation of CCTV cameras and GPS have been laid down, sewage management and air pollution control measures plan.

"The action plan also covers regulation of extraction of groundwater, rainwater harvesting, regulation of size of

gatherings and action against unauthorised establishments and recovery of environmental compensation," the NGT noted.

The NGT had earlier directed forfeiture of performance guarantee of ₹5 crore deposited by the Delhi government, expressing dissatisfaction with its compliance report on illegal banquet halls, farmhouses and hotels here.

Noting that the report furnished by the Delhi government on illegal banquets and restaurants operating in Mahipalpur and Rajokri was "not exhaustive", the NGT had said it does not properly address the issues raised by it.

The tribunal was hearing a plea filed by Westend Green Farms Society alleging that banquets and marriage halls operating in Mahipalpur and Rajokri near Indira Gandhi International Airport were causing vehicular congestion and environment pollution.

The applicant, a society of 170 residential farm houses at Rajokri, is aggrieved by violation of environmental laws by commercial establishments operating as restaurants, hotels, motels or banquets, along the National Highway No. 8 Expressway (Delhi-Jaipur), in the vicinity of the petitioner.

It said the activities of the said establishments cause massive traffic congestion on account of unauthorised parking of vehicles and huge gatherings for weddings or other functions.

# 3 arrested for burglary in four Dwarka shops

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested a man while two juveniles have been detained for their involvement in the incidents burglaries at four shops in Dwarka area.

The accused — Saddam was arrested while the two juveniles aged 16 and 17 were detained from Dwarka area. Police said that raids are being conducted to trace the fourth accused involved in the burglaries.

According to a senior police official, the incidents took place on the intervening night of September 23 and 24. The accused broke open the shutters of the four shops located in sector-10 market area of Dwarka and ransacked the premises. "In the CCTV footage, Saddam, resident of Begusarai (Bihar) and other accused were seen breaking the shutters of the shops," a police official said.

# Rajnath reminds Pak of its 1971 break-up

**Jaipur:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday reminded Islamabad about the break-up of Pakistan and the creation of Bangladesh, warning that something similar could happen in PoK if it did not mend its ways.

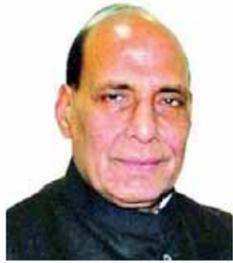
Do not repeat the "mistake", he said here. "Pakistan broke up in 1971 — Pakistan and Bangladesh were formed. I am saying do not repeat the mistake, or else understand clearly what will happen to PoK," he said.

Singh made the reference to the 1971 War, fought when Indira Gandhi was Prime Minister, during an event at Dhankya village in the memory of RSS ideologue Deen Dayal Upadhyay.

"We do not accept the existence of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). Pakistan has kept it forcibly occupied and therefore, even today, 24 seats have been kept vacant for PoK in the Jammu & Kashmir Assembly and I will not say beyond this," Singh said.

He said India was "very careful" while taking action against terror camps in Balakot across the border after the Pulwama attack.

It was not an attack on Pakistan's army or a challenge to the sovereignty of Pakistan, he added.



But he warned that he cannot predict "what will happen next" if the current situation continued.

He said the BJP does politics for nation building and by revoking the special status to Jammu & Kashmir under Article 370 and 35-A, it showed that there is no difference in what the party says and does. But the neighbouring country does not understand this, he added.

Speaking about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Howdy, Modi' event in Houston where he addressed a rally of thousands of Indian-Americans along with US President Donald Trump, Singh said it made every Indian proud.

"You must have seen 'Howdy, Modi' on TV. Did not it swell your chest with pride?" Singh asked. He said the sense

of pride one would feel when PM Modi "with a 56-inch chest" and Trump, the President of the "most powerful" country, clasped hands and walked across the stage was similar among Indians

when Swami Vivekananda made the speech in Chicago in 1893.

He said the Modi government was committed for overall development of the country and its people while following the principles of Deen Dayal Upadhyay.

Upadhyay in his Ekam Manavud (integral humanism) had said the Government should ensure that citizens should have money in order to fulfil physical needs, honour respect and self esteem, knowledge and understanding, the Defence Minister said.

He said the banks were nationalised earlier during the Congress regime and it was argued that the move was aimed at benefiting the poor.

"But the real advantage to the poor was given by the Modi government through Jan Dhan Yojna, which was a kind of revolution," Singh said. He said the Modi government was committed for the nation's development and dedicated to the poor and took steps for their upliftment and for protecting their honour. **PTI**

# ₹400 cr GST fraud in NCR unearthed

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Goods and Services Tax Intelligence (DGGI) has unearthed a scam in which exporters from the National Capital Region (NCR) allegedly availed Goods and Services Tax (GST) refund of ₹400 crore in connivance with units in Gujarat's Kandla Special Economic Zone (SEZ).

This is a major detection of export fraud coupled with fraudulent ITC refunds though SEZ based units. This investigation is an outcome of specific intelligence input which was further refined by rigorous analysis of data available on the GST Network and the E-way Bill system.

According to Additional DG, GST Intelligence, Vivek Prasad, the scam was centred around low grade tobacco products like scented 'zarda' (partially fermented tobacco) and filter 'khaini' (chewing tobacco)

procured at ₹50-350 per kilogram being exported to Kandla SEZ units at Rs 5000-

9000 per kg. The exporters then claimed Rs 400 crore refund of accumulated Input Tax Credit (ITC), the release said, adding that the conspiracy was hatched by 20 export firms from NCR and some units located in Kandla SEZ in Gandhidham in Kutch district

"The modus operandi indicates a huge over-valuation, to the extent of 3000 per cent, of the market value of goods exported to the SEZ and claiming of refund of Input Tax Credit through fraudulent means," said a statement issued by the DG GST Intelligence, Ahmedabad.

The DGGI has identified over 25 suppliers in Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh who, without supply of goods, issued fake invoices of more than Rs 1000 crore to the NCR-based exporters to facilitate refunds, it said.

These suppliers are either non-existent or are being indirectly controlled by the exporters, it added.

"To give legitimacy to the sham transactions, low value

goods manufactured in Noida or procured locally in Delhi have been dispatched to SEZ units under cover of invoices,"

said the statement. "Thus, while Input Tax Credit has been obtained fraudulently from one source, the low value goods have been procured from another source and both the streams have converged at the end of exporters who made highly overvalued supplies to the SEZ units for illegal gains through ITC refund route," it added.

Due to DGGI's proactive steps, ITC refund claims of over ₹300 crore in the process of getting disbursed to the scammers have been withheld, the release claimed. Surplus ITC of over Rs 100 crore, lying in the credit ledger of these exporters, have been prevented from being siphoned off, the release said, adding that illegal export incentives availed by the SEZ units will be probed by the Customs. Key conspirators have been identified and efforts were underway to apprehend them, it said.

# Kejriwal...

From Page 1

"Many homeowners have multiple tenants which significantly increases the power consumption under a single connection, bringing them under a high tariff slab. Tenants have to sometimes pay Rs 8-10 rupees per unit to their landlords. They have not been able to avail the benefits of the provision of free electricity up to 200 units by the Delhi government. In fact, even the home owner in such cases has not been able to get the subsidy," said Kejriwal.

The three discoms will be responsible and install the metres as per the request of the people.

Kejriwal also said the landlords need not be insecure and suspicious about the scheme. As the name suggests, the scheme is for the tenants and so the meters will be installed in their names. The 'tenant' word will also be clearly mentioned on the meters. Tenants will never be able to claim themselves as a landlord under any condition.

As per the new scheme, there will be only one power meter for properties with multiple tenants. This results in high power unit consumption which results in huge electricity bills. The landlord charges tenants eight to ten rupees per unit. With separate connections, many tenants will now get free electricity. On the other hand, the landlord is also likely to get the benefit of subsidy on unit consumption for up to 200 units. The scheme is beneficial to the tenant as well as to the landlord.

Earlier in the month of August, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government had announced free electricity up to 200 units per month for residents of Delhi. 50 percent subsidy for the consumption between 201 to 400 units was given. Besides, fixed charges has also been reduced with a section load of 2 kilowatt had to pay Rs.125 per kilowatt every month as the fixed charge. Under the new provisions, residents have to pay Rs. 20 per kilowatt every month.

# Modi 'Global Goalkeeper'...

From Page 1

"Getting the award in the year of Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary is personally significant for me. When 130 crore people take a pledge, any challenge can be overcome," the PM said.

He dedicated the award to those Indians who transformed

the Swachhh Bharat campaign into a "people's movement" and accorded topmost priority to cleanliness in their day-to-day lives." No such campaign was seen or heard about in any other country in the recent past. It might have been launched by our government, but people took control of it," Modi said.

As a result, over 11 crore toilets were built in the country in the last five years, which was a record, he said. Stressing that the success of the campaign could not be measured in numbers, the prime minister said the poor people and the women of India were benefitted the most by it. "Due to lack of toilets, a number of girls had to drop out of schools. Our daughters want to study, but because of lack of toilets, they had to abandon their education mid-way and sit at home," he added.

It was the responsibility of his government to help the

girls and women of the country come out of this situation and it had performed the duty with utmost sincerity, the prime minister said.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) had also acknowledged his Government's efforts in this regard and said due to the Swachhh Bharat campaign, a possibility was created to save three lakh human lives, he said.

Modi said he was told that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation had also reported that as rural sanitation had improved in India, it had led to a decline in heart problems among children and improvement in the Body Mass Index (BMI) among women.

Expressing happiness that Gandhi's dream of cleanliness was about to be fulfilled, he said, "Gandhiji used to say a village could only become a model when it was completely clean. Today we are heading towards making the entire country a model."

"The campaign has not only improved the lives of crores of Indians, but it has also played a significant role in achieving the goals set by the UN," Modi said.

One of the least talked about aspects of the Swachhh Bharat Abhiyan was that the 11 crore toilets built under it had opened a new chapter of economic activity in rural India, he said. Stating that the simple meaning of democracy was that people should be at the centre of policies and schemes, the prime minister said for decades, India had witnessed "constitutional federalism", but it was his government that attempted to change it to "co-operative federalism" and with all time, it was now moving towards "competitive-cooperative federalism".

He also voiced satisfaction that there was a race among all the states in India now to bag the top spot in the "cleanliness ranking". Reiterating the philosophy of "Vasudhaiva

Kutumbakam" (the whole world is one single family), Modi said India wanted to share its experience and expertise with other countries.

Besides the Swachhh Bharat Abhiyan, many other "people's movements" such as "Fit India" to promote fitness and preventive healthcare, the "Jal Jeevan Mission" focussing on water conservation and recycling were going on in India, he said, adding that the country was headed towards getting rid of single-use plastic by 2022.

The prime minister asserted that he had full faith that the strength and determination of 130 crore Indians would ensure the success of all such campaigns and thanked everyone associated with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for bestowing the honour on him. The cleanliness campaign was launched by the Modi government on Gandhi's birth anniversary on October 2, 2014.

# PM hardsells tax sops to investors

From Page 1

"Today India has a government that respects businesses and wealth creators."

"In new India, we have run a campaign of de-regulation, de-licensing and de-bottlenecking. These reforms have helped India improve performance in every global ranking," he said, citing a jump of 10 ranks on Logistics Performance Index, 13 places rise on Global Competitiveness Index, 24 places climb on the Global Innovation Index and 65 places jump on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index.

India, he said, is investing Rs 100 lakh crore or USD 1.3 trillion in developing modern infrastructure.

Stating that the target of nearly doubling the economy to USD 5 trillion by 2024 was achievable, he said about USD 1 trillion was added to the size of the economy during last five years.

India has a young and energetic talent pool with the world's largest engineering education base and solid R&D facilities, he said, adding the large population in India is becoming economically empowered with rising purchasing power and thereby

# Rape survivor recovers, but to stay in AIIMS'...

From Page 1

A speeding truck had hit the car in which the rape survivor was travelling with her family members and lawyer. Two of her aunts were killed, while she and her lawyer were critically injured.

The court has issued a slew of directions under the witness protection guidelines for arranging accommodation for the 2017 Unnao rape

survivor and her family in Delhi after the Uttar Pradesh government said they wanted to reside in the national capital apprehending threat to their lives in their home state.

The rape survivor's mother had a discussion with the judge about their relocation arrangements and said they be allowed to live in Delhi as they apprehend threat to their

lives and liberty in case they go back to their native village in Unnao district, a lawyer privy to the proceedings said.

The woman was allegedly kidnapped and raped by expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar in Unnao in 2017, when she was a minor. The court had framed charges against Sengar and co-accused Shashi Singh in the case.

creating demand. Almost every citizen in India has a unique ID, mobile phone and bank account which is being used for targeted delivery of services, plugging leakages and bringing in transparency, he said.

In the last five years, India has got USD 286 billion of foreign direct investment, which is half of what the country received in the previous 20 years. "Half of American FDI has come in last four years," he added.

As many as 90 per cent of investment has come in sectors where foreign investment is under automatic route and 40 per cent has come as green-field investment. "This means that today investor confidence in India has increased," he said.

"India is No.1 on seven out of 10 investments indicators including political stability, currency stability, high-quality products, anti-corruption, low cost of production, strategic location and respect for IPR," he said.

# Andaman & Nicobar may go under

From Page 1

The HKH region includes mountain ranges of the Tien Shan, Kun Lun, Pamir, Hindu Kush, Karakoram, Himalayas, and Hengduan and the high-altitude Tibetan Plateau which produce one of the world's largest renewable supplies of freshwater.

It supports 120 million people directly through irrigation systems, and a total of 1.3 billion indirectly through river basins in India, China, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

"Hindu Kush Himalayan regions are extremely susceptible to temperature increase. Under a 1.5 C global warming scenario, the areas are projected to warm up by more than 2 C on average by the end of this century," the report said.

"Most of the projections

also indicate overall wetter conditions in the future and increases in extreme precipitation events. This will lead to significant losses in glacier volume, from 36 to 64 per cent, depending on the warming scenario, and impact timing of water flows and water availability. So, the rate of risk is extremely high in present emission scenario," the report said.

Highlighting the impact of global warming and its implications in water resources in the HKH region, one of the key authors of the report said that it affect water for domestic use, agriculture and hydroelectricity.

"Snow and glacier melt from high mountains helps to sustain the rivers that deliver water resources to downstream populations. Due to global warming and its implications

in the water resources in the HKH region, three sectors would be directly affected - water for domestic use, agriculture and hydroelectricity," said Prakash.

The report also said that with just 50 cm of sea-level rise, 150 million people would face flooding in port cities around the world.

Among the 46 cities at risk due to sea level rise, two are Indian cities of Mumbai and Kolkata, which may experience severe and frequent floods, it said.

The IPCC report, which was approved on September 24 by 195 member countries, will be a crucial scientific input at the 25th Conference of Parties at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at Chile in December this year.

# Won't bow down to...

From Page 1

Apart from seeking to deny an opportunity to the ruling BJP to make an issue of his alleged role in the MSC Bank scam, Pawar's announcement that he would visit the ED's office himself on Friday without waiting for any notice from the investigation agency is to pre-empt a possible arrest during the course of the Assembly poll campaign.

Earlier in the morning, NCP's youth workers took out a morcha to the ED's south Mumbai office and tried to storm the place in protest against the "act of political vendetta" indulged in the ED at the behest of the State and Central Government.

The protesters raised vociferous slogans against the ED and the Government, leading to tense situation in front of the office of the investigating agency. The police resorted to a mild lathi-charge to quell the irate protesters.

On his part, Pawar said at a news conference later in the day that since he believed in the ideology of social reformer Mahatma Phule and Shahu Maharaj and that he had full faith in the Constitution drafted by late BR Ambedkar, he would co-operate with the ED in the investigations into the MSCB scam.

Asked if the registration of a case against him for alleged money laundering was "an act of political vendetta", Pawar said: "I can't say anything about that. You will have to ask the Chief Minister about it".

Pawar said that he was surprised that he had been named in the case despite the fact that he was not close to the decision-making authority nor was he a director or office bearer of the MSC Bank. I have not taken anything from this bank. Since the case has come up in the run-up to the elections, I am happy that I am getting good response from the people and the public response would improve further in the coming days.

After Pawar sought to turn the table on the Government, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis sought to distance the State Government from the ED investigations. "It is wrong to say that State Government has acted in either a vindictive manner or with a political motive. The Economic

Offensive Wing of the Mumbai police registered an FIR against 70-odd persons, including Sr Pawar, his nephew Ajit Pawar and others based on the directive of the Bombay High Court. Later on, the ED which took over the investigations has registered a money laundering case in the MSC Bank, Fadnavis said.

The reactions from Pawar and Fadnavis came 36 hours after the ED dropped a political bombshell in Maharashtra ahead of the October 21 Assembly polls, by registering a money-laundering case against Sharad Pawar, his nephew Ajit Pawar, several other politicians and officials linked to the Rs 25,000 crore Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSCB) loan disbursement scam.

A month after the Economic Offence Wing of the Mumbai police registered an FIR with the MRA Marg Police Station against those named in the MSCB scam, 2019 the ED recorded Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) against Sr Pawar, Ajit Pawar, the bank's then chairman and several others on Monday.

Acting on the directive given by a two-member division bench of the Bombay High Court comprising Justices SC Dharmadhikari and SK Shinde, the EoW of the Mumbai had on August 22 registered an FIR against those named in the FIR under sections 406, 409 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating), 467, 468 (forgery), 471 (using as genuine a forged document), 34 (common intent), 120-B (conspiracy) IPC and relevant sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

Apart from Pawar and Ajit Pawar, the others who have been named in the ECIR included Diliprao Deshmukh, Shivajirao Nalavade, Ishwarlal Jain, Mr Jayant Patil, Anand Rao Adsul, Rajendra Shingane and Madan Patil.

Though the leaders of other political parties have been named in the FIR, it is the NCP leaders who have the maximum involvement in the scam. Among other things, the FIR states that of the total 77 MSCB directors involved in the scam, 57 belong to the NCP, nine to the Congress, two to the Shiv Sena and one to the BJP.

Most of the directors of the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank who are allegedly involved in the scam perpetrated between 2001 and 2011 were elected representatives from various parties, particularly the NCP and Congress.

The allegation in the case is that top executives of the bank, including chairman, MDs, directors, CEOs, managerial staff if the MSCB, along with office bearers and directors of Co-operative Sugar Factories (CSFs), cotton mills and other processing units were given loans in a fraudulent manner by the bank and "in the process several irregularities were committed".

"The loans provided to the CSFs by the officials of the MSCB who were connected with the owners of the co-op sugar factories. There were several irregularities in the sanctioning of loans committed only with the purpose of extending the benefits to the directors of the lending banks for personal gains thereby defrauding and cheating the bank and its shareholders," an ED official said.

According to the ED, the loans were sanctioned CSFs despite weak financials, negative worth and without taking collaterals in many cases. Additional facilities extended to CSFs, without any justification.

Owing to the financial mismanagement, many of CSFs became sick and sold off by the bank's board of directors at a price lesser than the reserve price to ensure wrongful gains to the purchasers, who had political links with the board of directors. The consent of borrowing units was not taken before undertaking the same of CSFs.

The irregularities found in the sale of "sick" CSFs included: Selling the units at price lesser than the reserve price no rules were followed to fix the reserve price and forged documents like share certificates were made to avail loans. The directors flouted the guidelines of the NABARD, RBI and SARFAESI.

Among other things, the FIR states that of the total 77 MSCB directors involved in the scam, 57 belong to the NCP, nine to the Congress, two to the Shiv Sena and one to the BJP.

# THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I HIMANSHU SAINI s/o LALIT SAINI R/o Flat No. 36, Block-D, Pocket- 10, Sector-7, Delhi-110085, have change my name to HEMANSHU SAINI for all future purposes.

PD(8662)A I, Amit Kumar Jha R/o.24, Navjagrati Apartment, Vashundhara Enclave, Delhi110096, being Natural Guardian&Father, have changed my minor son's name from TUSYA ABHIRAJ to TUSYA ABHIRAJ JHA (DOB.10.09.2007) for all future purposes vide affidavit executed on 25.09.2019 and sworn before Notary, Alaka Nayak, (Regn. No.10639) of Delhi. PD(8663)A

# NAME CHANGE

I, PRIYA SACHDEV, W/O SH. SUNJAY KAPUR, R/O 11A, KAUTILYA MARG, CHANAKYAPURI, NEW DELHI-110021, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM PRIYA SACHDEV TO PRIYA SACHDEV KAPUR FOR ALL THE FUTURE PURPOSES.

# Chinmayanand's rape victim...

From Page 1

The three men arrested earlier for extortion have told the SIT that they sent messages to Chinmayanand "in panic" on the student's directions when the demanded money was not delivered, the IG said.

They had threatened to upload on social media video clips that showed the woman giving massages to the politician, police said. Another SIT officer, Bharti Singh, said the police arrested the student after confronting her with video clips — one of them on an alleged conversation in a car between her and the three men discussing the alleged extortion plan.

The officer claimed that during the questioning in the morning at her home, the student "verified" the contents of the clip and confirmed it had her voice and that of the other three.

On Friday, the SIT formed by the Uttar Pradesh police on the directions of the Supreme Court, had arrested the BJP leader on the basis of the woman's complaint. He was sent to judicial custody but shifted on Monday to Lucknow's Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, where he is still admitted under the care of

cardiologists.

Simultaneously, the SIT team arrested Sanjay Singh, Sachin Sengar and Vikram, while booking the student herself on extortion charges levelled earlier by Chinmayanand.

Her lawyer said another application seeking her release on bail will be filed in the sessions court on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Chinmayanand's counsel Om Singh said he also moved a bail application in the district court on Wednesday and it will be heard on September 30.

His plea as earlier rejected by the Shahjahanpur's chief judicial magistrate, who said it should be placed before the sessions court.

The SIT moved in to arrest the law student a day after her anticipatory bail application was admitted in the district court, which had scheduled its hearing on Thursday.

SIT members took the woman for a medical examination and later produced her before the judicial Magistrate Chief Judicial Magistrate Vineet Kumar, who sent her to 14 days' judicial custody, officials said.

BJP's state unit spokesperson Harishchandra Srivastava told PTI that Chinmayanand is not a party member any more.

However, he did not make clear when the former the three-time parliamentarian stopped being a BJP member.

SIT chief Arora said the forensic examination of the evidence, including a pen drive and mobile phones, revealed there was "no addition, alteration, morphing, modification or editing" of the video clips.

He said the SIT has prepared a chart of phone locations and calls that showed that the student and the three others were in touch with each other.

On the spectacles fitted with the spy camera used to record the massage sessions, Arora said, "They were bought online in March by the girl." "The girl said they were in her hostel room, which was opened in the presence of a forensic team, the principal, the girl and her father, but it was not found. We are yet to recover it," he said.

The SIT chief said the mobile messages deleted by Chinmayanand could not be retrieved at the forensic science laboratory where they were sent. The phone has now been sent to the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) in Gujarat's Gandhinagar, he said.

The woman and the three alleged accomplices were

FOR FARMERS' LOAN WAIVER SCHEME

# Raj Govt OK's extra budget of ₹100 cr

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/JAIPUR

Fearing a backlash in the forthcoming Assembly polls due to the non-payment of the promised loan waivers to farmers in three states where Congress wrested power from BJP last year, the Rajasthan Government on Wednesday finally sanctioned a proposal to grant additional budget of ₹100 crore as farmers' long-term loan waiver scheme.

Congress in its manifesto had announced the loan waiver scheme for farmers within 10 days of government formation in all the then poll-bound states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

Gehlot announced the ₹100-crore grant of additional budget towards farmers' long-term loan waiver scheme, 2019 in Rajasthan. "The decision was taken in the larger interest of farmers," said a state government release. The Congress government in the state had announced the loan waiver scheme for farmers after assuming office in December last year.

AICC sources said that the party leadership directed Gehlot to work on the grants within a couple of days as the party will announce farmers' benefit schemes in its manifesto



the loans within 10 days of government formation. Sources said that interim party chief Sonia Gandhi has asked the CMs of MP, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh to swiftly work on the feasibility as announced in the party's manifesto and start the disbursement process. Farmers of these states too have complained by comparing it with the Narendra Modi farmers scheme that was announced by NDA government in this year budget before the Lok Sabha polls.

Congress MLA Lakshman Singh, brother of senior party leader and former chief minister Digvijaya Singh, last week had said Rahul Gandhi should not have made the 10-day farm loan waiver promise ahead of the Assembly elections in the state. "Waiving loans worth ₹45,000 crore in 10 days wasn't possible, but still if he (Rahul) made a promise, we should seek forgiveness from the public," said Lakshman.

"If we could not fulfill our promise, we should simply apologise to the public," said Lakshman, urging the Kamal Nath-led government to clarify when the entire loan amount of farmers would be waived.

Annual TB report 2019

# Detection rate increases by 16%

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With close to six lakh TB patients still not on the radar and an additional two lakh being detected but remaining untreated, the Modi Government's target to eliminate the deadly disease by 2025 would require Herculean efforts. However, the detection rate has increased by 16 per cent giving a fillip to the Government's initiatives in this regard.

The Government's target is actually five years ahead of that set by the United Nations ie 2030 under its Sustainable Development Goals to end the TB epidemic.

The Annual TB report 2019, which was launched here on Wednesday at an event, stated that the detection of 21.5 lakh TB patients is a 16 per cent increase compared to 2017. Of these, 5.37 lakh TB patients were picked up from the private sector, a 35 per cent increase from the previous year.

Racing against time, as it makes efforts to reach out to every TB patient in the country, the Union Health Ministry has kicked off the 'TB Harega Desh Jeetega' campaign.

On the occasion, Union Health Minister Harshvardhan noted that there were "still 5.5 lakh patients" who were untraceable in the country, even as he remained optimistic saying that India could become TB free before its target of 2025. The TB report says that of



The Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr Harsh Vardhan, releases the publication at the launch of the 'TB Harega Desh Jeetega' campaign, in New Delhi on Wednesday. The Member NITI Aayog, Dr VK Paul, the Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Preeti Sudan and other dignitaries are also seen

the 27 lakh estimated TB cases, the Revised National TB Programme (RNTCP) was able to pick up 21.5 lakh TB patients. "Not all 21.5 lakh patients had access to treatment. Over two lakh patients were further eliminated, as even though they were detected positive for TB, the Ministry was not able to provide treatment to them. Treatment was initiated in 19.1 lakh cases, which is 90 per cent of those detected," it says.

The report further states that 40,761 new patients who were notified in 2017, died. Of the patients who were on the treatment rolls from previous years, upto 13,423 patients died. The time taken for TB treatment can be between 6 months

to over two years. While the annual report was ready in June itself, it was released after a delay of close to three months. The report also said that 79 per cent of those patients notified in 2017 have completed treatment.

Sanjeeva Kumar, Additional Secretary, Health Ministry said that in 2018, upto 14.4 crore population was screened under the Active Case Finding programme, which led to an additional reporting of 49,733 cases while Vikas Sheel, Joint Secretary in the said, "Currently TB is declining at 1-2 per cent per year, and to achieve the goal by 2025, we need to have an accelerated annual decline in TB inci-

dence by about 10 per cent." The report also states that there are 3,794 extensively drug-resistant patients, which means that very few drugs work on them.

The report also stressed on the expansion of access to services. It said that over 19 lakh patients were now under the Fixed Dosage Combinations that were provided to all patients, while adding that there had been an increase in proportion of patients on injection free-drug regimens had gone up by 67% in 2017 to 98.5% in 2018.

Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh were dubbed the best performing state above the 50 lakh population.

# Nehru more popular than Modi: Tharoor

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after an overzealous Shashi Tharoor put the Congress in a spot with his pictorial act, the former Union Minister on Wednesday sought to make amends to his bid to be one up on the BJP as he maintained that the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru remained more popular than Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Tharoor said, Nehru was the only Indian PM to be greeted on arrival at the airport by a US President. "Jawaharlal Nehru remains the only Indian Prime Minister to be greeted on arrival at the airport by a US President & it happened twice: President Harry S Truman in 1949 and President John F Kennedy in 1961 both received him off the plane," he said.

Against the backdrop of the mega 'Howdy Modi' event in Houston, Tharoor had found himself in a spot of Twitter trouble when he posted a picture of Nehru and Indira Gandhi in what he claimed was the US. Only to clarify later that it was probably from their visit to the USSR. The Congress leader, who had tweeted the photograph of the first prime minister and his daughter in an open vehicle waving to large crowds of people, was also trolled for misspelling Indira Gandhi's name as "India Gandhi".

INSHORT

**2 MORE WEEKS TO CBI TO FINISH UNNAO PROBE: SC**  
New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday granted two more weeks to the CBI to complete its ongoing probe into the road accident in which the Unnao rape survivor and her lawyer were critically injured and two of her aunts killed.

**NITs TOLD TO EXPEDITE RECRUITMENT PROCESS**  
New Delhi: The HRD Ministry on Wednesday directed the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) to expedite the recruitment process after the issue of faculty shortage was raised before. Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' during a council meeting of the National Institute of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER).

**AICTE TELLS INSTITUTES TO SHARE PATENT RIGHTS**  
New Delhi: In a significant move, the AICTE has made it mandatory for academic bodies to share patent rights with a researcher, if the facilities of the institution are used while developing a product or a technology.

**ZTE'S YAN XIAO HOPES FOR INDIAN CEO**  
New Delhi: CEO Designate of ZTE Telecom Yan Xiao on Wednesday said that he hoped to see the future CEO of ZTE from India. He was interacting with students of Amity University which signed an MoU with ZTE Telecom India for educational collaboration and recruitment opportunities. Pooja Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity School of Film and Drama, termed it a momentous occasion.

**YOGI GOVT SHIELDING CHINMAYANAND: CONG**  
New Delhi: Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi on Wednesday accused the Yogi Adityanath government of protecting former Union Minister Chinmayanand who has been accused of rape by a law student. She said the BJP government scored a zero in stopping crime against women in the state.

**CIC ALLOWS CBI TO WITHHOLD INFO**  
New Delhi: The CIC has allowed the CBI to withhold information relating to expenses incurred on the extradition process of embattled liquor baron Vijay Mallya from the UK calling it as administrative spending which is out of the ambit of the transparency law.

**THAROOR MEMBER OF PARL PANEL AGAIN**  
New Delhi: Speaker Om Birla has nominated Shashi Tharoor as a member of the parliamentary standing committee on external affairs, which the Congress MP had chaired in the previous Lok Sabha.

# Drone-hit Saudi Arabia to enhance anti-terror cooperation with India

New Delhi: Nearly two weeks after worst ever drone and missile attacks on its oil facilities, Saudi Arabia has said it will ramp up cooperation with India in combating terrorism, including by choking flow of funds to terror groups and boosting intelligence sharing.

Saudi Ambassador Dr Saud bin Mohammed Al Sati said India and Saudi Arabia are closely cooperating with each other in fighting terrorism and enhancing their level of engagement to deal with the menace.

A series of drone and missile attacks on the oil facilities of Saudi Aramco, the country's largest petroleum company, on September 14 knocked out half its daily oil production, severely impacting the global oil market and triggering fresh tension between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Yemen's Houthi terror group has taken responsibility for the biggest-ever attacks on Saudi oil facilities. Saudi Arabia and its ally, the US, have blamed Iran for the attacks but Tehran has strongly denied the allegations.

"Saudi Arabia and India have been closely cooperating with each other in fighting terrorism, including through exchange of information and intelligence," Al Sati told PTI in an interview.

Saudi Arabia, known to be a key ally of Pakistan, has been siding with India in its campaign to rid the region of terrorism and pledged to extend all cooperation to effectively deal with the challenge. Both countries already signed several agreements in the field of security, including an extradition treaty. PTI

# SC to hear pleas challenging validity of amendments to SC/ST Act on Oct 3

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Wednesday said it would hear on October 3 the pleas challenging the validity of amendments to the SC/ST Act last year that had nullified its verdict diluting the provisions of arrest under the law.

However, a bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra said it would not accept any written submissions from any party on the Centre's plea seeking review of the top court's March 20, 2018 verdict. The apex court, which on September 18 reserved its verdict on the Centre's review petition, had indicated that it would pass certain directions to "bring in equality" as per the provisions of law and asked the parties to file their written submissions by September 20. Earlier, the top court had reserved order on the Centre's plea seeking to recall 2018 judgement. PTI

# One who is not proud of Trump praising Modi do not consider himself Indian: Min

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Against the backdrop of US President Donald Trump's effusive praise for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and subsequent criticism of it from some quarters, Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Wednesday said those who do not feel proud of Trump describing Modi as the 'father of India', do not consider themselves Indians.

In his no-holds-barred appreciation of Modi, Trump on Tuesday credited the former with uniting India.

"I remember India before was very torn. There was a lot of dissension, fighting and he brought it all together. Like a father would. Maybe he is the father of India," Trump said in New York during Modi's ongoing US tour.

The union minister said India is being respected in a way which was rare in the past. He was speaking on the sidelines of the launch of CPGRAMS reforms here in the Department of Posts.

"People who live abroad are proud today of being Indian. This is happening due to the personality and personal outreach of Prime Minister Modi," said the Minister of State for Prime Minister's Office.

Asked to comment on US President's comment on the Prime Minister, Singh said that he had never heard anything like this from any American president for an Indian prime minister.

"If an impartial and bold statement comes from America and its President then I feel every Indian should feel proud regardless of his political affiliations with any party or ideology.



**When asked that some Congress leaders have asserted that there could be only one father of the nation, Singh said for this, the Congress will have to argue with Trump**

"This is the first time that an American president has used this kind of words of praise not for an Indian Prime Minister but for any other world leader and if someone is not proud of this, then maybe he does not consider himself Indian," Singh sought to say.

When asked that some Congress leaders have asserted that there could be only one father of the nation, Singh said for this, the Congress will have to argue with Trump.

Criticising Pakistan for its role in terrorism, Singh said "as far as terrorism and Pakistan's role in advancing terrorism is concerned, foreign countries which earlier did not buy India's narrative of Pakistan's involvement in terrorism are now accepting it and its credit goes to Prime Minister Modi".

# Sibal cites UK SC's verdict, says no scrutiny of bills in India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

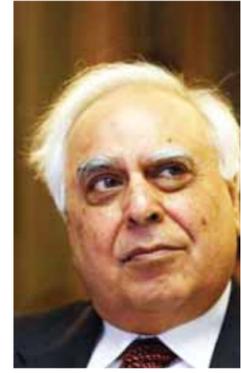
Citing the UK Supreme Court ruling that British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's controversial move to suspend Parliament in the run-up to Brexit was "unlawful", senior Congress leader Kapil Sibal on Wednesday said in India there is no scrutiny as bills are passed as 'money bills' and some key acts like the abrogation of Article 370 and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) have been passed without proper scrutiny. It is a wake-up call for the courts, he said.

"UK Supreme Court : Executive power can't silence Legislative scrutiny. In India no scrutiny of : 1) Clearly not 'Money Bills'. 2) UAPA; Amending Art. 370 etc. Other ways to silence opposition: Latest: Lavasa's family; Sharad Pawar. A wake up call for Courts!," Sibal tweeted.

In an embarrassment to Johnson, the UK Supreme Court termed his move to suspend Parliament in the run-up to Brexit as "unlawful".

Attacking the Modi government, Sibal also said it is adopting different ways to silence the opposition that includes the Income Tax scrutiny against Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa's family, against whom notices have been sent, and Enforcement Directorate (ED) action against NCP leader Sharad Pawar.

Another Congress leader Shashi Tharoor had said that the significance of UK Supreme Court's judgement for those of us who live in other parliamentary systems inspired by the British model should not be missed.



**In an embarrassment to Johnson, the UK Supreme Court termed his move to suspend Parliament in the run-up to Brexit as 'unlawful'**

"The judgement makes clear that the leeway for the political executive to subvert convention is limited: the executive cannot simply distort the rules of procedure & conduct of business under the garb of the Parliament's privilege as a sovereign body to do as it wants. The Court's reasoning is that the executive's legislative majority cannot be used to obstruct Parliament's work," he tweeted.

"To put it bluntly, the executive, in the name of its Parliamentary majority, cannot use Parliament's own powers and privileges to undermine itself. In short, Parliament cannot be induced by its own majority to commit suicide. Note: UK precedents are often cited by Indian courts," he also said.

# 2-bucket system for garbage disposal should be compulsory: Min

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

On the lines of Australia which has popularised the concept of the dual-flush system to conserve water, India should make the two-bucket system compulsory for garbage disposal, with one bucket reserved for plastic waste, compulsory, Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said on Wednesday.

Proper segregation and recycling is the only solution to the environmental risk posed by plastic waste, said the Union minister for Jal Shakti while addressing a conclave on 'Circular Economy on Plastic Waste' here.

He said "The main challenge is segregation of plastic waste at source. Like Australia popularised the concept of the dual-flush system to conserve



Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat addresses at the presentation of the National Water Mission Awards, in New Delhi on Wednesday

water, India should make the two-bucket system, with one bucket reserved for plastic waste, compulsory."

"In the US, each person uses 120 kg of plastic every year. It is 68 kg in Europe and around 40 kg in China. In India, only 11 kg of plastic is

used per person annually. Though our plastic 'consumption' is undoubtedly the lowest, our pollution (due to plastic) is the maximum," he said.

Shekhawat said the reasons were that "we have a huge population and until now, we lacked ways to recycle plastic properly." The reason why India did not have a way of recycling plastic was the lack of awareness about pollution caused by plastic, he said, adding a massive awareness campaign has been started after the clarion call given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Plastic cannot be ignored completely, the Union Minister said while displaying a jacket made of recycled plastic and wool.

He said T-shirts of global sports brands, which are selling in the market for Rs 3,000 to Rs 5,000, are made of recycled

plastic. The minister also stressed on the importance of involving the intelligentsia, academia and youths to make such awareness campaigns successful.

According to The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), India produces over 15,342 tonnes of plastic every day. The country's average per capita consumption of plastic is estimated to increase to 20 kg by 2020, according to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Prime Minister Modi, who is leading efforts to scrap single-use plastics by 2022, is likely to announce a ban on a few items on October 2, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. In his Independence Day speech, Modi had urged people to avoid using plastic bags, and technicians and entrepreneurs to look at innovative ways to recycle plastic.

# Govt institutes Sardar Patel National Unity Award

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Modi Government has instituted the highest civilian award for contribution to India's unity and integrity in the name of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the country's first Home Minister credited for the integration of the princely states in India.

The award, comprising a medal and a citation, would not be conferred posthumously except in very rare and highly deserving cases, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said in a statement. No monetary grant or cash reward would be attached to the award and not more than three awards would be given in a year. The award would be announced on the occasion of National Unity Day — the birth anniversary of Sardar Patel on October 31, the statement said.

The award seeks to recognise notable and inspiring contributions to promote the cause of

national unity and integrity and to reinforce the value of a strong and united India. It will be conferred by the President by a sanad under his hand and seal, and presented by him in a presentation ceremony along with the Padma award presentation ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhawan, MHA said.

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# BJP to launch drive to allay fears over NRC

**Kolkata:** Hitting out at TMC for intentionally creating panic over implementation of NRC in West Bengal, the BJP and the RSS said on Wednesday that they will launch a counter campaign in the State to allay the fear of the people and build public opinion on Citizenship (Amendment) Bill.

The saffron organisations would launch door-to-door campaign in West Bengal to allay the fears of the people over NRC, they said.

Without naming the TMC, a senior state RSS leader said political parties should have supported the Bill in Parliament instead of opposing it if they are worried over the omission of Hindus from the final NRC list in Assam.

"We will start door-to-door campaign soon over NRC and Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB). We will tell the general people why NRC is needed to weed out Bangladeshi Muslim infiltrators and that we will first implement the CAB to give citizenship to Hindu refugees who have come to this country from neighbouring nations," said a senior State BJP leader.

"The TMC is only creating



panic just to instill fear among the masses. We will counter it," he said.

Fear over implementation of the NRC in the state has made hundreds of people to queue up at government and municipal offices here and across West Bengal to collect their birth certificates and other necessary documents.

The fear has been sparked by the alleged omission of about 12 lakh Bengalis from the final National Register of Citizen list in BJP-ruled Assam despite assurances by the TMC government that the NRC will not be allowed in West Bengal.

Apparently referring to TMC's opposition to the Bill, RSS West Bengal secretary Jishnu Basu said a few political parties are creating panic to serve their own vested interests.

"If they (TMC) are so con-

cerned about Hindus then why are they opposing the CAB? They should support it. We want to categorically say that CAB will be passed in Parliament soon to grant citizenship to Hindu refugees. Those who don't want Hindus to get citizenship are opposing the CAB. We will campaign to inform the masses about the need for NRC and CAB," Basu said.

He said the NRC and the CAB are required to protect West Bengal as infiltrators from Bangladesh are taking shelter in the state and are involved in anti-national activities.

"This is not just harmful for the Bengali Hindus but also for Indian Muslims and is equally harmful for the security of our country," Basu said.

The CAB, 2019 provided

## NRC to be implemented in WB, no Hindu will leave country: Vijayvargiya

**Kolkata:** BJP national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya on Wednesday said that NRC will be "100 per cent" implemented in West Bengal and not a single Hindu will have to leave the country.

Without naming the TMC, Vijayvargiya, who is BJP's Bengal minder, said certain political parties and politicians are trying to instill fear among the general people over NRC by spreading canards.

"Be 100 percent sure about NRC in Bengal. But Hindus have nothing to fear as we are soon bringing the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Parliament," he said at a programme here.

"As the national general

secretary of BJP I want to assure all of you that NRC will be implemented but not a single Hindu will have to leave the country. Each and every Hindu will be given citizenship," he added.

The attempt by "some political parties" to create a "fear psychosis" among the people will not yield any results, he said at a programme here.

Hinting at the TMC, Vijayvargiya said there are certain people who are trying to "spread canards and misguide the people".

"India is not a charity house that those who are the majority community in Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan (Muslims) can infil-

trate, spread terror and take away livelihood of our citizens," Vijayvargiya said.

Hindus in those countries are minorities there and are coming to India to protect their lives, he said adding they have nothing to worry about as long as Narendra Modi is the country's prime minister and Amit Shah its home minister.

Hundreds of people are queuing up at government and municipal offices here and across West Bengal to collect their birth certificates and necessary documents should the National Register of Citizens (NRC) be implemented in the state despite assurances by the TMC government that it would not be allowed. **PTI**



Water gushes out of the flood gates of historic Hussain Sagar Lake in Hyderabad on Wednesday. Heavy downpour has thrown normal life out of gear in the city **PTI**

## Forum predicts normal rainfall in South India during Oct-Dec

**Thiruvananthapuram:** The South Asian Climate Outlook Forum has predicted normal northeast monsoon in Kerala and South India during October-December season this year.

Above normal rainfall is likely over most part of Sri Lanka, Maldives and eastern parts of Myanmar during this period. However, below normal rainfall is likely over southern parts of Myanmar and some areas at the foothills of Himalayas, according to the consensus statement made at the end of the 15th session of SAS-

COF, which met here.

Normal rainfall is likely over remaining areas of the region. During the season, normal to slightly above normal temperature are likely, over most part of the region, a government press release said.

According to the release, currently neutral El Nino/Southern Oscillations (ENSO) conditions are prevailing in the Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean. These parameters, which are known to influence the climate over South Asia, are likely to continue at their current level during the October to

December season.

The consensus climate outlook for the 2019 October-December season over South Asia has been developed through an expert assessment of the prevailing global climate conditions influencing the South Asian climate.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who inaugurated the main session of SAS-COF on Climate Service User Forum (CSUF) on Wednesday said regular patterns of rain that are known to two generations in Kerala have drastically changed during the last three years. **PTI**

## Gujarat records 126% of season's rainfall, dams 94% full

**Ahmedabad:** Gujarat has received over 126 per cent of the average annual rainfall so far this monsoon, with the total 205 dams in the State filled to 93.73 per cent of their capacity, State officials said on Wednesday.

According to the data provided by the State Emergency Operation Centre, the state received 1,029.54 mm rainfall, almost 126.17 per cent of its average annual rainfall this season.

Kutch and south Gujarat regions received 144.58 per cent and 137.73 per cent rainfall respectively, the maximum in the state, the officials said.



North Gujarat districts, however, received only 96.69 per cent of annual average rainfall, with the lowest rainfall recorded in Banaskantha and

Mehsana districts at 89.10 and 89.28 percent respectively, it said.

Patan, Gandhinagar, Ahmedabad and Mahisagar

are other districts that received below average rainfall this season, the data showed.

Chhota Udepur in central Gujarat received the maximum rainfall for a district in the state at 163.98 per cent, followed by Bharuch in south at 161.08 per cent.

The data showed that Saurashtra received 125.38 per cent of the average rainfall, with Jamnagar district in the region receiving the maximum 149.49 per cent rainfall, followed by Morbi at 139.54 per cent.

The Narmada Water Resources and Water Supply Department said that all the 205 dams or reservoirs in the

state are filled to 93.73 per cent of their capacity with 23,641.6 million cubic feet water. Of these, nine dams have reached 100 per cent of their capacity.

Forty six of these dams are 90 per cent full, while 10 others are filled around 80 to 90 per cent of their storage capacity. Fifteen dams in north Gujarat region are 61.23 per cent full.

The Sardar Sarovar Dam is 98.54 per cent full at 9,321.52 million cubic feet water and is currently at a level of 138.25 metres as against its full reservoir level of 138.68 metres, the government said. **PTI**

## Naval exercise with US, Japan from today



Indian Naval Ships Kiltan and Sahyadri seen in Sasebo port in Japan on Wednesday

Pioneer photo

**PNS ■ VISAKHAPATNAM**

The 23rd edition of the Trilateral Maritime Exercise MALABAR, is scheduled between the navies of India, Japan and USA from Thursday off the coast of Japan.

Two frontline indigenously designed and built Indian Naval Ships, the Multipurpose Guided Missile Frigate Sahyadri and ASW Corvette

Kiltan, with Rear Admiral Suraj Berry, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet embarked onboard, arrived at Sasebo on Wednesday to participate in the exercise. In addition to the ships, a P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft, also arrived in Japan.

The US Navy is being represented by USS McCampbell, a Los Angeles-Class Attack Submarine and a P8A Long

Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft. The JMSDF would be participating with its Izumo Class Helicopter Destroyer JS Kaga, Guided Missile Destroyers JS Samidare and Choukai and a P1 Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

MALABAR 2019 would endeavour to further strengthen India - Japan - US Naval cooperation and enhance interoperability, based on shared

values and principles. The exercise would encompass conduct of complex maritime operations in the surface, sub-surface and air domains, and focus on Anti-Submarine Warfare, Anti-Air and Anti-Surface Firings, Maritime Interdiction Operations (MIO) including Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS) and tactical scenario based Exercise at Sea. In addition, the partner navies would conduct official

protocol visits, professional interactions including Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEE), reciprocal ship visits, sports fixtures and social events during the harbour phase.

Participation of Indian Naval ships and aircraft in the exercise would significantly bolster the strong maritime bonds of friendship between the three countries and contribute to security and stability in the region.

## Rajnath commissions new Coast Guard vessel

**PNS ■ VISAKHAPATNAM**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday commissioned Indian Coast Guard Ship Varaha, the fourth in the series of seven Offshore Patrol Vessels at Chennai.

Director General Indian Coast Guard DG Krishnaswamy Natarajan, the

Commander Coast Guard Eastern Seaboard, additional director general KR Nautiyal, and senior dignitaries of the central and state government were present.

Speaking on the occasion Defence Minister said that it was indeed reassuring to witness the growing strength of Indian Coast Guard. It is indeed impressive to see the capability of L&T Shipbuilding Ltd yard for undertaking complex shipbuilding in an exemplary manner and contributing immensely to the vision of 'Make in India'. Inclusion of 'Varaha' in the fleet would further strengthen capabilities for the multifarious roles of the Indian Coast Guard, he added.

The OPV is named 'Varaha', the third incarnation of lord 'Vishnu' who took the form of a boar to rescue goddess earth from the ocean by lifting her on his tusks. The ship will be based at New Mangalore, Karnataka under the operational and administrative control of the Commander Coast Guard Region (West).

The ship is designed and

built indigenously by M/s Larsen & Toubro Ltd at Chennai and is fitted with state-of-the-art navigation and communication equipment, sensors and machineries. It has the fire power of 30-mm gun and 12.7mm gun with fire control system for enhanced fighting efficiency at sea. It is also equipped with state of art equipment and has a powerful external firefighting system. The ship is designed to carry one twin engine helicopter and four high speed boats including two rigid hull inflatable boats for swift boarding operation, search and rescue, law enforcement and maritime patrol.

The ship is also capable of carrying pollution response equipment to contain oil spill at sea.

The vessel has a displacement of 2100 tons and is propelled by two 9100 KW diesel engines. The ship can attain a maximum speed of 26 knots and has an endurance of 5000 nautical miles which enables her to go around half the globe at economical speed.

## Acupuncture treatment for snakes

**KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU**

In a first of its kind a wildlife hospital on the outskirts of Bengaluru has found traditional Chinese veterinary medicine and acupuncture to treat spinal injuries on the snakes.

The veterinarians at the Wildlife hospital run by People For Animal (PFA), a voluntary organisation, working for the urban wildlife have come up with a unique and advanced way to treat the spinal injuries commonly found in snakes in and around Bangalore.

The experts found this as a novel way of treatment which blends the traditional Chinese veterinary medicine of acupuncture with the ultramodern Laser physiotherapy to trigger the immune response and thus fasten the healing process of the injured snakes. According to the vets, it also reduces the pain and inflammation inflicted during the

injury. This acupuncture is a unique methodology in the treatment of injured snakes.

According to Colonel (Dr.) Navaz Shariff, Chief Veterinarian at PFA, the escalating and unplanned urbanisation has affected the snakes as much as it has affected any other wildlife species. "Indiscriminate use of earth equipments, bulldozers and machines to clear for expansion have resulted in a steep increase in the number of spine injuries found in snakes," he said. "The snakes are a vital link in the food chain have been victims of unmindful of urbanisation and the urgent need is to save them."

"The unique combination therapy is a novel procedure that is being practiced for the first time in Veterinary medicine. We, at PFA, consider snakes play a pivotal role in the nature's food chain and this path-breaking techniques using

traditional Chinese veterinary medicine of Acupuncture with the ultramodern Laser physiotherapy to address their spinal accidents," he adds. Recently the PFA had organised an international workshop on this path-breaking treatment for spinal injuries in snakes.

Col Shariff a retired army officer use to treat spinal injuries of dogs and other animals using the acupuncture and advanced laser technology and for first time in the world he is using the acupuncture and laser treatment for the spinal injured snakes. He says this has worked so well and effective and has reduced the healing time of the injured snake.

According to Alpna Bharatiya founding trustee the PFA has rescued and treated more than 9227 snakes over 28 species until March, 2019.

Snakes are easily one of the most influential yet miscon-

ceived species in the ecosystem. Indians have understood their significance since long time back that they are revered as Gods in Indian mythology. PFA holds an equivalent regard for Snakes. Through their Students Outreach Program, PFA has visited nearly 4500 schools until June, 2019, and has educated more than 2 Lakhs students on the awareness about Snakes and wildlife as a whole.

People for Animals, provides round the clock rescue service for wildlife animals with 24x7 functioning help lines and ambulances. PFA Bangalore has rescued over 24,000 wildlife animals which envelopes 198 varieties of wildlife species.

PFA provides timely, specialised veterinary care to injured urban wild animals, rehabilitate them, and then release them into their natural or adoptive habitats.



**Experts found this as a novel way of treatment which blends the Chinese veterinary medicine of acupuncture with the ultramodern Laser physiotherapy to boost the immune response and thus fasten the healing process of the injured snakes**

wildlife. With the effect of urbanisation, we see an increase in displaced animals and orphaned young ones, seeking safety, food and species security. While the Wildlife Acts are designed to protect the nation's wildlife, they cannot protect the wildlife that lives in the cities," said a PFA document.

Founded in 1996 by Namrata Dugar, Alpna Bharatiya, Gauri Maini Hira and Arushi Poddar, People for Animals, Bengaluru, is a non-profit animal welfare organization, formed under the nationwide initiative and vision of Maneka Gandhi.

# ₹6K annual aid for UP triple talaq victims

**Lucknow:** Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday announced an annual assistance of ₹6,000 to the victims of triple talaq till their rehabilitation and said they will also get free legal aid from the State Government.

The Chief Minister, under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJKV) here, interacted with the women who faced divorce through outlawed practice of instant triple talaq. He said such women should be given rights over waqf properties and also called for several welfare measures that should be undertaken for their rehabilitation.

Around 300 women from across the State attended the event.

"Educated women should be absorbed in Government jobs as per their qualifications while arrangements should also be made for providing them shelter and education under various schemes. These women should be covered under the Ayushman Bharat Yojana or under the Chief Minister Arogya Scheme," he said.

Adityanath directed the departments concerned to prepare welfare schemes for the victims.

"Proper schemes should be implemented for the overall development of the society and no person should feel neglected," he said.

While assuring the triple talaq victims that their grievances will be redressed, the chief minister in a stern warning to the police said they too



would be punished if it is found that they failed to perform their duty.

Adityanath said women have the right to live with dignity. "In Uttar Pradesh, in last one year, 273 cases of triple talaq were reported from various districts in which FIR was registered.

We will ensure proper grievance redressal of the triple talaq victims and in case police failed to do their duties, they too will be punished," the Chief Minister said, adding the society cannot develop if one community is neglected.

He asked the Additional Chief Secretary (Home) to personally look into the concerns of the victims who submitted their applications during the event.

The Chief Minister also asked for identifying triple talaq victims and holding such interactive programmes at divisional level.

"The Government is ready

to support all women, whether Hindu or Muslim, who have faced any kind of harassment. The Government wants to make it clear that even Hindu men illegally having second wife and harassing them would not be spared and will face the wrath of law," he said.

The chief minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for projects that are meant to benefit the minority community, according to a State Government statement.

"I thank Prime Minister Narendra Modi for bringing law on triple talaq and taking the step towards women empowerment and honouring the dignity of women. Only he could have taken such step," he said.

"I want to assure all the women present here and other women of the State that the UP Government is there to support them and help in all possible ways while following the path shown by Modi," he said.

PTI

# Slash in corporate tax to boost growth: Sonowal

**Guwahati:** Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Wednesday said the recent cut in corporate tax will benefit the manufacturing sector in the North-East and lead to growth and employment opportunities in the region.

Sonowal told a Press conference that the cut in corporate tax is a "historic step" and will provide golden opportunity to the manufacturing units of the region, where the corporate sector is looking for chances of investment.

The Centre's step a "bold initiative" towards realising the Prime Minister's goal of making the country a five trillion economy and the north east region with its proximity to south east Asia will particularly benefit from it and emerge

as an investor-friendly destination, the Chief Minister said. The corporate sector has



already benefitted to the tune of ₹1,000.47 crore and is looking for new investment opportunities and expansion of units, the Chief Minister said.

"I thank Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

for taking this bold and strong step which has led to a positive and encouraging atmosphere across the country," he added.

Sonowal said that with the reduction in corporate tax, companies from China and

South Korea will express interest in investing in the country.

"This will lead to increase in exports leading to growth and employment opportunities, particularly in the north east," he added.

Sonowal accused the erst-

while Congress government at the Centre of ignoring the north east for 70 years since India's independence.

"Due to this the region did not get an opportunity to be a part of mainstream India".

He said the Act East Policy of the Modi Government will help north east to become globally competitive.

The prime minister, Sonowal said, has taken several initiatives to ensure the development of the region which he calls the 'Asthalthaxmi'.

The states of the region under Modi's guidance are taking steps to usher in development, he said.

Stating that connectivity with ASEAN and BBN countries have led to encouraging development initiatives in the

region, he said farmers had benefitted greatly from it and are now able to sell their produce in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, London, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Air connectivity has been established with Dhaka and Bangkok from Guwahati and very soon flights to more ASEAN countries will be introduced, Sonowal said.

Referring to Assam, Sonowal said 240 MoUs worth ₹80,000 crore was signed at the Advantage Assam Investment Summit organised by the State Government in 2018.

This had translated into setting up of 170 manufacturing units, majority of them in the oil and gas sector, involving ₹52,000 crore so far, he added.

PTI

# Doval arrives in Kashmir Valley

**It is his second visit since abrogation of J&K special status**



**Srinagar:** National Security Advisor Ajit Doval arrived here on Wednesday to take stock of the situation in Kashmir Valley and decide the future course of action for the smooth implementation of Government plans after the withdrawal of special status of Jammu & Kashmir, officials said.

Doval will meet top security officials and take stock of security and development-related activities in the State, which will be converted into

two union territories — Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh — on October 31, the officials said.

It was not immediately known how long the NSA would stay in the valley.

The NSA had camped for 11 days in the valley after the Centre announced its decision to withdraw the special status of the State under Article 370 and split it into two UTs on August 5. During that period, he had ensured that there was no violence in the aftermath of the Government's decision.

During his previous stay, he had taken rounds of the militancy-hit Shopian town in south Kashmir and Downtown Srinagar.

He had also addressed personnel of the Jammu & Kashmir Police, CRPF and Army separately, telling them about their successes in disturbed areas and underlining their importance in ensuring the safety of the country and citizens.

The NSA has been closely monitoring the situation and ensuring smooth coordination between all arms of security forces in the hinterland as well as along the line of control.

On August 5, the Government announced the decision to abrogate special status of Jammu & Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution, and dividing the State into two Union Territories.

PTI

# No bail for UP Govt teacher who forged documents to get job

**Muzaffarnagar:** A court here on Wednesday rejected the bail plea of a Government schoolteacher who was arrested last month allegedly for getting the job by submitting fake educational qualification certificates and working for 17 years before being caught.

Additional District Sessions Judge Vir Nayak Singh rejected the bail plea of Parvesh Kumari, who was appointed as a primary school teacher in 2000.

According to Government counsel Jitender Tyagi, Kumari's academic credentials were found to be fake during verification, following which she was dismissed from the service in 2017 and a case of



cheating was registered against her.

She was arrested in Tugalpur village here on August 19.

The woman was paid a total of over Rs 41 lakh in salary in the 17 years, according to officials.

The state education department has ordered that the amount be recovered from her.

PTI

# Nine Cong leaders in Tripura quit in solidarity with Debbarman

**Agartala:** In a major jolt to the Tripura Congress, nine leaders of the party, including its vice-president, put in their papers on Wednesday, a day after Pradyot Kishore Debbarman announced his resignation from the post of its state unit chief.

Addressing a press meet here, at the residence of Debbarman, TPCC General Secretary Sridam Debbarman, who is among the nine leaders, said the "royal scion has fallen victim to a conspiracy".

"Maharaja Pradyot was forced to resign from the party as he sought the implementation of NRC exercise and refused to compromise with a section of corrupt leaders," he claimed.

Among others present at the meet were Dinesh Debbarma, who is also a general secretary

of the party, and state unit vice-president Sachindra Debbarma.

"Now that we have resigned, many more in the districts and the sub-divisions will follow suit to protest against the conspiracy to drive out the 'maharaja'. We may form an independent party to protect the interests of people," Sridam Debbarma said.

Extending support to Debbarman, he said the Congress could secure only 1.5% votes in the Assembly elections last year, but after the "maharaja" took over as the TPCC president in February, organisational strength increased and the party managed to bag 30% votes in the Lok Sabha polls.

Training guns on AICC General Secretary Luizinho

Felerio, who is also in-charge of the northeast states, the TPCC general secretary alleged that he was a corrupt leader and the party would not be able to win power in the region in the next fifty years, if he continues to be at the helm.

Despite repeated attempts, Debbarman, the grandson of erstwhile Tripura king Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya, could not be contacted for his comment.

Taking to Facebook, however, he said, "There are certain people who are attacking me personally on FB and on media. But I don't care because I have taken a stand to speak for my people and state before speaking for any political interests or party..."

PTI

# Special pension workshop held for BSF personnel in Jammu

**Jammu:** A special workshop for pension was organised on Wednesday by the Ministry of Personnel for the BSF personnel here.

The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) under Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions sent a team of officers who conducted the special workshop for the Border Security Force (BSF) on Pensioners' Portal at their frontier headquarters.

The workshop — attended by over 100 officials including N N Dubey, DIG, Headquarters BSF, New Delhi and Hardeep Singh, DIG, Frontier BSE, Jammu — educated the pension dealing staff of the force on the functionality of the system so that they can seamlessly process the pension, said the ministry in a



statement.

The 'Bhavishya' (future) software — a common mandatory platform for all the central government employees for the purpose of processing pensions — was discussed at length, the statement said.

They were also educated on Digital Life Certificate and how the same can be digitally given from the comfort of one's home, it said.

Jitendra Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, had directed the department officials to send a team of DoPPW to Jammu, the ministry added.

PTI

# UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General public is hereby informed that one unknown male person was found dead in the Jurisdiction of P.S. Ashok Vihar, Delhi on Dated 12.09.2019 Time 12:20 P.M In this regard a DD No. 16PP Dated 12.09.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Ashok Vihar, Delhi.



The description of the dead body is given as under **Name:** Unknown **Sex:** Unknown **R/O :** Unknown **Age :** 30 years, **Face:** Oval, **Height :** 5'6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built :** Thin, **Wearing :** Check Shirt & Black Colour Pant and Black Sandal in his feet

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one is having any information about this dead person please inform the undersigned .

SHO  
P.S. Ashok Vihar, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-27243066  
875087021

DP/9418/NW/19

# Allahabad HC stays Azam's arrest in land-grab cases

**Allahabad:** The Allahabad High Court on Wednesday stayed the arrest of senior Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan in 27 cases of alleged grabbing of land.

A two-judge of justices Manoj Mishra and Manju Rani Chauhan passed the order on a petition filed by the former Uttar Pradesh minister, challenging the FIRs registered between July 13 and 20.

The court order protects the former Uttar Pradesh minister from arrest in 27 criminal cases, registered on complaints

of forcible occupation of farmers' land for the construction related to his Mohammad Ali Jauhar University in Rampur.

The court has also asked the state government and the counsel appearing for farmers to file their counter affidavit.

The high court issued a notice to actor-turned-politician Jaya Prada as Azam Khan had contended that all FIRs against him were lodged at her behest.

He has made Jaya Prada a respondent. The FIRs were lodged

against Khan by several farmers at the Azeem Nagar police station in Rampur.

It was alleged in the petition by Azam Khan that the FIRs were lodged against him due to political enmity.

The next hearing into the case is scheduled for October 24.

On September 14, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav had said in Rampur that all cases lodged against Rampur MP Azam Khan would be withdrawn if their party came to power.

PTI

# Guj Dy CM: PM to declare India open defecation-free on Oct 2

**Ahmedabad:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi will declare country open defecation-free on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2.

Modi will make the declaration in the presence of over 20,000 village heads at a function at the Sabarmati Riverfront here during his visit to Gujarat, Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel said on Wednesday.

These village heads (sarpanchs) would include around 10,000 from Gujarat and another 10,000 from across the country, he said.

Dignitaries from across the world are also expected to attend the mega event to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, said Patel.



"October 2 will be celebrated as Swachh Bharat Diwas across the country. Our Prime Minister would visit Gujarat on that day and declare the entire country open defecation-free in the presence of over 20,000 sarpanchs, including around 10,000 other states," Patel told reporters in Gandhinagar.

PTI

DELHI JAL BOARD GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (NORTH WEST)-I H-BLOCK UDYOG NAGAR INDL., AREA PEERA GARHI CHOWK NEW DELHI-41					
NIT No. 31/EE/(NW)/I(2019-20) Press Notice Tender					
S. No.	Name of Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs.)	E/M (Rs.) & Processing Fee's	Dt. of release tender/procurement solution/I.D. No.	Last Date/ time of receipt of tender through e-procurement Solution
1.	Renovation and repairing of existing double storey office building of EE(NW)-I at Peeragarhi Udyog Nagar, Delhi in (AC-10)	29,00,248/-	58,100/- 500/-	23/09/2019 2019_DJB_180775_1	09.10.2019 at 3:00 P.M.

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

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Advt No. J.S.V. 395/19-20

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Sr. No.	Job Number	Name of Work	Amount in Lac
A1	65/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2019-20	D/o Park (Open Gym) with Five Year maintenance Village Bhalolpur & Sector-71.	Rs. 57.01 Lacs
2	103/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2018-19	D/o RSP Sector-55, 57, side verge, Kondly Marg	Rs. 30.70 Lacs
3	48/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2019-20	M/o Parks in Sector-25A (Jalvayu Vihar) with Two Year maintenance.	Rs. 27.32 Lacs
4	10/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2019-20	M/o Park (Smriti Van Park) in Sector-72 with Two Year maintenance.	Rs. 26.17 Lacs
5	40/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2019-20	D/o R.S.P. in Sector-117 with Two Year maintenance (Dust Free)	Rs. 26.95 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 03.10.2019 upto 5.00 pm. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 04.10.2019 at 11.00 am.

B1	60/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2019-20	M/o Master green Belt in Sector-100 with Two Year maintenance.	Rs. 36.14 Lacs
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Which can be uploaded by date 10.10.2019 upto 5.00 pm. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 11.10.2019 at 11.00 am.

Director (Hort.)  
Sector-39, Noida

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

# Pakistan boxed in

With its PM Imran Khan admitting that he had failed on Kashmir, he better tackle his economy at the moment



Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan is in a confused state of mind, desperately trying to scramble some gains from his visit to New York for the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session, where he is intensely trying to convince the world of the need to intervene in Kashmir and internationalise it. For all his bluster, US President Donald Trump's new-found bonhomie with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and a possible trade deal have meant that the "mediation" idea is out the window. With Trump emphasising that he would "mediate" only when the two sides want it, that both leaders should talk and endorsing Modi's ability to tackle terror in his backyard mean that Pakistan has no ground to push stale goods. Khan himself admitted as much saying diplomacy these days was much dependent on "markets", that no human life was worth crying about unless it was American or Jew and that joining America's "war on terror" was a big mistake. Such is Pakistan's isolation, despite some American interest in retaining it as a strategic ally for confabulating with the Taliban in Afghanistan, that it is lobbying desperately to avoid a possible blacklisting by the inter-governmental Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Now, a censure there would freeze world aid to its cash-strapped economy. The panel last year placed Pakistan on the grey list of countries whose domestic laws are considered weak to tackle challenges of money laundering and terror financing. As lobbying is against laid-down procedures, India has been quick on the uptake on this count too. Modi's statement at the "Leaders' Dialogue on Strategic Responses to Terrorist and Violent Extremist Narratives" on the politicisation of the FATF process was meant to highlight Pakistan's questionable means to court world opinion. This ethical call could weigh heavily on any nation intending to hear out Khan. Three countries are required to raise objections against the blacklisting proposal for it to be rejected. Assuming China will support Pakistan and the US will try some diplomatic balance by staying neutral, India hopes to make Pakistan sweat for garnering support.

Though Khan may appear flustered, his dirty tricks department, namely the Pakistan Army, is not and has dropped 80 kg of arms and ammunition through eight drone sorties into Tarn Taran, Punjab, with the aim of fuelling terror attacks in the Valley. The payload was sent across the border by Pakistan-based Khalistani terror groups between September 9 and 16 and the entire consignment, using the Khalistan Zindabad Force (KZF) network, was supported by Pakistan's spy agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI). The intention was clearly to use a latent pro-Khalistani conduit to pass these to militants in Kashmir and help them plan largescale attacks. For long, the Pakistani Army has been cultivating the pro-Khalistani sentiment globally to open new "bleeding" sores for India but is yet to come up with a radically original counter-strategy ever since we displayed a "pre-emptive" strike ability. Boxed into a corner, Khan again bluntly issued triple threats — the risk of a nuclear war, the radicalisation of Muslims around the world and a bloody uprising in the region — if pressure was not put on India. Unfortunately, this self-destructive formula won't work anymore and Pakistan's India-centric hatred has to find a new sales pitch. Yet it cannot afford that luxury as its fiscal deficit is at its highest in the last three decades at 8.9 per cent for 2018-19. Even common Pakistanis, unnerved by the deteriorating security and economic conditions, did not show much interest in their government's "Kashmir Hour", indicating a genuine threat to Khan's popularity and his Kashmir policy.

# Real Mr India

The Dadasaheb Phalke award has come a tad too late for Amitabh Bachchan. Should he get the Bharat Ratna instead?



There are no two ways about the iconic value of Amitabh Bachchan. He is just not Indian cinema's megastar but a Leviathanic embodiment of our national consciousness and character. For his journey embodies the idea of India, from the unsure beginner struggling at the fringes to the angry young man who took on the establishment and rewrote destiny with his own ideals, and now the ripe old man of 76, who has the grandfatherly ability, familiarity and maturity to be at one with the commoner. Yet he can carry a film on silver wisps of his hair to the 100-crore club. So a Dadasaheb Phalke award, that undoubtedly is the highest honour for outstanding achievement in films, is not enough to circumscribe the aura of a man who has transcended cinema and has become an emotion in himself. Yes many film personalities have been recipients of this prestigious award ever since it was instituted in 1969. But Bachchan was kept out of the scroll for a considerably longer time while names like Jeetendra were considered though Manoj Kumar was preferred and his peers like Vinod Khanna were moved up, albeit posthumously. In fact, the Phalke awards have the dubious distinction of acknowledging stellar contributions all too late in the day, both Raj and Shashi Kapoor receiving it in their last days. Fifteen Filmfare trophies later and with each of his current roles more challenging than the other, Big B certainly doesn't need a certificate on being the best in the business.

Considering Bachchan already has three national awards — he was conferred the Padma Shri in 1984, the Padma Bhushan in 2001 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2015 — he could even qualify for the Bharat Ratna, a suggestion once made by Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee but countered by Bachchan himself. But that is typical of a man who had created the mystique of stardom and once the world changed, realised that he would deconstruct it bit by bit, be it as an everyday game show host or sharing his life's moments and musings through social media. Be that as it may, he needs to be celebrated for his originality of purpose and shaping public discourse around him. To that end, many ignore the humanitarian profile he has developed through the years, lending his heft to causes and social issues that have justifiably caught the nation's imagination. Be it the UN pulse polio crusade, which actually registered a spike ever since his endorsement, or tuberculosis, he has devoted himself towards altruistic campaigns without even charging a penny. He dedicated himself to awareness drives and is a perennial anchor of the Clean India movement, committing himself fervently without fail and not bothering about his physical frailties. The Bharat Ratna, in recent years, has been much politicised, and in a bid to be of contemporary relevance, has been found to be worthy enough to be conferred on the likes of Sachin Tendulkar. Nobody wants to belittle the cricketer's legacy but there were others before and will be after him. And unlike his no-shows in Parliament as a nominated notable, Bachchan has never sought political office, bowing out of politics as it was a "cesspool" that he could not wade through. Bharat Ratna is given to people "in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order" in "any field of human endeavour." Bachchan surely scores high on all these counts. Certainly no lesser than those who own that title.

That ₹86.87 lakh was paid as income tax bill of the Ministers by the State exchequer for the last financial year corroborates the gigantic amount allocated so far on this account. This is an absolute misuse of the authority for availing such an undemocratic facility. The baffling provision also went against the basic principles of bonafide democracy. Incidentally, a number of Chief Ministers and Ministers are billionaires, yet they had been availing such atypical benefits.

**Cicily Thomas**  
Kumbalamchuvattil

# Reliable partners

France has had a long relation with India, particularly in the defence sector. One area where India can be of great help to it pertains to the transport sector



CLAUDE ARPI

Remember the months before the legislative elections, *L'affaire Rafale* was in the news everyday, thanks to the then leader of Opposition, who alleged hanky-panky in the intergovernmental deal signed between India and France for acquiring 36 off-the-shelf Rafale multi-role fighter planes. The day the campaign was over, no line of negative writing has appeared in the media. Of course, *L'affaire* was just an electoral plank and had no connection with the reality of the deal itself.

Dassault Aviation is back in the news and this time for better reasons. The headline of one national daily read, "Rafales are coming! Deadly French fighter planes to arrive soon; Rajnath to receive first aircraft this month."

It has been a long journey since the first Request for Information for 126 Medium Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft was made in 2001. Five years ago, the then French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian came to India on a two-day visit. He was trying to resurrect the stagnating deal with his Indian counterpart, Manohar Parrikar. In an interview for *The Pioneer*, he told me: "France and India share a wide range of common interests. Our strategic partnership, developing since 1998, when the BJP was in power, includes defence and security." Regarding the Rafales, he observed: "The negotiations are proceeding well. For a project of this scale and such complexity, which brings the transfer of know-how to several industrial stakeholders of India, the pace is comparable to that of other negotiations. Both our Governments share the will to conclude it and this is, of course, essential."

But it was far from being done. In fact, it took two more years and the will of the Indian Prime Minister to sign a Government-to-Government agreement for 36 planes. On October 8, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will finally receive the first plane at Dassault's factory in its facility in Merignac near Bordeaux. The first four planes should arrive in May 2020. Other jets will follow in quick succession. What a protracted, painful road!

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has already started training 24 pilots in three different batches to fly the Indian custom-made combat aircraft, which will be deployed (one squadron each) at Ambala airbase in Haryana and Hasimara in West Bengal.

As a new Chief of Air Staff (CAS) was nominated, the IAF received "acceptance" for its first Rafale in Merignac, where the planes are assembled. On the tail of India's new Rafale is painted "RB-01", standing for Air Marshal RKS Bhaduria, who will take over as the new CAS on October 1 and whose role was pivotal in negotiating the final deal between India and France. The IAF's Deputy Chief, Air Marshal VR Chaudhary, had just flown the Indian jet, which will be equipped with latest gadgets, in particular Meteor missiles, SCALP ground attack missiles and many other equipment that must remain top-secret.

This comes at a time when India faced



a difficult time on the international scene with two of its neighbours clubbing their forces to internationalise the Kashmir issue. China distastefully decided to support Pakistan's objections to the abrogation of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, which has surprised many. India undoubtedly needs all its energies, resources and friends to face these two separate fronts.

Incidentally, France was the first country to torpedo the Chinese initiative to get a statement on the abrogation of Article 370 from the Security Council. Further, on August 21, Jean-Yves Le Drian, now Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, telephoned his Pakistan counterpart, Shah Mahmood Qureshi and told him that for France, Kashmir was a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan. Le Drian pleaded for restraint, de-escalation and easing the situation. The message was clear.

France has a long relation with India, particularly in the domain of defence. In the early 1950s, India had purchased 71 Ouragans (known in India as Toofanis) from the same Dassault company. HS Malik, the then Indian Ambassador to France, wrote to then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in October 1953: "All of us in the Embassy, who have been working on the implantation of the contract with the Defence Ministry here for the supply of Ouragan aircraft, were

THE ARRIVAL OF THE RAFALE FIGHTER JETS COMES AT A TIME WHEN INDIA FACED A DIFFICULT TIME ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE WITH TWO OF ITS NEIGHBOURS CLUBBING THEIR FORCES TO INTERNATIONALISE THE KASHMIR ISSUE

greatly relieved and delighted when we got the news that our four pilots with the four Ouragans had reached Palam safely." He continued: "I venture to bring to your notice the wonderful cooperation that we have received both from the French officers of the Ministry of Defence, from the Cabinet Minister downwards and from the French industry."

Since then, India and France remain reliable friends. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was French President Emmanuel Macron's special invitee at the G-7 meet in Biarritz in South France. The two leaders met before and the joint statement noted that the "traditional relationship is enduring, trustworthy, like-minded and all-encompassing. India-France relations are marked by mutual trust between two strategic partners who have always stood by each other."

Modi's visit further strengthened the strategic ties in crucial sectors such as defence, nuclear energy and maritime security. Apart from defence and new fields in IT, cooperation has developed in key areas such as nuclear energy, space International Solar Alliance and joint development projects. Symptomatic of the close

relations, India and France finalised a closer cooperation in digital and cybersecurity domain: "The two leaders have adopted a cybersecurity and digital technology road map, aimed at expanding Indo-French bilateral cooperation, particularly in the strategic sectors of high performance computing and Artificial Intelligence, with the target of bringing our start-up ecosystems closer to each other," said the joint statement.

Both nations have been left far behind by China and it is high time that India collaborates with friendly countries in this domain, which will determine the superpowers of tomorrow. With the world in turmoil, France has been and indeed is an enduring partner for India.

**Tailpiece:** One domain where India could help France is transport security. On the first day of a recent visit to France, I was robbed of my wallet with all my cash in the Paris metro. It is a fact that the Delhi metro is far safer than Paris'. Indian engineers should advise their French counterparts how to have a clean and secure transport system. The number of other avenues in bilateral collaborations is unlimited, the purchase of 36 new aircraft is already rumoured. Don't understand what "illuminated" is supposed to mean?

(The writer is an expert on India-China relations)

## SOUNDBITE

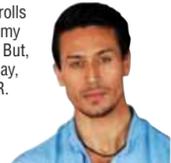
Those who do not feel proud of US President Donald Trump's comment that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the father of India, do not consider themselves Indians.

**Union Minister**  
—Jitendra Singh



I've been getting trolls and memes since my first film released. But, at the end of the day, any PR is good PR.

**Actor**  
—Tiger Shroff



India does not really have a problem talking to Pakistan but certainly has a problem in restarting dialogue with terrorist.

**Foreign Minister**  
—S Jaishankar



There's nothing between impeachment and transfer. We need a system that is more nuanced than what we currently have to make judges accountable.

**Supreme Court judge**  
—DY Chandrachud



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Misusing public money

Sir — This refers to the report, "CM, minister to pay their own income tax" (September 25). Undoubtedly, the tax obligation of an individual is "personal" and not the responsibility of a democratically-elected Government. Such an incoherent policy was apparently framed to appease the team of Ministers. The contention by the then Government headed by VP Singh was that the Chief Ministers and Council of Ministers were "too poor" to pay their income taxes.

That ₹86.87 lakh was paid as income tax bill of the Ministers by the State exchequer for the last financial year corroborates the gigantic amount allocated so far on this account. This is an absolute misuse of the authority for availing such an undemocratic facility. The baffling provision also went against the basic principles of bonafide democracy. Incidentally, a number of Chief Ministers and Ministers are billionaires, yet they had been availing such atypical benefits.

**Cicily Thomas**  
Kumbalamchuvattil

### Questioning the tax reform plan

This refers to the editorial, "A dose of adrenaline" (September 23). It seems the BJP-led Government still nurses an arrogant belief that the economic slowdown is simply a cyclical phenomenon that is deliberately being hyped to suit vested interests. It is also of the view that stimulus packages can lead to a quick turnaround. One wonders how the forced merger of public sector banks (PSBs), done with the aim to tackle Non-Performing Assets; the loud re-introduction of an existing export incentive scheme; and a funding window for the housing sector can help reverse the current meltdown. However, the latest reform measure is an extravagant cut in the corporate tax, which could reduce the total revenue receipts by a whopping ₹1.45 lakh crore. Beneficiaries of these moves — the bankers, builders, exporters and corporates — are not actually the main players on the demand side. With the corporate world contributing less to the exchequer now, the Union Budget hardly has the funds to boost consumption and demand, without increasing fiscal deficit.

According to the World Bank data, the average value of capital investment as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for India was 24.91 per cent, with a minimum of 13.98 per cent in 1968 and a maximum of 41.95



per cent in 2007. It dropped to 30.98 per cent in 2018. After the US Senate passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017, a serious doubt cropped up: The massive tax cuts on corporations, along with reductions in the tax rate on repatriation, would be a boon to corporate America but they could not create more jobs or boost wages. They've already helped stocks skyrocket by more than 30 per cent since the election, however. India, too, is equally clueless if the recent tax cut can boost demand or create more jobs.

**Haridasan Rajan**  
Kozhikode

### Correcting the executive

Sir — The landmark decision of the UK Supreme Court, where it said that Boris Johnson's decision to suspend Parliament for five

weeks was "unlawful", is one of the most significant Constitutional judgements in modern times. However, some legal experts worry that the British judgement could set a troubling precedent, opening the

door to a form of judicial review that is widely accepted in the US that has a Supreme Court that actively interprets the Constitution. In contrast, Britain relies on an unwritten set of traditions and conventions that have

treated a sovereign Parliament as the supreme law of the land. Once the courts venture into the political sphere and begin passing judgements on Parliament's actions, they say there is no going back. For democracies like India, the ruling is a signal that an independent judiciary can find the leeway to rein in the executive with numerical majority when parliamentary conventions are undermined. Normally, courts steer clear of political decisions taken by the executive.

**Meghna A**  
New South Wales

### Additional worries

Sir — With Aadhaar already mired in controversies over data security and privacy, it is absurd that the Government is mooting the idea of one card for all utilities. With a single card handling all crucial data, individuals would face an even greater risk. Better, the Government should focus on strengthening the economy first.

**Gunjan**  
Via email

Send your feedback to:  
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## FIRST COLUMN

## The change must come from within

Youth will have a critical role in Swachh Bharat 2.0 as their personal habits and value systems will help the world become cleaner and greener



JOHN VARGHESE

The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was launched by our Prime Minister in 2014 and on October 2, 2019 as it concludes, it will set in motion the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi, world leader *sans pareil*. This is an appropriate time for us to look back at the mission's objectives and its future. Without a doubt, it was the future of our youth, that impelled Narendra Modi to launch the SBM. For five years, the Government strained its resources to create a clean and green India, hoping that it would pave the way for a better future. You can read the SBM statistics and decide, or you can look around your own habitation and gauge its success. Now, we all must ask ourselves, how can we take it to the next level? The SBM brought a change from outside but now, as we move ahead, the change must come from within.

The India we live in today is a prosperous one. My father's generation had to walk miles to go to school. During his time there were famines and because there were not enough jobs, he moved from his native State to another, where there was scope for learning, growth and development. My own growing up years saw better transportation, accessible schools and we never heard of famine in India. The present generation is way ahead of both our generations. That steady progress was achieved through the choices that were made. And what do we have today? A better world, largely. Diseases have been conquered; technology has brought us closer; there is a larger amount of wealth in circulation than what was available 30 years ago. And the flip side? More natural disasters, less water for the world, toxic garbage contaminating the world, corruption contaminating our souls and more horrific, man-made conflicts.

It is against such a backdrop that I send out this plea to the youth. India has the largest number of young people in the world today and that translates into a very powerful force. What an opportunity to do good! What an opportunity to influence the rest of the world! Like Gandhi did in his lifetime and after. Use the many opportunities that come your way well. You are the future. Make that future a bright one. Opportunities come to you in several ways — as an individual in your community, as a technologically-connected community, as a global citizen. Use them all and use them well. The future you have before you is not the future my father's generation had; that was largely local, perhaps even national. Your future is a global one. Think big. Let your choices have a bearing on your larger, global future.

I will urge you, the youth, to do one thing. Choose wisely and begin with yourself. Your personal habits, your value system and the sharing of what you think and have, will help the world become cleaner, greener and better. Like the quote which is attributed to the Mahatma, "Change must begin with oneself." Let your conscience be your guide to wise choices.

How do you make wise choices? You can learn from the past. You can listen to the voice of experience, shared so easily now through accessible technology. You can, as you read history, see the mistakes that were made and choose not to repeat them.

You must exercise the inner voice of your conscience. For that you need to know yourself. If you do not, then you will not be able to hear your conscience. One way to know yourself a little better is to get yourself educated. A good education gives young people an insight into who and what they are and what they want to do with their lives. We must encourage our students to excel and to share that excellence if they want to succeed in the truest sense of that word. Wise choices determine a person's life and success.

Choices imply exclusion. And when we choose, whether we like it or not, we are excluding several other things because that is the nature of a choice. We cannot have it all. We must choose and in making a choice we must be able to separate the chaff from the grain. That is wisdom. That is what an education helps us do — choose wisely. A degree is not an education. The ability to make wise choices, on the other hand, is indeed an education. Knowledge coupled with experience, an awareness of one's own self and needs and the ability to let all these converge into a timely and appropriate decision — making sure that what we finally do is morally right — is true education.

Look at the world around us. In several areas of our daily life there are opportunities for us to choose wisely. Even undo some bad decisions of the past. The writing is on the wall for all to see. We can choose to ignore it, pretend that all is well and compound misery for future generations. We can choose to see it and decide wisely. The choice lies before us. It is already late in some areas. There are however, opportunities every day. So, we must choose wisely. Every day and every time.

(The writer is Principal, St Stephen's College, Delhi University)

IF THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF CITIZENS (NRC) IS IMPLEMENTED IN DELHI, BJP CHIEF MANOJ TIWARI WILL HAVE TO FIRST LEAVE THE CITY.

—DELHI CHIEF MINISTER  
ARVIND KEJRIWAL

## POINT COUNTERPOINT



PEOPLE WHO HAVE MIGRATED FROM STATES ARE CONSIDERED AS FOREIGNERS BY YOU? HOW DOES AN IRS OFFICER NOT KNOW WHAT NRC IS?

—BJP LEADER  
MANOJ TIWARI

## Crack 'AI for health' puzzle

Unlocking Government datasets is necessary for training and testing Artificial Intelligence systems in Indian healthcare from a regulatory standpoint



ABHINAV VERMA

VIVEK ELURI

Back in 2006, British mathematician Clive Humby famously said, "data is the new oil," in the context of Tesco's Clubcard Loyalty programme, a basic marketing gimmick. Little did he know that five years on his words would take a life of their own with the onset of Industrial Revolution 4.0 that is largely driven by Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data and the internet of things (IoT). As the world stands at the brink of an AI-disruption, data is all the more critical.

Simply speaking, an AI programme is a computer code that can learn from real world situations and tweak itself to perform more efficiently. This requires that it be fed large datasets to learn, find patterns and draw conclusions. This enables the AI to perform its task better, with accuracy that enhances over time as more data is fed in. As AI is being developed to solve increasingly complex problems, especially in healthcare like diagnosing a patient, impeccable accuracy is imperative. This in turn requires developers to have access to large amounts of representative and quality data.

Recently, NITI Aayog's proposal to develop an institutional AI framework that identified health as a core area was approved by the Finance Ministry. In the coming few weeks, the Union Health Ministry is also expected to release the final National Digital Health Blueprint (NDHB). These events are set to move conversations around AI in healthcare to the centre stage, but the question of relevant data for development of AI systems for public health is yet to be answered comprehensively. Two dimensions of this question have to be considered — the data available and how to access it?

While clinical data in the form of longitudinal Electronic Health Records (EHR) would be critical for future development of this industry, mass adoption of interoperable EHR systems is moving slowly in India. In the interim, disease registries, service and logistics tracking data and repositories of radiology scans might all serve as starting points to develop useful AI applications. These applications have to be trained on large datasets that are usually available with the Government through its national programmes and public health facilities. Training on Government datasets also ensures universal, error-proof applicability. However, these remain inaccessible to academia and the private sector alike.

**Government as a gatekeeper:** As compared to other sectors, health data is highly sensitive and requires the Government to protect it by limiting access. However, as the open data movement takes hold the world over, India has also been making attempts at unlocking its wealth. The National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP) was released to manage the release of Government data, but it has not been implemented equally across Government vestiges. The data platform set up thereunder — data.gov.in — still suffers from the lack of critical updated datasets that are granular and clean enough to deliver value. Most departments still haven't uploaded their mandatory minimum of five datasets and those who have, upload top-level metadata. There are multiple concerns that the Government has in unlocking data, some legitimate but easily solvable and others deeply embedded, which require a shift in culture. Due to the lack of a comprehensive data privacy legislation, even officials who understand the



DEBATES AROUND TACTICAL DETAILS OF DATA-SHARING WILL GO ON BUT ONE THING IS CLEAR, THERE IS NO VALUE IN KEEPING DATA LOCKED. IT IS PERTINENT THAT INDIA NOW MOVES BEYOND MERE CONVERSATION AND ACTUALLY PROPELS ACTION TO UNLOCK MEANINGFUL DATA

potential of open data shy away from taking initiatives to unlock it. This is also complicated by the recent global scandals relating to commercial exploitation of personal data by mega tech giants, making officials wary of companies dealing in data. Unlocking data has another unintended consequence — it brings to the fore concerns regarding the quality of the data collected, especially when compared with parallelly collected data through different programmes. This even thwarts efforts of inter-ministerial data sharing, let alone making datasets publicly available.

One issue with most datasets that have been digitised is machine readability. Scans of handwritten physical documents are illegible to machines without proper annotation, such as labelling key headers. The task of making even some of the Government data machine readable is cumbersome but the benefits in terms of cost-savings in resource planning and efficiencies in clinical care and public health at large, make it a compelling case.

**Concerns around commercial innovations on citizen data:** For those select few within the Government, who view data as an asset having commercial value, the natural instinct is to prevent what is primarily a public good from private sector exploitation. Whether data collected by the Government should be made available for free is a polarising question. On one hand, it can be argued that the data generated through citizens should be freely released to companies so that they can innovate and in turn provide better services. However, this school of thought doesn't account for the fact that while companies make commercial gains from the citizen's data, the people are neither given financial or other benefits at the point of data-sharing nor at the point of receipt of the final service. Thus, engagement with patients and incentivisation is necessary so that they

can be convinced to share their data using comprehensive consent managers and opt-out options. This adds to the cost burden to the Government of creating datasets for sharing.

In fact, in making its data useable, the Government would spend immense costs in annotating and cleaning the data. Open data as a principle is not opposed to levying a fee for use of Government datasets. Certain base datasets can be released free of cost while premium sets can be made subject to payment. However, distinctions must be made between non-commercial and commercial use in terms of user fees. Models that charge commercial entities in order to adequately subsidise non-profit access to datasets can be explored. Outside of user charges, innovative models such as an obligatory public service clause can also be introduced in data-sharing agreements for innovators using public data, which can ensure public benefit at large.

**Moving swiftly to find this piece of the jigsaw:** Earlier this year, AI consultancy Oxford Insights AI Readiness Index pointed out that while India sits at a comfortable 19th rank, it severely lags behind its Asian competitors like China and Singapore in open data and data availability. Advancing India's global leadership will require the Government to act swiftly to develop data-sharing collaborations and protocols. Smaller datasets and non-commercial collaborations might be a safe first step.

Globally, medical colleges and universities are leading the way in making smaller datasets publicly accessible in order to spur innovations. The Stanford ML Group's open datasets like ChEXpert, for instance, allows participants access to over 14,000 standardised high-resolution chest X-ray scans to build and test their AI algorithms. However, such open datasets will continue to have limited use and Government (or Government-approved) datasets are necessary for

training and testing AI systems from a regulatory standpoint. The Government is well aware of this necessity and therefore, NITI Aayog tied up with Department of Biotechnology to set up an imaging 'biobank' for cancer. How much of the data will be meaningful and open for all remains to be seen, but initiatives like these are crucial.

Traditionally, data is seen as something to be protected and kept hidden instead of a resource that could bring about economic and social value when optimally utilised. Once seen as a public asset, data sharing will kick-start automatically. Environment like data sandboxes or creation of small data lakes to allow innovators to train their AI must be explored. In March 2019, CMS, the US federal agency overlooking Medicare and Medicaid programmes, launched the AI Health Outcomes Challenge, which invited AI solutions for predetermined problems using certain Medicare claims datasets. These confidence-boosting steps show bureaucrats the value emerging technology applications can bring.

Unlocking data also means exploring watertight ways of preserving the privacy, security and traceability of data. Advancement in technologies as distributed ledger technology (blockchain is a popular form) hold answers to problems such as ensuring single use when datasets are shared. Technologies such as homomorphic encryption may enable training on a dataset without having to expose the sensitive parts of the dataset. Debates around tactical details of data sharing will go on, but one thing is clear — there is no value in keeping data locked. It is pertinent that we now move beyond mere conversation and actually propel action to unlock meaningful data.

(Verma is a lawyer and policy consultant and Eluri has led digital transformation projects in the pharmaceutical industry. Both are with the International Innovation Corps, Chicago University.)

## Ocean warming and debris take a toll

Seas are an amazing repository of life forms and it is believed that some of the stunning aquatic species are yet to be discovered. Sadly, these life forms are now falling prey to global warming and pollution



KOTA SRIRAJ

The spectre of global warming is now reaching the deepest and coolest parts of the planet and its oceans. Considered the life blood of the Earth, the oceans are an amazing repository of life forms and it is believed that some of the stunning aquatic species are yet to be discovered. Sadly, these are now falling prey to global warming and pollution as the flora and fauna in the marine ecosystem have long been at the receiving end of man-made malaise. A case in point is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, a man-made floating island of marine debris comprising mostly plastic, weighing over 700,000 tonnes, in the North Pacific Ocean. Also known as the Pacific trash

vortex, this marine debris comprises the Western Garbage Patch near Japan and the Eastern Garbage Patch between Hawaii and California. Oceanographers and ecologists recently discovered that about 70 per cent of marine debris actually sinks to the bottom of the ocean and ruins the marine ecosystem.

Closer home, the Indian coastline that supports an ancient and diverse coral reef system is fighting a different battle. Corals are referred to as underwater rainforests because of the important role they play in supporting marine life and biodiversity. They are also vital for fisheries, tourism and as a repository of medicinal, agricultural and industrial products. Based on a recent study, a team of Indian researchers has warned that rising sea temperatures could put these fragile underwater systems in peril. They analysed information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Optimum Interpolated Sea Surface Temperature database from 1982 onwards and found that three mass



bleaching events occurred in 1998, 2010 and 2016, impacting coral reefs in the Andaman, Nicobar, Lakshadweep, Gulf of Mannar and Gulf of Kutch.

Oceans are massive sinks for greenhouse gases. However, as they absorb them, the oceans warm up

and there are changes in seawater chemistry. Corals are sensitive to temperature changes, which affect photosynthesis and calcification of their structures, making them prone to diseases and even death. Sea algae and corals share a symbiotic existence and when seawaters turn

warm in summers and remain so for more than 28 days, the corals experience thermal stress. Due to this, they expel the zooxanthellae algae residing in their tissues and turn colourless, say the findings published in the *Current Science* journal. Although coral reefs are known to recover from bleaching in a decade or two, its severity can overwhelm them and hamper their ability to recover.

Coral bleaching is not specific to Indian coasts. The most extensive coral bleaching event from 2014 to 2017 affected reefs across the world, including the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, where the damage was intense and also those along the east coast of Africa, where the intensity of destruction was slightly less. Seychelles was the worst-hit, followed by Madagascar, while parts of Mauritius, Kenya and Tanzania were badly impacted. If bleaching continues for an extended period, the corals eventually die.

Coral bleaching and mortality exacerbated by climate change are the biggest threats to oceanic biodiver-

sity as reefs provide the perfect place for marine life to thrive, especially fish. The fallout of bleaching and coral death is a rise in the growth of fleshy macro algae in reefs, which does not allow corals to revive by taking up their space. Interestingly, depletion of corals also seems to have a detrimental impact on tourism. For instance, when intense coral bleaching occurred in Africa, it hit the scuba diving industry and tourism badly.

According to a World Bank estimates, the African tourism industry reported losses amounting to \$2.2 million in Zanzibar and \$15.09 million in Mombasa. Even Seychelles has lost a considerable amount of its coral reefs and the country's profits from dive tourism have dipped.

India must learn from these global debates and rush to save its coral reserves from destruction. This will not only preserve the environment and oceans but also protect the tourism industry and the lives attached to it.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)



## FOREIGN EYE



## WE HAVE BEEN WARNED

The upsurge in youth climate activism has dramatically altered the terms of the global climate argument. Driven to desperation by failures of national and international institutions, and increasingly anxious about the heating and ecologically degraded world they are set to inherit, young people are throwing down the gauntlet to political leaders and warning them about the consequences if they refuse to pick it up.

(The Guardian editorial)

# 14.24L jobs created in July: ESIC payroll data

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Around 14.24 lakh jobs were created in July, higher than 12.49 lakh in the previous month, according to a latest payroll data from Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC).

Gross enrolments of new subscribers with the ESIC were 1.49 crore during 2018-19, National Statistical Office (NSO) said in a report.

It also showed that during September, 2017 to July, 2019, around 2.83 crore new subscribers joined the ESIC scheme.

The NSO report is based on the payroll data of new subscribers of various social security schemes run by the ESIC, retirement fund body EPFO and the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

## THE NSO REPORT IS BASED ON THE PAYROLL DATA OF NEW SUBSCRIBERS OF VARIOUS SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES RUN BY THE ESIC

It has been releasing the payroll data of new subscribers since April, 2018, covering a period starting from September 2017.

The report showed that gross new enrolments with the ESIC during September 2017 to March 2018 were 83.34 lakh.

A net of 11.61 lakh new enrolments with the Employees' Provident Fund

Organisation (EPFO) were recorded in July, as compared to 10.75 lakh in June this year.

During 2018-19, 61.12 lakh new subscribers on a net basis joined the social security schemes run by the EPFO. Similarly, the net new enrolments were 15.52 lakh during September 2017 to March 2018.

It showed that during September, 2017 to July, 2019; around 2.65 crore new subscribers joined the EPF scheme.

The report said that since the number of subscribers are from various sources, there are elements of overlap and the estimates are not additive.

The NSO said the present report gives different perspectives on the levels of employment in the formal sector and does not measure employment at a holistic level.

# Job creation on rise in Bengal

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

At a time when the country as a whole is witnessing a massive downslide in economic sector, particularly in the field of job creation, Bengal has witnessed a quantum jump in employment generation, sources in the State Finance Department said.

In what could bring smiles in Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's face, her State has recorded an additional job creation of six lakh in the past eight years when employment generation has gone down to a 45 year low in the past one year.

According to sources in last eight years the State has recorded formation of 77,525 new firms creating new jobs for the people. These firms and also the Government have jointly created about 6 lakh 40 thousand and 399 jobs in the past eight years, sources at State secretary Nabanna said.

According to Government sources in 2011-2012 there were 95,241 firms generating professional tax. They



employed 14 lakh 72 thousand and 238 people. In 2018-2019 the number of such firms went up to 1 lakh 72 thousand. In the organized sector the number of people giving professional tax is 21 lakh 16 thousand 637.

According to a senior official the firms transacting with the Government and also those registered in the GST regime have to provide records of people working with them. Till 2019 March the number of such employees had gone up to more than 21 lakh.

Noted economist Abhiroop Sarkar said an increase of 5 per cent in job sector was satisfactory but one has also to take into consideration of the qual-

itative nature of the jobs thus provided by the firms.

He said "last year the State realized professional tax worth ₹550 crore which itself proves that most of the employed people were giving professional tax. According to Nabanna sources a tough GST regime in 2018-2019 led to about 56,000 new registrations in professional tax system.

Incidentally State Finance Minister Amit Mitra had claimed that the State had recorded new employment of about 9.05 lakh in 2018-2019. The figure for the previous year in 2017-2018 was 8.92 lakh "which is not bad," said a senior official.

## BUSINESS CORNER

### NEED TO SET UP FOOTWEAR CLUSTERS AT HIGHWAYS: MIN

**New Delhi:** There is an urgent need to establish footwear clusters beyond major cities, and the Government may set up few of them at national highways, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Wednesday. He also noted that with a huge potential of employment and exports, India's footwear sector is one of the 'engines of growth' for the country's economy, the statement issued by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) said. "There is an urgent need to diversify and set up footwear clusters beyond major cities. We may establish the same at national highways such as Delhi-Mumbai Highway may be ideal locations," Gadkari said while addressing an ITPO event here.



### TAX CUT TO PROVIDE MOMENTUM: ANURAG THAKUR

**New Delhi:** Women and youth are leading the direct selling industry and corporate tax cut along with a slew of economic measures taken recently will add momentum to the sector, Anurag Singh Thakur, Minister of State for Finance Affairs Anurag Thakur with IDSA Chairman Vivek Katoch (2nd L), ED & COO of WFDSA Tamuna Gabaia and former Consumer Affairs Secretary Hem Pandey releases the Annual Survey Report 2018-19 of Indian Direct Selling Association (IDSA), in New Delhi on Wednesday



Selling Association (IDSA) Annual Survey 2018-19 here today. "The direct selling industry engages around 60 people involved as either distributors or direct sellers and I have been told this number could grow to two crore by 2025. During the past few years, as a part of recent economic reforms and measures announced, our government too has taken a host of initiative to boost the corporate sector, support MSME and nurture startups," the Minister said in his keynote address. The Minister said, "This is a commendable achievement and it aligns with our government's vision of encouraging and facilitating the role of women and youth in New India's growth story." The Indian Direct Selling Industry has witnessed a Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of approximately 16% and grown from Rs 83,085 million (Rs 8308 Crore) in 2015-16 to ₹1,30,800 (₹ 13,080 Crore) in 2018-19, according to a report released by IDSA.

# Mukesh Ambani richest Indian: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped the list of richest Indians for the eighth consecutive year, with a net worth of ₹3,80,700 crore, according to the latest IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List.

London-based SP Hinduja & family, with assets worth ₹1,86,500 crore, retained the second rank in the list, followed by Wipro founder Azim Premji at the third place with a wealth of ₹1,17,100 crore.

According to the latest IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List, the number of Indians having a net worth of more than ₹1,000 crore has grown to 953 this year from 831 in 2018; while, the number of billionaires in terms of US dollar has reduced to 138 from 141.

"The combined wealth of top 25 in the list equates to 10



per cent of India's GDP and that of 953 accounts for 27 per cent," it said.

L N Mittal, chairman and CEO of ArcelorMittal, was the 4th richest with a wealth of ₹1,07,300 crore and Gautam Adani was placed on the 5th position with a net worth of ₹94,500 crore.

Others in the top 10 include Uday Kotak at the 6th place with a wealth of ₹94,100 crore, Cyrus S Poonawalla at 7th position with ₹88,800 crore assets, Cyrus Pallonji Mistry at 8th spot with a wealth of ₹76,800 crore and Dilip Shanghvi at 10th slot with ₹71,500-crore wealth.

Interestingly, while the cumulative wealth for this year shows an increase of 2 per cent compared to last year, the average wealth shows a decline of 11 per cent, IFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List said.

# RBI rebuts social media rumours on closure of 9 banks



PTI ■ MUMBAI

Rebutting social media rumours swiftly, the Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday said no commercial banks are going to be shut.

Finance secretary Rajiv Kumar described such social media messages as "mischievous" saying the government was in process of strengthening public sector banks by infusing capital in them.

"Reports appearing in some sections of social media about the RBI closing down certain commercial banks are false," the central bank said in a statement.

Messages are circulating in various social media platforms that nine banks will be closed down permanently by the RBI and appeals being made to public to withdraw their money from them.

"No question of closing any #PSB, which are articles of faith. Rather Govt is strengthening PSBs with reforms and infusion of capital to better serve its customers," Kumar said in a tweet.

The messages are being

circulated a day after the RBI placed restrictions on withdrawals in the crippled Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative Bank (PMC), thus affecting lakhs of customers.

Most of the banks named in the messages are those that have been either merged with other banks or are in the process of being merged.

Last month, the government had announced that 10 public sector banks would be merged into four.

Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India will be merged with Punjab National Bank, while Syndicate Bank will become part of Canara Bank.

Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank will be merged with Union Bank of India, and Allahabad Bank with Indian Bank.

The government has already merged Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank with Bank of Baroda. Also, the IDBI Bank was taken over the public sector insurance behemoth LIC. Recently, the government announced to infuse capital into the IDBI Bank.



M Ravi Kanth, Chairman & Managing Director, HUDCO addressed the shareholders at its 49th Annual General Meeting in New Delhi on 25th September, 2019 which was well attended by all the stakeholders who appreciated the financial performance of HUDCO in 2018-19



Noida authority has been awarded at the IOT summit for successfully implementing Lora Wan-based technology for individual luminaire monitoring in its street lighting system. In the picture, Deputy General Manager SK Gupta and senior manager RP Singh are bestowed with the awards. Around 12-15k such luminaires has been installed across Noida and is the largest network of its type present worldwide

# Challenge before India is to grow at 8-9% and sustain it, says Kant

New Delhi: The Government is determined to take India back to a high trajectory growth rate of 8-9 per cent and the real challenge before the country is to sustain that growth, NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said.

His remarks come at a time when the government has taken several measures to boost the economy that has hit over six-year low of 5 per cent.

"The government is determined to take India back to a high trajectory growth rate of

8-9 per cent and the challenge before India is really to grow on a sustained basis of 8-9 per cent per annum year after year for three decades or more," Kant said last evening.

He was speaking during 61st Holland Memorial Lecture organised by the Mining, Geological & Metallurgical Institute of India (MGMI).

"But if we have to do this for the next three decades, energy (sector) has to be at the centre of this economical growth," he said.

**UJVN Limited**  
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006  
(Telephone: 0135-2763508, 2763808 & Fax-0135-2763507)  
CIN No. - 40101UR2001SGC025866  
website - www.uttarakhandjvnl.com

**Short Term Tender Notice**  
NIT NO: 16/EE(M&G)/MPH/2019-20

The Office of the Executive Engineer (M&G), UJVN Ltd, Mohammadpur invites sealed tenders from interested firms following details

**Name of the Work:** Major Overhauling of 5 Nos. bye-pass gates with epoxy painting at Power House.

1. **Estimated Cost** : Rs 16,88,500.00 (GST extra)  
2. **Tender Fee** : Rs. 1180.00  
3. **EMD** : Rs. 51,000.00  
4. **Last date of downloading tender Documents:** 06-10-2019 from 10:00 Hrs  
5. **Last date for receipt of Tender** : 07-10-2019 up to 15:00 Hrs.  
6. **Date of opening of tender** : 09-10-2019 from 11:00 Hrs.  
7. **Name & Address of the officer inviting the bid** : EE(M&G), Mohammadpur Power House Gurukul Narsan Hardwar.

For eligibility criteria and fuller & further details kindly visit our website [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com). Bidders are advised to regularly visit our website for latest tender notices. The tenders can only be downloaded from our website and their cost has to be paid at the time of submission of the tender.

पत्रांक: 559 दिनांक: 25.09.2019 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General public is hereby informed that a boy (depicted in the photo), **Name:** Gautam Kumar Singh S/o Sh. Ram Naresh Singh R/o H.No. 549, Gali No. 5, Ambedkar Nagar, Haiderpur, Delhi is missing/kidnapped since 07.09.2019. In this regard a case vide DD No. 96 A dated 12.09.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

**Age:** 18 year, **Height:** 5'4", **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** White colour T-shirt and blue colour jeans and red colour chappal in feet.

Any person having any information/clue about this missing / kidnapped boy, may inform SHO, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi at E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) or Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>.

**SHO**  
Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Shalimar Bagh, New Delhi  
Fax No. 011-24368639 North-West Distt., Delhi  
DP/9414/NW/19 Ph. No. 011-27495198

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



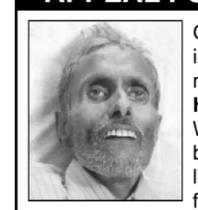
General public is hereby informed that this Person (depicted in the photo) namely: **Aasif S/o Juman Khan R/o Akhbarpur Pharadhiya Badan Pura, Moti Jheel, Gwalior, (MP)**, has been missing/kidnapped since 11.08.2019 from Plot No.8, Subhash Vihar, Tikari Kalan, Delhi the area of P.S. Mundka. In this regard DD No. 67-A Dated 14.08.2019 has been registered at **PS Mundka, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-  
**Sex:** Male, **Age:** 20, **Height:** 5'4"ft., **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Gray Shirt-Paint.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing/kidnapped person may kindly inform to the following:-

**SHO**  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> P.S. Mundka, Delhi  
E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) Mob.: 8586932309,  
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 7065036126  
Fax No.: 011-24368639 DP/2712/OD/19

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male **Age:** Approx. 50 years, **Height:** 5'5", **Complexion:** Wheatish, wearing yellow & black colour linedar shirt and light black colour pant, was found dead on 16.09.2019 in Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital, Mangolpuri, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 38-A dated 16.09.2019 has been lodged at PS Mangolpuri, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone numbers.

**SHO - P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi.**  
Tel. No. 011-27921168, 27922186  
DP/2725/OD/19

## SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one boy namely **Sahil S/o Rakesh R/o H.No. 25/9, in front of Shiv Mandir, Rishal Garden, Nihal Vihar, Delhi**, has been missing from the area of P.S Nihal Vihar, Delhi since 15.08.2019. In this regard, a case **DD No. 60-A dated 05.09.2019 has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**. The description of the missing boy is as under.



**Age:** 22 Years, **Complexion:** Fair, **Height:** 5'5", **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** black colour shirt, blue jeans pant and black chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing boy then please inform P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi at following Tel No. / e-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

**Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641**  
**Fax No. 011-24368639**  
**Sd/- S.H.O.**  
**P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**  
**Ph. 011-25946700**  
DP/2713/OD/19

# Govt to ensure that people do not face problem: Thakur on PMC Bank crisis

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A day after the RBI slapped restrictions on Punjab & Maharashtra Co-operative Bank (PMC Bank) citing regulatory lapses, Union minister Anurag Singh Thakur on Wednesday said the government will ensure that customers of the bank do not face any problem.

The central bank on Tuesday put a slew of restrictions on the Mumbai-based lender, creating panic among thousands of depositors.

Major restrictions include capping withdrawal at ₹1,000

per customer during the six-month period, and banning the bank from extending new loans. The lender has around ₹11,000 crore of public deposits.

"Representations have been made by customers and some others to the finance ministry. We will look into those matters and update you," he told reporters.

"Compliance is must in case of institutions dealing with public money. Compliance has to be ensured...We will ensure that the common man should not face any problem," Thakur said.

# No more discounts on credit card payment at petrol pumps

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Credit card payments to buy fuel at petrol pumps will from October 1 not get a 0.75 per cent discount that state-owned oil companies had introduced more than two-and-a-half years back to promote digital payments.

"Dear SBI credit cardholder, as advised by public sector oil marketing companies, the 0.75 per cent cashback on fuel transactions will be discontinued with effect from October 1, 2019," the country's largest bank in a text message informed its

credit card customers.

The government had asked Indian Oil Corp, Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd to give a 0.75 per cent discount on card payments for fuel purchases after a widespread cash crunch in late 2016 following demonetisation of 86 per cent of currency notes in circulation.

The 0.75 per cent discount of the value of fuel purchases using credit/debit cards and e-wallets was introduced in December 2016 and had continued for more than two-and-a-half years, straining OMCs.

# PM announces \$150 m line of credit to group of Pacific island nations

PTI ■ NEW YORK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a \$150 million line of credit to the group of Pacific island nations for undertaking solar, renewable energy and climate related projects based on their requirement.

Modi, who attended the India-Pacific Islands Developing States (PSIDS) Leaders' Meeting, also announced a total allocation of \$12 million to the member states towards imple-

mentation of high impact developmental project in the area of their choice.

The meeting was held here on Tuesday on the sidelines of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly. This is the first time he has met the leaders of the PSIDS on the margins of UNGA in a plurilateral format.

"In New York, I had the opportunity to meet leaders of the Pacific Islands and interact with them on ways to boost cooperation between our nations. Pacific Islands are at

the core of our Act East Policy. Issues like climate change and disaster management were discussed," PM Modi tweeted.

The meeting was attended by the Heads of delegation of Fiji, Republic of Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Nauru, Republic of Palau, Independent State of Papua New Guinea, The Independent State of Samoa, Solomon Islands, Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu and Republic of Vanuatu.

# Google deals blow to EU copyright law in France

AFP ■ PARIS

Google said on Wednesday it will not pay European media outlets for using their articles, pictures and videos in its searches in France, in a move that will undercut a new EU copyright law.

The tech giant said it would only display content in its search engine results and on Google News from media groups who had given their permission for it to be used for free.

# Sensex plunges 504 pts; bank, auto stocks tank

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The BSE Sensex plummeted 504 points on Wednesday as investors booked profit following the benchmark's recent record-shattering run, while global equities took a knock over geopolitical uncertainties and growth concerns.

After sinking 586 points during the day, the 30-share Sensex ended 503.62 points, or 1.29%, lower at 38,593.52. The broader NSE Nifty plunged 148.00 points, or 1.28%, to 11,440.20.

Global markets wobbled after top US Democrat Nancy Pelosi announced opening of a formal impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump.

This has ratcheted up political uncertainties at a time when equities are already bearing the brunt of Middle East tensions and weak global growth signals, analysts said.

Further, Trump put China on notice at the United Nations, declaring that the time of trade "abuses" by Beijing was "over" and calling on the country to protect Hong Kong's "democratic ways of life".

On the domestic front, investors were eager to book profit after the recent rally, leading to heavy selling pres-

sure in bank, finance and auto counters, traders said.

Moreover, ADB sharply cut India's growth forecast to 6.5 per cent for 2019-20 from 7.2 per cent estimated earlier, though it indicated that the country would grow faster than China.

Top laggards in the Sensex pack were SBI, Tata Motors, Maruti, Yes Bank, M&M, HDFC twins, ITC, Vedanta, Hero MotoCorp, Tata Steel and L&T, losing up to 7.37%.

On the other hand, PowerGrid, TCS, NTPC, HCL Tech, Tech Mahindra and RIL rallied up to 4.39%.

"Political uproar in US to impeach President Trump led to sell-off in global market seems a short-term reaction, while fresh NPA issues, weak September auto sales and monthly expiry prompted investors to book profit post the sharp upside since the last Friday.

"Bond yields are inching higher anticipating fiscal tightening, while government is planning higher divestment to ease the situation," said Vinod Nair, head of research at Geojit Financial Services.

Sectorally, BSE auto, realty, metal, capital goods, bank, finance, industrials and telecom indices declined up to 3.84%.

However, power, utilities, IT and teck spurred up to 1.05% higher.

Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices cracked up to 1.76%.

Elsewhere in Asia, Hang Seng, Shanghai Composite Index, Nikkei and Kospi ended significantly lower.

Stock exchanges in Europe were also trading nearly 1 per cent down in their respective early sessions.

On the currency front, the rupee depreciated 9 paise to 71.10 against the US dollar (intra-day).

Oil prices also took a hit, with WTI off 0.9% and Brent crude futures falling 1.65% to USD 62.06 per barrel.

"Oil markets continue to sell as risk sentiment remains sour after Trump accused China of currency manipulation, theft of intellectual property and product dumping," said Stephen Innes, Asia Pacific market strategist at AxiTrader.

In currency trading, the pound slipped against the dollar. It had rallied on Tuesday following Britain's Supreme Court ruling that Prime Minister Boris Johnson's suspension of parliament was "unlawful", providing a spark of hope that Brexit will be more orderly than previously feared.

# Global uncertainties dampened M&A deal activity in Aug: Report

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Corporate India's merger and acquisition activity moderated in August with 23 deals worth USD 845 million, the second lowest monthly deal volume till date amid ongoing global uncertainties, says a report.

According to Grant Thornton's monthly M&A Dealtracker, the prevailing economic uncertainties resulted in August recording 36 per cent decline in terms of number of deals and 49 per cent fall in value terms.

In August 2018, there were 36 deals worth USD 1,660 million.

"Owing to global trade tensions and failure to record big ticket deals during August 2018, cross-border values fell by over five times. However, on the positive side, the domestic M&A values recorded a 55 per cent increase over August 2018 on the back of encouraging measures and easing reforms," Pankaj Chopda, director at Grant Thornton India LLP said.

The month of August witnessed only one deal valued over USD 500 million and one deal valued over USD 100 million each.

"Domestic transactions were primarily themed around

acquisition of stressed assets to strengthen market leadership position, divestment consequent to global transaction, compliance with competition commission requirements in India and investments in technology products to improve market offerings and efficiency," Chopda said.

In the first eight months of this year, there were 287 transactions worth USD 22,855 million, while in the corresponding period of the last year there were 318 deals worth USD 75,408 million.

The largest deal during August was seen in the energy and natural resources sector, with the Adani-GMR deal valued at USD 512 million, followed by Air Water's acquisition of Linde India in the manufacturing sector.

Contrary to the previous month, August was dominated by deals in the IT and ITES sector, pushed by consolidation in the software development and IT solutions segment. The start-up sector remained active after the IT sector with five deals worth USD 25 million.

The month also witnessed deals in the pharma and healthcare, e-commerce, banking, retail, and media and entertainment sectors, the report said.

# ADB trims India's GDP growth forecast to 6.5% for FY20

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Wednesday sharply lowered India's growth forecast from 7.2 per cent to 6.5 per cent for the current fiscal, though it indicated that the country would grow faster than China.

The multi-lateral lending agency in its Asian Development Outlook (ADO) Update for 2019 cut the growth projection for India, which recorded an over six-year low growth of 5 per cent in April-June quarter this fiscal.

"India's growth forecast for fiscal year 2019 is lowered to 6.5 per cent after growth slowed markedly to 5 per cent in the first quarter, April-June. Abrupt declines in manufacturing and investment reflect uncertainty ahead of general elections, subdued lending by banks and other financial institutions, stress in the rural economy, and a weakening external outlook," the agency said.

However, India is expected to rebound to 7.2 per cent growth in fiscal 2021 and join most other sub-regional countries in performing at or near their ADO 2019 growth forecasts for next year, it added.

The Manila-headquartered funding agency had projected India's economy to expand at

**However, India is expected to rebound to 7.2 per cent growth in fiscal 2021 and join most other sub-regional countries in performing at or near their ADO 2019 growth forecasts for next year.**

7.2 per cent in its ADO for 2019-20 released earlier in April this year and cut it down to 7 per cent in the supplement to the ADO in July.

As regards China, ADB has projected that growth will slip from 6.6 per cent last year to 6.2 per cent in 2019, and 6 per cent in 2020 — below previous projections — with increased government spending and a strong housing market partly offsetting the impact of the trade dispute with the US and sluggish manufacturing investment.

"In Hong Kong, China, recent political tensions, spill-over from the trade conflict, and the global electronics downturn will slow growth in 2019 and 2020 well below ADO 2019 projections," it said

further. On South Asian growth projections, the ADO Update said the growth momentum has softened in the region.

"Growth forecasts are lowered to 6.2 per cent for 2019 and 6.7 per cent for 2020.

"Growth in South Asia is now seen moderating this year as India's economy slows primarily for domestic reasons, such as the pre-election decline in investment and tighter credit conditions," it said.

Further, South Asia inflation forecast is lowered, largely reflecting unexpectedly low food prices in India, but the forecast for 2020 is maintained, as per the ADO Update.

Asia grids for prolonged uncertainty, ADB said, adding the regional growth remains robust but is expected to moderate.

"GDP expansion in the region, though still strong, is projected to slow from 5.9 per cent in 2018 to 5.4 per cent this year, then edge back up to 5.5 per cent next year," it added.

The revisions reflect gloomier prospects for international trade, in part because of re-escalation in trade conflict between the US and China, and evidence of slowing growth in the advanced economies and China, as well as in India and the larger economies in east and southeast Asia.

## NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11564.85	11564.95	11416.10	11440.20	-148.00
POWERGRID	193.50	203.40	193.10	197.75	7.30
TCS	2065.00	2092.00	2060.05	2084.00	39.30
NTPC	115.60	118.60	115.05	116.95	1.80
IOC	138.25	142.80	137.00	140.40	1.70
HCLTECH	1049.50	1062.00	1044.20	1054.95	7.55
ADANIPTS	409.30	417.95	409.10	416.60	2.15
HINDUNILVR	2041.00	2062.45	2011.85	2057.60	6.55
BPCCL	458.00	473.40	448.45	462.70	1.40
BAJAJFINSV	8221.00	8374.95	8160.80	8255.50	24.30
INFRAEAT	256.75	259.35	251.55	258.35	0.70
TECHM	704.05	709.95	698.00	705.50	1.65
RELIANCE	1284.00	1295.00	1268.85	1280.60	1.90
JSWSTEEL	233.50	235.75	228.30	233.60	0.25
DRREDDY	2750.15	2784.00	2750.15	2784.00	-1.25
INFY	787.70	801.00	781.65	790.75	-1.30
UPPL	573.50	578.90	572.00	576.40	-3.00
WIPRO	240.50	241.35	238.00	239.20	-1.10
AXISBANK	3960.00	3998.90	3890.00	3935.10	-26.65
BAJAJ-AUTO	2940.00	2965.00	2910.00	2938.00	-20.15
INDUSINDBK	1509.00	1521.05	1492.55	1506.00	-10.30
SUNPHARMA	4069.00	4127.00	4017.75	4067.75	-2.90
ASIANPAINT	1784.00	1784.00	1728.25	1753.00	-12.90
ULTRACEMCO	4301.05	4340.00	4254.70	4277.85	-40.15
BRITANNIA	3079.95	3093.30	3001.00	3048.70	-31.50
HDFCBANK	1249.90	1249.90	1230.10	1240.00	-18.80
KOTAKBANK	1671.00	1671.00	1580.50	1600.00	-18.10
ICICIBANK	439.10	440.95	429.60	434.80	-6.10
ONGC	132.00	133.05	130.70	131.65	-1.85
GHAILIARTL	349.05	350.95	338.00	343.00	-5.65
BHARTI	138.55	138.55	134.20	136.90	-2.35
ZEE	290.00	294.00	269.00	273.50	-5.50
HEROMOTOCO	2750.00	2750.00	2646.60	2699.90	-56.05
TITAN	1296.15	1314.90	1262.80	1266.00	-26.65
LT	1480.90	1481.70	1446.65	1450.55	-30.75
TATASTEEL	367.50	367.95	357.55	361.70	-9.10
AXISBANK	702.00	703.45	683.65	688.55	-17.85
COALINDIA	193.00	198.70	191.15	193.00	-5.15
VEDL	157.00	158.50	152.75	155.70	-4.25
HDFC	2127.05	2127.05	2050.25	2067.85	-62.15
IBULHSGFIN	426.00	433.80	419.30	421.30	-13.70
GRASIM	742.25	744.75	713.30	725.00	-24.70
CPIA	449.90	450.00	432.20	434.00	-16.25
HINDALCO	196.10	196.60	188.90	189.40	-8.40
M&M	558.70	558.70	528.00	535.00	-23.75
ITC	255.10	255.25	242.70	245.00	-11.10
MARUTI	7000.00	7000.00	6602.00	6700.00	-309.00
EICHERMOT	18350.00	18524.00	17405.00	17596.70	-837.55
YESBANK	55.90	56.85	53.10	53.25	-2.80
TATAMOTORS	129.90	129.90	121.50	123.15	-7.75
SBIN	297.00	297.50	278.70	279.30	-23.30

## NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	27874.15	27891.95	27480.60	27484.50	-458.05
CONCOR	579.95	617.50	557.05	598.55	17.45
ICICIPRULI	427.50	436.00	425.45	433.60	6.10
GODREJCP	665.00	675.70	655.00	671.00	7.00
HDFCLIFE	551.80	562.70	550.10	556.40	5.35
DMART	1830.00	1927.70	1830.00	1898.00	17.25
PETRONET	256.25	259.65	254.50	258.45	2.20
OFSS	2954.50	3018.40	2882.00	2964.00	24.20
HINDPETRO	284.45	288.75	278.05	284.80	1.95
SIEMENS	1424.05	1475.05	1424.05	1445.00	9.70
GICRE	197.40	201.00	190.05	198.20	0.80
SHLIFE	793.30	799.90	771.10	798.25	3.10
MCDOWELL-N	611.05	659.00	647.25	651.40	1.15
DIVISLAB	1623.15	1633.20	1613.15	1622.00	-7.65
INDIGO	1820.00	1830.00	1790.00	1810.10	-17.80
ACC	1648.55	1659.00	1615.60	1632.50	-18.30
LUPIN	738.90	740.00	727.30	729.10	-10.15
UBL	1572.00	1572.00	1337.55	1353.20	-19.65
PIDILITIND	1456.80	1456.80	1411.10	1434.00	-22.80
PEL	1835.00	1889.95	1812.00	1817.50	-31.35
COLPAL	1516.45	1516.45	1474.10	1490.00	-28.40
NHPC	23.10	23.20	22.65	22.70	-0.45
PGHH	11789.95	11901.00	11361.00	11561.00	-229.65
DABUR	452.00	453.30	441.95	442.50	-9.40
MRPL	6522.00	6599.00	6420.00	6439.95	-1479.60
CADILAH	251.15	252.50	245.65	248.00	-5.95
HDFCAMC	2922.00	2922.00	2850.00	2859.00	-70.95
AMBUJACEM	214.95	215.70	207.30	210.00	-5.75
SHREECEM	2015.00	2015.00	1975.40	1998.00	-53.00
HAVELLS	751.05	751.05	726.10	735.00	-22.00
AUROPHARMA	617.60	617.80	595.00	601.00	-18.05
BIOCON	224.95	225.50	216.50	217.70	-6.70
ABB	1571.00	1575.00	1510.00	1525.95	-47.40
MARICO	397.90	401.00	384.10	384.30	-12.15
L&T	96.70	96.70	93.25	93.80	-3.25
BANDHANBNK	500.00	503.80	488.00	488.95	-17.20
BOSCHLTD	14600.00	14637.10	13831.10	14075.00	-500.65
BHEL	51.90	51.90	49.90	49.95	-1.95
HINDZINC	210.50	210.50	201.00	201.65	-8.85
ICICIIG	1226.00	1227.50	1167.90	1169.65	-52.75
IDEA	5.55	5.60	5.20	5.35	-0.25
NMDC	89.00	89.30	85.00	85.55	-4.00
TRANSFIN	1150.50	1161.75	1100.50	1111.95	-53.70
SAJIL	34.00	34.10	32.60	32.70	-1.65
BAJAJHLING	3680.00	3680.00	3476.00	3492.25	-195.80
ASHOKLEY	74.75	75.45	73.00	70.85	-4.30
PAGEIND	23101.00	23299.90	21840.00	22000.00	-1358.95
NIACL	106.35	107.70	99.55	99.60	-6.35
BANKBARODA	98.15	98.40	93.00	93.25	-5.95
DLF	166.80	167.45	152.50	155.80	-11.45
MOTHERSUMI	114.30	114.80	107.10	107.25	-8.30

## BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
VBL	655.00	660.00	615.00	624.45
AUBANK	675.00	675.00	565.15	643.75
ZEE	289.30	293.30	268.85	271.90
KOTAKBANK	1615.00			

# Pak PM warns of war as Trump, Modi buddy up

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan bluntly warned that war was possible over India's crackdown in Kashmir, while US President Donald Trump buddied up to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in their second meeting in three days.

Trump urged the sides to resolve their differences even as he gushed over Modi, saying he was as popular as American rock legend Elvis Presley.

The nuclear-armed rivals have been locked in a worsening standoff since August 5, when the Indian government revoked the special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

"For 50 days, the people of Kashmir have been locked down by 900,000 soldiers," Khan said, describing mass arrests, non-functioning hospitals and "a total news blackout."

"Eight million people in an open jail is unprecedented in this day and age. ... The biggest worry is what happens once the curfew is lifted?" he said.

"There's a potential that two nuclear-armed countries will come face to face at some stage."

Modi has defended his



Kashmir changes as freeing the territory from separatism, and his supporters welcomed the move.

While Khan warned of war, Trump was having a much lighter moment with Modi.

Trump on Tuesday compared Modi to Presley, the late American singer often referred to as the king of rock and roll, after Modi received a rock-star welcome Sunday in Houston.

The president had carved out time to join Modi, who was greeted in Texas by 50,000 cheering Indian Americans.

"Those people went crazy," Trump said as he and Modi met on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. "That was like Elvis."

Asked to describe his

chemistry with Modi, Trump said it's "as good as it can get."

"I have great respect, I have great admiration and I really like him, that's another thing," the president told reporters.

He went on to describe Modi as a "great gentleman" and "great leader" and suggested he be called the "father of India."

Modi also showered Trump with praise, saying he's "definitely my friend, but he is also a friend of India," the prime minister said.

On the Kashmir standoff, Trump urged Modi and Khan to find a resolution.

"We all want to see that," said Trump, who met with Khan on Monday.

# Iran's defense Min rejects any deal on missile programme

AP ■ TEHRAN

Iran's defense minister Wednesday rejected the idea of a deal with world powers over the country's missile programme.

The official IRNA news agency quoted General Amir Hatami as saying that any deal with the United States over Iran's "missile power" would damage the country's capabilities. He said Iran's leaders all support improving the missile programme.

Tehran long has insisted its ballistic missile program is non-negotiable. President Donald Trump, however, cited it as a reason for unilaterally withdrawing the US from the nuclear deal between Iran and Western powers over a year ago.

Hatami's remarks come as the US and its allies say Iran is behind a major drone-and-missile strike on Saudi Arabia's oil industry.

Iran has denied the allegations, saying any strikes by the US or Saudi Arabia will lead to "all-out war".

Separately, the chief of the powerful Revolutionary Guard in charge of the country's missile programme, General Hossein Salami, was quoted by the semi-official Tasnim news agency as saying Wednesday that Iran has shown self-restraint despite the capabilities of its military, including its missile programme.

"We are not looking for trouble but we will respond to troublemakers," he said.

Referring to Iran-backed Houthi rebel attacks on Saudi Arabia, Salami said Iran has improved its military power to the extent that other countries blame it for actions carried out by the rebels themselves.

"The enemy assumes that we are in charge of any sophisticated job," he said.

Without elaborating, he added that the Houthis were capable of "changing the entire field of war".

Iran has medium-range surface-to-surface missiles with a range up to 2,000 kilometers (1,250 miles) that can reach archenemy Israel and US bases in the region.

# Iran gives final green light for British-flagged tanker to leave

AFF ■ TEHRAN

British-flagged oil tanker Stena Impero, seized by Iran more than two months ago, was Wednesday given the final clearance to leave, foreign ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi said.

He tweeted that "the lifting of the seizure of the vessel Stena Impero was finalised today" after a procedure coordinated by the foreign ministry, Iran's judiciary and its port and maritime authorities.

But a legal case "remains open," he said. "The captain and the owners have signed a written commitment to accept the verdict" handed down at the end of proceedings.

On Monday, government spokesman Ali Rabiei had announced that "the legal process has finished" and the Swedish-owned vessel was free to leave.

But Erick Hanell, CEO of the owners Stena Bulk, denied Tuesday that the tanker had left Iran and said it was still waiting for authorisation.

Earlier the same day, specialist shipping website TankerTrackers reported the Stena Impero had set sail. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard



Corps had surrounded the vessel with attack boats before rappelling onto the deck of the tanker in the Strait of Hormuz on July 19.

It was impounded at Bandar Abbas port for allegedly failing to respond to distress calls and turning off its transponder after hitting a fishing boat.

Seven of its 23 crew members were released on September 4.

The seizure was widely seen as a tit-for-tat move after the British overseas territory of Gibraltar detained an Iranian tanker earlier in July on suspicion it was shipping oil to Syria in breach of EU sanctions.

A Gibraltar court ordered the Iranian tanker's release on August 15 despite an 11th-hour US legal bid to keep it in detention.

Tehran has repeatedly denied the two cases are related.

## GLOBE TROTTER

**2 MILLION CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL IN YEMEN: UN**  
Sanaa: Two million children are out of school in war-torn Yemen, a fourth of whom have dropped out since the conflict escalated in March 2015, the UN children's agency said Wednesday. The education of a further 3.7 million children is at risk as teachers' salaries have not been paid in more than two years, UNICEF said in a statement.

## 10 KILLED IN BANGLADESH AS BOAT CAPSIZES

Dhaka: At least 10 people, including seven children, were killed when their boat capsized in Bangladesh's Sunamganj district, police said on Wednesday.

The engine-run boat, carrying 30 passengers, capsized around 7 pm on Tuesday in Kaliakotha Haor of the district's Deraipuzilla due to strong winds. Deraipuzilla police station Officer-in-Charge KM Nazrul Islam was quoted as saying by the Dhaka Tribune.

## CANNABIS MADE LEGAL IN AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL

Sydney: Australians living in the home of the country's parliament will be allowed to grow and possess small amounts of cannabis from next year under a new law passed Wednesday. While the possession of small amounts has been decriminalised in some parts of the country, the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) — home of Canberra, the nation's capital — is going a step further and will legalise it for personal use.

# Toll rises to 37, over 452 injured in quake in Pakistan

Islamabad: The death toll in the devastating earthquake that rattled Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and several north-eastern cities in the country rose to 37 on Wednesday as authorities stepped up rescue operations to save people trapped in debris of several toppled buildings. The epicentre of the powerful 5.8-magnitude earthquake, which occurred at around 4 pm on Tuesday at a depth of only 10 kilometers, was near Mirpur city in the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), roughly 20 kilometers north of Jhelum in Punjab, according to the US Geological Survey.

The earthquake resurrected the haunting memories of a monster tremor that had wrecked the region 14 years ago.

The quake — which also jolted several cities of Punjab and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province — killed 37 people, Mirpur Divisional Commissioner Muhammad Tayyab was quoted as saying by the Express Tribune.

According to the paper, figures showed that the worst-hit was Mirpur with 24 dead, nine in Jattan and one person lost his life in Jhelum. Other people died in the areas located between Mirpur and Jari Kas, PoK's State Disaster Management Authority Secretary Shahid Mohyiddin said.

# Ukraine president, caught in Trump row, says 'nobody can pressure me'

AFF ■ KIEV

Ukraine's president has joked that the only person who can pressure him is his six-year-old son, amid a growing scandal over whether US leader Donald Trump leaned on Kiev to investigate a political rival.

"Nobody can pressure me because I am the president of an independent country," Volodymyr Zelensky told the Russian news channel Rossiya 24 from New York.

"The only person who can put pressure on me is my son, who is six years old," added the leader, who was a popular comedian before his surprise election to the presidency earlier this year.

Zelensky and Trump are due to meet for the first time Wednesday on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly.

US Democrats have launched a formal impeachment inquiry against Trump, accusing him of abuse of power over a reported attempt to pressure Zelensky into opening a corruption probe into ex-vice president Joe Biden, the leading Democrat presidential contender.

The investigation — the first step in a possible impeachment process — allegedly would have focused on Biden's son Hunter and his work for a Ukrainian company while his father was President Barack Obama's deputy.

Trump has admitted discussing Biden with Zelensky, but denied reports he threatened to suspend military aid in the case of refusal.

# UK Parliament resumes amid political turmoil, Brexit crisis

AP ■ LONDON

Britain's House of Commons reconvened Wednesday, a day after the bombshell Supreme Court ruling that Prime Minister Boris Johnson had acted illegally by suspending Parliament, and lawmakers immediately demanded answers about how the suspension came about in the first place.

The historic court ruling backed Parliament's sovereignty and slapped down what justices viewed as Johnson's effort to squelch debate on Brexit, the country's most politically divisive issue in years.

Johnson remains on a collision course with Parliament over his determination to pull Britain out of the European Union on October 31 even if no divorce deal is reached.

Parliament has passed a law requiring him to seek a Brexit

extension if there is no deal, but Johnson says he won't do that under any circumstances.

The prime minister flew back to London in the morning, cutting short a trip to the UN General Assembly as demands for his resignation rose from opposition parties after the court ruling.

In New York, Johnson brushed aside questions about whether he would resign, said he "strongly" disagreed with the court decision and suggested he might try to suspend Parliament for a second time.

In the House of Commons, newly-returned lawmakers focused their ire Wednesday on Attorney General Geoffrey Cox, who was forced to concede that he may have to make further disclosures about his advice that the suspension was legal.

"I am bound by the long-standing convention that the views of the law officers are not

disclosed outside the government without their consent," Cox said.

"However, I will consider over the coming days whether the public interest might require a greater disclosure of the advice given to the government."

Johnson will address Parliament on Wednesday afternoon but, looking ahead to a possible early general election, has begun to position himself as the champion of the people facing a recalcitrant establishment bent on frustrating the 2016 Brexit vote.

Opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn said Johnson should say he was sorry to the public and to Queen Elizabeth II for telling her that Parliament should be suspended.

The suspension would have limited debate before Britain's scheduled October 31 departure from the 28-nation bloc.

# China rejects Trump's 'untrue' remarks on Hong Kong, trade

AFF ■ BEIJING

Beijing accused Donald Trump of making "untrue remarks" over Hong Kong and Chinese trade commitments on Wednesday, hitting back after the US president ramped up pressure on China at the United Nations.

Beijing is facing international criticism on a number of fronts, as months of pro-democracy unrest in the semi-autonomous city of Hong Kong come alongside economic tensions with the US and international scrutiny of its policy towards Muslim minorities in Xinjiang.

Foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang slammed "the untrue remarks mentioned by the US side in his speech" after Trump criticised the fellow Security Council member in a strident speech Tuesday saying it must "protect Hong Kong's freedom and legal system and democratic ways of life."

The US president also declared that the time of Beijing's "abuses" of the system was "over".

But Geng said the "US should meet China at halfway" and called for the two countries to "handle and control their



differences on the basis of mutual respect."

Geng also criticised a US State Department event to highlight the plight of ethnic Uighurs in China's northwestern Xinjiang region, where human rights organisations say a million or more mainly Muslim minorities are being interned.

"I want to emphasize here that the issue of Xinjiang is not a religious or a human rights issue, but an anti-secession and anti-terrorism issue," he said.

"Xinjiang continues to maintain prosperity and stability, national unity and social harmony... All malicious slander and smearing from the US and other countries are in

vain."

The conference was held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly to garner support "to demand and compel an immediate end to China's horrific campaign of repression," John Sullivan, the US's second-highest diplomat, said.

The demonstrations in Hong Kong have triggered the Asian financial hub's biggest political crisis since its handover from Britain to China in 1997.

Until Tuesday, Trump had largely left it to the State Department to demand respect for the handover agreement with the UK, which handed Hong Kong back to China in 1997.

## SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General public is hereby informed that one girl **Name: Laxmi, D/o Sh. Govind Bahadur, R/o H.No. 24, Type-I, Gulabi Bagh, Delhi. Age: 20 Years, Height: 5', Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Build: Medium, Wearing: Blue colour suit & Cherry colour sandal in feet, has been missing from her house since 02.11.2018 from the area of**

P.S. Gulabi Bagh, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 22-A, dated 02.11.2018 has been lodged at P.S. Gulabi Bagh, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **SHO**  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> **P.S. Gulabi Bagh, Delhi**  
Fax: 011-24368639 **Ph. 011-23651692, 8750870133**  
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 **DP/9388/N/18**

## WESTERN RAILWAY

S. N.	Short Description of Item	Quantity	T.O.D.
80	Dust Excluder	13351 Nos.	14/10/2019
81	Flexible Hose Assy.	695 Nos.	14/10/2019
82	Leathroid Paper 0.25 mm Thick	18.50 Kg	14/10/2019
83	Pipe Connection for Water Tank	776 Set	15/10/2019
84	Buffer Plunger (Casting)	3503 Nos.	16/10/2019
85	Machinery/General Purpose Oil	229.22 K. Ltr.	16/10/2019
86	PVC Flooring Sheet	1244 Nos.	18/10/2019
87	Online UPS	20 Nos.	18/10/2019
88	Grease for Motor Suspension Unit	3048 Kg.	18/10/2019
89	Face Plate	1281 Nos.	21/10/2019
90	Suspension Bearing Tube for TM - 4907	73 Nos.	21/10/2019
91	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Traction Engine & Electric	10 Set	22/10/2019
92	Gynaecology Laparo Hysteroscopy Surgery Set	1 Set	22/10/2019
93	Kit Gasket Cyl. Head and Kit Gasket Water Pump	638 Nos.	22/10/2019
94	Rubber Spring for Draw Gear	3320 Set	23/10/2019
95	Door Chainless Cotter Long	15345 Nos.	23/10/2019
96	Foot Step Arrangement	33 Set	31/10/2019
97	Filter Element Spin on Turbo Lube Oil	593 Nos.	31/10/2019
98	UIC Type Rubber Vestibule Arrangement	307 Nos.	01/11/2019
99	Cover for Break Head	3300 Nos.	01/11/2019

Reverse Auction  
1 Rate Contract for Child Parts of AC Traction Control System of HCP Locomotives 114 Items 18/10/2019

Regarding detailed notice of EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) and [www.pr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.pr.indianrailways.gov.in)

For Principal Chief Materials Manager  
Like us on: [Facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on: [Twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

## NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE (through e-tendering)

S.No.: 1 Name of work with its location: Signalling work in c/w GM Annual inspection in DLI-RE section of Delhi Division. App. cost of the work (in Rs.): Rs. 43,43,160.51/- only. Tender inviting officer address: Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/II, Northern Railway, 2nd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055. Tender Document Fee (in Rs.): Rs. 3,540/- only. Earnest Money to be deposited (in Rs.): Rs. 86,900/- only. Date & Time for Closed of tender: Tender uploaded date & time 16.10.2019 upto 15.00 hrs. Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.: See the N. Rly. website [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd floor, DRM office, State entry road, New Delhi-110055. No.: 558-Sig/16/M/Tender/1306 Dated: 24.09.2019 3077/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

## NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEE/EMU/GZB for and on behalf of President of India, invites open e-tender under single packet system for the under noted work.

1. N.I.T. No.	232-Elect-EMU-WC-05-19-20
2. Name of work	Housekeeping of Guard & Drive running room at EMU Car Shed, Ghaziabad.
3. Tender Cost	Rs. 2,360.00 (online payment mode available on IREPS website)
4. Approximate Cost	Rs. 15,90,259.32 (Rupees fifteen lakh ninety thousand two hundred fifty nine and paise thirty two only)
5. Earnest Money	Rs. 31,800.00 (online payment mode available on IREPS website)
6. Completion period	730 days.
7. Validity of offer	45 days.
8. Date & time from tender advertised on IREPS website	23.09.2019 (12.23 Hrs.)
9. Date & time from tender submission start and end	04.10.2019 to 18.10.2019 (15.00 hrs.)
10. Tender closing date & time	18.10.2019 (15.00 hrs.)
11. Date & time of tender opening (immediately when tender submission ends)	18.10.2019 (15.00 hrs.)

Note: 1. All participant Tenderer/ Tenderers will submit their QR code documents along with their tender offer. "No post tender correspondence for submission of additional document shall be entertained after opening of the Technical & Commercial offer. Even suo-moto post tender letters of the tenders shall be treated as null & void". Note 2. Duplicate documents should not be enclosed / uploaded. Tender Notice is available on website [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) No. 232-Elect-EMU-WC-05-19-20 dated: 24.09.2019 3078/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

## NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE (through e-tendering)

S. N.	Name of work with its location	App. Cost of the work (In Rs.)	Tender Inviting Officer Address	Tender Document Fee (In Rs.)	Earnest Money to be deposited (in Rs.)
1.	Signalling work in connection with sectional signal maintenance contract in section of ADSTE/FDB of Delhi Division.	Rs. 91,49,357.27/- only	Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/II, Northern Railway, 2nd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.	Rs. 5,900/- only	Rs. 1,83,000.00/- only

Date & Time for Closed of tender : Tender uploaded date & time 16.10.2019 upto 15.00 hrs. Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc. : See the N.Rly. website [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) & Notice board at S&T branch 3rd Floor, DRM office, State entry road, New Delhi-110055. Tender No. 558-Sig/16/M/Tender/1306 Dated : 24.09.2019 3088/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mr. Ranjit Singh Ahluwalia son of Shri C.S. Ahluwalia is the registered owner of Entire Third Floor with terrace rights of Property No. C-9, having its MPL No. WZ-421, measuring 150 Sq. Yards, part of Khalsa No. 799 & 800 in the area of Village Tihar, colony known as Shiv Nagar, Gali No. 22, New Delhi-110058 by virtue of Sale Deed dated 03.07.2013 registered as Document No. 13911 who had lost the Original Sale Deed dated 31.12.2011 vide registration No. 36132 in favour of S.Nirmal Singh Lamba and Original Sale Deed dated 22.02.2012 vide registration No. 4414 in favour of Mr. Hardeep Singh Dhillon and now my client Mr. Ranjit Singh Ahluwalia intends to sell the said property to Mr. Davinder Pal Singh Chawla, Mrs. Jagjit Kaur and Mr. Avtar Singh Chawla, if any body found the same may return to the undersigned, if anybody misuses the same, the same shall be at his/her/their own risk. If any body has any claim, right, interest in the said flat shall also inform within 15 days to the undersigned on Telephone No:- 011-24324137, 9953683363 & 9811163363. Karnail Singh & Co. K-8, LGF, Basement, Jungpura Extn, New Delh

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Radha Charan Deswal who is the owner of One Shop No.18 Measuring Size 105'x21' 1/2' Approx 135 sq. yds. out of 250 Sq. Yds, situated at Waka Mauja New Anaj Mandi, Municipal Committee (Inside) Palwal Tehsil and Dist. Palwal, Haryana Vide Sale Deed dated 25.01.2010 (for Area Measuring 125 Sq. Yds.) , Transfer Deed dated 02.07.2015 (area Measuring 8.36 Sq. Yds.) & Gift Deed dated 14.06.2017 (area measuring 2.322 Sq. Yds.) and intend to mortgage against the financial assistance from IDFC First Bank Limited. The Surviving Member Certificate of Legal Heirs of Late Mr. Deep Chand and Late Mr. Sohan Lal is not available so to comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned by 30th September 2019 at below address. Lucem Legal LLP 269, Rama House, Ground Floor, Masjid Moh. Opp. Uday Park, South Extn II, New Delhi - 49 Contact@ 011 - 40046316

## BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, DELHI.

4th Floor Jeevan Tara Building Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001.  
OA NO 1281/18  
DATE: 12.09.2019  
AXIS BANK LTD.  
...APPLICANT  
VERSUS  
SUNITA RANI TANWAR & ORS.  
...RESPONDENT

TO, DEFENDANT  
1. Sunita Rani Tanwar W/o Kuldeep Singh Tanwar  
2. Kuldeep Singh Tanwar S/o Birsing Tanwar Both At: 92, Arjun Marg DLF City Phase-1, Gurgaon-122002 Also at KST Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. G-307, 1st Floor Shopping Arcade BLK-B Sushant Lok-1 Gurgaon - 122009 Also At: D1 House No.-199, Block-C, Ansal Sushant Lok-1 Chakkar Pur Sadar Gurgaon - 122002 3. KST Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. 257, Atam Ram Street Main Mkt. Badarpur South West Delhi New Delhi - 44 Also At: G-307, 1st Floor Shopping Arcade BLK-B Sushant Lok-1 Gurgaon - 122009 Also At: E-304, FF Shopping Arcade Block B Sushant Lok-1 Gurgaon - 122009

Whereas the above named applicant(s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 52,50,744/- (RUPEES FIFTY TWO LAKH FIFTY FOUR THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND FORTY FOUR ONLY) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 14.11.2019 at 10.30 A.M. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

Trend Blazer

Swara, Richa react to student's arrest

Actors **SWARA BHASKER** and **RICHA CHADHA** seem deeply disturbed by the news of the arresting of law student, who had accused BJP leader Chinmayanand of rape, by the Uttar Pradesh Police on charges of extortion and blackmailing.

Reacting to the news of the arrest tweeted by a journalist, Richa wrote, "What is happening!"

Swara tweeted, "Betni inhi se bachao (save your daughter from such people). Shame!"

The Shahjahanpur student, who has been arrested, has alleged that she was raped by Chinmayanand for over a year.

On the work front, Swara was last seen in *Veere Di Wedding*, which released last year.



**'It was quite a struggle when I started. I didn't know anyone initially, and I wasn't aware**

**about how it all works in the industry. I gradually found my way and my whole focus was on creating music and doing the best that I could. Bollywood is a tough place for anything. But I'm happy with my career right now. And every girl should be proud of who she is.'**  
—**Kanika Kapoor**

Actor **HRITHIK ROSHAN** had received rave reviews for his transformation when he was playing **Anand Kumar** in *Super 30*.



Anand, on whose life the film was based, has been appreciated for his work for the film. And now, Anand is shocked and in awe with the kind of transformation Hrithik has undergone for *War*.

He tweeted, "So many people told me that Hrithik will now be seen like a teacher forever. I said watch the *War* trailer and you will consider him as a soldier forever."

The film will hit the screens on October 2.

Will Smith joins The Council

Actor **WILL SMITH** will soon be seen essaying the role of crime boss Nicky Barnes in *The Council*.

Peter Landesman, who wrote and directed Smith's 2015 sports drama *Concussion*, is on board to pen the script.

Smith is also producing the project with James Lassiter for Westbrook Inc's Overbrook Entertainment along with Jackson Pictures' Matt Jackson and Jason Essex for Anonymous Nobodies.

The Netflix thriller revolves around a crime syndicate with seven African-American men who ruled Harlem in the 1970s and early 1980s.



# TRAPPED & CHEATED

As World Tourism Day nears, **CHAHAK MITTAL** examines the collapse of travel giant Thomas Cook, looking at how, amid a global slowdown, tourism facilitators guard their customers across the world

Imagine yourself vacationing in Santorini, Greece or a far away retreat in the world. It's just the first day of your trip and the travel firm that you've booked your package with has been shut down. The firm has announced that it has failed to secure a bailout from its lenders and would soon go out of business. Well, as much as it would result in a loss to its hospitality and tourism services, hundreds of thousands of tourists would be forced to find a new way to get home.

When the world's oldest travel giant Thomas Cook, UK, collapsed on Monday, it concluded that it had no choice but to take steps to enter into compulsory liquidation with immediate effect. Around 15,000 travellers were flown to their homelands in 64 flights. It recently revealed that most future holiday packages have been cancelled due to the announcement of its collapse. However, the refund arrangements for ATOL (Air Travel Organisers' Licensing) customers is expected to be detailed by September 30. But holiday-makers will have to wait to get their money back as it claimed to have been paid within two months of being submitted.

Well, the travel industry has been bogged down by such failures and shutdowns over the past decade. And this one certainly reminds one of those many nightmares. For instance, when the Icelandic carrier Wow Air shut down in March 2019, its repercussions resulted in 2.3 million travellers being stranded at various places across Europe and other parts of the world. The Rodgers Travel loss turned out to be an even bigger jolt to the holiday-makers, despite its circumstances being slightly different. Another case, that of Jet Airways, which had shut down its operations temporarily on April 17, left 20,000 employees and more than 60,000 customers affected indirectly. The second-largest Indian passenger airline flew more people than

national carrier Air India overseas. Even Cox & Kings-owned online booking website, LateRooms, and travel firm in the UK had shut down in August 2019, leaving thousands of customers in a lurch.

Now, even though the response by Thomas Cook might have given some relief to the troubled tourists, the question here arises is that how do travel facilitators protect their stranded customers in case of such emergencies? What are the policies and measures they adopt? Do they have any immediate properties to relocate their customers to? Are there any pre-cautions warnings or insurances which people could avail? The question makes even more sense when we look at the larger picture — online penetration has risen by 42 per cent after the advent of online travel companies over the last five years. And as per the data, total online bookings will increase by 42 per cent by 2022. Given that these bookings have seen such a sharp rise, why shouldn't travellers be made more secure?

Durgesh Nandan, CO-founder and Coo Ithaka Travel, said, "The world is increasingly becoming independent with

the penetration of internet. Companies, which are collapsing, are badly managed and are not able to adapt to the current and changing times. Travel is a thin-margin business and traditional companies, which are not leveraging technology, are finding a hard time to manage profitability and an excessive number of bookings from across the globe."

He suggested that contracting in a way that all the payments are made post the availed service could be a way.

Roshan D'Silva, CEO and founder, TripVillas, looks at what has happened with Thomas Cook as "blatantly illegal" and an "unethical" behaviour and that a responsible travel company wouldn't have been in such a situation. He suggested, "Consumers should only transact with brands and travel agents that they trust and have been following for a while. The only way for consumers to protect themselves in such situations is to buy a travel insurance and always pay for travel using a credit card where they can get a chargeback in case the service is not delivered." Since most of the bookings are made in advance today, in such emergency cases, customers are

liable to get refunds for their payments.

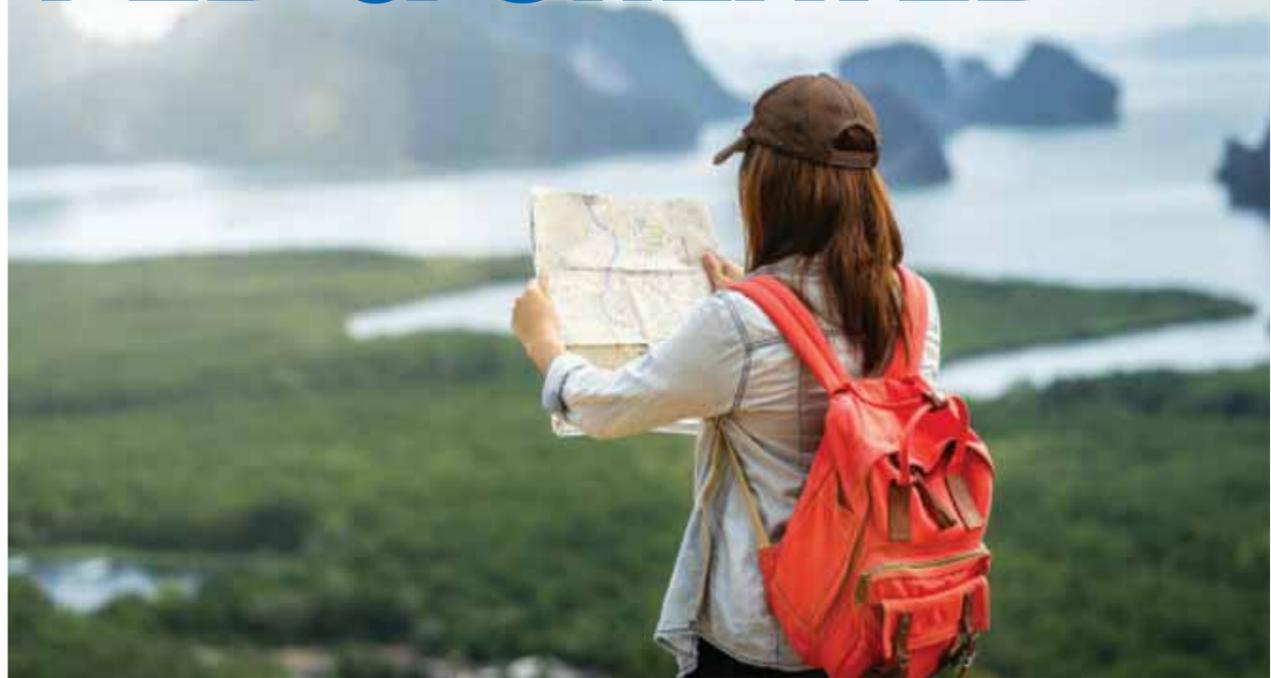
Speaking of its protective measures, he pointed out that TripVillas has a policy of "escrowing all customer funds and paying the holiday home-owners and hotels only post successful check-in. We also verify all home-owners and in case of any such uninvited incidents, we have a policy to relocate the customer to an equivalent or better property immediately."

For Mohit Poddar, CEO and founder, Shoes on Loose, it's very disappointing to know about the company's unexpected breakdown and how it has impacted the customers adversely. "Lot of predatory pricing is being followed by some big players in order to create a monopoly in the market. Industry bodies like the Competition Committee of India and certain laws like Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act were created in order to curb unethically competitive pricing strategies. The objective of such an act is to prevent the unwanted growth of private monopolies and concentration of economic power in the hands of a small number of individuals. In order to have a healthy growth of the market and avoid such unexpected events in future, these practices need to be enforced in the industry," he suggested.

He pointed out that what happened with the travellers because of Thomas Cook shutdown was quite unfortunate. "And in such cases, the government should intervene to protect travellers' interests reasonably. Also, it is a company's responsibility to either provide their travellers with a feasible substitute or prior information to them and their partners in order to avoid the entire hotch-potch."

Experts also point out that the collapse of Thomas Cook comes at a time when airlines are being squeezed more than ever into schedules due to increased competition from low cost, "no frills" carriers. Also, most of the giants in the travel sector are usually struggling due to slowdown because expenditures on travel are the first thing people put a hold on when their going is tough. Hence, one of the biggest things that travel experts suggest is to pay via credit cards for the easier way out.

One of the recent tweets by a Thomas Cook air hostess, after the emergency occurred, said, "TC crew being held in their hotel in Cuba. Hotel is not letting them leave. Asking for \$3,000 but not accepting payments by credit card. Need help!" The Cuban resort had held the crew hostage until the payment was received for accommodation.



## FRIES OVER EMMYS

Actor **MILO VENTIMIGLIA** says that there will be more of Jack and Rebecca in *This Is Us*, Season 4. By **TEAM VIVA**

What was your parents' reaction to your nominations for Emmys in the past few years?

Milo: The first time I was nominated, I asked them, 'Hey guys! I would love if you come to the Emmys with me.' My mom said, 'No. I don't want to be in that huge a crowd.' And my father said, 'I am holding out for the Oscars.' In the second year, I asked them again. And my mom said, 'It's fine sweetheart, you go.' My father again said, 'I am holding out for the Oscars.' And then I said, 'Dad, these are the Oscars for TV.' And then, the third year, the first call I made was to my parents and hoped to hear a yes. Well, before I even got that out they said, 'Oh yes, we are going!'

This Is Us just got extended by three more seasons. How was the last season for you?

It was challenging. We have already met Jack a couple of times. The mustache Jack, the goatee Jack, the beard Jack. So we already met those Jacks. But to go backwards, and be clean-shaved or in war, Jack, we and the writers had to make sure that everything was all lining up towards that eventual Jack that we knew from the first and the second season. So it was challenging as well as rewarding. Michael Angarano is phenomenal. What Mandy and I were able to discover in this newer, younger era of that love story was really wonderful.

It is a little weird that they announced that the show is ending in season six. And you're in season three. Why would they announce it?

Yes, we are middle-aged now. We're over the hill, on our way, declined to nursing home, and then the grave. (Laughs)

But why? Is it because they want to control the storylines?

We never know where we're going. We never know what's that's going to happen. The show could have a huge spike in season six and everybody wants more beyond that. But I think, creative-



ly, they have an idea of what they're trying to do to wrap it up in this nice story so at least the audience knows, the fans know, they're going to get three more seasons, which is nice. You can commit a little more. It will not be like, 'Oh, will it be on or not?' But beyond that, maybe there will be more. I don't know that.

Sterling K Brown was called the sexiest TV dad. Was that hard? Because it seems like you should've been in that category as well?

Maybe, I don't know. When Sterling and I get our weekly meals to talk about us being sexy, I'll ask him. I'll say, 'Hey man! You took it down this year. That's cool. Maybe next year, I will.' (Laughs)

We have seen more of Jack and Rebecca in the last season. What are we going to see moving ahead? What gaps do you hope to fill in?

Happiness. There is always happiness. We have always had a nice balance — turmoil and some fun. So I was at home and going through my photographs and I



came across this video of Mandy and I on the set, where we both are sitting in the first season in the Pierson family den, and I just say to Mandy, 'What was it that you wanted to say?' and then I just put the camera on her and she goes, 'Ditch the crying man!' This was

season one. And back then, I think I was the moustache Jack and had a few happier days. It was like crying over something. Then I thought Mandy Moore said it for real.

Your first job was on Fresh Prince of Bel Air. What did you do?

Yes, my first paying gig was on Fresh Prince of Bel Air. I played party guest number one. And I still remember the lines and the scenes pretty well as well as the whole experience. I walked down the steps and I said, 'Relax, Ash. We are just taking a little detour.' As she had said, 'No one's allowed upstairs.' And there are some laughs before I walk off.

When you were nominated for Emmy for the first time for This Is Us Season 1, what did your father put on Instagram?

It was National French Fries Day. He talked about the day and caught hell for posting about it. It came a little late to him that his son got nominated for an Emmy. I mean, priorities.

(The series airs on Star World from September 28.)

## The risk-taker

Being the son of the Malayalam Bicon Mammooty, young Dulquer Salmaan tells you he has always been a risk-taker — because that's what his superstar father has always taught him to do.

"My father always encourages me to take risks. Right from my initial days, he told me that my food, lodging and other basic things were secure. So, as a youngster if I don't take risks, if I don't experiment, who will? Dad always says that unless you make mistakes you cannot build your character as an individual, and grow as an artist. If one film fails, I do not have to sleep on the road, right? So, then why should I not take calculated risks? My father is very stubborn. He does not believe in spoon-feeding me in the film business," Dulquer said.

The actor has seen the South Indian film industry closely, even before he entered the business with his debut film *Second Show* in 2012. He went on acting in films like *Ustad Hotel*, *Njaan*, *Vaayai Moodi Pesavum*, *O Kadhal Kanmani*, *Charlie*. In 2018 he made his Bollywood debut with *Karwaan*. He was recently seen in the rom-com *The Zoya Factor* alongside Sonam Kapoor Ahuja.

So what is his process of getting under the skin of a character? "It really depends on the kind of character I am playing, because in some, I need physical training while in others I need more of mental preparation and observation," he replied.

Citing an example of one of his earlier film *Mahanati*, Dulquer shared: "That was my Telugu debut and I was playing the iconic actor Gemini Ganesan. I did quite a bit of character study for the role. I met his family to know some of his habits in daily life and also his body language. It is interesting to know these details. My idea was not to mock any individual but to internalise some of those elements so that I can portray the role correctly."

"In my Bollywood debut, *Karwaan*, I played a regular guy. It was a silent character so I was not in that zone of heavy preparation. For *The Zoya Factor* though, I had to learn the game



of cricket," he pointed out. Coming from a Malayalam household and brought up in Chennai, he is now working in Hindi films. How does he manage to switch between languages with ease?

"Hindi is my second language and I grew up in Chennai, so my Tamil is good. My mother made sure that my sister and I speak in Malayalam at home, so that at least we learn our mother tongue. Having said that, I think in English, so any other language I converse in, I actually translate in my mind before saying it."

According to Dulquer, such a situation is an outcome of his schooling. Initially, his parents used to point out the fact that he does not speak good Malayalam.

"I think it is a generational thing. I was admitted in an English school, so it is only natural that I would pick up that language. Of course, back then I did not know I would become an actor," he said. "However, I always an interest to learn different languages as kid. So I am constantly learning and I think dad is happy with the fact that I am doing everything by myself," added Dulquer, mentioning "eating rice" is the most "Mallu habit" he has, rather than speaking in Malayalam.

# HEALTH SHIELD FOR NATION

The MOS for Health and Family Welfare, ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY, says that the Government is celebrating *Ayushman Bharat Pakhwara*, a fortnight-long national campaign to enhance awareness around the preventive, promotive and curative aspects of health care, nutrition and yoga

◆ **Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Scheme aimed to cover over 10 crore people. Since its inception, how many lives have been touched and turned around?**

Within a short span of time, the Ayushman Bharat scheme has made 21,000 Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) which cover a target population of 5 crore and have seen a foot-fall of 1,70,63,522 patients. Approximately 47 lakh people have availed treatment under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY). This flagship scheme aims to provide universal health care to the poor, needy and vulnerable sections of the country.

We have also linked the Ayushman Bharat with Eat Right movement. Through this we are trying to make people aware about things like — *kam khao, hit ke anusar khao, ritu ke anusar khao*. The movement is about eating less sugar, salt and oily food to ensure the well-being of people. It is a step towards eating healthy. We are creating awareness about malnutrition, a condition that causes many health problems, and also educating pregnant women about what they should eat and drink because that is the main source of baby's nourishment.



PMJAY covers 50 crore poor and vulnerable people in the country. It provides a health assurance cover of ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care for serious and catastrophic illnesses. It also provides cashless and paperless access to services for the beneficiary at the point of service.

◆ **What are your future plans?**

We aim to build 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centres by December 2022, which would provide comprehensive primary care (CPHC) including preventive and promotive healthcare. Besides providing good healthcare services, the scheme aims to achieve its vision of increasing employment in the

health sector. An indigenous healthcare setup is coming up, and the infrastructure will develop further, especially in tier II and tier III towns.

◆ **Cancer is a lifestyle disease. While there are constant campaigns about the use of tobacco, how does the Ministry intend to tackle it and pro-**

**mote healthier lifestyles?**

The Ministry is concerned about promoting healthier lifestyles among people. More than 70 lakh people have been treated, around 1.3 crore were screened for diabetes and more than 31 lakh people are being treated for it.

Those who display the symptoms of the disease are referred to the higher public healthcare facilities for diagnosis and treatment. More than 76 lakh population has been screened for oral cavity cancer and out of these, 10,218 people are being treated. While more than 53 lakh women have been screened for breast cancer, around 9,700 women are on treatment and more than 37 lakh women were screened for cervical cancer and around 10,000 women are on treatment. In addition, more than 1.6 crore patients have been provided with medicines and around 49 lakh with diagnostic services. The tele-consultation services with qualified medical officers and specialists for cases referred from Sub Health centre level and Primary Health Care level will be introduced shortly. A pilot is being done with e-Sanjeevani application of C-DAC, Mohali in Punjab. After the due security audit, it will be rolled out in all functional AB-HWCs in phased manner.

◆ **How do you intend to tackle the menace of fake bills being generated by private hospitals under the scheme?**

We ensure that frauds are largely prevented and even if they are attempted, they are quickly detected. We have responded promptly to them. As punishment, we have imposed a penalty and also depanelled those hospitals. Not only this, we have taken major legal actions against them so that they are more careful in the future. We try to keep a constant check over the hospitals so that they always function and operate within the specific guidelines.

◆ **In recent times we have seen an increase in private hospitals. What would you say about it?**

Earlier the public used to complain there being very few private hospitals but now they can see that after our consistent efforts the number of private hospitals has increased. Public hospitals are 47 per cent out of the total empanelled hospitals while private hospital figures have gone up to 53 per cent. We have issued 10 crore beneficiary cards and are happy to fulfill the expectations of the people.

Photo: Ranjan Dimri

## IN SHORT



NSPCL Bhilai received the Apex India Excellence Platinum Award in CSR category for its efforts in generating livelihood through its skill development training programme. The award was received from Shripad Yesso Naik, Union Minister, Government of India.



The Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA) is going to convert around 50 parks into kids zone. GDA will provide all the means of entertainment in these parks. GDA Vice President Kanchan Verma, said that till now people of all age groups were allowed to enter the park due to which there were many problems children had to face. But now, only children are allowed to enter the parks.



The convocation of Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA) concluded on Saturday. The students' faces blossomed after obtaining degrees and certificates. The director general, Dr Arindam Vasu, said that he will start a year-long programme based on environmental technology management. NITRA has trained and improved placements to more than 28 hundred children.



To make the people aware of the countryside area of Ghaziabad, the Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG-2019) app has been launched so far and more than 28 thousand people have given their feedback. Newly appointed chief development officer Asmita Lal held a meeting with officials regarding the cleanliness survey. She directed to coordinate with all departments to make the campaign successful.



Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation has reached the first position in the state in terms of making the city plastic-free. The corporation has achieved significant achievement by recovering one crore. In the last 24 hours, the city commissioner Dinesh Chandra has recovered more than five lakh penalties from people who use plastics. The people associated with the corporation are not in a mood to spare anybody.

# Investiture ceremony for ICG

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh awarded gallantry and meritorious service medals to the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) personnel at an impressive investiture ceremony held at Indian Coast Guard Air Station Chennai. Rajnath Singh inspected the ceremonial guard

prior to awarding the medals. A total of 61 awards which included 01 PTM (Gallantry), 08 PTM (Distinguished Service), 32 TM (Gallantry) and 20 TM (Meritorious Service) were conferred. The award not only serves as a well-deserved recognition



for the acts of bravery, valour and selfless devotion of the personnel in extreme conditions, but also serve as morale booster and motivation to the service for maintaining safety and security of nation's vast maritime frontiers.

With the ever increasing

challenges of safety and security near the oceans, this fine service has been living up to the expectations of the country. The very fact, that there were considerably large number of awardees for prestigious medals, proves the valour and dedication.

## 'Earth is one family'

October 1 is celebrated as International Day of Older Persons all over the world. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment celebrates this day and confers awards — *Vayoshreshtha Samman* — to eminent senior citizens in recognition of their service. As per the scheme, the awards shall be presented by the President of India or the Prime Minister at a special ceremony to be held on October 1.

Thaawarchand Gehlot, Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, says, "India is the nation which follows the philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*, which means that the whole earth is one family. It inspires us to care for elderly as our prime concern."

Every year, a morning walkathon is also organised on the occasion. It is a symbol of expression of solidarity with



the older generation and also an act that gives a strong message to the whole world that senior citizens are an integral part of our society.

# Review meeting on BIS laboratories

Bureau of Indian Standards convened a meeting to review BIS laboratory activities. The meeting was chaired by the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Ram Vilas Paswan. BIS has the mandate to lead and co-ordinate the conformity assessment activities in the country to meet the emerging needs and expectations of Indian industry, government, consumers and relevant stakeholders. It is also important for BIS to ensure that India is able to influence and play a leading role in the international fora bringing its testing capabilities in line with the best in the world.

During the meeting, the testing requirements of the industry and BIS in particular was deliberated upon. It was felt that the BIS lab facilities must be upgraded with latest



technology to enhance the pace of quality testing and also making it industry friendly. Inputs from private players were taken into consideration to understand the requirements and demand for carrying high quality testing of products.

Lauding the efforts of BIS, Paswan said that all departments such as BIS, FSSAI and other pertaining ministries must synergise and work in coordination to prevent overlapping of work. He stressed on the need to increase the monitoring process of standardised

products. "It is the duty of all departments and respective ministries to ensure that standards are being followed by the products available in the market. Our products should meet international standards and the testing facility should be matched as well," he said.



# NMCG organises a cleanliness drive

National Mission for Clean Ganga organised a cleanliness drive at Delhi's Kalindi Kunj Ghat along the Yamuna River on the occasion of World Cleanup Day. The drive was conducted as a part of the ongoing *Swachhata Hi Seva* campaign. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, DG, National Mission for Clean Ganga, led from the front and

inspired others to join in the cause. Several NGOs such as Tree Craze Foundation, Lehar Foundation, Smile Foundation and Aarohan Street to School Foundation also worked alongside NMCG in cleaning the ghat.

World Cleanup Day is a global social action programme aimed at combating the global

solid waste problem. It is celebrated with litter cleanup and waste mapping activities spanning every time zone across the world. Its beauty lies in cooperation and collaboration: building bridges between disparate communities and including all levels of society. Speaking on the occasion, Mishra said, "While the Government is

leading the way, Delhi's residents must take ownership of the Yamuna and come forward to participate in keeping the riverfront clean."

Rampant use of plastic and other non-biodegradable items are the major pollutants in our river system and the Yamuna requires immediate attention.

## Katra to host Navratra festival

The holy town is all set for nine-day Navratra festival, which is going to begin on September 29 with elaborate arrangements by the Government, said divisional commissioner, Sanjeev Verma.

Elaborating on details about annual pilgrimage to Vaishno Devi, the Div Com informed that 3,18,753 pilgrims have paid obeisance at the revered Cave during Navratras in 2018. This year's events would include shobha yatras, *mata ki kahani*, cultural programmes, *prabhat pheris*, all India devotional songs competition, *Bhagvat Katha*, *hassaya vyang sammelan* and programme by specially-abled children.

## UTS Mobile app gains popularity

In order to provide convenience of booking of unreserved tickets through mobile phones, the UTS Mobile app was launched in November 2018. It was developed by the railways to facilitate passengers so that they don't have to undergo the discomfort of reaching a ticket counter.

Northern Railways had launched several promotional drives to create awareness about the app. Help desks were set up at many prominent stations. TP Singh, general manager of the Northern Railways, expressed his satisfaction on the gaining popularity of the app. He said that in past several months, the passenger engagement on the app has



gone up as 41.14 lakh. As the awareness about the app will increase though the promo-

tional drives, ticketing will become more convenient, paperless and digital.

## GGSIU holds conference for sustainable development

Educational development is an integral part of the capital development as it is not merely confined to infrastructure like construction of roads, flyovers, bridges and more. Its scope is beyond. If you are developing educational infrastructure, you are contributing something more valuable and significant towards the capital development," said Manish Sisodia, Deputy CM of Delhi at the inaugural function of the International conference on knowledge and policy for sustainable development: global lessons and local challenges, organised by the Directorate of International



Affairs, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University at Radisson Blu hotel Dwarka. He added that education-

al institutions cannot work in isolation. For the betterment of the society, it is essential to work collectively. Focussing

on the crucial role of positive mindset, he stressed that if you have a positive mindset to work, you can do wonders even in available infrastructure and funds.

Presiding over the function of the vice chancellor of the university, professor Dr Mahesh Verma, said that the whole world is like a family. We are concerned for everyone. It is a part of our culture and heritage. For development, it is essential to be innovative and experimental. University is a strong stack holder of sustainable development. We are intended to be oriented towards sustainable development.

# Messi injured as Barca beat Villarreal

AFP ■ BARCELONA

Lionel Messi endured yet more injury frustration on Tuesday after going off at half-time against Villarreal but Barcelona gave their coach Ernesto Valverde some much-needed relief with a comfortable 2-1 victory.

They arrived at Camp Nou with doubts hovering, particularly over Valverde, but delivered a far more convincing win than the scoreline suggested, thanks to early goals from Antoine Griezmann, his third of the season, and Arthur Melo.



"We are still far from our best but with matches everything will improve," said Griezmann.

Messi received treatment in the first half for what looked like a problem with his left thigh and was then unable to continue after the interval, replaced by Ousmane Dembele.

On his own adaptation at Barcelona, he added: "It's different. A different style of football, a different position. I knew it was going to be a challenge and it would take time."

His withdrawal will be a major concern for Barca, particularly given this was Messi's first start of the season after just recovering from a nagging calf injury sustained at the start of August.

"But I'm not too bad, right? Three goals. I can do better, yes, but I have to keep working," Santi Cazorla put Villarreal in touch on the stroke of half-time but in truth the visitors barely threatened thereafter, with Barcelona impressively composed when nerves might easily have taken over.

After the match, Valverde struck a note of calm. "When something happens to Messi, everyone stops, not only on the field, but in the stands as well," he said.

"It is a small problem in the adductor and as a precaution we have decided not to risk it. In theory, it is nothing more but we will see tomorrow how it is."

It means Valverde's side climb to fourth in the table, one point behind Real Madrid and level on points with Atletico Madrid. Villarreal's encouraging start stalls a little as they drop to eighth.

Barcelona visit Getafe in La Liga on Saturday before playing Inter Milan at home in the Champions League four days later.

Certainly, they would have been eager to see Messi back in their line-up, having suffered a humbling 2-0 loss at newly-promoted Granada last weekend.

Granada, who backed up their shock win over Barca with a 1-1 draw at Real Valladolid, top the table, although both Athletic Bilbao and Real Madrid can move three points above them when they play their games.



AP



Tottenham Hotspur players huddle during the penalty shootout in an English League Cup match against Colchester United

# Spurs pay for penalties

Fourth-tier Colchester beat Champions League runner-up 4-3 in League Cup

AFP ■ LONDON

Tottenham's disappointing start to the season hit a new low as they suffered an embarrassing League Cup third-round defeat on penalties at fourth-tier Colchester on Tuesday.

Mauricio Pochettino's side were held to a 0-0 draw in normal time before losing 4-3 on penalties against opponents currently 10th in League Two.

Christian Eriksen's opening spot-kick was saved and Lucas Moura hit the crossbar before Tom Lapslie scored the winning penalty to spark a pitch invasion from Colchester's jubilant fans.

It was the first time Tottenham manager Pochettino had been knocked out of a domestic cup competition against lower-league opposition.

The shock defeat extended Tottenham's poor run, which included a 2-1 loss at Leicester in the Premier League on Saturday.

"Colchester made a fantastic game, it was difficult. We are so disappointed



Raheem Sterling celebrates after scoring

we could not score in 90 minutes," Pochettino said.

"That's the beauty of the competition, always something can happen. We wanted to go further but we are out."

After finishing as Champions League runners-up last season, Tottenham were expected to kick on this season but instead they have struggled to find any consistency.

The upset was the biggest setback so far for Pochettino, who made 10 changes to his side but could still call on enough quality players to expect a win against a team 71 places below them in the football pyramid.

There were debuts for 17-year-old Troy Parrott and 20-year-old Japhet Tanganga, while Eric Dier made his first appearance of the season alongside Dele Alli in midfield.

But Tottenham laboured badly and could not find the breakthrough as Colchester followed up their second-

round win against Crystal Palace with an even bigger scalp on a memorable night that ranked alongside the club's famous FA Cup success against Leeds in 1971.



With Pochettino yet to win his first trophy as Tottenham boss and the club without silverware since the 2008 League Cup, this was another blow to their flagging morale.

## SLICK CITY

Holders Manchester City won 3-0 at Championship club Preston as they made a smooth start to their bid to win the League Cup for a third successive season.

Raheem Sterling's fine solo effort put City ahead and Gabriel Jesus doubled the lead with a crisp strike before Ryan Ledson's own goal made it three.

Gabriel Martinelli scored his first goals in English football and Rob Holding enjoyed a dream return from injury as Arsenal crushed second-tier



"Colchester made a fantastic game, it was difficult. We are so disappointed we could not score in 90 minutes. That's the beauty of the competition, always something can happen. We wanted to go further but we are out."

—MAURICIO POCHETTINO (Tottenham manager)

Nottingham Forest 5-0.

Martinelli, making his first Gunners start following a summer move from Brazilian club Ituano, claimed the first-half opener before completing the scoring in stoppage time.

Defender Holding, out for more than nine months with a serious knee problem, powerfully headed home the first of four goals in the final 19 minutes, with Joe Willock and Reiss Nelson also on target.

Southampton routed third-tier Portsmouth 4-0 in the first meeting between the fierce south-coast since 2012, with Danny Ings scoring twice for his boyhood club in their first win at Fratton Park for 35 years.

Danny Welbeck scored his first goal for 11 months in Watford's 2-1 win over Swansea.

Leicester thrashed Luton 4-0 and Everton won 2-0 at Sheffield Wednesday.

# Juventus go top of Serie A

AFP ■ TURIN

Mario Balotelli made his first start for Brescia but the promoted northerners still fell to a 2-1 defeat which sent champions Juventus top of Serie A on Tuesday.

Former Manchester City and Inter Milan striker Balotelli has returned to Italy to play for his hometown club, but his debut had been delayed as he sat out a four-game suspension for previous club Marseille.

Juventus were without Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo, rested with a slight thigh problem, but the champions recovered from going behind after less than four minutes to an Alfredo Donnarumma goal — his fourth in five games.

Juventus goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny got two



Juventus players celebrate after scoring second goal against Brescia

hands to Donnarumma's powerful strike, but could only push the ball into the net.

Brescia defender Jhon Chanceller let the champions

back, volleying in on 63 minutes.

Juventus overtake Inter Milan at the top of the Serie A table with 13 points from five games.

Antonio Conte's side are one point behind before they host Lazio at the San Siro.

Balotelli, back in Italy for the first time since 2016, was denied after half an hour with Polish 'keeper Szczesny tipping his 30-yard free-kick over the bar.

"Mario is working hard and is an extraordinary player. I'm sure he'll give us a big hand this season," said Brescia coach Eugenio Corini.

Elsewhere, Verona were held to a goalless draw at home against Udinese, with both teams settled in the bottom half of the table with just one win each from five games.

# Stimac wants players to be fully fit for B'desh tie

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian football team head coach Igor Stimac on Wednesday said he wants all his players to be fully fit for the World Cup qualifying round match against Bangladesh next month.

India had played out a rare goal-less draw against Qatar in Doha on September 15 in their second match of World Cup qualifiers round 2.

India will take on Bangladesh in their next match on October 15 in Kolkata.

"We still have some uncertainties with small injury problems with few players. The Bangladesh game is going to be very different

from the last one against Qatar. We need all the players to be fully fit, and ready for the day," Stimac said.

The Croat announced a list of 29 players for a preparatory camp to be held in Guwahati from October 3. The match against Bangladesh will be played at the YBK Stadium in Kolkata on October 15.

The list will be further pruned down to 25 at the end of this week.

Midfielder Amarjit Singh Kiyam continued to be absent as he is recovering from an elbow injury.

"I hope that YBK will be packed and our supporters in Kolkata will push our players all the way to help us register our first victory in qualifiers," he said.



AP

# Belihu, Gemechu to defend Delhi Half Marathon titles

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Ethiopia's Andamlak Belihu and Tsehay Gemechu will return to defend their men's and women's titles respectively in the 15th edition of the Airtel Delhi Half Marathon on October 20.

Belihu won men's half marathon title of this prestigious IAAF Gold Label Road Race last year in 59:18, just missing out on the course record of 59:06 which remained since 2014 in the name of compatriot Guye Adola.

"Immediately after last year's race I said that I was going to come back to Delhi in 2019 as I had unfinished business with the course record, and I am keeping my promise," commented Belihu, who will still be just 20 on race day.

Last year, Belihu had to work hard to hold off his fellow Ethiopian Amdework Walegn to win by four seconds. Walegn will also

return with the ambition of going one better in this year's race.

No less than eight men in the ADHM 2019 elite field have run under the world class benchmark of one hour but much of the attention will be on a man who has yet to run the distance, Hagos Gebrihiwet.

Gebrihiwet had planned to make his half marathon debut in Delhi last year but a late bout of illness curtailed his training. However, he will stand on the start line this year. He won a Bronze in Rio Olympics 5000m race.

The fastest man in Delhi this year will be Erick Kiptanui. The Kenyan-born runner, who now competes under the Kazakhstan flag, set a personal best of 65:07 in the 2018 Ras Al Khaimah Half Marathon.

Both the men's and women's races have a first prize cheques of ₹ 27,000 with a total prize money purse (combined men and women) of ₹ 275,000.

tion last year, Gemechu made a huge impact in her debut over the distance when she set an ADHM women's course record of 66:50 and in 2019 she has shown it was no fluke with a string of sparkling performances both on the roads and the track, including taking the African Games 10,000m title.

The third and fourth-placed women from the ADHM 2018 also return with Ethiopia's Zeineba Yimer and Kenya's Stacy Ndiwa coming back to do battle.

DHFL DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED				
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Circle Office: Plot No. A-6, Sector-2 Noida 201301				
APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)				
S.N.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of secured asset (immovable property)	Date of Possession
1.	(LC No. 00001023 of our Rewari Branch) Gunjan Singh (Borrower) Durga Saran Singh (Co-Borrower)	29-01-2019 Rs. 21,60,428/-	All that part and parcel of the Property Bearing No Hno. 275 P I I G Flat Housing Board Colony Sector 6 Dharuhera, Rewari Haryana, Mahendragarh-123401	20-09-2019
2.	(LC No. 00000067 of our Noida Branch) Devinder Singh Chauhan (Borrower) Jasbinder Kaur (Co-Borrower)	29-01-2019 Rs. 13,79,342/-	All that part and parcel of the Property Bearing No Flat No - 3b, 305, 3rd Floor Tower 02, rever Heights Nh - 58 Nur Nagar, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad-201001	20-09-2019
3.	(LC No. 00001531 of our Noida 1 Rajendra Branch) Rashid Salfi (Borrower) Nisha (Co-Borrower)	29-01-2019 Rs. 27,50,345/-	All that part and parcel of the Property Bearing No Plot No-c 144, Block-c, Gali No 12, Khasra No. 685/442, Kanti Nagar Extn, Village Uldhan Pur, Shahdara, Delhi, New Delhi-110051	25-09-2019
4.	(LC No. 00041274 of our Delhi - Pitampura Branch) Suresh Pandey (Borrower) Kamta Prasad Pandey (Co-Borrower)	29-01-2019 Rs. 13,66,982/-	All that part and parcel of the Property Bearing No Property No. C-10-g Ground Floor Front Lhs, Dlf, Dilshad Ext-2 Bhopura, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad-201005	25-09-2019
5.	(LC No. 00000587 of our Delhi Rajouri Garden Branch) Lalit Maity (Borrower) Pooja Maity (Co-Borrower)	29-01-2019 Rs. 17,39,416/-	All that part and parcel of the Property Bearing No Flat No-717, Pocket- C1, 4th Floor, Dda Flat, Siraspur, Delhi, New Delhi-110041	20-09-2019
6.	(LC No. 00000299 of our Gurgaon Branch) Devendra Singh (Borrower)	18-02-2019 Rs. 16,00,629/-	All that part and parcel of the Property Bearing No Flat B1 D, Third Floor, E W S Flat, Block - C, Sector- 99 Noida Gautambudh Nagar Uttar Pradesh - 201301	20-09-2019

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to DHFL as aforesaid, DHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of DHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Sd/- Pulkit Baluja (Authorised Officer)   
 For Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited   
 Place: Delhi / NCR Date: 26/09/2019

Modern Coach Factory, Raebareilly				
e-Advertised Tender Notice NO 01/ET/2019-20 Dated: 21.09.2019				
SN	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Due Date
01	121900548	Horizontal Damper Bracket	6540 Nos	18.10.2019
02	12190044	Set of Components for Assembly	1580 Set	14.10.2019
03	12190453	Centering Disc for LHB GS Coach	2940 Nos	18.10.2019
04	12190078	Plate Spring DIA 160x82x6 MM	32569 Nos	14.10.2019
05	12190211	Centering Disc	5528 Nos	16.10.2019
06	12190365	Spring Dome	3238 Nos	31.10.2019
07	15195166	Fork Lift capacity 03T Furnishing/ Finishing Shop/MCF/RBL	10 Nos	23.10.2019
08	38-S/Road Transport 0033	Road Transportation of Railway Coach Components from ICF, Chennai to MCF, Raebareilly, Laliganj Factory including loading on Trucks and unloading at destination.	20 Nos	24.10.2019
09	03190501	Set of Furnishing Items	1060 Set	18.10.2019
		Set of Furnishing Items	1867 Set	
		Set of Furnishing Items	955 Set	
10	03190892	Set of Seats and Births with Lower Luggage rake for LHB	250 Set	18.10.2019
11	03190895	AL. Extrusion Length=3800 MM	33613 Kg	15.10.2019
		AL. Extrusion Length= 1.8 M	20012 Kg	
12	03190088A	Set of Ceiling Sheets for AC3T EOG LHB	358 Set	14.10.2019
13	03190934	Cushioning Material	300 Set	14.10.2019
14	05195011	Switch Board Cabinet for HOG Compliant LSLRD Coaches	100 Set	14.10.2019
15	11190255	Under Frame Complete for LWSCNG	365 Nos	18.10.2019
16	11190280	Bracket	13755 Nos	18.10.2019
17	11190266	Upper Horizontal Stiffener	14085 Nos	16.10.2019
18	11190297	Set of Back Pieces, Roof Flange, Angle of Side wall for Antyodaya Coach	500 Set	21.10.2019
19	03190069	Euro Bowl Assembly Complete	3221 Nos	18.10.2019
20	03190605	FRP Body side Window Arrgt. For SCN IRQ Coach	5400 Nos	18.10.2019
21	03190875	Lavatory Window for LHB Coaches	518 Nos	18.10.2019
22	03190985	Attachment wall Complet	1500 Nos	17.10.2019
		Attachment wall Complet LH	1500 Nos	
		Attachment wall Complet RH	700 Nos	
23	12190072	Brake Beam	1680 Nos	21.10.2019
24	12190429	Axle Mounted Disc Brake System	18 Set	31.10.2019

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# Rohit's new role highlight SA tour game

PTI ■ VIZIANAGARAM

Rohit Sharma will begin a last ditch effort to save his stop-start Test career with a trial run in the unfamiliar opener's slot when he leads the Board President's XI in a three-day warm-up game against South Africa, starting here today.

With the national selection committee and the team management deciding to promote Rohit as an opener, keeping his spunky strokeplay in mind, the next five Tests could be a make or break for the 32-year-old stylish right-hander.

He will have Mayank Agarwal for company as the two would look to strike an understanding before the first Test starting on October 2 in Visakhapatnam.

The third notable character in the game would be Umesh Yadav, who has been drafted into the Test side as an injured Jasprit Bumrah's replacement.

He will look to rattle the likes of Faf du Plessis and Aiden Markram in order to make a statement.

But the focus from today will undoubtedly be on Rohit.

One of the modern day greats in the white ball format, Rohit's average of 39.62 in 27 Tests, including three hundreds, doesn't do justice to his potential.

Red-ball vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane and the fast-rising Hanuma Vihari consolidated their middle-order slots with impressive performances in the West Indies and the only remaining option for Rohit was to bat at the top.

The three-day game against the quality red-ball attack of South Africa, comprising Kagiso Rabada, Vernon Philander and Lungi Ngidi, will be a good dress rehearsal before the opening game in Visakhapatnam.

Rohit's technique against the moving red SG, Dukes or Kookaburra has been suspect but this is an inspired punt that Virat Kohli and Ravi Shastri are ready to take keeping Virender Sehwag's stupendous success in mind.

If it clicks, this will be considered a masterstroke but if it doesn't, the A team's supply line of openers comprising Shubman Gill, Abhimanyu Easwaran and Priyank Panchal will be there.

Not to forget KL Rahul, who would look to score heavily and get his place back and Prithvi Shaw, also hungry as ever after having served a doping ban and learnt harsh lessons of life.

Even if Rohit succeeds on the low and sub-continental tracks, there's no guarantee that he would be able to replicate it on the grounds in New Zealand, where Trent Boult promises to bring it back in repeatedly.

The road ahead will be tricky for one



Rohit Sharma bats at nets during India's practice session ahead of game against South Africa

of India's finest ODI openers as the next six months will decide his fate in the game's traditional format.

## SQUADS

**Board President's XI:** Rohit Sharma (c), Mayank Agarwal, Priyank Panchal, AR Easwaran, Karun Nair, Siddhesh Lad, KS Bharat (wk), Jalaj Saxena, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja, Avesh Khan, Ishan Porel, Shardul Thakur, Umesh Yadav

**South Africa:** Faf du Plessis (c), Temba Bavuma, Theunis de Bruyn, Quinton de Kock, Dean Elgar, Zubayr Hamza, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, Senuran Muthusamy, Lungi Ngidi, Anrich Nortje, Vernon Philander, Dane Piedt, Kagiso Rabada, Rudi Second.

## SL replace Zimbabwe for T20 series

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The BCCI on Wednesday named Sri Lanka as Zimbabwe's replacement for a short three-match T20 International series to be held in January next year.

The BCCI has roped in Sri Lanka for the short series in place of Zimbabwe, which has been suspended by the ICC.

As planned earlier, the first T20 will take place in Guwahati on January 5, followed by matches in Indore on January 7 and Pune on January 10.

"In the wake of Zimbabwe's suspension by ICC, the BCCI invited Sri Lanka to participate in the three-match series. Sri Lanka Cricket has confirmed their participation," the BCCI said.

The series against Zimbabwe was in doubt after the ICC had suspended Zimbabwe Cricket (ZC) in July this year over government interference in its administration.

The ICC Board unanimously decided that ZC was in breach of Article 2.4 (c) and (d) of its constitution which imposes an obligation on members to provide a process for free and democratic elections.

## SCHEDULE

1st T20: January 5, Guwahati  
2nd T20: January 7, Indore  
3rd T20: January 10, Pune.

## Kohli, Dhawan move up in T20 rankings

PTI ■ DUBAI

Rohit Sharma moved up a place to world number eight while India skipper Virat Kohli and Shikhar Dhawan inched closer to a top 10 spot in the latest ICC T20 Rankings for batsmen released on Wednesday.

Kohli's unbeaten 72 in the second T20I against South Africa has seen him gain one spot and reach 11th in the list while Dhawan has moved up three places to 13th after scores



of 40 and 36. Rohit is tied at the eighth spot with England's Alex Hales. Both batsmen have 664 points.

In the bowlers' ranking, Washington Sundar is the top ranked Indian. He moved eight spots to be placed 50th.

The series in India also saw South Africa's Quinton de Kock move up from 49th to 30th, his

highest position in two years, after scores of 52 and 79 not out.

Spinner Tabraiz Shamsi has reached the top 20 in the bowlers' list for the first time while Andile Phehlukwayo has achieved a career-best ranking of seventh.

In the T20 team rankings, India are placed fourth below South Africa (3rd), England (2nd) and top-ranked Pakistan.

## Our batting needs lot of improvement: Harman

PTI ■ SURAT

The Indian women's cricket team captain Harmanpreet Kaur said the team's below-par batting show in the first T20 International against South Africa here had left her nervous before the bowlers rose to the challenge with a stellar effort.

Harmanpreet was the only Indian batswoman to play an impactful knock, scoring 43, while the rest of her colleagues failed to chip in with any notable contribution.

The bowlers, led by player of the match Deepti Sharma (4/8), produced an impressive show to dismiss South Africa for 119 in 19.5 overs.

"I was nervous at the halfway stage but we knew that we'd have something for the bowlers. They did a great job," Harmanpreet said after the match.

She said the players have been working hard on their fitness.

"We were doing a lot of fitness (regimens) before coming here and we got the result on the field. The way we fielded and bowled, I was happy," she said.

She also her side still needs improvement in several areas, especially batting.

"Lot of areas to improve. Need to improve a lot with the bat.

"We are playing with an extra batter, so if batters do well, we can do even better," said the 30-year-old.

She said she had trusted Radha Yadav to do well in the final over of the South African run chase and eventually the left-arm took two wickets to end the visiting side's innings.

Star of the match Deepti said her effort was the "best bowling performance" of her career.

"We bowled how I had planned. Got help from the wicket too. The plan was to bowl wicket to wicket and it was turning, so I pitched it up too," she said. "The mindset was to bowl in front. We were confident at the halfway mark. And we wanted to enjoy. If you enjoy, you automatically do well," the 22-year-old off-spinner said.

South Africa captain Sune Luus said 130 was a chaseable total though her side could not make it in the end.

"The way our new-ball bowlers bowled, they gave us a good platform to work on. We thought 130 was a total we could chase. Chasing 130 is about when you go for the charge," she said.

"Lizelle Lee gave a good platform. The batsmen who then came in just couldn't execute. The way Deepti and the spinners bowled, you could definitely see there was more spin as the evening progressed."



## India's poor show in Korea continues

Sindhu, Sai Praneeth, Nehwal suffer first round defeat; Kashyap advances

PTI ■ INCHEON

Parupalli Kashyap was the lone Indian to survive in the singles event after star shuttlers P V Sindhu, Saina Nehwal and B Sai Praneeth made first round exits at the Korea Open badminton tournament on Wednesday.

Kashyap registered a comfortable 21-16, 21-16 over Lu Chia Hung of Chinese Taipei in a men's singles match that lasted 42 minutes. He will face Malaysia's Liew Daren in the second round.

The first round casualties for India included World Champion Sindhu, who bowed out of the tournament after going down 7-21, 24-22, 15-21 at the hands of USA's Beiwenzhang, Sai Praneeth and Saina — both retired hurt in their respective first round matches. World



P Kashyap makes a return shot BWF/Twitter

Championships Bronze-medallist Sai Praneeth was trailing 9-21, 7-11 when he conceded the match to fifth-seeded Anders Antonsen due to an ankle injury.

Saina was trailing 21-19, 18-21, 1-8 against South Korea's Kim Ga Eun when she was forced to retire.

Saina's husband and personal coach Kashyap said she retired because of gastroenteritis problem.

"It seems she had a relapse of the gastroenteritis that bothered her early in the year. She was feeling dizzy and vomited yesterday. In fact, she went to the stadium straight from the hospital today," he said.

"Still she could have won but when it went to three games, she didn't have anything left in her tank. We need to check with the doctor when we go back. It has been a difficult year for her."

Saina has had a tough year owing to injuries. She won the Indonesia Open at the beginning of the season but has struggled since then. At the China Open last week, she made a first-round exit.

Sindhu also seems to be facing a rough patch after the high of winning the World Championships. She was knocked out of the China Open by Thailand's Pornpawee Chochuwong in the second round last week.

It was also curtains for India in the opening round of the men's doubles competition.

The pair of Manu Attri and B Sumeeth Reddy lost to Huang Kai Xiang and Liu Cheng of China 16-21, 21-19, 18-21, while Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty went down to fourth seeds Takeshi Kamura and Keigo Sonoda of Japan 19-21, 21-18, 18-21.

## Advani-Mehta win World Team Snooker title

PTI ■ MANDALAY

The Indian duo of Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta overcame a tough Thai team to emerge world champions in the IBSF World Snooker Team event on Wednesday.

This takes Advani's world title tally to a phenomenal 23 while Aditya claimed his maiden at a time when his future is being doubted due to health issues.

For Advani, this win has ensured that his name is now there on every IBSF world title on offer.

He had won the world billiards event last week.

"I'm absolutely excited to win my first world title. All the years of hard work and struggle has finally paid off," said Mehta. Advani too was ecstatic.

"It's a dream trip for me as I return from Myanmar in under 3 weeks with 2 world championship Gold medals and a Bronze (which he got in the world 6-red snooker event). I'm over the moon to have won the only missing world title on my list and this win is very special for that reason.

"It's been a long but satisfying outing. Having to switch from billiards to snooker in a day and to come out on top is a reassurance that specialising in two sports is indeed achievable."

## Halep, Pliskova make Wuhan exit

AFP ■ WUHAN

Ukrainian teen Dayana Yastremska scored the first top-10 win of her career at the Wuhan Open on Wednesday over world number two Karolina Pliskova, declaring herself one of the young talents making a splash on tour this season.

In a year where 19-year-old Bianca Andreescu has won the US Open, and 15-year-old Cori Gauff has reached the second week at Wimbledon, Yastremska picked up two WTA titles and made the fourth round at SW19.

"They're young but they're also very good. There's a lot of things I could learn from them as well," Yastremska said of the players following her 6-1, 6-4 third-round victory against Pliskova.

"I'm really happy that now the young generation is coming up. It's really time for us."

Pliskova's exit temporarily takes the pressure off



Simona Halep prepares to make a return during her match at Wuhan WTA

world number one Ashleigh Barty, who can hold onto her top ranking for at least one more week now that her nearest rival was unable to reach the semi-finals in Wuhan.

Barty booked her ticket to the quarter-finals with a 6-3, 7-5 success over recently-crowned Guangzhou champion Sofia Kenin, and takes on Croatian Petra Martic on today.

Meanwhile, third-seeded Elina Svitolina is happy to have put her early-season woes behind her as she secured passage to the quarter-finals with a 6-4, 6-2 rout of Russian qualifier Svetlana Kuznetsova.

She next test comes in the form of American world number 35 Alison Riske, who maintained her clean record against home favourite Wang Qiang with a 6-2, 6-1 triumph.

Two-time Wuhan champion Petra Kvitova closed out play on Wednesday, beating 10th-seeded Sloane Stephens for the first time, 6-3, 6-3, to set up a quarter-final showdown with Yastremska.

Meanwhile Simona Halep was left disappointed after suffering a fresh injury setback in China that forced her to retire from with a lower back problem.

Halep said the problem that caused her to quit her third-round match felt different to the herniated disc she had suffered at the China Open in Beijing a year ago which brought an early end to the Romanian's 2018 season.

"It's lower back. I think it's more muscle, but I don't know yet because I haven't checked it properly," said two-time Grand Slam champion Halep.

## SINGLES

### INDIA U-18 SECURE SEMIFINAL BERTH

**KATHMANDU:** Gurkirat Singh's brace helped India thump Sri Lanka 3-0 and move to the semifinals of the SAFF U-18 Championship here on Wednesday. Gurkirat's brace alongside Aman Chetri's strike proved to be the difference between the two sides in India's last league match. The two sides remained goalless at the half time break. The Indian team started the second half with much vigour and in the 65th minute, Gurkirat found the back of the net with a cross coming in through the flanks. Gurkirat and Aman then added a goal each to take India 3-0 up in the dying moments of the match. The three goal margin proved enough for India to seal their win and progress to the semifinals of the SAFF U-18 Championship.

### USHA HONOURED WITH IAAF VETERAN PIN

**DOHA:** Indian track and field legend P T Usha was on Wednesday presented the Veteran Pin by the world athletics governing body, in recognition of her contribution to the growth of sport. IAAF chief Sebastian Coe presented her the Veteran Pin during the 52nd IAAF Congress. She was one of three persons from Asia to receive the honour. "Expressing my deep gratitude towards @iaaforg and President @sebcoe for awarding me the Veteran Pin at the 52nd IAAF conference in Doha. I look forward to continually contributing to the growth of athletics in our country!," tweeted the 55-year-old who is known as 'Payyoli Express'.

### DRAVID TO DEPOSE BEFORE ETHICS OFFICER

**MUMBAI:** Former India captain Rahul Dravid would depose before BCCI Ethics Officer D K Jain on Thursday to explain the conflict of interest allegations against him. Dravid is currently the Director of National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru, besides being a vice-president in the India Cements group, which owns the IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings. The complaint against Dravid, by Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) life member Sanjeev Gupta, alleging that there is conflict in interest in Dravid's role as NCA head and being an India Cements employee. Dravid has already given a reply and defended himself saying he has taken leave of absence from employers India Cements and he has nothing to do with the Chennai Super Kings.

### FIT AGAIN DJOKOVIC TO PLAY IN TOKYO

**BELGRADE:** World number one Novak Djokovic, forced out of the US Open with a shoulder injury, is back in training and will play in Tokyo next week, a member of his press team said. The 32-year-old Serbian star has "started to train and the situation with his shoulder is a bit better," the spokesperson said. Serbia's media quoted Djokovic as saying he had been "training without pain for two days already". His return means he could play out the season and hold off a challenge to his number one ranking from US Open winner Rafael Nadal. "It makes me very optimistic that I could play until the end of the season as I planned," Djokovic was quoted as saying.

### TN THRASH SERVICES BY 212 RUNS

**JAIPUR:** Skipper Dinesh Karthik led from the front as Tamil Nadu thrashed Services by a whopping 212 runs in their Elite Group C game of the Vijay Hazare trophy here on Wednesday. This is Tamil Nadu's second successive win after they had opened their campaign by defeating Rajasthan on Tuesday. Put into bat at the Sawai Mansingh stadium, Tamil Nadu posted a healthy 294/8 with Karthik top-scoring with 95. And later, their bowlers produced a splendid show to bundle out Services for a paltry 82. Karthik was ably supported by C Hari Nishaanath (73 off 71 balls). The skipper hit 8 fours and a maximum in his 91-ball knock. Nishaanath had seven fours and a six to his name. Vignesh (5-41) ran through the Services line-up, while M Mohammed (3-10), T Natarajan (1-22) and R Sai Kishore (1-9) were the other wicket-takers as Tamil Nadu completed a comprehensive win.

### BENGAL WARRIORS EDGE PAST TITANS

**JAIPUR:** Maninder Singh scored 17 points as Bengal Warriors edged Telugu Titans 40-39, a victory that catapulted them to top of the table, while hosts Jaipur Pink Panthers comprehensively beat Purneri Paltna 43-34 in PKL on Wednesday. Deepak Niwas Hooda (12 points) and Deepak Narwal (11 points) picked up Super 10s for the Jaipur side which dominated in all departments to clinch a victory that helped them remain in the Playoffs race while the defeat hurt Pune's chances. Siddharth Desai scored 15 points for Titans but the defeat hurt their Playoff hopes as well. In defence Vishal Bhardwaj looked his ominous best while Farhad Milaghardan's all-round abilities played a crucial role foe Titans. AGENCIES

## Foreign TT coach 'unfit' to join team

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Newly-appointed foreign table tennis coach NDejan Papić's stint with the Indian team could end even before he takes charge as the Canadian's joining has been delayed by at least the next two months due to a knee surgery he has undergone.

Papic had accepted the coaching offer in July after much deliberation but at that time Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) secretary M P Singh said he was not aware of his medical condition.

The current situation has led to more loss of crucial time for the players, who have been preparing on their own for next year's Olympics and are without a coach since the 2018 Asian Games.

"Papic will take another two months to recover. Players are losing crucial time and we realise that but we got to know about his knee surgery much later after the appointment process was completed," M P Singh said on Wednesday.

"We have approached a few coaches to take charge of the national squad. We are awaiting their response," he added.

TTFI is keen to sign German coach Jorg Bitzeago, who is currently with the USA team. "Our leading players, Sharath Kamal and G Sathiyam, have given their thumbs up to Jorg. We hear that he resigned as USA coach but his resignation was not accepted. Hopefully, they accept his resignation so that he can come to India at the earliest," added Singh.