



Kumari Selja appointed State unit president of Haryana Congress

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Boris Johnson seeks October 15 snap poll after Brexit defeat

page 14



No production at two Maruti Suzuki plants on September 7 and 9

page 15

Grigor Dimitrov stuns Roger Federer to reach US Open semifinals

page 19



NEARBY



JNUSU polls: candidates engage in war of words

NEW DELHI
Six contenders for the presidential post of JNU Students' Union engaged in a war of words during the night-long presidential debate on Wednesday, trying to win over their 'sathis'. The election will be held on September 6. The results are likely to be declared on Sunday morning.

CITY ► PAGE 4

FIRs filed against Assam NRC Coordinator

GUWAHATI
FIRs have been lodged in Guwahati and Dibrugarh against Prateek Hajela, the Coordinator for Assam's National Register of Citizens, for 'deliberately excluding genuine Indian' citizens from the updated citizens' list. The first complaint was filed on September 3 by the Asom Garia-Maria Yuba Chhatra Parishad at Guwahati's Latasil police station.

NEWS ► PAGE 12

Law student to be shifted to another college

NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed with the Uttar Pradesh government's offer to facilitate the transfer of a woman law student from Shahjahanpur, who had levelled harassment allegations against former Union Minister and BJP leader Swami Chinmayanand, and her brother to law colleges affiliated to the Bareilly university.

NORTH ► PAGE 6

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SC Collegium rejects plea of Justice Tahiramani

She wanted her transfer reconsidered

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Collegium has refused to accede to Madras High Court Chief Justice V.K. Tahiramani's request to reconsider its recommendation to transfer her as Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.

It also refused similar requests made by two other High Court judges, Justices Vivek Agarwal and Amit Rawal. The Collegium explained plainly, in separate orders on September 3, that the three transfers were recommended in the interests



V.K. Tahiramani

of "better administration of justice".

The Collegium had recommended Justice Tahiramani's transfer to Meghalaya on August 28.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

Hong Kong leader scraps extradition law

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
HONG KONG

Hong Kong's Chief Executive on Wednesday bowed to a key demand of protesters following three months of unrest and announced the withdrawal of the extradition Bill. However, activists vowed to press on with their campaign.

After refusing for months to scrap the Bill, aimed at allowing extradition of criminal suspects to mainland China, Chief Executive Carrie Lam conceded as she called for calm.

PROMISES DIALOGUE ► PAGE 14

Giriraj's lynching solution: breed only female cows

Artificial insemination mooted

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Promoting artificial insemination in cattle using sex-sorted semen "will help reduce lynching", Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Minister Giriraj Singh said on Wednesday.

The main benefit of using sex-sorted semen is that the farmer can ensure that only female calves or heifers are born. Mr. Singh pointed out that artificially inseminating cows using semen from genetically superior bulls would also improve the fertility and milk production capacity of

the calves they produce, thus incentivising farmers to keep them longer rather than abandoning them. "This will help reduce lynching," he told journalists, adding that if cattle were not left to stray, then the possibility of such problems would be lowered.

While mechanisation of agriculture has already led to the increasing obsolescence of bulls, ban on cattle slaughter, as well as instances of cow-related vigilantism have led to a collapse in the value of non-productive cows as well, forcing farmers to abandon them.

PM TO LAUNCH DRIVE ► PAGE 9

Govt. to pull out all the stops to cut use of plastics

Multi-Ministry effort, beginning on Oct. 2, includes voluntary work & awareness

NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

After Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message on Independence Day, the Union government is working on a multi-ministerial plan to discourage the use of single use plastics across the country, likely to kick off on October 2, Gandhi Jayanti.

A presentation for the same has been prepared and circulated across the Ministries.

The nodal Ministry for the scheme would be the Ministry of Environment,

Forests and Climate Change, which has been asked not just to ensure and enforce the ban on single use plastics but also finalise the pending policy for Extended Producer Responsibility, especially on milk packets.

The Department of Industrial Promotion is to ensure that all cement factories use plastic as fuel, while the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has been asked to ensure that not only is plastic waste collected and transported responsibly along National Highways but also all



Shared responsibility: Urban local bodies will segregate waste into recyclable and non-recyclable categories.

collected plastic waste is used for road construction.

According to studies quoted by officials, roads constructed using water plastic are durable against extreme weather conditions

and are also cost-effective.

The Railways Ministry will organise massive *shramdaans* (voluntary work) on October 2 for collection of plastic waste at railway stations and along

rail tracks and will run advertising radio spots on all trains.

Role for local bodies

Since 70% of the total plastic waste in India is from urban areas, all 4,378 urban local bodies have been tasked with massive *shramdaan* for plastic collection and segregation of waste into recyclable and non-recyclable categories.

Gram panchayats have been asked to mobilise *shramdaan* on October 2 to ensure that all roads under the Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana, or rural roads programme, are built using plastic waste and segregate waste in rural areas.

Azhar, Hafiz and Dawood designated as terrorists

Home Ministry acts a month after UAPA was amended by Parliament

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar, Hafiz Saeed of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, his deputy Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi and underworld don Dawood Ibrahim, who planned and executed the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts, are the first four persons designated as "terrorists" under the anti-terror law passed by Parliament on August 2.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued a gazette notification declaring them terrorists under Clause (a) of sub-section (1) of Section 35 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967. Speaking in the Rajya Sabha, Home Minister Amit Shah said on August 2, "It is important to identify terrorists and not just organisations."

Combating terror

The Ministry of Home Affairs on Wednesday declared four individuals as terrorists under the recently amended Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. A look at its provisions:

- It empowers the government to designate individuals as terrorists. Previously, only an organisation could be designated as one
- It empowers the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to seize properties, which previously required permission from the Director General of Police
- Also, it allows NIA officers, of the rank of Inspector or above, to investigate cases. Before, only Deputy Superintendent

or Assistant Commissioner of Police or above, could do so

Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) chief Masood Azhar, Hafiz Saeed of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, his deputy Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi and underworld don Dawood Ibrahim have been designated as terrorists

Under Masood Azhar's leadership, JeM carried out an attack on the Pathankot air base

The UAPA was first amended in 2004, then in 2008 and again in 2013. The 2004 amendment was to ban organisations for terror

including the February 14 Pulwama attack, in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed.

"Maulana Masood Azhar is accused in various cases registered and being investigated by the National Investigation Agency and chargesheet had been filed against him in Pathankot air base attack case; ...Red Corner Notices No. A-1086/7-2004 and A-4367/5-2016 have been issued against Azhar... the Central government believes that Maulana Masood Azhar is involved in terrorism and Maulana Masood Azhar is to be notified as a terrorist under the said Act," the notification said.

Lakhvi has been listed for his involvement in four cases, including the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

Kartarpur pact stuck over fees

Pak. won't allow consular officials to accompany pilgrims

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

The agreement on the Kartarpur Corridor project, which will open the famed pilgrimage centre to Indians, could not be signed on Wednesday after Pakistan declared that it would charge fees from the visitors.

Government sources said the two sides, which met in Attari, were in agreement on most points, but the final pact was stalled over key differences.

Won't help in easy access
"Owing to certain differences over a few issues, the agreement could not be finalised. Pakistan insisted on



Home Ministry official S.C.L. Das, left, addressing journalists at Attari.

charging a service fee for allowing pilgrims to visit Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib, which is not agreeable in the spirit of smooth and easy access through the corridor," sources said.

It was also pointed out that Pakistan declined India's request to let consular

officials accompany the pilgrims. The presence of Indian consular officials at Kartarpur has acquired importance in view of the reported activities of Khalistan proponents in Pakistan.

India had objected to the inclusion of pro-Khalistan Gopal Singh Chawla in the reconstituted Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (PSGPC) and other such figures in the organisation that looks after Sikh holy shrines in Pakistan.

These names were removed from the PSGPC before the July 14 technical-level meeting.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

23 killed in Punjab fireworks factory fire

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

At least 23 people were killed and 27 injured in a blaze in a fireworks factory at Batala town in Gurdaspur district of Punjab on Wednesday.

The exact reason for the fire is yet to be ascertained and the Punjab government has ordered a magisterial inquiry into it.

An explosion took place around 4 p.m. in the factory,

situated in a three-storey building in the residential area. The impact of the blast was so powerful that a few nearby buildings and parked vehicles were damaged.

DETAILS ON ► PAGE 9

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2 killed after
fire breaks out
at warehouse

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Two men were killed after a fire broke out at a warehouse in south-west Delhi's Samalka village on Wednesday, the police said.

The victims were identified as Bhagwati Prasad (55) and Umesh (29), they said.

Police said the victims were sleeping in a room inside the warehouse when the incident happened. Two trucks and one car were also gutted in the fire, they said.

“The fire department received information at around 2 a.m. regarding the fire. We rushed to the spot with six fire tenders. The fire was doused before it could spread to other buildings,” said a senior Delhi Fire Services officer.

The fire apparently broke out due to a short circuit, police said.

NIA constable held for stealing
fake notes from strongroom

Another staffer also arrested; both the accused sent to judicial custody

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A constable of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and a casual staff were arrested for allegedly stealing fake Indian currency notes with a face value of ₹1.5 crore from the agency's high security strongroom at its headquarters on Lodhi Road in south Delhi.

Entered via AC duct

The case is shrouded in mystery as the suspects gained entry into the strongroom which has multiple layers of security and has biometric access control and CCTV cameras. An official said that the suspects tried to enter through the air conditioning duct.

A senior NIA official claimed that the suspects,



The NIA headquarters on Lodhi Road. ■ FILE PHOTO

identified as Constable Sunil Kumar and pantry staff Ashok Kumar, mistook the fake notes to be genuine ones. The fake notes were seized after a raid in Gurugram in May this year. A Superintendent of Police who supervised the raids has been repatriated to his cadre.

An NIA spokesperson said: “An exhibit containing fake currency note was stolen from NIA strongroom last week by a constable and a pantry staff. The stolen exhibit was recovered soon thereafter. Appropriate legal action was taken in the matter. Delhi Police has registered a case and arrested both the accused.”

A senior Home Ministry official said that they were seized of the matter and the stolen fake currencies were recovered from the suspects.

Officer confirms arrests

A senior Delhi Police officer confirmed the arrests and said that the case was registered at Lodhi Colony police station on August 30 under relevant Sections of the Indian Penal Code. “The ac-

cused have been identified as Sunil Kumar and Ashok Kumar. While Sunil works as a guard, Ashok is a pantry staff,” he said, adding that they were produced before the court and sent to judicial custody.

The incident comes in the wake of another case of corruption involving the premier anti-terror body. Last month NIA transferred three officials, including a SP rank officer on a complaint by a Delhi-based businessman who accused them of allegedly demanding ₹2 crore bribe to not frame him in the Falah-I-Insaniyat Foundation (FIF) terror funding case involving Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) chief Hafiz Saeed.

The Home Ministry official said that it was conducting an inquiry into the case.

Amity University students clash
over parking, 2 brutally thrashed

3 held; first arrest made after video started trending on Twitter

SAURABH TRIVEDI
NEW DELHI

After videos and photos of two students of Amity University being thrashed by a group of around 25 students had gone viral, the Noida police got into action and arrested three students on Wednesday.

Superintendent of Police (Noida) Vineet Jaiswal said that three students of Amity University in Noida Sector 125 – Shiv Kumar, Mayank Tomar and Chetan – were arrested for assaulting two students of the same university.

“The accused were identified with the help of CCTV footage provided by the college administration,” said Mr. Jaiswal. He added that more arrests will be made in the case.

The incident happened on August 28 but it took the police to make the first arrest after a week when the incident started trending on Twitter with hashtags justiceforharsh and justiceforharsh.

The police said that on August 28, two students – Harsh Yadav and Madhav Chaudhary – were about to

The accused were identified with the help of CCTV footage provided by the college administration

VINEET JAISWAL
SP (Noida)

enter the university in their car but the entrance was blocked by an SUV parked wrongly at the main gate. The SUV was driven by a girl who was sitting in the car and she refused to move it to give passage to other cars entering the university.

Following this, both the parties got into an argument and left the area. Later, a group of students led by the girl entered a classroom and brutally thrashed Harsh and Madhav with rods and hockey sticks. When a teacher tried to pacify, they attacked the woman teacher also. The injured were rushed to a hospital and an FIR was registered against students and the girl for causing grievous injuries to two students.

“On August 29, we got a complaint from the girl that Harsh and Madhav molested her after they had an argu-

ment over parking,” said a police officer.

Police have registered cross FIRs in the case. They are going through CCTV footage to find out the sequence of the event. One of the injured is serious and undergoing treatment at a hospital.

University forms panel

However, responding to the August 28 incident, a spokesperson from Amity University said that both parties involved have filed complaints with the police and investigation in on.

“There was a personal altercation between a boy and a girl, which was dealt with immediately by the university officials. Later, both individuals filed a police complaint against each other. The university has also set up a proctorial discipline committee to look into the matter. A few students have been suspended. Since this is a sensitive issue, we request all not to escalate,” the university said in a statement.

The issue has been trending on social media, with videos that cannot be independently verified going viral.

Jeweller found murdered inside house in Dwarka

Cash and jewellery in the house intact; police suspect it to be a case of personal enmity

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 37-year-old jewellery shop owner was killed inside his residence in Dwarka's Dabri area in the early hours of Wednesday.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) Anto Alphonse said that the victim, Lalit Aggarwal, a resident of Madhu Vihar, used to run a jewellery shop by the name Satyam Jewellers on the ground floor of his residence while Aggarwal along with his wife Neha and two sons Devansh (14) and Krishna (10) resided on the first floor. His mother-in-law and sister-



The victim, Lalit Aggarwal. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

in-law were visiting the family and present in the house at the time of incident.

A senior police officer privy to the case said that they received information around 2.30 a.m. after

which they rushed to the house and found that the victim's throat had been slit. He was taken to the hospital where he was declared brought dead.

The police have registered a case and started investigation.

During inquiry, the elder son allegedly told the police that Mr. Aggarwal shut shop around 10 p.m. and came home after which they all had dinner and he retired to his room. A few minutes later, Devansh went to sleep in the same room after chatting with his father for a few minutes. Mr. Aggarwal alleged-

ly told Devansh that he has to go to Punjab with two friends around 4 a.m. on Wednesday for some property work. His wife and younger son were sleeping in the next room and his mother-in-law and sister-in-law were in another room.

Son found dad bleeding

Around 2 a.m., Devansh claimed that Mr. Aggarwal nudged him and as he woke up, he saw his father bleeding profusely and unable to speak. He shouted to call his mother but as she didn't hear, he ran and knocked the door. She then came and

asked for help from neighbours and police were also informed, he told the police.

During investigation, the police found that cash and jewellery in the house and on the victim's body were intact. The door of the house was closed but the main door on the ground floor was open which leads the police to suspect that the entry was friendly.

The police said that while it appears to be a case of personal enmity, the case is being investigated from all angles, including robbery. The family members are also being interrogated, they said.

Double penalty for policemen
violating Motor Vehicles Act

JCP issues circular, tells officers to follow rules in letter and spirit

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi police has doubled the penalty fee for its men for violating traffic rules, said a police officer on Wednesday.

In a latest circular issued by the Joint Commissioner of Police (traffic) Meenu Chaudhary, it has been stated that any authority that is empowered to enforce the provision of the Motor Vehicles Act, if found committing an offence under the Act, shall be liable for twice the penalty corresponding to that offence under the Act.

Therefore, all DCPs and other police units are directed to brief and sensitise the staff working under their operational control to follow traffic rules and regulations in true letter and spirit, whether they are riding/driving police vehicle or their own private vehicles.



To overcome corruption complaints against policemen, more body worn cameras are being procured. ■ FILE PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

A senior police officer said that to overcome complaints of corruption and misbehaviour against traffic policemen, they are procuring more body worn cameras. Currently, as many as 626 body worn cameras are with traffic police and more such cameras will be added soon.

“From the day the new MV Act came into force, traffic policemen are making motorists follow the rule. Currently, we are issuing only court challans,” said a police officer.

The officer added that orders have been issued stating that no cash challans should be issued for traffic offences after midnight of August 31 till a fresh notification of compounding amount is issued by the Delhi government and directions are issued by the Traffic Police headquarters.

The Delhi police had issued 3,900 challans to traffic violators on Day 1 of implementation of the Act.

33-year-old accidentally
fires at friend, arrested

He was showing off his pistol to the victim

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 33-year-old man was arrested for accidentally shooting at his friend while showing off his pistol in Lahori Gate area. An automatic pistol and the weapon used for committing the crime were recovered from him, the police said on Wednesday.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime Branch) Ram Gopal Naik said that the accused, Danish alias Zuhaib alias Makklu, is a resident of Ballimaran.

According to the police, on August 26, one Saleem told them that when he was sitting with his friends Jalaluddin and Soofiyan on the terrace of his house and having drinks, Danish and another friend came and joined them. “He whipped out a pistol and fired a shot in the air. Thereafter, to show off, he again fired in

the direction of Jalaluddin. The bullet hit him in the stomach and blood started oozing out. Scared, he fled the spot,” Mr. Naik said adding that Jalaluddin was rushed to the hospital where he is undergoing treatment.

Based on a complaint, a case under Section 307 (attempt to murder) of the Indian Penal Code and under relevant Sections of the Arms Act was registered against Danish at Lahori Gate police station.

Mr. Naik said that they received a tip-off that Danish would come near Shanti Van on Ring Road after which a trap was laid and the accused was arrested. “After frisking him, an automatic pistol and the weapon used in the commission of the crime was recovered,” the officer said.

Police said that Danish is an illiterate and started doing odd jobs at an early age.

Gym trainer arrested for
killing ‘abusive’ father

Accused had plans to escape to Nepal

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 27-year-old gym trainer was arrested from Dwarka's Jaffarpur Kalan for allegedly killing his father, the police said on Wednesday.

The accused, Amit Kumar, a resident of Khera Dabur village, claimed that his father often hurled abuses at him and he was irritated over this, they said.

On August 27, Ashok Kumar (52) was found shot dead in the village. During inquiry, it was found that the victim's son had shot him over a domestic issue, a senior police officer said.

“On Tuesday, the police laid a trap after receiving a tip-off and Amit was arrested,” said Anto Alphonse, DCP (Dwarka).

Amit was planning to meet

a friend in his village to arrange money so that he could flee to Nepal, the police said, adding that a pistol, 14 live cartridges and a bike were recovered from his possession.

Interrogation revealed that Amit had been working as a freelance bouncer and was permanently engaged as a trainer at a local gym. He claimed that his father was very abusive, even in front of his children and women of the family.

On August 27, Ashok confronted his son over some domestic issue but when he did not pay heed, he started abusing Amit and his minor daughters.

Meanwhile, Amit took out a pistol and shot his father when he was playing cards with his friends and fled to Haryana, the DCP said.

Boy beaten
up, stripped
inside bus

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

A minor boy was beaten up and forced to strip inside a moving DTC bus by some passengers who suspected him of being a thief and a video of the incident has surfaced on social media, forcing police to look into the incident.

“We are checking the video and trying to identify the location where the incident happened. We will talk to the bus drivers and conductors, following which appropriate action will be taken against the culprits,” a senior police officer said about the incident that supposedly happened on September 5.

In the video clip, the boy can be seen standing shirtless inside the bus and people arguing with him.

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DIP/Shabdarth/0601/19-20 **(P.C. Thakur) SDM(DDMA)**

IN BRIEF

Five ABVP candidates file nomination for DUSU polls

NEW DELHI
Five ABVP candidates on Wednesday filed nomination for the DUSU elections. The ABVP said that the final four from the central panel will be announced on September 5 after a decision by the selection committee. ABVP members Akshit Dahiya, Shivangi Kharwal, Yogit Rathi, Tushar Dedha and Pradeep Tanwar have filed their nominations.

Air quality of Delhi-NCR			
Delhi	173	Gurgaon	162
Ghaziabad	155	Faridabad	81
Noida	157	Greater Noida	158
0-50 Good 51-100 Satisfactory 101-200 Moderate 201-300 Poor 301-400 Very poor >401 Severe			
AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY (AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) | SOURCE: CPCB			

DELHI TODAY

Talk: Bharatiya Jnanpith presents Hamari Hindi, a discussion about contemporary Hindi language as used on various platforms. Discussants: Mihir Pandya, film critic, Vineet Kumar, media professional and Vibhavari, literary critic at Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Man Mai Hain Dilli", an exhibition of watercolours by Krishnendu Chatterjee at Delhi 'o' Delhi Foyer, IHC, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Urban Dwellings", a solo show of paintings by V.Ramakrishna at Triveni Gallery Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Exhibition: "Colourful Dreams", seventh solo show of paintings by Mohi Jaya at All India Fine Arts & Craft Society (AIFACS), 1 Rafi Marg, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@delhi@thehindu.co.in)

Emeritus prof. row: JNU claims bid to defame it

We are following rules framed by executive council: Registrar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
The Jawaharlal Nehru University administration on Wednesday said that there were several opinions being circulated on the issue of professor emeritus position, attempting to defame administrative reforms and application of rules.

It said that the rules were based on statutes and ordinances of the university that were passed last year by the Executive Council.

JNU Registrar Pramod Kumar alleged that a "motivated campaign" has been launched using the name of one emeritus professor primarily to find fault with a new rule that was made part of the Academic Rules and Regulations of the University much earlier. "The new rule was implemented by the highest statutory body of the university, consisting of Deans, Chairpersons, and renowned academicians from outside JNU, to regulate the process of appointments and continuation of the positions of emeritus professor in the university. The goal was to make the process broad-based, time-bound and rule-based selection," the Registrar said.

The new rule was implemented by the highest statutory body of the university to regulate the process of appointments and continuation of the positions of emeritus professor in the university

PRAMOD KUMAR
JNU Registrar
Mr. Kumar added that the university would like to reiterate that no single emeritus professor has been targeted, as has been falsely alleged, and that it has only sought to implement a rule that is part of the university's ordinance.

A skewed ratio
Providing details, the university said that there are currently, 21 emeritus professors in JNU, 17 from social sciences and humanities and four from sciences which was a skewed ratio.

"Many eminent faculty members who could have positively guided upcoming researchers in many fields have missed out in the past

from being appointed as an emeritus professor and the objective was to set up an age limit and make the selection broad-based, so that justice is given to the deserving retired faculty members," the Registrar said.

The university said that it was under these new rules that emeritus professors who have attained the age of 75 were requested to submit their contributions to the university in the last few years, so that a committee set up for reviewing the position could look into it. "Since everyone is equal before law, letters were sent to all 12 emeritus professors who have attained the age of 75 to know their availability and willingness to participate in the academic activities of the university," the Registrar said.

He added that a committee was set up to analyse the current status of this position and recommend suitable steps for consideration by the Council of the university. The council, Mr. Kumar said deliberated upon it and approved the committee's recommendations and turned it into an ordinance on August 23, 2108.

JNUSU polls: candidates engage in war of words

ABVP focuses on measures to develop campus; NSUI hits out at govt. during debate

JAIDEEP DEO BHANJ
NEW DELHI
Six contenders for the presidential post of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union engaged in a war of words during the night-long presidential debate on Wednesday, trying to win over their "sathis". At the time of going to print, three of the candidates had delivered their speeches.

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad's presidential candidate Manish Jangid focused on measures to develop the campus and tried to win over the new students on campus. He urged the freshers to vote for a responsible organisation to run the JNUSU.

Hitting out at organisations on campus, including the outgoing JNUSU that protested against the new admission policy, Mr. Jangid said, "New students working hard to enter JNU, let me tell you that the Left-aligned student called you incompetent even before you entered campus. I ask you how can you vote for leaders that decided that you were incompetent and assassinated your character even before set foot on campus."

'ABVP solves problems'
He added that when people enter the campus and witness a lack of facilities, they reach out to the AVBP as



Students at the JNUSU presidential debate on Wednesday night. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

there is no one to hear their grievances. The ABVP is the only organisation on campus that has a track record of solving problems whenever they have been in the union. "This campus has Wi-Fi, e-rickshaws, placement cell and many such infrastructural benefits thanks to the efforts of the ABVP."

Voices of dissent
National Students' Union of India (NSUI) candidate Prashant Kumar said that voices of dissent were being silenced across the world and things were not different in JNU and in the country as well.

"People are being lynched across the country and those who were committing crimes against minorities and backward classes were enjoying

impunity. Here on campus, it is a known fact that Najeeb Ahmed was attacked by ABVP members before he went missing and those students have enjoyed the backing of the administration and the State."

He hit out at the government and said that the Constitution was bypassed by Right-wing elements and that they have meddled with the Constitution for their personal gains.

Birsa Ambedkar Phule Students' Association (BAPSA) candidate Jitendra Suna, united Left panel's candidate for president Aishe Ghosh and Chatra Rashtriya Janata Dal's candidate Priyanka Bharati were yet to speak. One Independent candidate Raghavendra Mishra is also in the presidential race.

The Students' Federation of India (SFI), All India Students' Association (AISA), All India Students' Federation (AISF) and the Democratic Students' Federation (DSF) joined hands to form a united Left panel to take on the ABVP this year.

The debate took place in an electric atmosphere with students cheering for the candidates. Hundreds of alumni and students from other universities, who had come to witness the debate, had their own discussions on the political situation in the country and the changes taking place in JNU.

The election will be held on Friday with the counting of votes to start immediately after. Ballot paper will be used and the results are likely to be declared on Sunday.

33-km-long 'Delhi Cycle Walk' corridor proposed at L-G meeting

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI
In a bid to shift towards greener mobility, a 33-kilometre-long corridor, called the The Delhi Cycle Walk, with four corridors connecting Tughlakabad, Greater Kailash, Nehru Place and the Delhi Secretariat, is being planned, the Raj Niwas said in a statement issued on Wednesday.

The statement was issued after Lieutenant-Governor Anil Bajjal, who is also the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) Chairman conducted a meeting with other senior officials of the urban body and Public Works Department (PWD).

"The objective is to reduce vehicles on the Delhi roads and allow people to walk and cycle safely to work, to study, to shop and stay fit. It will be a safer alternative to the vehicular load of the city, provide last-mile connectivity, connect residential areas with metro stations and bus stands," read the statement.

To ensure connectivity access, origin and destination points have been mapped which are proposed to be interlinked to each other by the tracks for cycling and walking, officials said.

Officials added that the L-G has directed the DDA to consult experts from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and Forest Department for implementation of the proposal called "The Delhi Cycle Walk".



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Did not praise PM Modi, says Tharoor

MP speaks on need for judicial integrity, and to woo voters back to Congress

SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI
Breaking his silence over the notice issued to him by the Kerala unit of the Congress party to explain his remarks praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Thiruvananthapuram MP Shashi Tharoor on Wednesday said he had asked the State unit to show him 'one sentence where he praised Mr Modi'.

Speaking to *The Hindu* ahead of the release of his new book, *The Hindu Way*, Mr. Tharoor said he hoped the judiciary would do its job on the recent move by the Delhi Police to argue for 'abetment to suicide or in alternative murder charges' against him before a Delhi court in the death of his wife, Sunanda Pushkar.

"The only hope is that the judiciary will do its job with integrity. There is a long judicial tradition in the country which predates Independence and by and large in the past 70 years, with some exceptions, the judiciary has acquitted itself remarkably well," Mr. Tharoor said.



Congress leader Shashi Tharoor during an interactive session with students at Delhi University on Wednesday. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Impartial justice
"That notion of impartial justice gives us all hope. Whether it is Mr. Chidambaram [P. Chidambaram] or Shivakumar [D.K. Shivakumar] or me," he added.

When asked if he saw a

design in agencies like the Enforcement Directorate, Central Bureau of Investigation, Income Tax or (the Delhi Police in his case) going after Opposition leaders, he said, "I would rather not comment as that would be a specific commentary on my case which I am not allowed to make."

"All I can see is that independent of my case or any specific case, we have reason to see a pattern. If you take Mr. Shivakumar as the most recent case, it cannot be merely accidental. There are certain people who have more serious charges, who

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Unitech told to clear dues in 15 days or lose land

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NOIDA
The Noida Authority has asked realtor Unitech to clear its ₹2,743.29-crore dues within 15 days against the land allocated to it for group housing projects or face cancellation of the allotments, officials said on Wednesday.

The realtor was allocated land for developing group housing societies in Noida's Sector 113 and Sector 117 with dues of ₹1,203.45 crore and ₹1,539.84 crore pending against them respectively, said Noida Authority in a statement.

Realtor Unitech was issued notices respectively on August 24 and August 30 for clearing the two dues, it said. "On the plot in Sector 113, the group has also come up with 17 towers without getting the map cleared by the authority, in violation of the Noida Building Regulation, 2010, it added. Unitech also tried to have an agreement to sell land to Sethi Residents and GMA Developers, making them third party, without seeking the authority's permission. This was done in violation of the lease law, it said.

North Eastern Railway
E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 02/PSC/2019 Dated 03.09.2019
On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Engineer, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur invites the following E-Procurement Tenders from existing RDSO approved Concrete Sleeper Manufacturing Plants of one Sleepers or Turnout Sleepers or Special Sleepers: S. No. : 1, Open Tender No./Due on : 52PSC Sleeper 2019 Due on 27.09.19, Description of Materials : (A) Manufacture and supply of Prestressed Mono-Block concrete sleeper sets for 1 in 12 turnouts (pre tensioned type) for broad gauge 1673 mm as per RDSO design to Drg. No. RDSO/T-1218 Alt. upto date and/or RDSO/T-1732 Alt. upto date, (for General laying) and part drawing thereof to suit 60 Kg/52 Kg UIC Rail/52 Kg. Rail (both fan shaped) and IRS Specification T-15-2016 (third revision Nov. 2016) with latest amendments, duly loaded into wagons/road vehicles = 247 Sets. Note :- Provision exist in above item that for procuring sleeper set for 1 in 8.5 turnouts to RDSO Drg. RDSO/T-4865 with Alt. upto date, for derailing switch sleepers to RDSO Drg. No. RDSO/T-5836/6068 with Alt. upto date and individual sleepers of above mentioned turnout as per requirement. The payment for this will be made on per meter of sleeper at the rate arrived by dividing the rate accepted for one set of 1 in 12 turnout with total length of set of sleepers of 1 in 12 turnout. QTY./FOR : 247 Sets/Ex-works. (B) Manufacture and supply of :- (i) Level Crossing 52/60 Kg. BG PSC Sleeper as per RDSO drawing No. RT/4148 with alteration up to date if any conforming to IRS Specification No. T-39-85 (Fifth Revision Feb. 2016) and its upto date correction slip. QTY./FOR : 722 Sets/Ex-works. (ii) SEJ 52/60 Kg. BG PSC Sleeper as per RDSO drawing No. RT/4149 with alteration up to date if any conforming to IRS Specification No. T-39-85 (Fifth Revision Feb. 2016) and its upto date correction slip. QTY./FOR : 3000 Nos./Ex-works. (iii) PSC Sleeper for Curve BG 52/60 Kg. as per RDSO Drg. 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THURSDAY, SEPT. 05			
☀️ RISE	06:01	🌇 SET	18:39
☀️ RISE	12:06	🌇 SET	23:08
FRIDAY, SEPT. 06			
☀️ RISE	06:01	🌇 SET	18:37
☀️ RISE	13:06	🌇 SET	23:53
SATURDAY, SEPT. 07			
☀️ RISE	06:02	🌇 SET	18:36
🌧️ RISE	14:03	🌇 SET	00:00

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	36	28
Safdarjang	36	28
Palam	35	28

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Mishra withdraws plea in HC against disqualification as MLA

He had contended that the Speaker's decision was 'wholly illegal, arbitrary'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Disqualified AAP MLA Kapil Mishra, who recently joined the BJP, on Wednesday withdrew from the High Court his plea against his disqualification from the Delhi Assembly under the anti-defection law.

On August 2, Speaker Ram Niwas Goel had disqualified Mr. Mishra from the Assembly for campaigning for the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Lok Sabha election and for sharing the stage with other leaders of that party at an event.

Joined the BJP

The Karawal Nagar legislator was disqualified with effect from January 27 for taking part in a BJP electioneering programme.

Mr. Mishra said he joined



Kapil Mishra

the BJP on August 17.

On Wednesday, Justice Navin Chawla allowed Mr. Mishra to withdraw his petition on his counsel's request. In his plea seeking quashing of the Speaker's order, Mr. Mishra had contended that the Mr. Goel's decision was "wholly illegal, arbitrary, vague and mala fide" as he was not given any opportunity to present his case.

Mr. Mishra had said when he attended the BJP event, the Speaker assumed he had voluntarily given up his AAP membership.

He had further argued that other AAP leaders like Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had also shared the stage with rival political parties like the Congress and the Samajwadi Party and there cannot be different yardsticks for members.

The Speaker's order had come on a complaint by AAP MLA Saurabh Bharadwaj, who sought Mr. Mishra's disqualification from the Delhi Sssembly under the anti-defection law. Mr. Mishra had contended that the Speaker did not give him the opportunity to contest his case on merits and also did not permit him to lead the evidence.

He had contended that

the Speaker never gave him the chance to raise the point of non-maintainability of the complaint or the fact that Mr. Bharadwaj had no locus standi to file the petition under the anti-defection law.

'Highlighted corruption'

Mr. Mishra had claimed that the action was taken against him as he had highlighted 'acts of corruption' by Mr. Kejriwal, Ministers and functionaries of the city government and the speaker had "prejudice and oblique motive" against him.

He added that he had met BJP MP Vijay Goel at his residence on January 27, where he also met Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari. Under no law can that visit remotely equate to voluntarily relinquishing the AAP membership, he had contended.

'Classroom scam': Tiwari hands over papers to Delhi Lokayukta

'AAP govt. has committed corruption of ₹2,000 crore'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

BJP State unit chief Manoj Tiwari on Wednesday submitted documents to the Delhi Lokayukta against Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia in connection with an alleged scam related to the construction of classrooms at city government schools.

After submitting the documents, Mr. Tiwari said that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had not only "committed corruption of ₹2,000 crore" in construction of temporary classrooms made of red-stone slabs and T-iron for government schools but was also "playing with the lives of children".

"Such temporary construction may be damaged at any time and is dangerous for the children. The municipal corporations have constructed permanent classrooms at one-fourth the cost



Manoj Tiwari

of (such rooms at) Delhi government schools... documents in this regard will also be submitted to the Lokayukta," Mr. Tiwari said.

'Creating drama'

"Mr. Kejriwal is creating drama of completing various works in haste only to continue in power and disregarding government rules... he is neither worried about Delhi nor the people of Delhi. Had he been concerned, he may

not have obstructed Central welfare schemes," he added.

The North East Delhi MP said that the BJP, through its 'Delhi Bachao Jansampark Yatra', was apprising citizens about "the various corruptions of Mr. Kejriwal" and also about the "sufferings of the people of unauthorized colonies" during the last 55 months.

The people of Delhi, he added, had given a clear message to Mr. Kejriwal through the Lok Sabha and civic body elections that they were "not going to support his party in the forthcoming Assembly polls."

"Mr. Kejriwal is taking such steps, which may not prove beneficial to him... the BJP's policy is zero tolerance against corruption and after coming to power, the BJP will get all the scams investigated and the guilty persons sent to jail," he said.

Goel questions timing of AAP govt.'s 'freebies'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

BJP MP Vijay Goel on Wednesday questioned Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's decision to offer "freebies" to Delhiites so close to the Assembly elections.

At a public meeting in Yusuf Sarai, Mr. Goel asked why Mr. Kejriwal had waited five years before giving waivers

on electricity bills up to 200 units. He also alleged that the Delhi government's '10 weeks, 10 a.m., 10 minute' campaign against vector-borne diseases "was a lie."

"The credit for controlling dengue goes to the municipal corporations where 1,920 employees have been working on the problem since January," he argued.

BJP seeks CBI probe into 'multi-crore bus marshal recruitment scam'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Delhi BJP on Wednesday sought a CBI probe into the "illegal" recruitment by the AAP government of around 10,000 marshals for deployment aboard State-run buses. The move comes a day after the party approached the Anti-Corruption Branch with a similar complaint.

Terming it the 'Marshal Recruitment Scam', which

they alleged was worth several crores, Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta and South Delhi MP Ramesh Bidhuri said they had lodged a formal complaint with the CBI.

"A complaint has been filed with the CBI about the irregularities in the process of appointment of marshals... the [Chief Minister Arvind] Kejriwal government had promised to appoint

marshals for DTC buses for the security of women about four and half years ago. Now, suddenly in view of forthcoming Assembly elections... it has started the process of appointment of 10,000 marshals... but corruption on a large scale has been committed in this process," Mr. Gupta said.

"The CM, who issues big ads in newspapers to exaggerate his works, did not pu-

blish ads for inviting applications for the post of marshals. Under the Constitution, SC/ST and Economically Weaker Sections have to be given reservation in the recruitment, but in the process of appointment of marshals, the Delhi government has not followed constitutional process," he alleged.

The Rohini legislator claimed that appointments of 400-500 marshals had

been done in lieu of "bribes from youth who did not belong originally to Delhi". In violation of the recruitment rules, persons above the age of 40-60 years were appointed as marshals, he added.

He claimed that those being appointed were issued forged Aadhaar cards, voter IDs and domicile certificates on government holidays between August 12-15, for which notices were issued to open

offices and the officers concerned "forged documents" for such appointments.

"The Opposition lodged a complaint with the ACB after which the Kejriwal-led government tried to conceal the documents connected with this recruitment. The ACB took cognizance of the case and has sought permission from the Lieutenant-Governor to initiate an investigation," Mr. Gupta said.

'Free power hiked CM's popularity'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The city government's decision to give free electricity to people who consume up to 200 units has increased Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's popularity, AAP Delhi convener Gopal Rai said on Wednesday.

During the Jan Samvad Yatra, Mr. Rai visited Bawana and Kirari and discussed electricity tariffs with the people, said AAP in a statement.

Mr. Rai said there has been a 12% hike again in electricity rates in BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh.

"Mr. Rai also said that the *I Love Kejriwal* campaign is getting widespread support, which has increased BJP's anxiety. The initiative to waive 200 units of electricity has further increased Mr. Kejriwal's popularity," read an official statement from AAP.

Writing on the wall



A mural bearing a strong message at Delhi University's North Campus on Wednesday. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Green tribunal warns all States to properly deal with hazardous waste

Panel asks them to set up treatment and disposal facilities

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Following a plea seeking remedial action against pollution caused by hazardous waste and compliance of waste management rules, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed all States to follow recommendations of the Central Pollution Control Board, including setting up treatment, storage and disposal facilities.

A Bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel took note of the recommendations put forth by the CPCB and observed that scientific handling of hazardous waste has to be ensured given that it is highly toxic and has the potential to irreversibly damage the environment.

The green panel has directed all States and Union Territories, apart from the Union environment and shipping Ministries, to take



necessary steps towards compliance of the recommendations.

"Recommendations include disposal of accumulated waste through treatment, storage, and disposal facilities or secured landfills, as well as preparation of guidelines for identification and assessment of contaminated sites," the Bench observed.

Fine for violators

The Tribunal also directed: "Hazardous waste inventory has to be updated and verified... States that fail to set up treatment, storage, and

disposal facilities by March 2020 will be liable to pay environmental compensation of ₹10 lakh per month."

A total of 126 sites have already been identified as "contaminated" and have to be cleared of hazardous waste within six months, the Bench added.

"With regard to 195 probable contaminated sites, the assessment may be completed within six months and thereafter the waste may be removed within the next six from sites cleared by the Central Pollution Control Board," the Bench said.

RBI, Paytm oppose plea against post-paid wallet

Questions over firm's lending facilities

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday told the Delhi High Court that a Public Interest Litigation cannot be used as a weapon to challenge the financial or economic decisions taken by the government or the RBI.

The RBI made the submission in response to a PIL alleging that online payments platform Paytm was providing lending facilities in violation of the law regulating such activity.

The affidavit was filed before a Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice C. Hari Shankar, which has listed the matter for further hearing on September 18.

'Contrary to law'

The petition, filed by Abhijit Mishra, a financial economist, claimed that Paytm Payments Bank Ltd's 'post-paid' service was operating contrary to the existing law

and guidelines regulating such entities. It contended that the RBI's guidelines for payments banks, like Paytm, do not permit credit or loan disbursement activities by such entities.

In its affidavit, the RBI said that Section 22 of the Banking Regulation Act empowers the RBI to issue banking licence to a company to carry on banking business in India, subject to certain conditions provided in this provision.

The conditions are enumerated in the licence given to Paytm, said the RBI.

'Misguiding the court'

Seeking dismissal of the plea, the central bank said Mr. Mishra has sought the relief against Paytm but he has made RBI the first party as he might be aware that a PIL would not lie against a private body and is indirectly attempting to misguide the court.

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Two Congress MLAs accuse M.P. Health Minister of corruption

Even the BJP regime wasn't this corrupt, says Gohad MLA

SIDHARTH YADAV
BHOPAL

Two days after a Madhya Pradesh Minister alleged that Digvijaya Singh was attempting to destabilise the government, two Congress MLAs have accused Health Minister Tulsiram Silawat of corruption.

"Whenever I ask him to help someone, he sends them to Indore to his son who demands money. And then I ask them to return it and the work never gets done," Gohad MLA Ranvir Jatav told *The Hindu*. "I have not seen such a level of corruption even in the BJP regime."

Asserting that he would stick to his statement, even as infighting within the State Congress rages on, as Mr. Silawat had created "an unfair system", Mr. Ranvir said, "The position is so bad now that no one would give us votes in the name of Congress. We won the seat based on the work we did in the area."

Ambah MLA Kamlesh Jatav said, "It's not about the party, but a personal matter. If Congressmen become middlemen, how will things work?"

Alleging that Mr. Silawat

had been taking money since the Congress came to power in the State, he said, "Mr. Silawat says that I am like his younger brother, and the job will be done. But his son openly demands money. I have been elected from my own seat after 35 years. If we are unable to work for the people, what is the use?"

"Once my driver needed some help, and Mr. Silawat's son demanded ₹50,000," alleged Mr. Kamlesh, who along with Mr. Ranvir, belongs to the Jyotiraditya Scindia camp. Even Mr. Silawat is considered close to Mr. Scindia.

Law student to be shifted to another college in U.P.

She had accused BJP leader Chinmayanand of harassment

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed with the Uttar Pradesh government's offer to facilitate the transfer of a woman law student from Shahjahanpur, who had levelled harassment allegations against former Union Minister and BJP leader Swami Chinmayanand, and her brother to law colleges affiliated to the Bareilly University.

Additional Solicitor General Vikramjit Bannerjee told a Bench led by Justice R. Banumathi that the siblings would be provided hostel facilities. "Their future is important," the court said.

The Bench requested the Bar Council of India (BCI) to increase the seats in the colleges where the woman and her brother would be shifted for LLM and LLB courses



Swami Chinmayanand

respectively.

The top court disposed of the *suo motu* petition. It said the petition, filed by women lawyers last week, was entertained because the woman was missing at the time. She was subsequently traced to Rajasthan. The apex court had intervened and directed the State police, heading back to Shahjahanpur with her, to bring her to the Supreme Court instead. The Bench of Justices Banumathi

and A.S. Bopannanthen had an in-camera session with the woman. She conveyed to the judges that she did not want to continue her studies in the college run by Chinmayanand's ashram at Shahjahanpur. She was allowed last week to stay back in Delhi with her parents for the time being.

'Free to go back'

On Wednesday, the court said the woman and her parents were at liberty to go back to Shahjahanpur under Delhi Police escort.

The court had on Monday directed the Uttar Pradesh government to set up an SIT, headed by an IG rank officer, to investigate the charges levelled by the woman, as well as two related FIRs. It said that an Allahabad High Court Bench would monitor the investigation.

Project for reducing weight of school bags in Rajasthan

'Students would carry one book per subject'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

Offering an innovative solution to the problem of students having to carry heavy school bags, a pilot project was launched here on Wednesday for reducing the number of textbooks by two-thirds in government schools in accordance with the subject trimester. Rajasthan is the first State to take such an initiative.

Inaugurating the project at a senior secondary school in Vatik, Minister of State for Education Govind Singh Dotasara said the students would be required to carry one book instead of several ones on the same subject. One school each in the State's 33 districts has been selected for the exercise to reduce children's burden on an experimental basis.



Mr. Dotasara said the weight of old books for students of Class I was 900 grams, which would be reduced to 400 grams, while the weight of books for classes till five would be reduced from 5.9 kg to 2.2 kg.

Books distributed

The Minister also distributed new books to the school children.

The project, if found successful, will be implemented in the entire State for Classes I to XII in partnership with Piramal Foundation.

Mr. Dotasara also asked private schools to adopt the initiative.

Senior Bengal Cong. leader joins TMC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

Senior West Bengal Congress leader Omprakash Mishra, who was one of principal proponents of the Left-Congress alliance in the State, joined the Trinamool Congress on Wednesday.

Professor Mishra, who teaches International Rela-

tions at Jadavpur University, visited the State Assembly, met Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and announced that he has joined the TMC.

He has served as the vice-president of the West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee and had resigned from the post a few weeks ago. He had played a crucial

role in the Left-Congress alliance in the 2016 Assembly poll. Prof. Mishra said he was joining the TMC as it was the only party that could fight RSS and BJP in West Bengal.

The Chief Minister said that Prof. Mishra will head the teachers' wing of the TMC.

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Timing 3 - 6 PM Timing 9 - 11 AM
ADMISSION OPEN

GEOGRAPHY
OPTIONAL
by **Narendra Sharma**
Classes begin with Geography of India

Special focus on Social and Eco. Geo of India
9 SEPT. 12:30 PM

EQUATOR IAS
9818566719, 8376071053
B-105, Ansal Building, 37, 38, 39, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi-60

PANINI IAS CLASSES
संस्कृत साहित्य
by **KB SIR & OTHER**
NEW BATCH 31st Aug 6:45am
NEXT BATCH 8 Sept 9am
GRANITE CLASSES

INDIAN SOCIETY FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (ISTE) IIT CAMPUS, SHAHEED JEET SINGH MARG, NEW DELHI-110016
011-26963431, 26513542

PUBLIC NOTICE
ISTE Election notification for the term 2020 - 2024 has been issued. For detailed information, please visit our website: www.isteonline.in
Executive Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICE

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB
CIN: U92411TN1934NP000349
Regd. Office: 63, Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002
E-mail: cosmonetcentre@gmail.com
Website: www.cosmopolitanclubchennai.com
Phone: 044-26584353 Fax: 044-28414356

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the 146th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Club is scheduled to be held on Saturday, the 28th day of September 2019 at 10:35 a.m. at the Club Premises at 63, Anna Salai, Chennai to transact the business as set out in the Notice calling for the AGM.

Notice of Annual General meeting dated 28.06.2019 forming part of Annual Report for the year 2018-19 was dispatched to all members by Registered Post / Courier on 1st September 2019 convening the meeting on 28th September 2019 and the said Report sets out the business to be transacted in the meeting.

The Club is providing the facility of voting through electronic means ("remote e-voting") in compliance with Section 108 of the Companies Act 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014. The business as set out in the aforesaid Notice may be transacted through electronic voting facility provided by M/s Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL). The Executive Committee has appointed Sri K M Subramaniam, Advocate, as Scrutinizer to oversee the remote e-voting/manual voting process.

The cut-off date will be 4th September 2019 for determining the voting rights of members entitled to participate in the remote e-voting process.

The remote e-voting commences on 25.09.2019 at 9:00 a.m. and ends on 27.09.2019 at 5:00 p.m. The e-voting module shall be disabled by CDSL thereafter.

Members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting may attend the Meeting but shall not be allowed to vote again in the meeting. The members attending the meeting who have not already cast their vote by remote e-voting can exercise their right to vote at the meeting. The facility for voting by manual ballot will be made available at the meeting venue.

The notice of the meeting is displayed in the club's website: www.cosmopolitanclubchennai.com and the e-voting website of CDSL: www.evotingindia.com. In case of grievances connected with the facility for voting by electronic means, members may contact Mr. Rakesh Dahi, Manager, Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers, 16th Floor, Dalal Street, Fort, Mumbai - 400001; email: ld.rakeshd@cslindia.com; Phone: 022-23058542 / Toll free no 1800-200-5588.

/ By order of the Executive Committee /
Place: Chennai SP.Sivalingam
Date: 05.09.2019 President

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL CUM X ADDITIONAL DISTRICT JUDGE OF TIRUPATI
M.V.O.P.No.116 OF 2015
K.Krishnaia & Another ...Petitioners
Vs.
ACE Logistics and others ...Respondents

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT No.1
R1) ACE Logistics, Rep. by It's Manager, Transport Nagar Campus, Dinna Road, Mangar Nagar, Jamshedpur-831018, Jharkhand State.

Please take notice that the petitioner filed the petition for compensation under section 166 (1) of M.V.Act against you and two others and the Hon'ble court was pleased to order notice to you, to appear before this Hon'ble court on 16-09-2019 at 10-30 A.M., through the counsel or in person and file your objection if any, failing which the petition will be decided ex-parte.

Hg:16-09-2019
B.PADMANABHAM
Advocate for Petitioners
Tirupati - 517 501, A.P., India.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Sachin Sangwan (Advocate) Chamber No. 336, Lawyer's Chamber Block, Dwarka District Court Complex, New Delhi-110075

REAL ESTATE

Property for Sale: A block Kalkaji GF Two room set with courtyard front back. Prime Location next to Nehru Place. Contact 9910084891

PUBLIC NOTICE

PETITIONER Mr. Carlisle Noel Alexander of 6 Bowerman Place, Sydney NSW 2126 Australia, had filed the above C.P. No. 406/58 & 59/2019 before the National Company Law Tribunal, Division Bench Chennai, praying to direct the Respondent MRF Ltd., 114 Gretna Road, Chennai - 600 006 to rectify their records of members from (Carlisle N. Alexander and name of the father N. Alexander) to the name of the Petitioner's shareholding as Mr. Carlisle Noel Alexander and name of the father as Capt. Philipose Alexander and to issue the share certificate with corrected name to the Petitioner. The Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to order notice by Newspaper publication and posted the above case for hearing on 19.09.2019.

Anybody having any objection to correct the name of the Petitioner's shareholding in the above C.P. may appear in person or through their Counsels before the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Chennai Bench, Corporate Bhavan 3rd Floor, No.29, Rajaji Salai, Chennai - 600 001 on 19.09.2019 at 10.30a.m. and file their objection in writing along with supporting documents. If no objection is received The Hon'ble Tribunal will proceed and decide the issue on 19.09.2019 when the matter is called and proceed as there is no objection from anybody.

MRF Limited
No. 114 Gretna Road, Chennai - 600 006.

नोटिस (निवेदन दिखाने वाले को (मनुष्य नाम) के अलावा अपर जिला जज कोर्ट मुकाम संख्या 7 महोदय हरदोई

मुकदमा नं० प्रकीर्णवाद संख्या 103 सं० 2015 ई० सुबेदार आदि बनाम बिहारलाल आदि हरदोई मुकदमा

मे दरख्वास्त इस अदालत से गुजराई है कि मज्बू पुत्री घसीटे पत्नी श्री पवन कुमार निवासी C-12 गौतम मार्ग ईस्ट विमान नगर दिल्ली सिद्धान्त आपको इतिलाल दी जाती है कि आप अदालत में अपने किसी वकील के जो तालात सुनार मे राशी बरिफ से काबू 10 से तोरीख 17 माह 9 सन 2019 ई० इस अदालत में हाजिर होकर दरख्वास्त को खिलवाफ बजाइ दिखवाइये । अगर आप ऐसा न कर सके तो दरख्वास्त मजबूत आपके हर हजिर में समाप्त हो जायगी । आप बताईय माह सन 2019 ई० को मेरे दरख्वास्त और मोहर अदालत में जारी किया गया ।

आज्ञा से मुसलिम अपर जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश कोर्ट संख्या -7 हरदोई

PUBLIC NOTICE
Zurich Life India Pvt. Ltd. office at 157, C-Block, DDA Community Centre, Janak Puri, New Delhi-110058 do hereby inform the general public that my client are having no business relations with (1) Sh. Pateek Gupta (2) Amarjeet Singh (3) Amit Sharma who are founder members of the company and done wrongful act with the company which adversely affected the company. Hence our client inform the general public not to deal with them in any manner whatsoever.

SHARAD NAGPAL (Advocate)
Ch. No. L-28, The Hazari Courts, Delhi

SITUATION VACANT

GENERAL

TRADE LINKERS PRIVATE LIMITED
Regd. Off: 2744 Naya Bazar, Delhi-110006
CIN: U51909DL2018PTC329881
Email ID: anilsinghal168@gmail.com
Mobile No. +91-8527911550

REQUIRES
COMPANY SECRETARY AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER
Trade Linkers Private Limited, ("the Company") offers challenging career opportunity and requires dynamic professional for the above post on permanent basis, for placement at Trade Linkers Private Limited, Registered Office, 2744, Naya Bazar, Delhi-110006 IN. Please send resume on the email anilsinghal168@gmail.com

For Trade Linkers Private Limited Sd/-
ANIL KUMAR SINGHAL (Director)
Place: New Delhi DIN: 00459778
Date: 04/09/2019

SITUATION VACANT

GENERAL

VACANCIES in SD EDUCOM
Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi

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ALL WELL POLISHED AND POLITE CANDIDATES SEND RESUME TO GIVEIN
EMAIL: [skumar_karn07@yahoo.co.in](mailto:TEL 10th Sept. 2019 skumar_karn07@yahoo.co.in)

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

Our Respected Pranam to our Beloved "Chittappa"
Our Hony. Advisory Committee Member

Sri S.V. SANKARAN
(Retd. - LIC, Stage Director - Viveka Fine Arts)
who Attained the Lotus Feet of Bhagawan Sri Sri Sathya Sai Baba on 01-09-2019 - Sunday
Homage by Prasanthi Old Age Welfare Home (Regd.)
Thiruvanniyur - Perungudi, Chennai
Ph: 9444088555 / 8939475835 / 9940155004

Dr. M. Ganapathy, MD
Former Dean, Madras Medical College & Govt. General Hospital

How I wished I could talk to you over dinner, the day I read of Article 370.

You were my google, my Wikipedia, and my Webster, right from when I was small and dainty

Every time I get on a plane and wear that seatbelt, I think of that endearing voice that demoted it to me on ground, with a silent thank you that's heartfelt

That was before the first flight all by myself to Mumbai

You prepared me for the small and big with love that nothing in this world can buy

7 years - my journeys have since changed dad. But you left me with loads of grit - to face the good and the bad

You remain imprinted in my mind as my superstar, my hero

And I miss you but tell myself you're out there watching over me like a sweet sparrow

- Sundari

Missing you as ever- Dr.G.Muthukumari & Vel.

For enquiries on announcements in this section, please contact our office at the following number between 10a.m. and 8p.m.

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BJP core committee meets ahead of PM's visit

SHARAD VYAS
MUMBAI
The 16-member core committee of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) met on Tuesday to take stock of preparations for the Assembly elections and the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The committee discussed ways to ensure smooth and successful visit of the PM during which he is slated to inaugurate a number of important projects on September 7. "We also discussed the induction of some senior leaders from the Opposition in the presence of the prime minister," said a senior member of the committee. The core committee includes senior party leaders, headed by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, State unit in-charge Chandrakant Patil, Mumbai unit chief Mangal Prabhat Lodha, Ministers Vinod Tawde, Ashish Shelar, and Pankaja Munde. A committee member told The Hindu that discussions on seat-sharing with Shiv Sena, talks for which are slated to begin soon, also took place. "A workable sharing formula is already in place and has been finalised by the CM, Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray and party president Amit Shah. We have to now start talks on individual seats at the earliest," said a member. With the code of conduct for Assembly elections likely to kick in by September 15, members said talks over seat sharing would have to begin soon.

Congress-NCP to leave 38 seats for smaller parties, allies

Will jointly contest 250 seats; deal unlikely with Prakash Ambedkar-led VBA

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI
The Congress and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) will leave 38 of the 288 Assembly seats for other allies and smaller parties in the upcoming elections. At a meeting of party leaders on Tuesday, seat-sharing on 90% of the remaining 250 seats was finalised. The decision to keep 38 seats to smaller parties also means that both Congress and the NCP have lost hope of any alliance with Prakash Ambedkar-led Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) of which All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) is also a part. The 38 seats are likely to be shared by Peasants and Workers Party (PWP), Raju Shetti-led Swabhimani Shetkari Sanghata (SSS), Communist Party of India (Mar-



Poll postures: With Congress and NCP almost finalising seat-sharing formula, smaller parties may gain at the cost of Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi. ■ FILE PHOTO

xist), and others. With 250 seats to be shared between Congress and the NCP, the exact number of seats each will be contesting is likely to be announced shortly. "We have already announced that we want to finalise the seat-sharing at the earliest and declare the first

ing. There are no favourites of anyone," he said. The screening committee of the Congress for Maharashtra polls will meet in New Delhi on Thursday, where the list of candidates will be presented and is likely to be finalised. The Hindu had last week had reported that the Congress wants to come out with its list of 100 candidates at the earliest to give candidates an early start to campaigning. However, the Congress and NCP have been unable to reach a consensus on Indapur Assembly seat, held by NCP's Dattatray Bhanne and once a stronghold of senior Congress leader Harshvardhan Patil. "There are disputes on few seats. These will be resolved in front of Congress and NCP presidents in Delhi," said the Congress leader.

Cong. slams pre-poll survey, demands ballot paper

The survey predicts victory for BJP-Sena in 229 Assembly seats

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI
Slamming a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) survey which reportedly claims that the saffron alliance would win 229 of the 288 seats in the upcoming Assembly polls, Congress on Wednesday challenged the ruling party to conduct elections on ballot paper since it was confident of winning. "The BJP is known to manage surveys. The overconfidence of the BJP over

winning the Assembly polls is visible. Managed surveys like this are brought out only to create confusion among the voters. If the BJP is so confident of winning 229 seats, it should accept the opposition's demand to go for ballot paper instead of EVMs," said Leader of Opposition Vijay Vadettiwar. The Opposition parties in the State had joined hands last month to demand use of ballot papers instead of

EVMs in the Assembly polls. Claiming that the pre-election survey is nothing but sham, Mr. Vadettiwar said, "Had it been so easy for the BJP and Shiv Sena, then the two parties would not have organised yatras across the State." Congress also slammed the State government's move to open tourist resorts in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. "Maharashtra government seems to be working on orders of Naren-

dra Modi and Amit Shah. Maharashtra is facing huge debt, the number of unemployed youth is growing and it is important to focus on investment in the State. While areas like Konkan deserve more investment in tourism industry, the government is neglecting our own regions and boasting about investments in other States only to improve the image of Mr. Modi and Mr. Shah," said Congress spokesperson Sachin Sawant.

Harshavardhan Patil inches closer to joining BJP

At a meeting with supporters, calls NCP a 'party of schemers'

SHOUMJOIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Senior Congressman Harshavardhan Patil on Wednesday hit out at Sharad Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), dubbing its leadership as "scheming" and "shifty". Addressing a meeting of his followers in his stronghold Indapur in Pune district, Mr. Patil was lavish in his praise of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis while heaping censure on Mr. Pawar saying NCP had "insulted him" and had used him for their political ends. While political observers saw this as a strong indication of Mr. Patil joining the Bharatiya Janata Party, he stopped short of a formal announcement on this. Mr. Patil, a four-time MLA from Indapur, lost the 2014 Assembly elections by a slender margin to the NCP's Dattatrey Bhanne. The Congress and NCP had contested those elections separately. Despite this, he had supported NCP MP Supriya Sule (Mr. Pawar's daughter) to ensure her victory from the Baramati Lok Sabha seat this year in the hope that the par-



Harshvardhan Patil

ty would back his candidacy in the upcoming Assembly polls from Indapur, which is a segment of the Baramati Lok Sabha seat. However, the NCP's disinclination to cut the ticket of their sitting MLA (Mr. Bhanne) and support Mr. Patil's candidacy has rankled the Congressman. "All of you [Mr. Patil's followers] have worked loyally these past months, adhering to the coalition 'dharma' between Congress and NCP. Yet, we have received only ingratitude in return...The [Lok Sabha] results were out on May 23. Today is September 4. Even after four months, despite several meetings, not one NCP leader has ever talked about Indapur As-

ssembly seat," said Mr. Patil, a former State cabinet Minister. "Indapur was not even included in the itinerary of the NCP's 'Shiv Swarajya Yatra'. Yet, why are its leaders holding rallies here? Now, I hear in a seat-sharing arrangement decided in Mumbai that Bhor, Junnar and Purandar is to be given to the Congress while Indapur remains with the NCP. This is a stab in my back in spite of the help I had given to NCP," he said. When Mr. Patil asked his followers on what course of action was to be taken, shouts of 'join the BJP' rent the air. "Your sentiments will be fully respected and what you'll wish for shall come to pass," he told his supporters. Praising Mr. Fadnavis, he said: "Even though I was not in power for these years, he never rejected any request on my part, however small it may have been." He further said that Mr. Fadnavis, in a gracious gesture, had even postponed a meeting of the State cabinet to recently launch a book of reminiscences, Vidhan Gatha authored by Mr. Patil.

Raju Shetti meets NCP's Bhosale

Opposition ally tries to talk him out of joining BJP

SHOUMJOIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Swabhimani Paksha chief and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) ally Raju Shetti called on disgruntled NCP MP from Satara, Udayanraje Bhosale, on Wednesday in a bid to dissuade him from joining the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Following a series of defections from the NCP and the Congress, there has been speculation that Mr. Bhosale - one of the only four NCP MPs elected in Maharashtra in the general election - will go over to the BJP. Following the meeting at the government rest house in Satara, Mr. Shetti said leaders like Mr. Bhosale, a direct descendant of king Shivaji, were required for keeping a strong opposition



Raju Shetti

and democracy alive in the State. "The present political situation is not good. There is a pressing need for forceful opposition leaders like Mr. Bhosale who can take up the problems of farmers, workers and ordinary citizens in Parliament. I have requested him to think about this before taking any decision," Mr. Shetti said. He said Mr. Bhosale had

told him he had not yet decided on joining the BJP. According to sources, Mr. Bhosale has been upset over the factionalism within the NCP for some time now. It is believed that he will join the BJP in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This is the second such desperate effort on part of the NCP and its allies to stop Mr. Bhosale from switching sides. On Monday, the party had sent actor-turned-MP from Shirur, Dr. Amol Kolhe, to persuade the Satara leader to change his mind. The half-hour meeting, however, came a cropper. "How can a mavala (Maratha soldier) convince a king [as Mr. Bhosale is the 13th direct descendant of King Shivaji]?" was Dr. Kolhe's terse remark after the meeting.

Ready to roll



An aerial view of the second phase of Nagpur Metro, connecting Sitabuli to Lokmanya Nagar, which will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 7. ■ S. SUDARSHAN

Rain lashes western Maharashtra

Heavy showers forecast for next 48 hours

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

After a brief respite, several parts of western Maharashtra including Pune, Satara and Kolhapur districts were battered by incessant showers in the past 24 hours. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), heavy to very heavy showers were expected in the ghat areas in Maharashtra over the next 48 hours. "While the situation is not expected to ease before September 7, today's rainfall in western Maharashtra could be said to have reached its peak. While Pune city is expected to get moderate rainfall on Thursday, isolated areas in Pune district, especially the ghat areas, will nevertheless continue to receive heavy showers for the next two days," said Dr. Anupam Kashyapi, Head, Weather & Air Pollution Monitoring Unit, IMD. While Pune city received steady showers since Tuesday night, the downpour was extremely heavy in the catchment areas in Maval and Mulshi taluks. The heavy downpour has led to Irrigation Department increasing the discharge of water from Pune's Khadakwasla dam, causing the Bhide bridge in the city to be



Cars lie submerged near Bhide bridge in Sadashiv Peth, Pune, after heavy rainfall on Wednesday. ■ MANDAR TANNU

submerged. This led the authorities to raise the height of the doors of the Koyna dam, which was filled to its capacity of 104 tmcft, prompting a steady discharge of 38,000 cusecs since morning. A high-alert has been issued to people living in the vicinity of the dam. Kolhapur, which has yet to recover from a crippling deluge, once again reeled under the onslaught of rain as extremely heavy showers battered several talukas, notably Gaganbawda tehsil. More than 270 mm rain was recorded in the district in the past 24 hours, said authorities. Two doors of the Radhanagari dam in the district was opened with a discharge of 1,428 cusecs causing a rise in the levels of the Bhogawati river.

No material against Sudha Bharadwaj: lawyer

SONAM SAIGAL
MUMBAI

The advocate appearing for trade unionist and human rights lawyer Sudha Bharadwaj, while arguing for her bail, told the Bombay High Court on Wednesday that Pune Police has found no material against her to keep her at Yerwada jail for a year in the Elgaar Parishad case. Advocate Yug Chaudhary appearing for Ms. Bharadwaj told a single bench of Justice S.V. Kotwal that another accused and advocate Surendra Gadling, also at Yerwada jail, uses the platform of Indian Association of People's Lawyers to purport Maoist ideas and pointed out the or-

ganisation is not banned under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act. Mr. Gadling is the secretary of IAPL, whereas Ms. Bharadwaj is the vice-president and retired Justice Suresh Hosbet of HC is the president. Mr. Chaudhry said the chargesheet consists of documents mostly letters which were not found from Ms. Bharadwaj's house and the other material relied by the Pune police is in the form of printouts, but not printouts of originals. He said the documents are typed, unsigned, unverified and unauthenticated. As there is nothing to prove the authorship, none are admissible in law.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RESEARCH, DESIGNS & STANDARDS ORGANISATION
MANAK NAGAR, LUCKNOW-226011
Corrigendum No-02
GLOBAL TENDER NOTICE No. RDSO/TMM/GPR/2019/01
Name of work: Monitoring health of ballast bed with the help of ground penetration radar technology for through ballast renewal(TBR) and rehabilitation on Indian Railways.
The date of opening of Tender is changed to 23.09.2019 instead of 09.09.2019. Accordingly, the offer can be submitted up to 23.09.2019 (14.30 hrs).
In future, if there is any change in tender document, same will be uploaded at www.rdsso.indianrailways.gov.in --> Tenders --> Other Directorate Tenders --> Works (Global Tender).
Date of opening of Tender is 23.09.2019.
File No.: TM/IM/87(GPR Tender)
Date: 04.09.2019
(Shrish Chandra Srivastava)
Executive Director/Track Machines
RDSO/Lucknow
For and on behalf of President of Union of India

HIMACHAL PRADESH
IPH DEPARTMENT
" NOTICE INVITING TENDER"
Sealed item rate tenders on form 6 & 8 are hereby invited by the undersigned on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh for the following works from the approved and eligible contractors, so as to reach in this office on or before 16.09.2019 up to 10.30 AM and will be opened on the same day at 11.00 AM in the presence of intending contractors or their authorized representatives . The tender form can be had from IPH Sub-Division Bharmour against cash payment (Non- Refundable) on or before 13.09.2019.
The earnest money in the shape of National saving certificate/ Time deposits Accounts/ Saving Accounts in any of the Post office in Himachal Pradesh duly pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer 1 & P.H. Division Chamba must be accompanied with each tender. Conditional tenders and tenders received without earnest money will be summarily rejected. The offer of the tenders shall be kept opened for 120 days. The Executive Engineer IPH Division Chamba reserves the right to reject the tenders without assigning any reasons.
Sr. No. Name of Work Est. cost Earnest Money Time Limit Cost of tender form
1. Aug. of WSS Kuthar in GP Kuthar Tehsil Bharmour Distt. Chamba (H.P) (SH:- Excavation laying jointing & testing of GI Pipe 314900/- 6298/- Three month 250/-
2. Imp. Of WSS Andragram in GP Holi Tehsil Bharmour Distt. Chamba (SH:-Excavation laying jointing & testing of GI Pipes from RD 2250/0 to 400, RD 2250/250/0 to 200, RD 2250/250 to 2250/850/0 to 2250/850/500, RD 3230 to 4190, RD 4190 to 5080 (Node 2 to 19, Node 14 to 20, Node 14 to 16, Node 16 to 24, Node 5 to 6, Node 7 to 8. 270052/- 5401/- Three month 250/-
3. Restoration of Rain Damage to Sewerage Scheme Bharmour Distt Chamba (SH:- Repairs to manholes by plastering and PCC bed Chourasi area). 186246 3725 Three month 250/-
4. Remodeling of WSS Chilly Gadiyara in GP Brehli Tehsil & Distt. Chamba (SH:- C/O intake at spring source 2 No, C/O RCC storage tank 27000 liter capacity. 1 No. C/O stand Post 2 No fencing work, site Development for C/O storage tank 499336 10000 Three month 250/-
Terms & Conditions:- 1. Before offering the rates the Terms & conditions attached with the schedule of quantity may be gone through carefully. 2. Conditional tenders without earnest Money will be bout rightly be rejected. 3. The contractor shall enclose enlistment/renewal order with his application for obtaining the tender documents. 4. Latest income tax and sale tax clearance certificate as well as PAN No must be attached with the application failing which the documents will not issue to those contractors. 5. The contractors shall produce registration of labour license from the competent authority under contract act 1970 failing which no tender will not issued to him.
Note:- No tender forms will be issued to those contractors who have not completed the work within the stipulated period and having more than two works in hand under this Division.
Sd/- Executive Engineer
I & P.H. Division Chamba.
HP/1833/19-20
IN THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2 AT CHENNAI
O.A.No.490 of 2019
Central Bank of India (IFSC: CBIN0280883), Branch Office: T.Nagar, No.11, Rajabathar Street, Chennai-600 017.
...Applicant
-Vs -
1. Mrs.S.Kausalya, W/o.Mr.R.Shankar, New Delhi-110 045.
2. Mr.A.Hari, (PAN No. Not Known) S/o.Alagu Sundaram, Vadapalani, Chennai-600 026.
...Defendants 1 & 2
To,
1. Mrs.S.Kausalya, W/o.Mr.R.Shankar, RZ-2/4, Gali No.3, 1st Floor, Vaishali Extension, Palam Village, Near MTNL Office, New Delhi-110 045.
Also residing at, Flat No.102, 1st Floor, Rear Side, Kharsa, RZF No.88/11, Mahavir Enclave, New Delhi-110 045.
2. Mr.A.Hari, (PAN No. Not Known), S/o. Alagu Sundaram, No.309/166, Arcot Road, Vadapalani, Chennai-600 026.
Also residing at, No.6, Vijaya Street, Opp. To Vijaya Hospital, Vadapalani, Chennai-600 026.
...Defendants 1 & 2
Madam / Sir
Take notice that the above said O.A. has been filed by the Applicant herein in DRT-II, Chennai against you both, the defendants 1 & 2, personally jointly and severally to pay a sum of Rs.11,07,304/- (Rupees Eleven Lakh Seven Thousand Three Hundred Four only) being the loan outstanding in the Housing Loan Accounts on 13.01.2019 with subsequent interest at the rate of 10.25% per annum with monthly rests as agreed upon by the defendants 1 and 2 from the date of the Application till the date of realization of the Payment in full and for certain other reliefs.
When the said O.A.No.490/2019 came up before the Learned Registrar, DRT-II on 24.06.2019, the ordered Paper Publication to you and posted the matter to 12.09.2019. Therefore please take notice that you are hereby called upon to appear in person or through your counsel before the Hon'ble DRT-II on 12.09.2019 failing which the matter will be decided in your absence.
Vijayalakshmi M, Counsel for Applicant



Siddaramaiah slaps aide in Mysuru
MYSURU
Former Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was caught on camera slapping an aide on the Mysuru airport premises on Wednesday. The video soon went viral on social media. The aide, Nadanahalli Ravi, sought to clarify to the media that it was a minor issue.

Talks with Muthoot management on Monday
KOCCHI
The conciliatory meeting convened by Kerala Minister for Labour T.P. Ramakrishnan with representatives of the management of Muthoot Finance and leaders of a section of its workers will be held here on Monday. The ₹36,000-crore NBFC company is considering closing down around 300 of its branches in Kerala.

Violence in parts of Karnataka after arrest of D.K. Shivakumar

BJP leaders worried as discontent against party seems to be growing

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU
The arrest of D.K. Shivakumar sparked off violent protests, particularly in the Vokkaliga heartland of old Mysuru and discontent seems to be gathering against the Bharatiya Janata Party. Insiders in the saffron party are also worried of a possible damage this could lead to in the region. The Congress leader's arrest is seen as the latest in a string of instances where the BJP has "targeted" the Vokkaliga community – pulling down H.D. Kumaraswamy as Chief Minister, the suicide of V.G. Siddhartha, a prominent Vokkaliga entrepreneur who alleged harassment by the Income Tax officials, and now this arrest. "It is very clear that the



Violent protests: Police trying to control KPCC and Youth Congress members in Bengaluru. • V. SREENIVASA MURTHY

BJP has misused Central agencies to selectively target Mr. Shivakumar. Though S.M. Krishna joined the BJP, he could not save his son-in-law from harassment from these agencies. They are also trying to decimate the JD(S) first by toppling the government and now by trying to

implicate Mr. Kumaraswamy in multiple cases with the CBI. If the BJP thinks they can win the support of the community by decimating the existing leadership, they are mistaken," said M. Nagaraj, a former secretary of the Vokkaligara Sangha. The BJP, for a combina-

tion of reasons – a lack of coordination in the Congress-Janata Dal (Secular) alliance and a campaign centred on national security – made inroads into the Old Mysore region in the recent Lok Sabha polls. This pointed to the party gaining the support of a section of the community. "But in just four months since then, the party seems to have earned the ire of the community," said a Vokkaliga leader from the Janata Dal (Secular).

Evidently alarmed by the caste connotations the arrest was taking, Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has reportedly gagged his partymen from speaking on the issue.

IT'S JUST VENDETTA POLITICS, SAYS RAHUL ▶ PAGE 10

A.P. Cabinet ratifies pre-closure of contract with Navayuga

Decides to recover mobilisation advance paid to company

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet at its meeting held on Wednesday ratified the pre-closure of the Polavaram Hydro Electric Project (PHEP) contract that was awarded to Navayuga Engineering Company Limited (NECL) for nearly ₹3,217 crore and gave its nod for reverse tendering, a process which has already been set in motion in spite of objections by the Polavaram Project Authority (PPA). The Cabinet also decided to recover the ₹780 crore mobilisation advance paid to NECL.

The Cabinet decision came just about two weeks after the High Court directed the government to suspend the order issued by AP-Genco for pre-closing/terminating the contract given to NECL, which argued that it



The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has given its nod for reverse tendering of the Polavaram project. • FILE PHOTO

had time till November 2021 for completing the 960-MW (12X80 MW) project.

The court had also barred the government from floating reverse tenders and insisted that the opportunity to remedy any defects be given to the petitioner (NECL) and the action taken by Genco was neither in accordance with the terms of the contract nor settled principles of law.

In his letter dated August 16 to Special Chief Secretary (Water Resources) Aditya Nath Das, PPA CEO R.K. Jain said there was neither enough ground nor necessity for pre-closure of tenders and re-tendering and advised the State to abandon the idea in the best interests of the project or keep it in abeyance till the Central government took a considered view of the matter.

Krishna in spate again, gates of Almatti lifted

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA

The gates of the Almatti Dam have been lifted again to release nearly 20,000 cusecs through the spillway. Another 42,000 cusecs are being released after power generation from the project with a sudden increase of inflows of 60,000 cusecs on Wednesday.

The reservoir on the Tungabhadra, a tributary of the Krishna, has also recorded an inflow of 22,734 cusecs and over 10,000 cusecs are being discharged from the dam after the diversion of 11,000 cusecs into irrigation canals.

While the Almatti and the Tungabhadra are brimming

(99% and 100% respectively), in Srisailem it is only 82%, forcing the authorities to reduce the releases to the Pottlyreddipadu Head Regulator (PRPHR) and also cutting down power generation. About 40 tmcft was needed to fill it. "With the inflows to the Almatti and the Tungabhadra increasing, inflows can also be expected to Srisailem, which is crucial for providing water to Rayalaseema and Telangana," Irrigation officials said.

The level in the Srisailem dam was 877.7 ft on Wednesday and water could be released from the PRPHR until the level in the reservoir was 854 ft.

TTD takes possession of land in Mumbai

Sri Venkateswara temple to come up on 648 sq m

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
TIRUPATI

The TTD has formally taken possession of a prime chunk of land in Mumbai from the Maharashtra government, which was allotted on lease basis to the temple management on Wednesday.

Following a request by TTD Executive Officer Anil Kumar Singhal, the government offered 648 sq m in East Bandra locality. Joint Executive Officer P. Basant Kumar took possession of the land.

The TTD already has a temple-cum-information centre at a rented premises



TTD Joint Executive Officer P. Basant Kumar offering prasadam to Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis in Mumbai.

in Sion to disseminate information to the local devotees about the accommodation, darshan/sevas and other amenities available at Tirumala and Tirupati.

In the new sprawling premises, the TTD proposes to construct a temple with the sanctum sanctorum housing the presiding deity of Lord Venkateswara, on the lines

of Tirumala. The building will also have "Artha Mandapam" and "Mukha Mandapam" in the elevated first floor and a kitchen (potu) and meditation hall in the basement.

Accommodation facility will also be provided after the 'Sthapathi' (temple sculptor) and the architectural firm finalise the plan.

Mr. Basant Kumar formally met Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Finance Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar and offered the famous 'laddu prasadam' to them.

Mr. Kumar was accompanied by TTD Mumbai Local Advisory Committee (LAC) members V. Ranganathan, Gita Kasturi and Samir K. Mehta.

Joseph faction fields its own candidate for Pala byelection

It is seen as a ploy to deny party symbol to Mani faction

STAFF REPORTER
KOTTAYAM

The unending row in the embattled Kerala Congress (M) over the party symbol, two leaves, has put the Congress-led coalition further on the back foot in Pala.

The dispute reached a flash point on Wednesday after the P.J. Joseph faction sprang a surprise by fielding its own candidate, Joseph Kandathil, for the byelection scheduled for September 23. Mr. Kandathil, a confidant of Mr. Joseph and State secretary of the KC(M)'s farmers' union, submitted his papers hours before for the time for filing nominations ended.

The move, which came close on the heels of the Jose K. Mani faction turning down Mr. Joseph's demand to raise a formal request for the symbol, is widely regarded

as a ploy to ensure that the United Democratic Front candidate fielded by the Mani faction, Jose Tom Pulikkunnel, will not contest under the party symbol.

Meanwhile, Mr. Joseph denied any role in the shock move, but said Mr. Kandathil would withdraw the nomination as soon as the ongoing dispute on the party symbol was settled.

"The decision must have come from the local level to counter the vile moves from the rival group to get the party symbol," he told media persons in Thodupuzha.

Mr. Joseph also handed a letter to the assistant returning officer requesting him not to allot the party symbol to the UDF candidate.

The Mani faction, on the other hand, sent a letter to the election authority

through its general secretary Stephen George claiming its right over the symbol.

"The two leaves symbol, under which K.M. Mani had contested from this constituency for years, was so close to the heart of the voters in Pala. The adamant stance taken by Mr. Joseph not to allot the symbol to the UDF candidate is a clear violation of an agreement brokered by the UDF," Jose K. Mani said.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Pulikkunnel and Bharatiya Janata Party candidate N. Hari filed their nomination papers to the assistant returning officer at Lalam.

Following the uncertainty over the party symbol, Mr. Pulikkunnel submitted two sets of nominations – both as Independent and KC(M) candidate.

Get, set, rain



Ready to pour: Monsoon clouds gathering on top of the ranges near Walayar on the border of Tamil Nadu and Kerala on Wednesday. Recently flood and landslips ravaged many parts of Kerala. • DINESH KRISHNAN

A.P. to hand over mining case to CBI

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

The Andhra Pradesh government on Wednesday informed the High Court of its decision to hand over investigation into the illegal limestone mining case, in which Gurazala former MLA Yarapathineni Srinivasa Rao is allegedly involved, to the Central Bureau of Investigation, arguing that the complaints were of a serious nature and had political ramifications warranting a high-level probe.

Advocate-General Subrahmanyam Sriram told the court that there were several complaints of illegal mining against the TDP leader since 2014 and the CB-CID had inquired into the matter.

In its hearing on August 26, the HC told the government that it was free to entrust the probe to the CBI.

Megalithic sword unearthed in Kannur village

105 cm sword found by Archaeology Department is believed to be 2,500 years old

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOZHIKODE

The State Archaeology Department in Kozhikode has unearthed what it calls a Megalithic era iron sword, a chisel and a few decorated pottery from a rock-cut cave at Pothuvachery in Kannur district.

The 105-cm sword, believed to be 2,500 years old, was found during a scientific clearance at the historical site. "However, the discovery of the cave by the side of the unpaved road leading to the Manikkiyal temple road in Mavilayi village, 12 km from Kannur city, was fortuitous," said K. Krishnaraj of the Archaeology Department, who is supervising the project.

About a month ago, he said, local people had spot-



New find: The entrance to the rock-cut cave that was discovered at Mavilayi village near Kannur city, and, right, the sword unearthed from the cave. • S. RAMESH KURUP



ted a hole that had developed on the gravel road. They dug out a few pieces of pottery from the hole and kept them in their possession. Only later did some of them inform the Archaeology Department about the hole and turn over the Megalithic artefacts to it.

The semi-spherical shaped cave has a diameter of 2.5 m and a height of 90 cm. Investigations would continue for a week, he said. Mr. Krishnaraj said the sword was not a rare one. "Previously, a sword was discovered from a similar rock-cut cave from a site at Kuru-

vattur in Kozhikode. The implements indicate the technological advancement of the Megalithic people," he said.

The materials will be shifted to the Pazhassi Raja Archaeological Museum at East Hill in Kozhikode soon, he said.

Students develop machine to paint high-rises

Harikrishnan Jayachandran and friends are in final year of engineering course

STAFF REPORTER
KOLLAM

It was the sight of a labourer painting a high-rise, precariously balancing himself without any safety measures, that set Harikrishnan Jayachandran thinking. The final-year Electronics and Communication Engineering student at Amrita Engineering College, Amritapuri, did some research and found that wall painters face a lot of health hazards as well. "According to WHO, these workers are in a high-risk category since they are exposed to toxic chemicals and lead in paint which leads to long-term and health issues and diseases like cancer."

He discussed the problem with his friends. They created Wallpbot, the prototype



Young achievers: Students of Amrita Engineering College with the Wallpbot. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

of a machine to paint high-rises without human involvement. This was tested at The Business Incubator (TBI), Amrita University.

"Harikrishnan and team approached me with a re-

port which laid out the problem, suggested a solution and sought assistance from the university. They had created a 3D-animated model of a robot that could paint the walls. We encour-

age and support students' interest in solving real-life problems and were really glad to provide all support," says Purushotam. A, vice-chairperson, School of Engineering, Amritapuri.

Robotic techniques
Harikrishnan says their challenge was to create a simple and innovative design. "We know that artificial intelligence and robotic techniques were what we wanted, to create the design." Apart from Harikrishnan, the others in the team were Aravind Sadashiv, Arya Sudarshan and Allen Peter.

The team has contested for James Dyson Award and was semi-finalist in the Accenture Innovation challenge. It has applied for a patent for its product.

IN BRIEF

PM to launch pension scheme for traders

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the The Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan-dhan Yojana, the Centre's pension scheme for traders, during a visit to Nagpur on Saturday, officials of the Labour and Employment Ministry said on Wednesday. A few of the first subscribers from across the country will be given pension cards by the PM at the ceremony, said Ajay Tewari, Joint Secretary and Director-General of Labour Welfare in the Labour Ministry.

J&K Cricket Association's ex-treasurer arrested

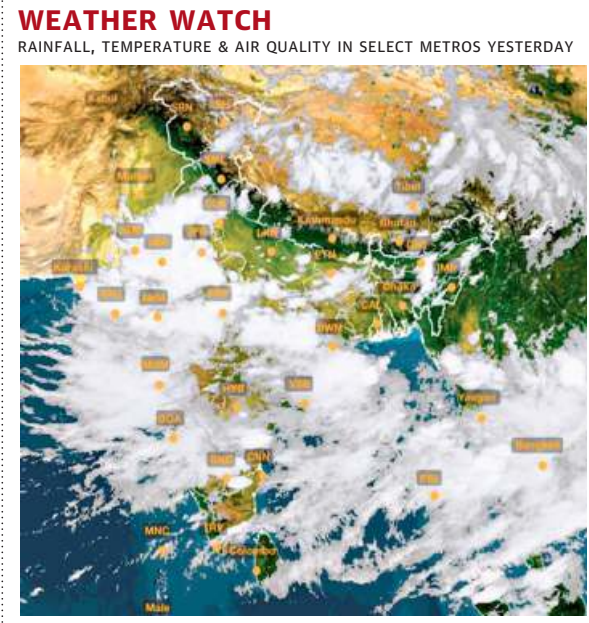
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has arrested Ahsan Ahmad Mirza, the then treasurer of the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA), in connection with alleged misappropriation of funds to the tune of ₹43 crore. The agency alleged that between 2002 and 2011, the Board of Control for Cricket in India had granted ₹112 crore to the State Association for infrastructure development and cricket promotion. Of the total amount, ₹43.69 crore was allegedly siphoned off and misappropriated.

7 students expelled for 'stealing noodles'

GUWAHATI

A sports academy in Arunachal Pradesh has rusticated seven students for stealing two packets of noodles from the hostel's canteen, the mother of one of the students has alleged, adding that the academy claimed to have a video evidence and did not get in touch with the parents before taking the extreme action. However, the SLSA defended the move, saying the students were "found smoking, indulging in unruly activities and stealing a mobile phone of a Class 10 student".



Forecast for Thursday: Extremely heavy falls very likely at isolated places over Gujarat. Heavy to very heavy rain likely at isolated places over west Madhya Pradesh, Vidarbha, Odisha, Saurashtra and Kutch, central Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Telangana, coastal & south interior Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala & Mahe. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning very likely over Jharkhand, West Bengal and Sikkim.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	.....	35.0	27.0
Ahmedabad	1.2.....	33.0	26.0
Aizawl	.....	25.0	12.0
Allahabad	15.2.....	34.0	26.0
Bengaluru	4.5.....	26.0	20.0
Bhopal	26.0.....	28.0	24.0
Bhubaneswar	0.9.....	31.0	24.0
Chandigarh	29.1.....	34.0	25.0
Chennai	3.6.....	34.0	25.0
Coimbatore	0.2.....	31.0	23.0
Dehradun	0.1.....	31.0	25.0
Gangtok	16.0.....	23.0	18.0
Goa	.....	91.4	26.0
Guwahati	39.0.....	34.0	26.0
Hubballi	.....	24.0	22.0
Hyderabad	1.1.....	28.0	23.0
Imphal	.....	30.0	22.0
Jaipur	0.1.....	35.0	27.0
Kochi	8.0.....	30.0	25.0
Kohima	.....	31.0	18.0
Kolkata	9.4.....	32.0	26.0

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

Yesterday

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	62	74	51	67	84	Good
Bengaluru	2	24	62	27	73	Good
Chennai	10	32	79	176	73	Good
Delhi	9	62	73	196	294	Good
Hyderabad	13	24	38	30	30	Good
Kolkata	2	14	10	9	11	Good
Lucknow	4	33	51	77	33	Good
Mumbai	18	14	108	10	35	Good
Pune	74	8	66	17	17	Good
Visakhapatnam	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Good

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Heavy rain brings Mumbai to a standstill

Intermittent rain and showers likely, says Met Department



Mumbaikars woke up to heavy rainfall on Wednesday morning, which lead to waterlogging in several key spots and affected the city's suburban railway system and traffic.

While the island city received light rain in the morning, the eastern and western suburbs received between 11 mm and 14 mm of rainfall from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has given a forecast of intermittent rain and shower, with very heavy rainfall at isolated places in city and suburbs. As a precautionary measure in the wake of the IMD's warning, schools have been asked to remain closed today.

"The principals of the schools where students are already in are requested to take all precautions and ensure that the children are sent back home carefully and safely," said an official from the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation.

Due to the heavy showers, there were multiple point failures at Virar, affecting suburban rail services on Western Railway (WR).



Monsoon fury: The flooded Andheri subway, top, and a flooded street in Parel.

Trains were running 15 minutes late between Vasai Road and Churchgate, with very few services being run between Virar and Vasai Road. On the Central Railway's (CR), Central Line as well as Harbour Line, services were over 20 minutes late as water entered the tracks at various spots.

According to Mumbai police, traffic is moving slow due to heavy showers and waterlogging at various spots across the city.

Traffic snarls have been reported at Amrut Nagar Jn, Gandhi Nagar at Kanjur-marg, Sakinaka Junction, Sonapur Junction at Mu-

lund, Netaji Palkar Chowk in Andheri Ganesh Mishthanna in Antop Hill, 90 Feet Road in Dharavi, Andheri Subway, Chincholi Port Rd. in Malad, Shivaji Chowk in Antop Hill, Western Express Highway near Metro Station, Milan Subway, King Circle, Poisar Subway, Hindmata Junction, Dadar T.T Circle, Postal Colony in Chembur, LBS Road in Kurla (W), Mazgaon dockyard Jn.

The rain had some minor impact on air traffic as well. An airport spokesperson said that at 10 a.m., operations at the Mumbai airport were normal with minor delays of 10 to 15 minutes.

23 killed as fire consumes Punjab fireworks factory

The death toll may rise further, according to police sources

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

At least 23 people were killed and 27 injured in a blaze in a fireworks factory at Batala town in Gurdaspur district of Punjab on Wednesday.

The exact reason for the fire is yet to be ascertained and the Punjab government has ordered a magisterial inquiry into it.

An explosion took place around 4 p.m. in the factory, situated in a three-storey building in the residential area. The impact of the blast was so powerful that a few nearby buildings and parked vehicles were damaged. Teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) have been deployed. Police sources said the death toll in the incident might rise as some people were trapped under the debris of the building that collapsed after the explosion.



A car is seen buried under the debris after the blast in the firecracker factory on Wednesday.

Chief Minister Amarinder Singh announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lac for the kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the seven injured, who were referred to the Amritsar Medical College. He also announced ₹25,000 for those who sustained minor injuries.

Gurdaspur Sub-Divisional Magistrate Deepak Bhatia told reporters, "The reason

[for the blast] would be ascertained after the investigation. Rescue operations are on."

Responding to allegations that the factory was "illegally" run in the residential area, Gurdaspur Deputy Commissioner Vipul Ujwal said "the focus right now was on saving precious lives."

(With PTI inputs)

Rajasthan HC quashes facilities for ex-CMs

Court strikes down Act amendment passed by former government

MOHAMMED IQBAL JAIPUR

The Rajasthan High Court on Wednesday struck down an amendment to the Ministers' Salaries Act, 1956, making a provision for lifelong facilities, including government bungalow, telephone, car and personal secretaries, to former Chief Ministers.

The amendment was brought in by the Vasundhara Raj government in 2017, extending the facilities even to CMs who were in office for less than five years.

Allowing a public interest writ petition moved by journalist Milap Chand Dandia, a

Division Bench ruled that providing the facilities to former CMs was "abhorrent to the principle of equality" and it amounted to "nothing but appropriation of State wealth" for no reason other than such persons having held a high elective office.

Getting benefits

Ms. Raje, who served as CM twice for five years each, and Jagannath Pahadia, who was CM from 1980 to 1981, are getting benefits under the law. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot also enjoyed the facilities after April 26, 2017, when the Amendment Bill was passed

in the Assembly, till December 2018, when he took over again after the Congress was elected to power.

Similar SC order

In May 2018, the Supreme Court had invalidated an U.P. legislation which allowed ex-CMs to retain government accommodation for their lifetime.

The SC had ruled that such a statute was "arbitrary and discriminatory" and said that once the CMs demitted public office, there was nothing to distinguish them from the common man.

The petitioner, who was la-

ter joined by another journalist Vijay Bhandari, had referred to the apex court's judgment and contended that Rajasthan was a financially backward State and giving lifelong facilities to former CMs was a misuse of public funds. Extension of such facilities involved an additional revenue expenditure of ₹1.5 crore a year.

In its 23-page judgment, the Bench comprising Chief Justice S. Ravindra Bhat and Justice Prakash Gupta declared the impugned sections arbitrary and contrary to Article 14 (right to equality) of the Constitution.

Modi to launch drive to promote artificial breeding

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch on September 11 a major six-month drive to promote artificial insemination in cattle in 600 districts which have less than 50% coverage of the technology.

Currently, the national coverage is only 30%, though some States such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu use artificial insemination rates for more than 70% of their cattle.

High costs

However, a senior Ministry official, who did not wish to be named, said that a nominal investment of ₹350 per

pregnancy would result in extremely high returns.

However, using sex-sorted semen — which increases the possibility of a female calf to about 90% — also drastically increases the cost of insemination, as the technology is still new in India.

Subsidised price

The government-subsidised price of a single semen dose is only ₹20; sex-sorted semen, on the other hand, can cost ₹500 to 600 per dose, said the senior official.

Of the 11.9 crore semen doses produced in the country every year, only 10 lakh are sex-sorted.

Chandrayaan-2 homing in on moon

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

Chandrayaan-2's mission handlers have further honed the orbit of moon lander Vikram as close as 35 km from the lunar surface, sharply priming it to its descent planned early on Saturday.

The nine-second operation took place at 3.42 a.m. on Wednesday as scheduled. An update from the Indian Space Research Organisation said both the orbiter and the lander were healthy.

Pragyaan, a small rover, sits inside the lander and is expected to roll down and begin its lunar exploration work on Saturday.

"With this manoeuvre, the required orbit for the Vikram lander to commence its descent towards the surface of moon is achieved. The lander is scheduled to [make a] powered descent between 0100 and 0200 hrs IST on September 7, which is then followed by the lander's touchdown between 0130 and 0230 hrs IST," it said.

This was the second and probably the last manoeuvre of the lander before it reaches the lunar surface.

Post-manoeuve, the lander was going around moon in its new orbit of 35 km x 101 km. (Its earlier orbit was 109 km x 120 km.

KALOJI NARAYANA RAO UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES TELANGANA STATE

NOTIFICATION FOR MQ ADMISSIONS

Application forms online are invited from NEET-UG-2019 qualified candidates for admission into BHMS Course for Management Quota in Private Homeopathy colleges in the State of Telangana under KNRUHS from 05-09-2019 to 11-09-2019.

For detailed notification refer to www.knruhs.in, www.knruhs.telangana.gov.in

Dated: 04-09-2019

REGISTRAR

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e" - PROCUREMENT NOTICE WORKS DEPARTMENT

148-B

E-mail: ceroads.bbsr@gmail.com

Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-11/2019-20

- The Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road/Bridge works as mentioned below:
- Nature of work : Road works
- No. of Work : 06 Nos.
- Tender Paper cost : Rs.10,000.00
- Class of Contractor : A/Class/Speical Class/Super Class as noted against each work
- Available of bid document in the website: From 10.00 A.M. of 13.09.2019 to 5.00 PM of 10.10.2019
- Date of Opening of Bid : Dt.11.10.2019 at 11.30 AM
- The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <https://tenderodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum/corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said websssite.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha

I&PR-34117/11/0021/1920

REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi

MHRD, Government of India, MYSURU - 570006

Ph: 0821-2514095, 2514111, Fax: 0821-2515665

Email: riemysore@rediffmail.com, website: www.riemysore.ac.in

Ref. No: 15/ACAD/PROG/19

Research Proposals from Experts in Teacher Education are invited to be sponsored and funded by IUCTE, RIEM. The areas of research, the guidelines, the eligibility criteria and other relevant details can be viewed in www.iucte.riemysore.ac.in. The last date for receiving the proposals is 30.09.2019.

Sd/- PRINCIPAL

SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY

(सर्वार वल्लभभाई पटेल राष्ट्रीय पुलिस अकादमी)

(भारत सरकार : नृ पंसावर) (Government of India : Ministry of Home Affairs)

हैदराबाद - 500 052 HYDERABAD - 500 052.

No. 15011/4/2016/Estt/A2

Dated: 30 August, 2019

Applications are invited from eligible Officers under the Central /State Government/Union Territory Administration/ Public Sector Undertakings/Recognized research institutions/Universities/Autonomous/Statutory Organisations for filling up of three posts of Assistant Director (Law) in Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad-500 052, by deputation including short term contract.

2 Pay, qualifications required, other eligibility criteria for the post and application form are available in Academy website <http://www.svpnpa.gov.in/vacancies.aspx>. Duly filled in applications, alongwith supporting documents, should reach the Assistant Director (Estt), SVP National Police Academy, Hyderabad - 500 052 through proper channel not later than two months from the date of publication of this notice in the Employment News.

Sd/- (S. Ajeetha Begum) Assistant Director (Estt)



Listen to the unspoken

The continuing communication restrictions in Kashmir have only deepened alienation

Exactly a month ago, Jammu and Kashmir lost its special constitutional status, and its status as a State, through a dubious and hurried process. Ahead of that decision that could rankle for years to come, the region, particularly the Kashmir Valley was put under a lockdown with all communication cut and movement of people severely restricted. One month on, the Valley continues to be under severe restrictions; the death of a teenage protester on Wednesday who was injured earlier may further delay the administration's plans to withdraw the clampdown. Communication networks in the Jammu region of the newly created Union Territory have been substantially restored and the Ladakh UT, carved out of the erstwhile State, has not seen disruptions. Prominent newspapers published from Srinagar, discontinued for several days, have resumed publication. Mobile phones and the Internet are not back in operation and schools, though reopened, have sparse attendance in Kashmir. It took a while before the Kashmiris learned about the lightning changes that had been imposed upon them. But a mood of triumphalism is evident across the country, which is resistant to an informed and tempered national discussion on the changed status of J&K. Reports of protests and police action from the Valley have largely been dismissed by the Centre.

The revocation of the special status of J&K has the support of the majority of the political community outside the Valley, although the decision is under judicial review. The government and other supporters of the move continue to argue that the people in Kashmir have been freed from the political families that held power at their cost, that investments will flow in, jobs will multiply, women will get equal status as men in terms of inheritance and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will benefit from nationally mandated reservation. Unfortunately, discussions on these points in the last one month have been going on with little or no representation by the people of Kashmir who are the supposed beneficiaries. That they were not taken into confidence before the decision was made was bad enough, but what is worse is the continuing restrictions on free speech. The elected Mayor of Srinagar and a doctor who spoke out about the risk to lives due to restrictions were promptly detained. The reports that emanate from the Valley in recent days, patchy as they continue to be, point towards increasing alienation among the residents. Ironically, the most disappointed are those who believed that Kashmir's future would be secure within India. The Centre needs to reassure them that the change of status is not to the detriment of the people of Kashmir.

Tending to the heart

Targeting risk factors is key to reducing deaths due to cardiovascular diseases

The reinvention of the wheel can be painful. Taking lessons from those who have already run the wheel several revolutions and tweaking those lessons for domestic conditions might not be a bad idea. For India, there is indeed valuable learning from the results of the Prospective Urban Rural Epidemiology (PURE) study published in *The Lancet* this week. Studying the situation in 21 countries across five continents, categorised by income levels, researchers showed that while cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause for death overall, there have been some transitions, particularly in the high-income countries, which have managed to reduce the number of deaths from CVD. In low-income countries, including India, however, CVD is still the top killer, with death three times more frequent than that due to cancer. What flies in the face of logic is that the risk burden of CVD-linked mortality is inversely proportional – lower risk but higher mortality in low-income countries, and higher risk but lower mortality in high-income countries. PURE's analysis concluded that the higher mortality in poorer countries was likely due to other factors, including 'lower quality and less health care'. Access to affordable, quality health care is still a dream in many pockets in India. A great amount of out-of-pocket expenditure (according to Health Ministry data for 2014-15, nearly 62.6 % of India's total health expenditure) often frustrates continuation of treatment, or adherence to drug regimens. While some States have shown limited successes with government-sponsored health insurance schemes, the Centre's Ayushman Bharat Yojana will have to take much of the burden of hospitalisation for complications of non-communicable diseases. National and State schemes running on mission mode, including the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, CVD and Stroke will have to step up efforts to target people at risk with life-saving interventions.

While most of the predominant risk factors for cardiovascular disease present no startling medical revelation, it is significant that the single largest risk factor is a low education level. It is no doubt part of the job description of the National Programme to modify this risk factor. However, governments will have to muscle up to tackle a rather startling finding – ambient air pollution and indoor air pollution have an impact on CVD and mortality. Household air pollution is the third top risk factor in low-income countries, according to the study. The need of the hour is out-of-the-box solutions combined with inspiration from models of those who seem to have belled this particular cat. Any plans that target the risk factors and prevent the onset of non-communicable diseases will clearly have to be truly game-changing, and incorporate the environmental angle as well.

Jurisprudence of the judicial rubber stamp

A close reading of UAPA Tribunal orders shows how fundamental principles of fair procedure are being given a miss



GAUTAM BHATIA

Last month, amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act ("UAPA"), India's signature anti-terrorism legislation, allowing the Central government to designate individuals as "terrorists", caused a furore. Critics warned that vesting such sweeping powers in the hands of the political executive would prove to be a recipe for abuse, and for political and social persecution. In response, it was argued that the UAPA provided for a system of checks and balances which would ensure that governmental abuse could be swiftly reviewed and rectified.

What the UAPA requires

To what extent is this argument well-founded? A look at how the UAPA functions presently suggests that the defenders of the law are too optimistic in their faith in "institutional correctives". Before the 2019 amendments, the UAPA could be used to ban associations and not individuals. To this end, the UAPA required, and still requires that the ban must clearly set out the grounds on which the government has arrived at its opinion; and it may then be contested by the banned association before a Tribunal, consisting of a sitting High Court judge. As a number of judgments have held, the task of a UAPA Tribunal is to carefully scrutinise the decision of the government, keeping in mind the fact that banning an organisation or a group infringes the crucial fundamental freedoms of speech and association.



ZORAWAR DAULET SINGH

An exchange in 1964 between U.S. diplomat Chester Bowles and Triloki Nath Kaul, India's then Ambassador to Moscow, offers a fascinating insight into contemporary geopolitics. While discussing South East Asia, Bowles said, "it would be a good thing if India could try to bring the Soviet and American points of view closer... India's friendship with both could act as a sort of bridge between them." He "hoped that it would be possible for [the] USA and USSR, with the help of India, to come to some kind of understanding about preventing Chinese expansionism and infiltration in South East Asia." Kaul replied, "India would be glad to bring the U.S. and Soviet points of view closer as far as lay within our ability. In fact this was our present policy." This response reflected India's then geostrategy to position itself as an area of agreement between the superpowers.

As Kaul's cable in September 1965 to Indira Gandhi subsequently explained: "the interests of America, USSR and India, have a common feature of being aimed at the prevention of Chinese expansion in this area. This provides an opportunity for India to reap the maximum possible advantage from both sides and strengthen herself for the future."

History, however, followed a dif-

A close reading of UAPA Tribunal orders makes it clear, however, that the requirement of judicial scrutiny is little more than a parchment barrier. In allowing the government vast amounts of leeway in proving its case, tribunals depart from some of the most fundamental principles of fair procedure, and act as little more than judicial rubber stamps. And this is made starkly evident by a recent UAPA Tribunal Order (issued on August 23, 2019) confirming the government's ban on the Jamaat-e-Islami, Jammu and Kashmir ("JeI, J&K").

Sealed covers and evidence

The government's ban on the JeI, J&K was based on its opinion that the association was "supporting extremism and militancy", "indulging in anti national and subversive activities", and activities to "disrupt the territorial integrity of the nation". In support of this opinion, the government said that there existed a large number of First Information Reports ("FIRs") against various members of the association. Among other things, the JeI, J&K responded that for almost all of the FIRs in question, the people accused had nothing to do with the association. This, it was argued, could be proven by looking at the association's membership register, which had been seized by the government.

One would think that such a case can be resolved straightforwardly: had the government managed to prove that there existed sufficient evidence of wrongdoing against members of the JeI, J&K, that would justify banning the organisation altogether. It is here, however, that things began to get murky because the government then fell back on the increasingly convenient "sealed cover jurisprudence", submitting material that it claimed was too sensitive to be dis-



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closed. Notably, the evidence was not disclosed even to the association and its lawyers, who were contesting the ban.

Now, it would appear to be a very basic principle of justice that if an association is to be banned for unlawful activities, then the material on the basis of which that ban is justified is put to the association so that it has a chance to defend itself. To take a decision on the legality of a ban by looking at secret material that is withheld even from the association itself is exactly akin to condemning a man unheard. It is kangaroo-court style justice, which has no place in a modern democracy. However, this is exactly what the Tribunal did.

Justice Chander Shekhar observed that he had "opened the sealed covers and carefully examined each and every document", and that it was convinced that these were "credible documents." To this day, neither the association nor anyone reading the Tribunal's opinion has any way of knowing what the evidence was. In essence, therefore: the fundamental freedoms of speech and association have been violated on the basis of secret evidence passed from the government to the Tribunal; an association numbering in at least the thousands has been shut down for five years, and all its members made putatively unlawful, potentially criminal without even being told why.

Steaming back into the Indo-Pacific

Russia could be imagining a greater role for itself in reshaping the region's geopolitics



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ferent course. As the 1960s unfolded, the Sino-Soviet ideological struggle culminated in an ugly spat in the Communist world. Ironically, both New Delhi and Washington perceived that trend differently and with contrasting ends in mind.

A multipolar world

For Anglo-American policymakers, a long cherished dream of isolating Russia and pulling China back into their orbit became a reality. For India, the spectre of an unfriendly China being checked through a shared understanding with Washington and Moscow fell by the way side, and New Delhi was compelled to imagine new approaches to safeguard its interests and security. By 1969, the bipolar system had cracked open into a multipolar world. The U.S. and China were on the cusp of a rapprochement while New Delhi and Moscow had established strategic understanding at the highest level to respond to this disconcerting global re-alignment. December 1971 reaffirmed the new multipolar world with the Soviet Navy entering the Indian Ocean to stymie the Anglo-American attempt to disrupt India's military operations during the liberation of Bangladesh. That seminal period laid the foundation, as External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar alluded to in Moscow last week, for a four-decade relationship that withstood further disruptions in international politics, including the end of the first Cold War in 1989 and the disappearance of the Soviet Union in 1991.

If we fast forward to recent years, historical patterns continue

to have a robust afterlife. The U.S.-Russia-China triangle still contains complex and counter-intuitive dynamics that often get obscured or distorted in India's strategic debates.

Complex dynamics

Despite the Donald Trump administration's posturing on China and its attempt to redefine the terms of that relationship, we do not yet see a credible and sustainable strategy to respond to China's rise. And growing Sino-Russian relations have not led to any fundamental reassessment in the U.S.'s thinking. In recent years, whether on the U.S.'s attempts to pressure North Korea or security in Northeast Asia or conflicts in the Middle East we have abundant evidence of Moscow and Beijing providing psychological and diplomatic support to each other. Even potentially contentious issues such as their Eurasian integration visions, that is, Russia's Eurasian Economic Union and China's Belt and Road initiative, have been projected in a spirit of co-existence and mutual respect, often disguising deeper questions of power and ambition. It is not that Moscow is oblivious to Beijing potentially squeezing Rus-

Matters, however, did not end there. The testimony of a senior and former office bearer of the JeI, J&K about the association's efforts to distance itself from "unlawful activities", "extremism", and "terrorism" went un rebutted. More importantly, as the JeI, J&K argued, a look at its membership register would make it clear that its members had nothing to do with criminal activities. The problem, however, was that its membership register had been seized by the government. Consequently, the JeI, J&K made a rather common-sense argument: let the government produce the membership register, since it was in its possession.

Lions under the throne

The government, however, refused to do so, and instead submitted even this piece of evidence in a sealed cover. And the Justice Chander Shekhar's response to this was truly Orwellian: he observed that "the respondent Association has not led any evidence to substantiate their defence that their office-bearers or members are not involved in the kind of activities alleged against them". In short, therefore, the Tribunal wanted the association to prove that their members were not committing illegal activities, while the main source of evidence that the association would rely upon to prove exactly that, was in the hands of the government – and the association was not allowed to rely on it.

If, therefore, we take a step back and look at the Tribunal's opinion, two aspects stand out starkly. First, a five-year ban upon an association – going to the very heart of the freedom of speech and association, potentially making all persons associated with it criminal – was upheld by a judicial forum on the basis of secret evidence that the association had neither the chance to see, nor to rebut. And

second, the most valuable piece of evidence that the association had to defend itself was seized from it by the very government that had banned it; and not only did the Tribunal wink at this, but then used the absence of that piece of evidence against the association that it had been seized from, and in favour of the government that had seized it.

Throughout its opinion, the Tribunal made multiple references to how the UAPA allows for departures from the "strict rules of evidence", in order to serve larger goals. And this, indeed, is the problem: these "departures" have been made boundless, and boundlessly manipulable to the extent that they have swallowed up the most basic rules of procedural justice and fairness. What we effectively have now, thanks to the interpretation of Tribunals, is this situation: on the one hand, every leeway is provided to the government, loopholes have been created where none existed, and every procedural and evidentiary standard diluted, while on the other, associations (comprising Indian citizens) are held to impossible standards in order to disprove the case against them.

This is not a jurisprudence that respects constitutional democracy or fundamental freedoms such as speech and association. Rather, it is a jurisprudence of the judicial rubber stamp: courts acting to legitimise and enable governmental overreach, rather than protecting citizens and the rights of citizens against the government. It is a situation where in the words of a famous English judge the judiciary has gone from "lions under the throne" to "mice squeaking under a chair in the Home Office" – with "consequences that the nation will one day bitterly regret".

Gautam Bhatia is a Delhi-based lawyer

sian influence from parts of Eurasia but that Moscow's calculus is also shaped by the strategic necessity of a mutually beneficial partnership with Beijing in order to counter-balance a rigid and unfriendly West.

The Russia-China relationship is presently guided by, as Dmitri Trenin suggests, the principle of "never being against each other, but not necessarily always with each other". This formula "puts a premium on a solid partnership between Moscow and Beijing where their interests meet, eschews conflicts where they don't, and allows a lot of flexibility where interests overlap only partially". For instance, we saw this nimbleness at the UN Security Council when Russia and China were on opposite sides in reacting to India's new Kashmir policy.

The Asia pivot

When mainstream American policymakers look at the big power triangle of the U.S.-China-Russia, their unconcealed prejudice and geostrategic preferences are apparent to all. The door is still very much open to China whom the West would like to wean away from Russia to arrest America's deteriorating global position. New Delhi, of course, like in the 1960s, would prefer the opposite outcome: to wean Russia away from China or more realistically provide Russia with more options in its Asia pivot. Mr. Jaishankar's remarks at the prestigious Valdai Club in Moscow made such a case for the next chapter in India-Russia ties. In essence, he asserted that Asia's multipolar age has arrived; that the Indo-Pacific is not

restricted to one conception: he distinguished India's independent approach that includes stable ties with Beijing from the U.S. concept that some interpret as "Chinese containment on the cheap"; and most importantly, Russia being a Pacific power with interests in the Indian Ocean should join the debate.

In substance and without ruffling Beijing's feathers, Russia is already shaping the geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific. It has managed the rare feat of deep cooperation with rival parties in the South China Sea disputes. As Alexander Korablev, a scholar at the University of New South Wales, notes, the "Russia-Vietnam partnership should not be underestimated, because it has been growing despite and independently of Russia-China relations". Indeed, once Russia's advanced military and naval modernisation assistance towards Indo-Pacific states such as India, Vietnam and Indonesia, along with Russia's own underrated Pacific Fleet whose area of responsibility extends to the Persian Gulf is accounted for, Moscow is already a player in Eurasia's Rimland areas.

Having been reassured that India is not bandwagoning with the U.S. and genuinely believes in open and inclusive security and order building ideas, Russia could now begin the process of imagining a role in the Indo-Pacific that brings its vast diplomatic experience and strategic heft into the open.

Zorawar Daulet Singh is a fellow at the Centre for Policy Research and author of 'Power and Diplomacy: India's Foreign Policies During the Cold War'

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Emeritus professors

The administration in Jawaharlal Nehru University has shown great disrespect to its emeritus professors by asking for their curriculum vitae for evaluation. The move seems to have its roots in vendetta politics in order to target critics of the government. Nowhere has the government dared to ask such a thing from politicians. It is ludicrous that a renowned institution has stooped so low when the professors have given it their all to build the institution academically. The committee that thought of this outrageous

ordinance should understand that a distinguished academic position comes with hard work and dedication unlike what happens in the murky world of politics. The university should draft a letter of apology.

JANGA BAHADUR SUNWAR, Bagrakote, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal

■ The demand for CVs is shocking; the distinguished teaching fraternity should not be subject to this. It is an attempt to harass and humiliate them. Their prolonged and selfless service is sufficient proof of their worthiness. Dissenting voices have to be heard in a

pluralistic society to cherish the legacy of democracy.

CHANCHAL NANDY, Durgapur, West Bardhaman, West Bengal

Kashmir policy

The Central government appears keen on adopting a carrot and stick approach in Jammu and Kashmir, if the pronouncements of the Home Minister are an indication (Page 1, "Amit Shah seeks to reassure Kashmiris", September 4). Beefing up the presence of security forces and the Indian Army in the Valley, diluting Article 370, converting a State into a Union Territory, placing local leaders under house arrest,

and snapping communication links for days on end were measures that indicated the government's inclination to use the big stick. Now that the objectives have been "achieved", the application of a "salve" could be an indication that the government is keen to win back confidence. But how far this will succeed remains to be seen.

C.V. ARAVIND, Bengaluru

Rerailing the economy

The economy is sluggish and unless corrective actions are taken, there could be recession. Falling private

consumption has drastically reduced demand in all major sectors. The deliberate attempt by the government to push through radical reforms in taxation and regulation has had a debilitating affect on the economy. Scant job prospects in government and

public sector units are also a factor. Government job creation has a multiplier effect on the economy. Major employment sectors need focus and assistance.

GAGAN PRATAP SINGH, Noida, Uttar Pradesh

MORE LETTERS ONLINE: www.hindu.com/opinion/letters/

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

A front-page report headlined "IAF inducts 8 Apache attack helicopters" (Sept. 4, 2019) erroneously said in the photo caption and text that the Apaches would be part of the 125 Helicopter Unit at Pathankot. It should have been 125 (H) Squadron, AF.

In a Business page story headlined "Mondelez to strengthen presence with Oreo" (Sept. 1, 2019), the name of the company should be corrected to read Mondelez India Foods Pvt. Ltd. Mr. Sudhanshu Nagpal's designation should have been Associate Director - Marketing (Biscuits).

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It is important to contextualise the NRC

Errors aside, the process was rigorous, methodical and did not target any particular community



HIREN GOHAIN

The National Register of Citizens (NRC), which was expected to land with a bang in Assam, seems to some as having landed with a mere whoosh. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders are particularly upset as it has belied their hopes of netting a huge number of immigrant Muslims in a dragnet – reportedly, a majority of those left out are Hindus. The All Assam Students Union (AASU) has expressed disappointment, arguing that the numbers did not tally with earlier figures mentioned by the government. Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has even given dark hints of ‘other measures’ in store to offset the ‘errors’ in the NRC.

On the other hand, former Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mahanta has welcomed it as satisfactory. Pradip Bhuyan, whose PIL galvanised the process of preparing the NRC; The Forum Against Amendment of the Citizenship Bill, which I chaired; and organisations representing immigrant Muslims have also welcomed it, while pointing out that such a massive and complex exercise in a country where official documentation is still at a rudimentary stage is not likely to be foolproof.

Those expressing their disappointment ignore that the rigorous procedures and methodical cross-verifications were not put in place to fulfil some people’s fantasies. The previous figures cited by the government in earlier times were not based on any systematic procedure.

Rhetoric and reality

The concerns over the migration of Muslims also mask a social phenomenon. As Dr. Ilias Ali, a surgeon and crusader for family planning, and Abdul Mannan, a retired professor of statistics, have shown, the Muslims’ swelling numbers are the result of widespread poverty, illiteracy, early marriage and lack of birth-control measures rather than migration. However, this is not to deny that some migration did take place.

The results should also set at rest



People in Guwahati, Assam, checking their names on the final list of the National Register of Citizens. • GETTY IMAGES

the tireless campaign by certain well-meaning but ill-informed people in the academic and media circles to paint the NRC as a vicious plot by some ‘xenophobic Assamese’ to oppress and torture Muslims. The process was impersonal and its strict machine-like operation pre-empted the targeting of any particular community. While there may have been errors and lapses, there is no truth to the allegation of bias.

People outside Assam have very little idea of the terrible times Assam lived through from the 1980s to the late 1990s. Social unrest, ethnic conflict, militancy and insurgency under different flags created a monstrous and stifling atmosphere. There was a complete lack of security, loss of trust between different communities and uncontrolled violence. The government’s attempt to quell these with the Army and the police made matters worse.

On the other hand, there was also an attempt by a group of civil society activists and saner political elements to mobilise support for peace. At that juncture in the late 1990s, popular Muslim clerical leaders came aboard and publicly declared their support for the Assam Accord, which they had opposed tooth and nail for a decade after 1985. This was a watershed moment, when the demand for an NRC gained greater traction.

Earlier, since 1979, a turbulent stir

in the State against a perceived threat to native identities had practically held the government to ransom, disrupted businesses and put a stop to education. The curtains were drawn on these scenes in 1985 after the signing of the Assam Accord, which set 1971 as the cut-off year for determining citizenship. Immigrant Muslims initially considered it a betrayal and even formed their own political party but, as mentioned above, they began expressing support for the pact in the late 1990s.

The colonial roots

‘But why is there so much hue and cry about migration, which is a natural human phenomenon?’ wonder many outsiders who do not know the history of Assam. Such an attempt to naturalise sociopolitical events is an intellectual folly. The roots of the State’s discontent can be traced to the early decades of the 20th century. The British colonial rulers, after fleeing poor East Bengal peasants for more than a century, apprehended a massive peasant revolt and promoted the latter’s migration to Assam. The relocation, which began as a trickle in the early decades of the 20th century, turned into a deluge in the 1930s and ‘40s.

Running with the hare and hunting with the hounds, the British also set off an alarm among native Assamese people about their lands being

‘seized’ and their culture ‘being’ buried. Provocative remarks like those by Census superintendent C.S. Mullan in 1931 made the situation worse, turning anxiety into panic. Muslim leaders like Maulana Bhasani breathed fire into this by demanding both land for new immigrants and inclusion of Assam in Pakistan. However, following Independence, it was a grim acceptance by the immigrant Muslims of their fate, patient negotiations with Congress leaders and sheer grit that saw them through.

Fortunately, there was also a strand of Assamese national culture that tolerated diversity of faith and promoted peaceful coexistence and fraternal relations. Cultural icons like writers Jyoti Prasad Agarwala, Bishnu Prasad Rabha and singer-musician Bhupen Hazarika upheld that tradition and until the Assam Movement, which began in 1979, the relations remained cordial.

The fate of the excluded

Now that the NRC has ended, what are we to do with the 19 lakh people left out? The problem is that their fate will be decided by Foreigners’ Tribunals which are short of mature and judicially trained members and which have so far leaned on reports of the Border Police. An option of appeal to the higher echelons of the judiciary does exist for those excluded but that is likely to be expensive and sometimes unaffordable. The government has promised legal aid but we have to wait and watch if it is dispensed impartially.

And what will be the fate of those left out, most of them poor and hapless, after these appeals are exhausted? Deporting them is not an option. However, many of the Assamese people, living in a State that is still underdeveloped, are not willing to bear their burden at a time when their own lot is facing difficult times due to the annual floods, a drying up of natural resources and the cut-throat competition. They are scared of losing whatever political power they have enjoyed. It is the Centre’s responsibility to rehabilitate and look after those who are left out after the exercise. In the meantime, patience and a refusal to take the bait of rumours and inflammatory rhetoric may see the Assamese through.

Hiren Gohain is a scholar and literary critic

Putting accident victims at the centre of vehicles law

The new Act focusses more on penalties than compensation



G. S. BAJPAI & ANKIT KAUSHIK

It is well known that India is one of the most accident-prone countries in the world, accounting for nearly 1,50,000 deaths – 10% of all motor vehicles-related fatalities worldwide. However, the debate often revolves around how to minimise road accidents by incorporating deterrents into laws and ignores the interests of the victims. The discourse concerning the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act 2019 has only followed this trend, as is evidenced by the disproportionate press coverage given to the enhanced penalties to be levied on offenders.

This lack of victim-centricity in the discourse, though deplorable, is unsurprising. The fact that the National Crime Records Bureau does not collate data pertaining to the socio-economic and demographic profile of victims of traffic accidents is a testament to the relative apathy shown by the state machinery.

The amended Act gives the victims some respite as it provides for an enhanced insurance compensation of ₹5 lakh in case of death of a person in a traffic accident and ₹2.5 lakh where there is “grievous hurt”. The compensation to be awarded following hit-and-run accidents has also been raised to ₹2 lakh when a victim dies and ₹50,000 when he/she suffers a grievous injury.

Cashless treatment

Additionally, the Act now requires insurance companies and the government to notify schemes relating to cashless treatment during the ‘Golden Hour’ – the period of first 60 minutes from the occurrence of an accident when the risk of fatality can be minimised to the greatest extent. Further, it mandates compulsory insurance of all road users, including pedestrians, who will be covered through a ‘Motor Vehicle Accident Fund’. Lastly, it also provides for interim relief to be provided to the claimants.

These provisions, well-intentioned, are no doubt steps in the right direction. However, much more needs to be done if the accident victims are to be provided complete justice.

First, closer attention needs to be paid to the formula used to calculate the quantum of compensation. In the case of *Arun Kumar Agarwal & Anr v. National Insurance Co. Ltd*

& Ors (2010), the deceased was a homemaker. The Accident Claim Tribunal reduced the amount of compensation from the calculated sum of ₹6 lakh to a sum of ₹2,60,000, stating that she was unemployed. In light of the same, on appeal, the Supreme Court commented that: “The time has come for the Parliament to have a rethink on properly assessing homemakers’ and householders’ work and suitably amending he provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act... for giving compensation when the victims are women and homemakers.” The amended Act, however, does not account for such nuances.

Second, many of the problems with the Motor Vehicles Act highlighted by the apex court in the case of *Jai Prakash v. M/S. National Insurance Co. & Ors* (2009) either remain unaddressed or are inadequately addressed by the amended version. For instance, though vehicle users who don’t give passage to emergency ambulance vehicle are liable to be punished with fines, such punitive measures are likely to remain ineffective in the absence of an effective implementation mechanism. Further, other factors that lead to a poor response time, including lack of road infrastructure, also need to be taken into account.

Delays in settlement

Another problem highlighted by the apex court for which the new Act does not provide any remedy is that of procedural delays on the part of tribunals in claims settlement. The provision for interim compensation is bound to bring some respite to the victims but another unaddressed concern makes this stipulation susceptible to criticism.

An absence of in-built safeguards in the compensation mechanism allows for the money to be frittered away by unscrupulous relatives, touts and agents, especially in cases where the victim or his nearest kin are poor and illiterate. It is to address this concern that the Supreme Court in *Jai Prakash* suggested payment in the form of monthly disbursements of smaller amounts over a longer period of time to victims or their kin, as against a lump-sum award. This has been overlooked by the new Act.

Understandably, many of the points raised above cannot be specified statutorily. Hence, the government needs to notify an institutional framework which encourages advocacy for victims and facilitates access to the various services.

G. S. Bajpai is chairperson, Centre for Criminology and Victimology at National Law University, Delhi, where Ankit Kaushik is a research associate

India’s climate score: high on vulnerability, low on resilience

Disaster management plans must be prioritised

VINOD THOMAS

HSBC’s 2018 assessment of India being the country the most vulnerable to climate change is of great significance. However, against scientific warnings, carbon emissions continue to rise in China, the U.S. and India, three of the biggest emitters.

Brazil, under its President Jair Bolsonaro, is encouraging – under the false pretext of promoting economic growth – unprecedented deforestation of the Amazon rainforest. As forest fires worsen global warming, the hardest hit by the resulting floods, storms, heatwaves and droughts will be in India.

Amidst this dangerous setting, global leadership must act with far greater urgency, and countries, including India, ought to switch rapidly from polluting fossil fuels to cleaner renewable energy, while building much stronger coastal and inland defences against climatic damage. Brazil must reverse course on the mindless destruction of the Amazon rainforest.

A self-defeating tactic

Brazil is not alone in mistakenly thinking that slashing environmental regulations would raise economic growth. The U.S., India and others are following this prescription to varying degrees. To be sure, cutting hurdles to investment can boost short-term growth and benefit interest groups. But damaging the environment in this way would be self-defeating in today’s fragile ecology, as it would impact long-term growth and well-being.

HSBC’s index and other such measures relating to the climate risk consider the exposure or sensitivity of countries to climate impacts on the one side, and their ability to cope on the other. Add to these two factors the intensity of the climate hazard itself and we can see how India’s ranking on the index is, in all likelihood, worsening each year.

A number of Indian States have experienced extreme heatwaves in the past three years, and the nation’s capital recently recorded a tempera-

ture of 48°C, its hottest day in 21 years. India’s exposure to climate hazards is heightened by the location of its vast coastline in the eye of the storm, across the Indian Ocean, Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. It also has a high population density located in harm’s way. For instance, Kerala, which experienced intense floods and landslides in 2018 and 2019, is among the States with the highest density.

How badly this exposure will affect lives and livelihoods depends both on the degrees of vulnerability and resilience to climate impacts. Increasing temperatures and changing seasonal rainfall patterns are aggravating droughts and hurting agriculture across the country. Extreme storms like the one that hit Odisha this year and the floods that swept Chennai in 2015 are the new normal. These events become more damaging when infrastructure is not resilient.

Building resilience

In the face of such danger, India is not doing enough to boost its coastal and inland defences. It also needs to do more to build resilience in the sectors of agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing, energy, transport, health, and education. The priority for spending at the national and State levels for disaster management needs to rise. Adequate resources must also be allocated for implementing climate action plans that most States have now prepared.

Indeed, India should be alarmed at ecological destruction even in faraway places like Amazon. As the country that is most at risk for climate damage, it should lead in pressing the global community to take sweeping climate action. Meanwhile, the nation must reinforce its infrastructure and adapt its agriculture and industry. Equally, it also needs to replace urgently its fossil fuels with renewable energy.

The writer is a visiting professor at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore



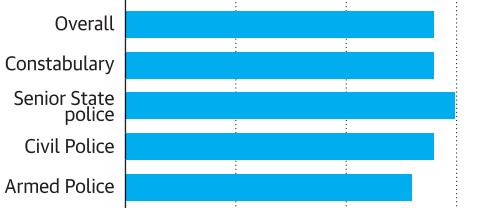
DATA POINT

The police story

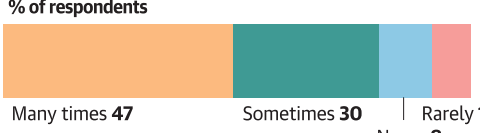
An overwhelming majority of police personnel in India, across gender, rank and contingent, work more than 14 hours a day, but don’t get paid extra, a survey* has concluded. But, this over-work has not had much of an impact on their morale, with 50% considering their pay to be on par with their work and more than 75% saying that they are evaluated in a neutral way. By **The Hindu Data Team**

‘Mean’ hours | Average number of hours worked by police personnel in a day was 14, the survey reported

- Only 13% personnel reported average working hours as eight. 24% of them work more than 16 hours a day
- Odisha police work 18 hours a day on an average, the highest among States. M.P. and Jharkhand personnel clocked 11 hours, the least among big States

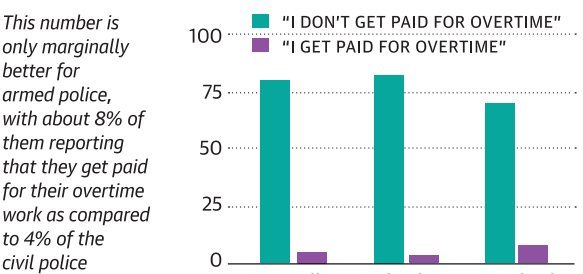


Odd hours | Nearly one in two police personnel stay back many times after duty hours in a week. Only 8% said they never stay back



*“Status of Policing in India Report 2019” is based on a sample survey of 11,834 police personnel across 105 locations in 21 States. The survey was conducted by Centre for the Study of Developing Societies between February and April 2019

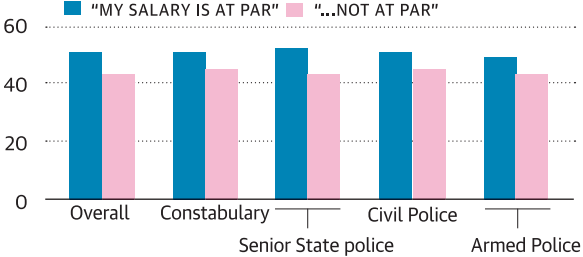
More hours, same pay | Four of every five police personnel reported that they do not get paid for the overtime work



... still mostly satisfied

A little more than half of police personnel reported that their salary is at par with the kind of work they do

- 3/4th of the personnel in Haryana agreed that their work is evaluated in a neutral way
- 70% police personnel in Haryana agreed that their pay is on par - the highest among States
- 25% in Chhattisgarh said the same - the least among States



The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 5, 1969

Ho Chi Minh dead

President Ho Chi Minh, the father of Viet Namese Communism, died in Hanoi of a heart attack yesterday [September 3]. The official Hanoi Radio announced in a broadcast today [September 4] that the 79-year-old leader died at 9-47 yesterday morning [September 3] Hanoi time (7-17 I.S.T.). A communique issued in the name of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers (Communist) Party, the Standing Committee of the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers said: “We feel boundless grief in informing the entire party and the entire Viet Nameese people that Comrade Ho Chi Minh, President of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers’ Party and President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, passed away at 9-47, September 3, 1969, after a very sudden serious heart attack at the age of 79.” Death came to the frail, wispy bearded Communist leader, a legend in his own life-time, just one day after the 24th anniversary of his country’s independence from France. North Viet Nam immediately went into seven days of official mourning. The body lay in state in Hanoi, and the funeral will take place next Wednesday (September 10). The date was announced in Paris by Mr. Xuan Thuy, head of the North Viet Nameese peace talks delegation.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPT. 5, 1919

Caste Spirit: a lecture.

Mr. K.V. Sessa Aiyangar M.A., B.L., delivered a lecture last evening in the Kellett Hall, Triplicane, on the “Caste Spirit” before a large audience when Sir P.S. Sivaswamy Aiyar presided.

The Forum Against Amendment of the Citizenship Bill, which I chaired;The lecturer first distinguished between the caste system as prevailing among the Hindus and the caste spirit found in all countries in diverse forms and observed that the caste spirit might linger longer than the caste system. The root cause of caste spirit was selfishness and vanity of human nature and oftentimes it showed itself in contempt for others. That spirit was declining and bound to decline. The decline of the caste spirit was evident from the evidence of Indian representatives before the joint committee of the House of Commons. The foremost cause of the decline of the caste spirit was education which brought about the understanding of nations. With the spread of culture which gave rise to self-restraint, tolerance, respect for the feelings and right of others, the caste spirit must decline.

FROM PAGE ONE

Azhar, Hafiz & Dawood designated as terrorists

Hafiz Saeed has been designated as a terrorist for his involvement in the Red Fort attack (2000), the Rampur attack (2008), the 26/11 Mumbai attack (2008) and the attack on a BSF convoy at Udhampur in J&K (2015).
“Hafiz Saeed is accused in various cases registered and being investigated by the NIA which include Jammu and Kashmir terror conspiracy and terror funding case and Duktaran-E-Millat case and chargesheet had been filed against him in Headley case (26/11 attack),” the notification said.

The government had said the first persons to be designated on a priority basis would be Pakistan-based terrorists. The designations were in alignment with laws in the European Union countries, the U.S., China and Israel and even in Pakistan and Sri Lanka, an official said.
Opposition parties have raised concern over the law, saying it could also be used against political opponents and civil society activists who spoke against the government who may then be branded as “terrorists.”

Kartarpur agreement stuck over fees

Sources declared that an understanding was reached on the visa-free travel of Indian pilgrims without any restrictions.
The pilgrimage will also be available to the holders of OCI cards.
According to the bilateral understanding, 5,000 pilgrims can visit the gurdwara daily and the corridor will also be able to accommodate an additional 5,000 pilgrims on special days like Vaisakhi and the birth anniversary of the founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanak.

of Guru Nanak, who spent many years of his life at this sacred location.
Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, however, stated that a “nominal amount” was to be charged from pilgrims for the maintenance of the holy shrine.
The inability to sign the agreement now has left both sides with a narrow timeline as the festivities for the birth anniversary are to intensify by the last week of October.
The Pakistani side has insisted that in view of the approaching events, the next round of talks be held as early as next week.
Once operational, the Kartarpur Corridor project will be the first of its kind since the Partition of 1947, which left the Sikh shrine across the border in Pakistani territory.

India and Russia against ‘outside influence’

Briefing the media later, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said Prime Minister Modi explained to President Putin the rationale behind the decision and Russia stands firmly behind India on the issue.
A joint statement issued later said the two sides “underlined the primacy of international law and emphasised their commitment to the purposes and the principles stated in the UN Charter including the inadmissibility of interference in the internal affairs of member states.”
The two sides “prioritise strong, multifaceted trade

and economic cooperation as the foundation for further expanding the range of India-Russia relations,” it added. The two leaders decided to take the bilateral trade from the current \$11 billion to \$30 billion by 2025.
They strongly condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and called on the international community to set up a united front to fight against this evil. “They insisted on the inadmissibility of double standards in countering terrorism and extremism, as well as of the use of terrorist groups for political ends,” the statement said.

Collegium rejects Justice Tahiramani's request

The judge was asked to respond in accordance with the terms of the Memorandum of Procedure. Justice Tahiramani had sent a representation to the Collegium on September 2, requesting a reconsideration.
“The Collegium has carefully gone through the representation and taken into consideration all relevant factors. On reconsideration, the Collegium is of the considered view that it is not possible to accede to her request. The Collegium, accordingly, reiterates its recommendation dated 28th August, 2019 for transfer of Mrs. Justice V.K. Tahiramani to Meghalaya High Court,” the resolution of September 3 said.
In May 2017, while in Bombay High Court, Justice Tahiramani had upheld the convictions in the Bhikis Bano gang-rape case.

established on the basis of letters patent issued by the Queen of England as per the Indian High Court Act of 1861.
The Collegium has recommended that Justice A.K. Mittal, who is currently the Meghalaya Chief Justice, take over from Justice Tahiramani at the Madras High Court.
Similarly, Justice Agarwal, an incumbent in the Madhya Pradesh High Court, had wanted to stay back in the State.
The Collegium had recommended his transfer to the Allahabad High Court on August 28. A request made by Justice Rawal, a judge with the Punjab and Haryana High Court, to the Collegium to rethink its recommendation to transfer him to Kerala High Court also did not find favour.
Questions have been raised about the recent Collegium recommendation to transfer Justice P.V. Sanjay Kumar, the senior most puisne judge of the Telangana High Court, as a judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court. The Collegium proposal was objected to by the Telangana Bar, which has resolved to protest the move.

Relatively new HC
If the government accepts the recommendation, Justice Tahiramani is moving from being the Chief Justice of one of the three Chartered High Courts (Calcutta and Bombay being the other two) to a relatively new one. The Calcutta, Bombay and Madras High Courts were es-

Clock ticks for NRC-excluded

Voluntary organisations and lawyers counsel residents on the options ahead

RAHUL KARMAKAR
BHALUKABARI

Since the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) containing the names of 3.11 crore people was released on August 31, farmer Atowar Rahman has been attending meetings by voluntary organisations and lawyers on how to go about challenging the question mark on his citizenship. One of the meetings was at Bhalukabari, about 75 km west of Guwahati.
Mr. Rahman and 11 others of his 14-member family are among the 19.07 lakh people excluded from the final NRC.
“We have been told we have 120 days to file an appeal at the Foreigners’ Tribunal, which will take another 180 days to decide whether we are Indians or foreigners. Does that mean we have freedom for 296 days with four days already gone?” Mr. Rahman, 36, told *The Hindu* on Wednesday.

Lawyer’s caution
“Get certified copies of voters’ list from the magistrate’s office, get good lawyers, discuss with some educated people willing to help, and most important, don’t rush it just because a sword is hanging on your head,” Jahir Abbas, a Guwahati-based lawyer offering help, said in one of the meetings. “This situation is deadlier than death. So you have to be very careful with your documents and with every step you take,” he added.
At Goroimari village nearby, 52-year-old garment trader Jamaluddin fathomed the importance of not rushing it.



Seeking guidance: Garment trader Jamaluddin, who has been left out of the NRC, at an awareness meeting organised near Guwahati. ■ RAHUL KARMAKAR

All 26 members of his family were excluded because his father’s name appeared as Golamuddin and Gopaluddin in different documents that were considered admissible. “Filing an appeal now would rob me of more than three months of relative freedom. I think it is better to appeal towards the end of the 120 days,” Mr. Jamaluddin said.
Officials in Assam feel if a majority of the 19.07 lakh people file appeals simultaneously towards the end of the 120-day period, the Foreigners’ Tribunals could be under tremendous pressure to deliver judgment within the stipulated six months.
Depending on the verdict of the Foreigners’ Tribunal, an NRC-excluded person has the option of approaching the Gauhati High Court and then the Supreme Court.

CPI(M) seeks photo ID cards for ‘NRC-included’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) has asked the government to issue photo identity cards to the 3.11 crore people who have been included in Assam’s updated National Register of Citizens (NRC) that was released on August 31.
The party cited the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003, to raise this demand.
Some NGOs and political leaders in the State have felt the need for some kind of ‘NRC-included’ proof, especially for daily-wagers who move to other States for

work. One of the reasons is a drive against “foreigners” in the States adjoining Assam after the release of the NRC.
In Meghalaya, for instance, some students and tribal organisations have been raiding factories in a bid to drive out those without proper citizenship credentials. At least 30 labourers from Assam were asked to leave an industrial estate in Meghalaya’s West Khasi Hills district.
“An identity card has become essential for people included in the NRC, particularly in a communally-charged atmosphere,” CPI (M) State secretary Deben Bhattacharyya said.

‘Hindus, Muslims prayed at disputed site’

Supreme Court Bench asks if common worship indicates that the ‘mosque’ was in part a ‘temple’

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Constitution Bench hearing the Ayodhya appeals on Wednesday questioned the Muslim parties on whether allowing Hindus to worship in the outer courtyard of the disputed structure was an indication that the ‘mosque’ was in part a ‘temple’.
The Bench, led by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, made the queries even as senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan, for Sunni Waqf Board, argued that an idol of Lord Ram was surreptitiously moved inside the Babri Masjid in the intervening night of December 22-23 of 1949.
British records
Parrying the question from the Bench about the true na-

ture of the disputed structure, Mr. Dhavan resorted to historical sketches on Faizabad by British officials like P. Carnegie and H.R. Nevill, both of whom had recorded that Babur built a mosque at the Janamsthan and that the mosque bore the name of Babur along with the two inscriptions.
Mr. Dhavan said Hindus and Muslims “alike used to worship in the mosque-temple”. The British built a railing to prevent disputes between the two communities.
“It is within this railing that the mosque exists and that is where Muslims pray. Whereas Hindus pray outside the fence where they have raised a platform,” Mr. Dhavan submitted. He said the Muslims were in possession of the ‘mosque’ both be-



Though a composite site of worship, the title was with the Muslims, the Sunni Waqf Board counsel told the SC.

Litigant alleges attack

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed to look into a complaint made by Iqbal Ansari, a litigant in the Ayodhya appeals, about an alleged instance of intimidation and attack on him.
Senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan informed the Constitution Bench led by CJI

fore and after the 1855 riots. He said both religions has coexisted in that space, but the title was with the Muslims.
The Hindu parties have argued in the court that the disputed land itself is a juristic person. “Whether they

(Hindus) prayed in the inner or outer courtyard is not relevant. We say that whole area is Janambhoomi,” senior advocate K. Parasaran, for the Ayodhya deity, had earlier submitted.
In his submissions on Tuesday, Mr. Dhavan re-

FIRs filed against NRC Coordinator

‘Genuine Indians excluded from list’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

FIRs have been lodged in Guwahati and Dibrugarh against Prateek Hajela, the Coordinator for Assam’s National Register of Citizens (NRC), for “deliberately excluding genuine Indian” citizens from the updated citizens’ list.
The first complaint was filed on September 3 by the Asom Garia-Maria Yuba Chhatra Parishad at Guwahati’s Latasil police station, for producing an expensive “farical” document that left out many indigenous people. The organisation represents Garia and Maria, two categories of indigenous Assamese Muslims.
“The final NRC is a *bhe-kubhaona* (farce) and a waste of time and resources. It is full of anomalies with three members of a family in and two members out, armed forces personnel excluded, one son in and another out despite using the same legacy data. This shouldn’t have happened at least to the original inhabitants of the State,” a spokesperson of the organisation said on Wednesday.
The complaint had been filed so that the government probed the entire NRC exercise, the spokesperson said.
On September 4, Chandar Mazumdar, a member of the All India Legal Aid Forum, filed a complaint against Mr. Hajela at a police station in Dibrugarh town.
He alleged the NRC Coordinator had his family delib-



Prateek Hajela

erately excluded from the NRC. “I am a bona fide citizen and my parents settled in Dibrugarh in 1947,” Mr. Mazumdar said, enclosing his family’s 1951 NRC with the FIR.
‘Faulty document’
Other organisations too have upped the ante against Mr. Hajela. The All Assam Bengali Yuba-Chhatra Parishad has demanded his arrest and removal for producing a “faulty” document that omits many “genuine Indians” and includes “foreigners”.
“More than 90% people excluded from the NRC are Hindus, and for this the State Coordinator is solely responsible,” the association’s president, Swapan Kumar Mandal, said.
After the Bharatiya Janata Party, the ruling regional ally Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) has asked the Supreme Court to let the documents of the people included in the NRC be reverified.
The Muslim Kalyan Parishad too has demanded a reverification.

No Chinese incursion, says Army

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Army on Wednesday denied any Chinese incursion in Arunachal Pradesh, rejecting claims made by local MP and State BJP president Tapir Gao that Chinese troops had constructed a temporary wooden bridge over a stream in Anjaw district last month.
Army spokesperson Col. Aman Anand said the area being referred to is the area of Fish Tail where there are “differing perceptions” on the alignment of the Line of Actual Control. “Being an area of differing claims, troops routinely from either side patrol the area... There is no permanent presence of either Chinese soldiers or civilians in the area,” Col. Anand said.

It’s just vendetta politics: Rahul

Cong. says it won’t be intimidated by ‘persecution’ and will pose ‘hard questions’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday described the arrest of Karnataka Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) as another example of “vendetta politics”, and alleged that the Union government was using investigation agencies and a “pliant” media to target people selectively.
“The arrest of D.K. Shivakumar is another example of the vendetta politics unleashed by the government, using agencies like the ED/CBI and a pliant media to selectively target individuals,” Mr. Gandhi tweeted.
At a press conference earlier, former Union Minister Manish Tewari said the Congress would not be intimidated by the “politics of persecution” and the party would continue to pose “hard questions” to the government on the policy front.
‘Tyranny, chaos’
Mr. Tewari said the 96 days of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government’s second term had been marked by “tyranny, chaos

Shivakumar remanded in ED custody till Sept. 13

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Wednesday remanded former Karnataka Minister D.K. Shivakumar to Enforcement Directorate custody till September 13 in a money laundering case.
It will take up his bail application on September 13 when he will be produced in the court.
Sending the accused to ED’s custody, Special Judge A.K. Kuhar said: “The allegations against the accused are serious in nature. The investigation in my considered view would justify the custodial interrogation of the accused keeping in view the nature of the offence. He has to be confronted with volumi-



D.K. Shivakumar leaving the Rouse Avenue Court in New Delhi on Wednesday. ■ PTI

nous incriminating material and other crucial aspects of the case...”
Earlier last month, Mr. Kuhar had remanded former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram to CBI custody in the INX media case.
(NRC) as proof.
“Mr. Shivakumar’s only crime was that he provided protection to those Congress MLAs of Gujarat who were being poached by the NDA-BJP during the Rajya Sabha

Kumari Selja appointed Haryana Congress chief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday appointed Kumari Selja president of the Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee and named former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda as leader of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) and chairman of the election management committee ahead of the Assembly polls later this year.
The appointments not only seek to put an end to the bitter factionalism that the State had witnessed in the past few months but were also an attempt to project a united face of the party. A former Union Minister



Kumari Selja

and known to be close to party president Sonia Gandhi, Kumari Selja, 56, replaced Ashok Tanwar while Mr. Hooda replaced Ms. Kiran Choudhary as CLP leader.



APPEAL
1 year old **Vishnu** needs your support in bringing a lasting change and a new life. He suffers from Relapsed B Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and requires **Rs. 6,00,000/-** towards Chemotherapy at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. Donations sent by Ch / D.D. favouring Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged. The donations sent through Ch / D.D. NEFT Transfer (Syndicate Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/CNo: 60182010063310, IFSC No: SYNB0006018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT. Please give us your E-mail ID.

All Correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. GF 4 Cordell Apartments, C.No. 13, No.No. 29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401 / 28235324. E-mail ID: womenswelfareindicate@gmail.com Website: www.womenswelfareindicate.org

WWS

ELSEWHERE



'UN rights chief meddling in Brazil's internal affairs'

BRASÍLIA

Brazil President Jair Bolsonaro on Wednesday accused United Nations human rights chief Michelle Bachelet of meddling in his country's affairs after she criticised a rise in police violence in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo states and "a shrinking civic and democratic space". REUTERS

Nepal media Bills erode freedom of speech: HRW

KATHMANDU

Nepal's proposed media and communication laws will have a "chilling effect" on its citizens' right to free speech, Human Rights Watch warned on Wednesday. The government has said the laws improve reporting and discourage disinformation. But right activists say they could be used to suppress freedom of expression. AFP

Elizabeth Warren unveils \$3 trillion climate plan

WASHINGTON

Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts has released an ambitious climate change plan, embracing goals laid out by former presidential rival Jay Inslee and calling for \$3 trillion in spending over a decade to combat global warming. Senator Kamala Harris of California is also expected to put forth a climate change plan. NYT

Iran to free 7 Indian crew members of seized vessel

STOCKHOLM

The owner of the British-flagged Stena Impero tanker held in the Persian Gulf by Iran said he was told by the Iranian authorities that seven Indians, out of the 23-member crew, will be released. Erik Hanell, CEO of the shipping group, said it wasn't immediately clear when they would be freed. PTI

Hong Kong leader seeks an end to violence, promises dialogue

Govt. is withdrawing extradition Bill to fully allay public concerns, says Carrie Lam

REUTERS
HONG KONG

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam, who on Wednesday withdrew the controversial extradition Bill, expressed hope that the city will move forward from a "highly vulnerable and dangerous" place and find solutions.

"Lingering violence is damaging the very foundations of our society, especially the rule of law," a sombre Ms. Lam said as she sat wearing a navy blue jacket and pink shirt with her hands folded on a desk in front of her.

The withdrawal, a key demand of protesters but just one of five, came after unrest that drove the former British colony to the edge of anarchy as the government repeatedly refused to back down – igniting pitched battles across the city of seven million, the arrests of more than 1,000 protesters, and leaving a society deeply divided.

Many are furious about perceived police brutality and the number of arrests – 1,183 at the latest count – and want an independent inquiry. "The government will formally withdraw the Bill in order to fully allay public concerns," Ms. Lam said.

"I pledge that the government will seriously follow up the recommendations of the IPCC (Independent Police Complaints Council) report. From this month, I and my principal officials will reach out to the community to start a direct dialogue... we must find ways to address the discontent in society and look for solutions."

The protests began in March but snowballed in June and have since evolved into a push for greater democracy for the city which returned to China in 1997.

The Bill would have allowed extraditions to mainland China where courts are controlled by the Communist Party.

It was not immediately clear if killing the Bill would help end the unrest. The immediate reaction appeared sceptical and the real test will be how many people take to the streets.

Some lawmakers said the move should have come earlier.

"The damage has been done. The scars and wounds are still bleeding," said pro-democracy legislator Claudia Mo. "She thinks she can use a garden hose to put out a hill fire. That's not going to be acceptable."

Limited room

In the voice recording obtained by Reuters, Ms. Lam said at a meeting last week that her room to find a political solution to the crisis was "very limited", as authorities



Easing tensions: Pedestrians looking at a monitor displaying a press conference by Chief Executive Carrie Lam in Hong Kong on Wednesday. • AFP

in Beijing now viewed the situation as a matter of national security. Beijing's apparent endorsement of the withdrawal of the Bill comes after the biggest popular challenge to Chinese President Xi Jinping's rule since he took power in 2012.

Others said the move was not enough. "This won't appease the protesters," said Boris Chen, 37, who works in financial services. "In any kind of time, people will find something they can get angry about."

Pro-Beijing lawmaker Cheung Kwok-kwan said Ms. Lam's announcement was not a compromise to appease those promoting violence, but a bid to win over moderates in the protest camp. "It was likely speaking to the so-called peaceful, rational, non-violent people who were unsatisfied with the governments response before," he said.

One woman, Pearl, 69, said the protests were no longer about the Bill.

"Some of those guys may change their minds, maybe, but just a minority," she said of the protesters. "Some of them just want to create trouble and they will continue to do so."

Wrong timing

Leung Yiu-ting, president of the Hong Kong Education University student union, said the timing was wrong.

"Until the five demands are met, I don't think the protests and the social movement will stop," he said.

The protesters' other four demands are: the retraction of the word "riot" to describe rallies, the release of all arrested demonstrators, an independent inquiry into the police perceived brutality and the right for Hong Kong people to democratically choose their own leaders.

The Chief Executive's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the bill's withdrawal.

British lawmakers vote on Bill to block no-deal Brexit

PM Boris Johnson demands snap election on October 15

REUTERS
LONDON

The British Parliament on Wednesday voted to prevent Prime Minister Boris Johnson taking Britain out of the European Union without a deal, but he sought an election just weeks before Brexit to free its hands.

After wresting control of the parliamentary agenda from Mr. Johnson, lawmakers voted 329-300 in the second, most important, reading of a Bill that would force the government to request a three-month Brexit delay rather than leave without a divorce agreement.

Mr. Johnson cast the legislative move in the House of Commons as an attempt to surrender to the EU over Brexit and demanded an October 15 snap election, a step that could free him of any constraints if he won a majority.

The second most powerful man in the Labour Party, John McDonnell, said the no-



Brexit supporters demonstrating in London. • AP

deal blocking legislation had to get assent from Queen Elizabeth, putting the law onto the statute book, before the party would agree to an election. This could, in theory, happen next Monday.

"We're... not going to be tricked or conned by Johnson so we're looking at every way in which, having secured the legislation, he can't wriggle out of abiding by the law and implementing it," Mr. McDonnell said.

Parliament's bid to tie Mr. Johnson's hands leaves Brexit outcomes ranging from a turbulent no-deal EU exit to abandoning the whole endeavour – both outcomes that would be unacceptable to swathes of the United Kingdom's voters.

Meanwhile, the British government on Wednesday announced a new immigration scheme that will allow European Union nationals to apply for a three-year right to remain in the country in the event of a possible no-deal Brexit.

'Parliament suspension lawful'

Scotland's highest court rules in favour of Johnson's decision

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

A British judge on Wednesday ruled in favour of Boris Johnson's decision to suspend Parliament in a move that will provide some respite for the beleaguered Prime Minister.

Judge Raymond Doherty at the Court of Session in Edinburgh, Scotland's highest court, rejected a legal challenge by PM Johnson's opponents – one of three before the courts.

"This is political territory and decision-making, which cannot be measured by legal standards, but only by political judgements," judge Doherty said in his ruling.

"I do not accept the submission that the prorogation contravenes the rule of law," the judge said.

Joanna Cherry, an MP for the Scottish National Party (SNP), who was one of the people behind the challenge, said the judge had ruled that the court could not pronounce itself on the exercise of government's power to suspend Parliament. "Seems we have lost," she tweeted.

Lawyer Jolyon Maugham, who also supported the challenge, said: "The idea that if the PM suspends Parliament the court can't get involved looses some ugly demons.

"If he can do it for 34 days why not 34 weeks or 34 months? Where does this political power end?" he wrote.

Kabul seeks clarification on U.S.-Taliban peace deal

It wants to analyse the risks and potential negative consequences

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KABUL

The Afghan government expressed doubts on Wednesday about a prospective deal between the U.S. and the Taliban, saying officials need more information about the risks it poses.

U.S. special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad was in Kabul this week, when he shared with Afghan officials an agreement "in principle" that Washington has forged with the Taliban and would lead to a pull-out of American troops.

The prospect of a U.S.-Taliban deal has caused much concern among many Af-



Ashraf Ghani

ghans, who feel sidelined from the process, worry the hardline Islamists will return to power, and see a beaten America selling out their interests in a bid to escape Afghanistan after 18 years of gruelling war.

Sediq Sediqqi, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani's spokesman, said that while the Kabul administration supports any progress in an eventual peace process, it wants to prevent any negative consequences.

Kabul is "concerned, therefore we seek clarification about this document so that we can carefully analyse the risks and potential negative consequences, and prevent any danger it may cause," Mr. Sediqqi said on Twitter.

The statement is Kabul's first such reaction to the prospective deal, which Mr. Khalilzad presented on Monday.

Google fined for sharing data on children

REUTERS
WASHINGTON

Google, which owns YouTube video service, will pay \$170 million to settle allegations that it broke federal law by collecting personal information about children, the Federal Trade Commission said on Wednesday.

YouTube had been accused of tracking viewers of children's channels using cookies without parental consent and using those cookies to deliver million of dollars in targeted advertisements to those viewers.

The settlement is the largest since a law banning collecting information about children under age 13 came into effect in 1998.

Tehran set to scale back on nuclear commitments

Talks between Iran and EU members are under way

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

President Hassan Rouhani said Iran will announce a new step in scaling back its nuclear commitments by Thursday as it seeks sanctions relief from the U.S., which responded by imposing even more restrictions.

Iran and three European countries – Britain, France and Germany – have been engaged in talks to reduce tensions and save a 2015 nuclear deal that has been unravelling since U.S. President Donald Trump withdrew from it in May last year.

"I don't think that... we will reach a deal so we'll take



Hassan Rouhani

the third step and we will announce the details today or tomorrow," Mr. Rouhani told a cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

Mr. Trump made clear on Wednesday that he was still interested in meeting Mr.

Rouhani when the Iranian leader visits New York for the annual United Nations General Assembly.

"Sure, anything is possible," he told reporters.

But Mr. Rouhani has already ruled out a summit without sanctions relief, and on Wednesday the Trump administration issued its third set of sanctions on Iran in less than a week.

In the latest salvo, the Treasury Department put on its blacklist a shipping network of 16 entities, 10 people and 11 vessels that it said was selling oil on behalf of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards' Qods Force.

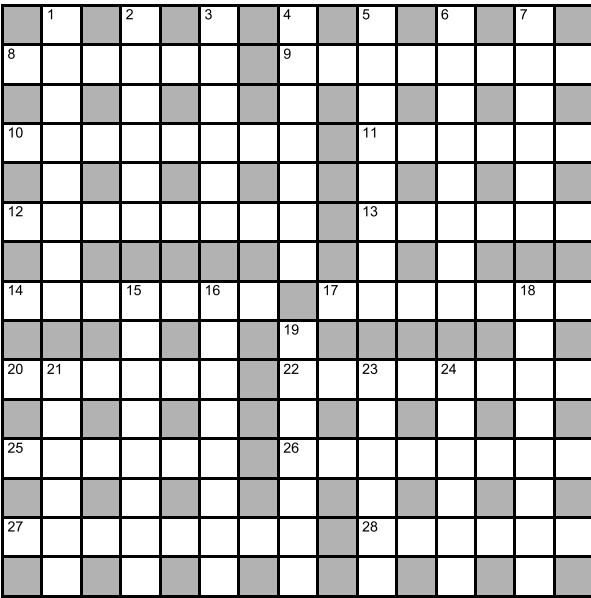
'Detention of children by U.S. grave violation'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GENEVA

The U.S. government's recent decision to remove legal limits on how long migrant children can be detained clearly flouts international law, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights said on Wednesday.

Michelle Bachelet voiced concern over the move by President Donald Trump's administration to allow migrant children and their families to be detained for unlimited periods. "We believe that arbitrary separation of families constitutes unlawful interference with family life and grave violation of the rights of child".

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12722



■ ACROSS

- 8 In Bath, it was said, England & UK are breaking up (6)
- 9 Someone on a talent show, concerned with fresh delivery (8)
- 10 Emperor emptied complete treasury before rule (8)
- 11 Celebrity sketch (6)

- 12 Follow journalist pursuing audiophile, apparently well read (3-5)
 - 13 Make a slip with assignment (6)
 - 14 Extremely slow if it's most crowded (7)
 - 17 Unfortunately, obtrude on stronghold (7)
 - 20 Long American tower (6)
 - 22 Consolidated around 50 plus small private shares, for one (8)
 - 25 Cool red diamond cut in interwoven pattern (6)
 - 26 Demerits for crazy sounds from Spooner's dog (3,5)
 - 27 Bats once, runs short of second base to abandon (8)
 - 28 Something pleasant heard from someone satisfied (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Regret about atmospheric layer covering group of countries (8)
 - 2 Prefer I were in retirement home to make fresh connections (6)

- (set by Hypatia)
- 3 Run from employment (6)
 - 4 To meddle with MP in assembly is imprudent (7)
 - 5 Study before getting bored by father's colleague (8)
 - 6 Romper with large pocket for baby? (8)
 - 7 Say Hastings, picked up novel about a priest (6)
 - 15 Link post in Twitter – it's secured fast and quickly released (4-4)
 - 16 Second wife, on getting close, doesn't start cursing (8)
 - 18 Launch baker (5,3)
 - 19 Model's married one you can hardly catch – an acrobat! (7)
 - 21 Small queen guarding bee's nest getting bit (6)
 - 23 Steps taken by the upwardly mobile? (6)
 - 24 Groomed players to eat when drunk (6)

SUDOKU



Solution to puzzle 12721

N	A	V	A	J	O	P	H	A	R	I	S	E
O	I	A	F	O	U	E	N					
M	U	S	I	C	H	A	L	L	I	N	P	U
A	A	A	S	O	N	P	I					
D	O	G	T	R	O	T	Y	O	G	H	U	R
I	E	A	E	O	K	Y						
S	O	A	O	U	G	A						
M	A	D	S	R	N	P						
S	O	N	A	Z	A	R	E	H	S	W	E	A
S	A	T	A	O	U	G	A					
A	A	X	B	S	A	T	T					
K	A	R	M	A	E	L	E	C	T	O	R	A
E	I	M	L	S	O	I	E					
S	P	A	R	S	I	T	I	T	I	P	O	D

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	2	8	3	9	6	7	5	1
9	3	7	5	1	2	8	4	6
5	6	1	4	7	8	3	9	2
6	1	5	2	8	9	4	7	3
2	7	4	1	5	3	6	8	9
3	8	9	6	4	7	2	1	5
7	9	6	8	2	5	1	3	4
1	5	3	7	6	4	9	2	8
8	4	2	9	3	1	5	6	7

FAITH

Hymns that protect

Gnanasambandar's hymns offer promise of protection to people against evil forces, seen and unseen. In two special pathigams the saint's words act like the very nectar or amrita to bring back the dead to life. The first instance happens during Gnanasambandar's stay at Tirumarakal when the saint sings a soulful pathigam in praise of the Lord to revive a merchant who had succumbed to snake bite.

A more wonderful event takes place when the saint sings a pathigam at the Kapali temple in Mysalopore resulting in the miraculous rebirth of Poompavai, pointed out Purasai Sri Natarajan in a discourse. She is the only daughter of Sivanesan, an ardent Siva devotee and an admirer of Gnanasambandar, who has willed his daughter and all his wealth to the saint. But her untimely death leaves Sivanesan heartbroken. Nevertheless, he carefully preserves her mortal remains in a pot. Gnanasambandar learns about Poompavai's fate when he visits Kapali temple. Discerning the will of God, he addresses the girl in the form of bones and ashes in the pot to come out with the term "varuga," and also utters the powerful rhetorical phrase "Pothisyo" with absolute faith in God which means, "How can you go away?" The word, on a par with Omkara, becomes the life giving amrita. 'If it is true that people are born in this world to lead lives of devoted service to the Lord and His devotees and to participate in festivals held in His honour and glory, you make yourself present before all assembled here,' he sings.

When the pathigam is completed, the pot splits up like a lotus bloom and Poompavai emerges as a twelve-year-old girl with folded palms, leaving the entire assembly of believers and non-believers, and even the celestial beings, spell-bound in astonishment, says Sekkizhar.

MARKET WATCH		
	04-09-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	36,725	0.44
US Dollar	72.12	0.37
Gold	39,248	0.31
Brent oil	60.47	5.29

NIFTY 50		
	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	364.35	3.05
Asian Paints	1535.15	-41.60
Axis Bank	647.30	1.60
Bajaj Auto	2735.70	-28.50
Bajaj Finserv	7023.10	-3.20
Bajaj Finance	3250.25	-8.25
Bharti Airtel	345.70	8.85
BPCL	363.55	7.35
Britannia Ind	2635.45	-72.40
Cipla	471.40	1.85
Coal India	182.15	1.10
Dr Reddys Lab	2602.70	69.90
Eicher Motors	15642.40	-133.40
GAIL (India)	127.30	0.50
Grasim Ind	694.05	-2.20
HCL Tech	1125.65	17.30
HDFC	2100.10	10.20
HDFC Bank	2247.75	36.80
Hero MotoCorp	2566.10	8.65
Hindalco	181.65	3.25
Hind Unilever	1846.60	4.75
Indiabulls HFL	458.30	3.75
ICICI Bank	397.50	5.35
IndusInd Bank	1317.60	-26.35
Bharti Infratel	248.05	-0.20
Infosys	821.30	7.05
Indian OilCorp	120.35	3.10
ITC	243.25	1.70
JSW Steel	214.80	4.65
Kotak Bank	1426.45	12.15
L&T	1308.05	13.65
M&M	505.70	-9.75
Maruti Suzuki	5830.75	-218.95
NTPC	119.45	1.80
ONGC	119.00	1.85
PowerGrid Corp	196.90	-0.15
Reliance Ind	1201.15	-5.25
State Bank	275.10	6.70
Sun Pharma	426.45	-12.90
Tata Motors	109.50	-3.15
Tata Steel	339.25	7.85
TCS	2245.40	-6.20
Tech Mahindra	703.25	-1.25
Titan	1037.20	-22.45
UltraTech Cement	3876.50	-9.05
UPL	561.05	7.70
Vedanta	136.70	2.55
Wipro	256.05	2.40
YES Bank	59.45	0.70
Zee Entertainment	355.50	-5.50

EXCHANGE RATES		
Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on September 04		
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	71.92	72.24
Euro	79.20	79.55
British Pound	87.70	88.10
Japanese Yen (100)	67.69	68.02
Chinese Yuan	10.05	10.10
Swiss Franc	73.04	73.37
Singapore Dollar	51.88	52.11
Canadian Dollar	53.99	54.23
Malaysian Ringgit	17.10	17.19

BULLION RATES CHENNAI		
September 04 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses		
Retail Silver (1g)	54.8	(52.6)
22 ct gold (1 g)	3741	(3729)

+ ‘PSBs must have ₹10 lakh crore business to appoint CGMs’

CGM to GM ratio cannot exceed 1:4, says Finance Ministry

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The Finance Ministry has decided to fix a cut-off mark in terms of total business of public sector banks (PSBs) to create the position of chief general managers (CGMs).

Last week, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said PSBs will now have the position of CGM which was thus far available only to the State Bank of India.

In a communication to bank chiefs, the government said PSBs having a total business of ₹10 lakh crore will be eligible to have CGM posts in Scale VIII. As a result, three sets of merger bound banks – of the four sets announced by the Finance Minister – will be eligible for CGMs.

Post merger, the total business of PNB-OBC-UBI pack



A view of North Block that houses Finance Ministry.

will be close to ₹18 lakh crore, the Canara and Syndicate combine, over ₹15 lakh crore and Union Bank-Corporation Bank-Andhra Bank, ₹14.6 lakh crore. Indian Bank and Allahabad Bank combine had a total business of ₹8.08 lakh crore as on March

31, 2019. A bank can appoint a maximum of one CGM for four general managers (GMs), the Ministry said.

Candidates with two years of experience as general managers will be eligible to become CGM, the Ministry said in a communication, adding 50% relaxation would be possible if the board approves the proposal. Eligible candidates must have two years of residual service, it said. “The process of promotion to the post of CGM may be on the lines of the extant process for promotion to the post of GMs in nationalised banks, which is done by a selection committee comprising MD & CEO, government nominee director, RBI nominee director and two outside experts,” the communication said.

Crisil cuts FY20 growth forecast to 6.3%, expects ‘mild’ pick-up in Q2

‘Slowdown deeper and more broad based than suspected’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Rating agency Crisil has revised the growth forecast for India for the current financial year sharply to 6.3% from 6.9% projected earlier, after the first-quarter growth rate plummeted to a 25-quarter low of 5%.

Observing that India’s economic slowdown was deeper and more broad-based than suspected, the rating agency said, “A plunge in domestic private consumption demand, slump in manufacturing, halving of merchandise exports growth, and a high-base effect from last year have gnawed away at first-quarter growth.”

Crisil said given the twin trouble of slack private consumption and manufactur-

Much of this cyclical slowdown has hit sectors that are large employment generators

ing in the quarter, it believed the remaining quarters were unlikely to over reach to take the full-year number to its earlier forecast of 6.9%.

“Therefore, we revise down our growth forecast for fiscal 2020 to 6.3%, from 6.9% estimated earlier. That is under the assumption that the second quarter will see some mild pick-up in growth, which continues through the year,” Crisil said.

Crisil expects growth to get some lift from the low base effect that will now set in. Besides, an easing mone-

tary policy, improved transmission of rate cuts, and the government’s minimum income support scheme to farmers would also feed into consumption.

Sluggish consumption

Crisil said sluggishness in private consumption could be explained by a number of factors, including a possible income slowdown and cost increases, amid other challenges in the automobile sector, slowing activity in real estate, and an overall dent to consumer sentiment.

“In fact, much of this cyclical slowdown has affected sectors that are large employment generators, suggesting that incomes and/or employment growth in these might have suffered,” it said.

External benchmark-based lending must: RBI

Move aimed at faster transmission of monetary policy rates; new norms to come into effect from October 1

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday made it mandatory for all banks to link floating rate loans – to retail customers and loans to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) – to an external benchmark. Some banks have already started to link home and auto loan rates to the repo rate, which is an external benchmark.

The move is aimed at faster transmission of monetary policy rates. Banks have been reluctant to cut interest rates despite the RBI lowering the repo rate by 110 basis points (bps) between February and August.

“It has been observed that due to various reasons, the transmission of policy rate changes to the lending rate of

banks under the current MCLR framework has not been satisfactory,” the banking regulator said while announcing the new norms.

“The RBI, therefore, has issued a circular making it mandatory for banks to link all new floating rate personal or retail loans and floating rate loans to MSMEs to an external benchmark effective October 1, 2019.”

The norms for external benchmark linking of interest rates was scheduled to be operational from April 1, but was deferred. At present, interest rates on loans are linked to a bank’s marginal cost of fund-based interest rate (MCLR). Banks can choose from one of the four external benchmarks – repo rate, three-month treasury bill yield, six-month treasury



Stonewall syndrome: Banks have been reluctant to cut rates despite RBI lowering the repo rate by 110 bps. ■ PAUL NORONHA

bill yield or any other benchmark interest rate published by Financial Benchmarks India Private Ltd.

“Adoption of multiple benchmarks by the same bank is not allowed within a loan category,” the RBI said. While banks are free to de-

cide on the spread over the external benchmark, credit risk premium can change only when borrower’s credit assessment undergoes a substantial change, the RBI said, adding other components of spread, including operating cost, could be altered once in

three years. “The interest rate under external benchmark shall be reset at least once in three months,” RBI said. Existing loans and credit limits linked to the MCLR, base rate or BPLR, would continue till repayment or renewal, RBI said.

Regarding transition to external benchmark from MCLR for existing customers, RBI said floating rate term loans sanctioned to borrowers eligible to prepay the loan without pre-payment charges, will be eligible for switch-over to the external benchmark without any charges, except for reasonable administrative/ legal costs. “The final rate charged to this category of borrowers, post switchover to external benchmark, shall be the same as the rate charged for

a new loan of the same category, type, tenor and amount, at the time of origination of the loan,” RBI said.

‘Good move’

“It is a good move from the RBI... they were hinting at this for sometime. Banks are well-prepared to launch the products,” Union Bank of India MD & CEO Rajkiran Rai. G told *The Hindu*. Union Bank has already linked some of the floating rate products to repo rate. Mr. Rai indicated that deposit rates could also be linked to an external benchmark at a later stage.

“First, we will try to link the savings bank interest rate and then gradually we will try to introduce some term deposit products so that the transmission of the rates are equal on both sides,” he said.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

German Pharmaceutical major Boehringer Ingelheim and India’s Lupin Ltd. have announced a licensing, development and commercialisation agreement for Lupin’s MEK inhibitor compound (LNP3794) as a potential targeted therapy for cancers. The objective is to develop Lupin’s lead MEK inhibitor compound in combination with one of Boehringer Ingelheim’s innovative KRAS inhibitors for patients with gastrointestinal and lung cancers.

Lupin will receive a \$20 million upfront payment with potential total milestones of more than \$700 million and royalties on the sales of the product.

Maruti to halt production at 2 Haryana plants on Sept. 7, 9

Demand slowdown forces stoppage in PV manufacturing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Amid a severe slowdown in demand in the auto sector, the country’s largest car-maker Maruti Suzuki India on Wednesday announced suspension of production at two of its plants in Haryana for two days. The company said it had decided to shut down the passenger vehicle manufacturing operations of the Gurugram Plant and the Manesar Plant in Haryana on September 7 and 9, 2019.

Maruti Suzuki added that both days would be observed as ‘no production’ days. With vehicle sales declining every month, the car-maker has been cutting



Low gear: Assembled cars seen at the Maruti Suzuki plant at Manesar on Wednesday. ■ V.V. KRISHNAN

down production since February this year. In February, it cut production by 8.3%, in March by almost 21%, in April by nearly 9.6%, in May by 18%, in June by 16%, in July by 25.5% and in

August by almost 34%. In August, the company saw domestic sales of passenger vehicles nosedive 36% to 93,173 units as against nearly 1.46 lakh units in the year-ago period.

‘Indian Bank, Allahabad Bank merger to create jobs’

N. ANAND CHENNAI

The merger of Allahabad Bank with Indian Bank will generate more jobs and not result in the closure of branches or loss of jobs, said a top official.

“After consolidation, we might need more people at the zonal level, processing centres, MSME, ICT departments, digital initiatives and marketing,” said Padmaja Chunduru, MD and CEO, Indian Bank.

Asserting that there would be no closure of branches, she said the overlapping of branches was very little either in the north or south. “We have only 50 branches of Allahabad Bank in the south,” she added.

‘IT, HR are key’

“IT and human resources are the two crucial issues in this merger. Since we are on the same technology platform, we expect the merger to be smooth. Human resources will not be an issue. However, integration will take some time,” she added.

Ahead of its merger with Allahabad Bank, top Indian Bank officials are visiting Mumbai to understand the previous mega mergers involving State Bank of India and its subsidiaries and Bank of Baroda (BoB) with Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank.

“We are in Mumbai for three days to understand how BoB and SBI went ahead with their mergers successfully. We learnt about the steps taken by them through presentations. We expect the transition to be smooth,” she said. After getting an in-principle nod from the board, Ms. Chunduru plans to address the staff of Allahabad Bank next week to dispel fears about job loss or transfer of staff.



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IN BRIEF



ICICI Bank cuts lending rates by 10 basis points

MUMBAI ICICI Bank has cut its lending rates by 10 basis points across all maturities, sources said. The rates have been cut across all tenors under the marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) system, they said. With this cut, which comes amid repeated nudges by the RBI to slash rates, the total quantum of rate reduction by the bank since April comes to 20 basis points. The private sector lender's revised rates will take effect from September 1. **PTI**

Wipro bags \$300-million contract from ICICI Bank

BENGALURU Digital transformation and IT services major Wipro Limited has bagged a strategic contract valued at \$300 million from the ICICI Bank. Under the contract, Wipro will offer a comprehensive suite of services to ICICI Bank for the next seven years, starting September 2019. Currently, Mumbai-based IT services firm Vara Infotech provides these services to the ICICI Bank.

RPower, JERA to build plant in Bangladesh

MUMBAI The Anil Ambani-led Reliance Power (RPower) signed a partnership agreement with JERA of Japan for setting up a 750 MW, gas-based, combined cycle power project (phase-1) at Meghnaghat, Bangladesh. RPower will hold 51% stake while JERA will hold 49% in the joint venture. "The project agreements for phase-1 were signed with the authorities in Bangladesh on Sunday," said the company.

Coal India production drops 2.8%

Coal offtake between April and August 2019 also fell 2.5 million tonnes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

Coal India Ltd. (CIL) ended the first five months of this fiscal with a 2.8% production decline, mining 210.2 million tonnes against 216.2 million tonnes in the year-earlier period. In August its output dropped by 10.3%.

Two of its high-yielding subsidiaries, South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL) and Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL), ended the period with a lower production compared with the year-earlier period.

Coal offtake between April and August 2019 dropped by 2.5 million tonnes. In August, four out of CIL's seven coal-producing subsidiaries lost production, showing negative growth rates over those



Little cheer: In August, four out of CIL's seven coal-producing subsidiaries lost production. **■ G.N. RAO**

clocked a year ago. This was due to various factors.

Law and order issues

CIL sources said that law and order problems at some of the subsidiaries and heavy rains in western India had led to this production loss.

There were also two mine accidents that led to production loss

Edelweiss Securities said in an update that CIL's August 2019 production and offtake volume decline was the worst in the past three years. It said that the delay in

There were two mine accidents that led to production loss

finalisation of subcontracts and mining fatalities at MCL and SECL impacted production. Higher-than expected rainfall, too, hit mining. On the offtake front, it said that lower rake availability led to loading of 178 rakes daily in August 2019 against 250 rakes of daily loading in July.

However, the brokerage firm was optimistic that CIL will get over its current production woes by resolving the issues at hand and register a growth rate of around 4.5%. It felt that achieving the year's target of 660 million tonnes, requiring a 15% growth rate may be a daunting task for the behemoth.

Chennai Port to handle Kia Motors' exports

Contract comes amid stiff competition

N. ANAND
CHENNAI

Chennai Port Trust (ChPT) has scored over three ports in the south to bag a contract from Kia Motors to handle the exports of the South Korean carmaker.

"It is a tremendous win for us as we had to compete with well-known ports in the south," said P. Raveendran, chairman, ChPT.

"This win has given us the confidence to develop car exports from ChPT in a big way," he said.

Ever since Kia Motors announced its readiness to roll out cars from its Anantapur plant in Andhra Pradesh, Kamarajar Port, L&T Kattupalli Port and Krishnapatnam Port began pitching for

the logistics contract.

"We thought that Krishnapatnam and Kamarajar ports had the edge over us due to their proximity to the plant and the latter being the leader in car exports. L&T Kattupalli, being a private port, also enjoyed several advantages. However, we were able to win over them," said a ChPT official.

"Apart from Kia Motors, we will also enter into an agreement with Glovis India, the logistics partner of Kia Motors. They will be responsible for bringing the cars from the factory to the Chennai Port," Mr. Raveendran said.

"Kia Motors is expected to start exporting cars in the next few weeks," he added.

Moody's revises PNB's outlook to positive from stable

Revision follows capital infusion by govt., merger gains

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Rating agency Moody's revised the outlook for Punjab National Bank's (PNB) outlook to positive from stable following capital infusion by the government and possible gains from the proposed merger with the Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) and United Bank of India (UBI).

While affirming PNB's ratings, the rating agency said bank's baseline credit assessments will likely to improve after the capital infusion from the government, and that its financial metrics will also gradually improve.

The government would infuse ₹16,000 crore in the



lender. Moody's said post-merger, PNB would become the second largest public sector bank in India with a deposit market share of 8% compared with its standalone market share of 5.2% as of March 2019.

Volvo India launches luxury three-seater SUV at ₹1.42 crore

'Limited edition aimed at selling 15 units in first batch'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Swedish luxury car company Volvo Car India has introduced XC90 Excellence Lounge, a unique three-seater SUV priced at ₹1.42 crore ex-showroom pan-India.

This limited edition offering is a first in the SUV segment in the country and has been 'exclusively designed for Indian customers'.

Only 15 units will be sold in the first batch, top company executives said.

Charles Frump, MD, Volvo Cars India said, "Our distinctive approach aims to deliver a luxurious and calming experience to our customers. Volvo XC90 Excellence Lounge is the most exquisite car we've ever



The XC90 Excellence Lounge is a plug-in hybrid that can run for up to 40 km in a single charge of the battery.

made. It rides on the success of over 100 XC90 T8 Excellence (4-seater) delivered and India is the highest selling country for this product."

The Lounge configuration provides a sense of comfort

and luxury to the owners who can 'stretch their legs and enjoy a first-class lounge experience'. XC90 Excellence Lounge is a plug-in hybrid with capacity to run for up to 40 km in a single charge of the battery.

SEBI asks IndiGo to reply to fresh Gangwal letter

Issue concerns corporate governance

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Markets regulator SEBI has sought a response from InterGlobe Aviation on a fresh letter by the company's co-promoter Rakesh Gangwal regarding corporate governance issues.

The latest letter from Mr. Gangwal came just days after the company's annual general meeting that was held on August 27.

Mr. Gangwal and co-promoter Rahul Bhatia have differences of opinion over certain corporate governance matters at InterGlobe Aviation, IndiGo's parent.

In a filing to the stock exchanges on Wednesday, InterGlobe Aviation said SEBI had sought comments on a



letter written by Mr. Gangwal on August 30.

"The company will provide its response to SEBI," the filing said. On September 3, SEBI had sought comments from the company on a letter received by the regulator from legal counsel of Mr. Gangwal.

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DID YOU KNOW?
Sashi is an adrenaline junkie. It was this love for adventure that had him join the military and spend two years as a commando. He eventually joined the Singapore police force and specialised in counter terrorism; he was with the force for 13 years. "I enjoyed what I did, but if I'd continued in that line of work I would have missed out on my children's childhood. We moved to Australia for better work-life balance," he says. In Australia, he worked as a prison officer. He now lives in a beautiful place in the hills in Adelaide and loves having barbecue nights with his family.

RANJANI RAJENDRA

There's a distinct sizzle as Sashi Cheliah slides virulent red paste into hot peanut oil. Made with bright red chillies, ginger, garlic and lemongrass, the paste has to cook for about 45 minutes before it's ready to be used. Once the oil begins to separate from the sauce, he'll add some kaffir lime leaves, lemon extract and palm sugar to give the *sambal* its final zingy flavour. In the meanwhile the *Masterchef Australia* Season 10 champion is fielding questions from fans – some as young as six – even as he deftly shells the giant prawns sitting at his cooking station.

Sashi is in the thick of action at a Masterclass held in Chennai. Soon, the prawns are tossed into the aromatic chilli sauce and are cooked to perfection. Sashi grabs a dish, piles some Thai style herb salad in the centre and tops it with the prawns. A few crispy prawn heads complete it – Sambal Prawns; the dish that earned him the perfect score in the *Masterchef* finale and saw him walk away with the trophy and a whole lot more: fame and a soon-to-be launched restaurant.

Restaurant dreams
"Gaja [Sashi's restaurant] was on my mind even before *Masterchef Australia*. It was the main reason I entered the contest," he says. Gaja by Sashi is set to be launched by the end of October or early November. "We're gunning for just before Diwali," he says.

"I'd initially planned for it to be a café that served Singapore and Malay-inspired food. However, after the *Masterchef* win, the entire concept changed... It became Asian inspired. The food coming to the table will not be authentic; but it will be an explosion of flavours. I'm going to bring together different Asian



Fifty shades of sambal

Sashi Cheliah spills the beans on his upcoming restaurant Gaja by Sashi in Adelaide, which will be a smorgasbord of Asian flavours

flavours and cuisines on a single plate; and it will be shared food like we have here in India... not plated meals," says Sashi. "We will also be pairing the food with Asian flavoured cocktails, local beers and wines. The restaurant is going to be a friendly, casual place."

Sashi is still putting together the team. "I have the core team in place – the head chef, restaurant manager. The setting up is the most crucial part. We've put in long hours in planning and executing this restaurant," he says.

Responsible food
Sustainability figures high on Sashi's priority list. "I am a big believer of sustainable cooking and eating. It's important in today's age; the farm to table concept is very popular. It's important to know where your food is coming from and how it is being handled. This way you are assured of quality and are doing your bit to reduce food miles," he says. "At Gaja, we will be working

with seasonal produce. Doing Asian inspired food with seasonal ingredients can be hard, given that we don't have as many seasons in Asia. But we're planning to work with the seasonal produce that is

available in Australia and change it as per the cuisine; we will basically work around the ingredients."

Sashi's love for Asian inspired food goes back to his childhood when he grew up in Singapore and helped out at his mother's café. He used to snoop around the kitchen when his mother and aunt cooked, but it wasn't until much later that he began cooking. Today though, he wields the knife in the kitchen when he's at home. "I am



COOKING CLASS

Last weekend, Sashi created an eight-course dinner with 1,200 dishes for 150 people followed by a Masterclass the next day. Proceeds went towards building classrooms for the Madras Seva Sadan School, Chennai. Given that the theme was Classroom Kitchens, Sashi curated a menu that was a reflection of his childhood, his love for Asian food and his *Masterchef Australia* experience. Diners were treated to dishes such as liquid gold (tomato consommé with confit tomato, kumquats and pomelo), breaks bread (croutons with liver pate, longans and thyme; the vegetarian version had beetroot pate), one bite (betel leaf with peanut sauce), creamy and spicy (celeriac soup with sambal, crab meat and croutons) and more.

IN OUR BACKYARD

The Common Jay and the Ashoka tree are a joy together



ABHISHEK GULSHAN

Tis' the time for joy and colour. September is celebrated as butterfly month in Delhi-NCR. Let's begin the festivities by talking about one of the most accessible sights of our city: the Common Jay butterfly and the Ashoka tree.

In the early 1900s, a medium-sized, nearly evergreen tree, called the Ashoka, had been extensively planted near monuments like the Red Fort, Humayun's Tomb, and Lodhi Garden, says the book *Trees of Delhi*, by Pradip Krishen. The Ashoka quickly adapted to the conditions here and was later planted as an avenue tree in several parts of the city. The tree's fast-growing quality, and its capacity to adapt, soon saw it making its way to

Butterfly season Blue Jays mating and (right) a line of Ashoka trees ■ SUBHENDUKHAN AND AFIFA AFRIN/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

the community parks and residential backyards. Considering its numbers in the city, it became one of the most known trees with its characteristic slim long wavy-edged pointed glossy leaves.

Soon after the plant took root here, we began to notice a vibrant black-blue-green butterfly, mostly flitting around Ashoka trees. This was the Common Jay Butterfly.

Every butterfly has food plants (for nectar) and one or more host plants (where they lay their eggs) to help them carry their kind forward. The Common Jay lays its eggs on the underside of the leaves of the Ashoka tree, so that the caterpillar has an unending supply of food. On hatching, the caterpillar look for newer softer leaves to feed on and slowly increase in size, before pupating and emerging into an adult butterfly towards the end of the metamorphosis,

on the same tree.

The Common Jay belongs to the family of Swallowtails with an impressive wingspan of about 70-80mm. Its hindwings are pronounced, and look almost like short tails, a visual trait characteristic of the Swallowtail family. This butterfly is a swift flier, hovering over flowers for nectar. Males are avid mud-puddlers: they're observed extracting nutrients from the soil, dung, carrion to transfer sodium and other nutrients to the female, to enhance their reproductive success.

Butterflies have a short lifespan, and they have an evolutionary defence mechanism against predators. For instance, the caterpillar visually resembles bird excreta to ward off threats to help it survive and it may also release foul-smelling chemicals if it senses danger.

Life is hard for insects in cities, and so it's necessary

to protect and preserve flora to help these creatures. Join us for a 'Breakfast with Butterflies' on September 8, at Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary, 07:30 a.m. onwards (ninox.edu@gmail.com).

The writer is the founder of NINOX - Owl About Nature, a nature-awareness initiative. He is the Delhi-NCR reviewer for Ebird, a Cornell University initiative, monitoring rare sightings of birds. He formerly led a programme at WWF India.



PEOPLE

A nice corner of the Internet



We've seen all sorts of Internet challenges and some have even been called out by the authorities for harmful effects. But last week pop singer Pink decided to come up with one of her own, given her experience with online and offline trolls through her career. In an Instagram post of her husband cuddled up with their daughter, she encouraged people to go a day without criticising others.

"I'd like to propose a worldwide internet challenge to anyone reading this today. Go ONE day without criticizing someone online," says the mother of one in the caption, "Let's call it the MISS ME WITH THE B*LLSH*T CHALLENGE. And if it feels good, hey, why not go TWO DAYS. But let's start with one for the overzealous out there."

The singer finished off the caption of her post with the hashtags #onedayatime and #onlylove. So, have you tried this challenge? Should it even be a challenge?

'Glad to be part of female-centric film *Mimi*'

Kriti Sanon is happy to be part of *Mimi*, where she plays a young surrogate mother, which will also be her first woman-centric film. Directed by *Luka Chuppi* fame Laxman Utekar, Kriti considers the project a huge responsibility.

"I am quite nervous. But nervousness is what is so exciting. The fact that I haven't done something like this before, the fact that it's so away from me and it's got emotions I have never experienced, is what is challenging... But at this point of time, I want to do something different, take a risk and push the envelope. I'm glad that *Mimi* is going to be my first female-centric film," she explains.

According to Kriti, the story has its heart in the right place. "It makes you smile, laugh, weep, feel good, everything," she added. "Laxman sir has a knack of understanding emotions and presenting it in an entertaining manner with a lot of situational humour and characters that you take back home."

Mimi also features actor Pankaj Tripathi, with whom Kriti co-starred in 2017's *Bareilly Ki Barfi*.

IAN S



Contact us at delhimetro@thehindu.co.in

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



LECTURE

Education policy

Vinod Kumar Singh, Professor of Chemistry at IIT Kanpur, will deliver a lecture titled 'Draft National Education Policy 2019: Can India Become a Leader in Higher Education?' The talk will elaborate on ideas for the betterment of the Indian education system.

VENUE: Seminar Rooms, Kamaladevi Complex, India International Centre
TIME: 6:30 p.m.



PERFORMANCE

Smart rap

The Canadian hip-hop historian and rap artist, Webster, will perform at the Alliance Française de Delhi. Aly Ndiaye, who is better known by his stage name Webster, is the founder of the Limoilou Starz collective. He is a pioneer of hip-hop culture in Quebec, and is also popular for his wise lyrics and the smartness of his music.

VENUE: M.L. Bhattia Auditorium, 72, Lodhi Estate
TIME: 7 p.m.



FOOD

Macanese special

The multi-cuisine restaurant Tamra has organised an exclusive Macanese pop-up, which will be a blend of Southern Chinese and Portuguese delicacies. The offering, on until September 6th, features Macao's favourites, such as Macanese Egg Tart, Pork Chop Bun, Koay Teow, Seafood Saffron Fried Rice, and Pork Sausage Fried Rice.

VENUE: Shangri-La's - Eros Hotel, Ashoka Road
TIME: 12:30-3:30 p.m. - 7-11:30 p.m.



GIG

Jazz

The Lyric Ensemble of Delhi, which is the city's premier Western music choral group, will present Jazzmania. Led by Madhav Rainer-Thapan and guest conductor Nise Meruno, the ensemble performs jazz, opera and Broadway show-tunes, with the accompaniment of piano, double bass and drums.

VENUE: The Piano Man, Sector 15, Gurugram
TIME: 9 p.m. - 11:55 p.m.



FILM

Hindi cinema

IHC will screen *Dhauli*, a Hindi feature film this evening. The movie is about the lives of 19-year-old Dhauli and her husband Dhule, a couple belonging to hunter-gatherer Bawariya tribe. Directed by Meenakshi Vinay Rai, the story follows the couple's interaction with forest officials, who seek their help to feed tigers.

VENUE: Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre
TIME: 7 p.m.



An alternate world (Clockwise from left) The one-point perspective corridor; Alex's costume from *A Clockwork Orange*; Zeiss lens used for *Barry Lyndon*; props from *Spartacus* ■ ED REEVE



ment to Kubrick's fixation with authenticity. These were the candles used in the 18th Century, the period the story is set in, and they also burned with a bigger, brighter flame which made it possible for Kubrick to shoot it without any extra lighting using a special Zeiss extreme high-speed lens originally made for NASA, which is also on display.

All in a sketch
The tour ends with a stunning pick of items from *2001: A Space Odyssey*, which was Kubrick's most ambitious project. Superbly-detailed sketches of the spaceships, along with equally-matched mini-models of the crafts tell you the amount of research that went into this science-fiction epic. But a gorgeous life-size replica of the sleek white reception of the Hilton 'Space' Hotel, full with the futuristic red chair designed by Olivier Mourgue, steals the shot in the finale.

There are many standouts and it is hard to pick just one. If the erotic furniture in the form of submissive female mannequins from the opening scene of *A Clockwork Orange* reveals Kubrick's fetish for finding shock value even in props, then the photographs from Beckton Gas Works in London, which was the set of *Full Metal Jacket*, shows a person who can envision an utterly believable Vietnamese war-zone, full with appropriate flora and fauna, from scratch, without ever setting foot in Asia. In fact, London was his favourite location and has been cast in many of his movies – as New York in *Eyes Wide Shut*, Vietnam in *Full Metal Jacket* and as London itself in *A Clockwork Orange*.

Kubrick did most of his location scouts using photographs. Having started his career as a magazine photographer, photography was a powerful tool in his filmmaking process.

There is a photograph of a paused chess match between Kubrick and actor George C Scott from the set of *Dr Strangelove* that best depicts Kubrick's obsession with detail. Next to the chessboard is a cardboard with a handwritten note: "Strict continuity, do not touch".

The exhibition is on till September 15. Entry ticket costs £14.50 for adults, £7.25 for children and £10.75 for students.

ASWIN VN

The entrance to the exhibition, is a darkened passage lit only by symmetrical rows of screens on either side to lend a one-point perspective effect, showing some of the most stunning movie scenes. It is a perfect tribute to their maker – Stanley Kubrick, whose life's work is on display at the Design Museum in London.

Kubrick was obsessed with detail. The expo, titled Stanley Kubrick: The Exhibition, curated by museum director Deyan Sudjic and designed by Marina Willer, presents exactly that obsession to commemorate the maestro's 20th death anniversary. From his collection of reference books and the unique props, to the specially-designed film equipment and the detailed drawings of designs that went into the making of each of his meticulously-made movies, the things on display give a peek into Kubrick's astonishing mind and ways.

The international touring exhibition that has toured 16 cities, began with the 2004 inaugural one organised by Deutsches Filmmuseum in Frankfurt. This is the first time the exhibition, which opened on April 26, is coming to the UK. Although born and raised in New York, Kubrick spent the last 40 years of his life in the UK and made most of his movies while living there.

Cross-section of work

It opens with a space filled with a cross-section of pre-production objects. Several photographs from his location scouts are displayed, along with a collection of reference materials from his

A Kubrickian odyssey

Stanley Kubrick: The Exhibition at the Design Museum in London shines light on the clockwork art of one of the greatest filmmakers of the 20th Century

unfinished dream project on Napoleon Bonaparte's life, the original scripts of movies and a number of special lenses from Kubrick's huge collection. Another wall displays the stylishly-designed pos-

ters of films such as *Spartacus* (1960) and *Lolita* (1962).

But the highlight of the introduction is a well-curated collection of the objects relating to the design of the giant centrifuge that acted as the interior of the spaceship in his 1968 magnum opus *2001: A Space Odyssey*. Sketches of the centrifuge, a mini-model and a detailed technical drawing of the slit-scan photography set-up created by special-effects supervisor Douglas Trumbull for making the famous 'stargate' sequence, all reveal the extent to which Kubrick would go for perfection.

From the plywood-walled workshop aesthetics of the opening space denoting the craft of Kubrick, visitors step into the realm of *Spartacus*. The collection set in blood-red décor is apt for the tale of *Spartacus* – the Roman slave who led a bloody rebellion against the em-

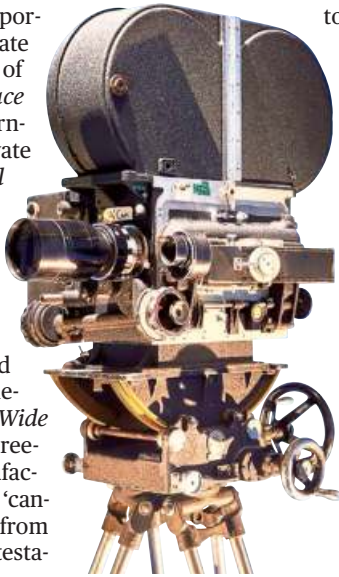


pire. Vibrant set, scene and character sketches hang on red walls, while the majestic military uniform worn by Sir Lawrence Olivier, who played the villainous Senator Marcus Licinius Crassus, and a Roman toga adorn a corner.

Costumes, like all the other details, were given special care by Kubrick, who wanted extreme authenticity. The ridiculous attire of the psychotic Alex, played by Malcolm McDowell, from *A Clockwork Orange* (1971) and the regal 18th-Century dress from *Barry Lyndon* (1975), both give visitors an insight into what the auteur demanded from his designers.

If it is red for *Spartacus*, then it is military-green for *Full Metal Jacket* (1987), sensual pink for *Lolita* and erotic velvety-blue for *Eyes Wide Shut* (1999). Paraphernalia from nine Kubrick classics are on display, with each space colour-cod-

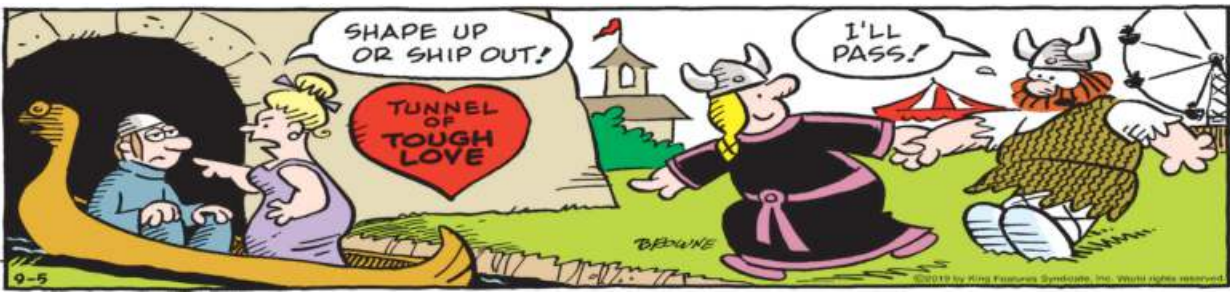
ed according to the feel of the tale the movies portray – from the intricate interior sketches of spaceships from *Space Odyssey* and the 'born-to-kill' helmet of Private 'Joker' in *Full Metal Jacket* to the drawings of the famous war-room from *Dr Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (1964), and the magnificent Venetian masks from *Eyes Wide Shut*. The original three-wick candles manufactured for the stunning 'candlelight' sequence from *Barry Lyndon* is a testa-



POOCH CAFE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



TIGER



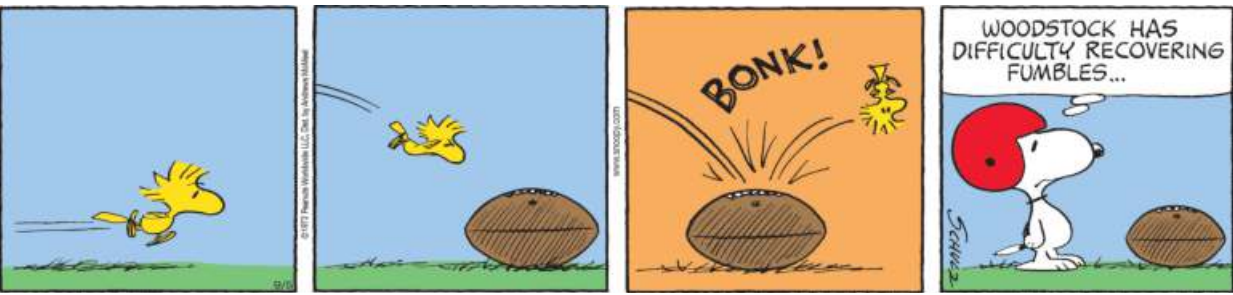
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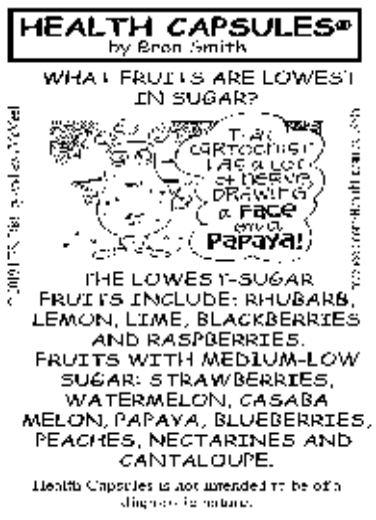
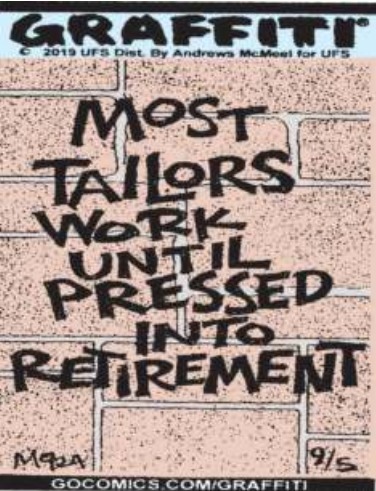
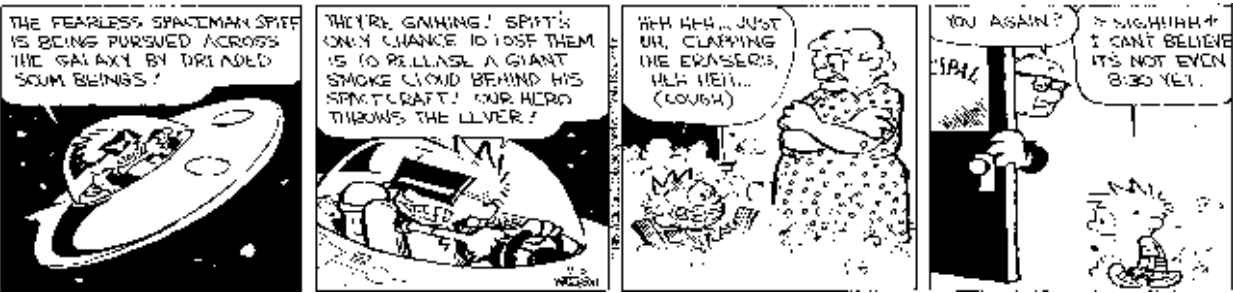
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS



THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13166

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8 Signal fires (7)
9 Mountains on the boundary between Europe and Asia (5)
10 Transvestite's garb (4)
11 Disturb (8)
13 Underpants (6)
14 Means of acquiring a tan (6)
17 Lab vessel (4,4)
- 19 Stratagem (4)
21 Short (5)
22 Marine mammal (7)
24 Undemanding popular music (4,9)
■ Down
1 Weep convulsively (3)
2 Body of troops in close formation (7)
3 Get an eyeful (4)
4 Pondering (6)

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Dimitrov rallies to script an epic win over Federer

Serena routs Wang in the quarterfinals to claim her 100th Open win; Medvedev has the measure of Wawrinka

US OPEN

REUTERS
NEW YORK

Grigor Dimitrov stepped out of Roger Federer’s shadow on Tuesday to claim a spot in the U.S. Open semifinals with a shock 3-6, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 win over the wounded Swiss. Dimitrov will now face Daniil Medvedev on Friday for a place in final, the Russian advancing to the last four with a 7-6(6), 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 win over another Swiss Stan Wawrinka.

Blistering and clinical
In the women’s draw, Serena Williams claimed her 100th win at the Open in style, dismantling her quarterfinal opponent Wang Qiang 6-1, 6-0 in a blistering 44-minute performance that ended any questions over a twisted ankle from the previous round. Ukrainian fifth seed Elina Svitolina produced a clinical display to overcome British No.1 Johanna Konta 6-4, 6-4 to set up a clash with Serena for a place in the final. Coming into the Open, the

78th ranked Dimitrov, dubbed “Baby Fed” because of the similarities between his game and Federer’s, did not look much of a threat, posting just one win from his last eight matches. But the Bulgarian, who had been ranked as high as No. 3, has found some form on the New York hardcourts and claimed his first win in eight meetings with the 20-times Grand Slam winner. “Even if I would have gone two sets to love down, I wouldn’t have give up,” assured Dimitrov. “I would still stay on the court and just try to do as much as possible to make sure that whether I rattle him or put him off balance. I kept on pushing, I kept on believing.”

Razor sharp, but...
Federer looked razor sharp to start the match but was not able to maintain his usual high level against the gritty Bulgarian. The turning point came in the fourth set, Dimitrov fighting off five break points to win the set and level match at 2-2.



Incredible performance: Grigor Dimitrov gave it his all to shock Roger Federer and become the lowest-ranked US Open semifinalist in 28 years. **AP**

“I was trying to stay in that game and make him stay on the court as much as possible,” said Dimitrov. “After that he started slowing down. It’s a best of five sets. Anything can happen.”

Fitness concern
And something unexpected

did. Before the start of the fifth set Federer called for the trainer, who, after a brief conversation with the 38-year-old, escorted him off the court for a medical time out to deal with a back problem. When play resumed Dimitrov seized his chance,

- It will be Dimitrov’s third appearance in a Major semifinal after 2014 Wimbledon and 2017 Australian Open
- Dimitrov entered the US Open having won just one of his last eight matches
- The Bulgarian won his biggest title at the ATP World Tour Finals in 2017 and finished the year ranked career-high No. 3

breaking Federer to open the fifth and then a second time with the Swiss unable to mount any defence as the Bulgarian went on to claim the biggest win of his career. “I just needed some treatment on my upper – what is it – back, neck,” said Federer. “Just needed to try to loosen it up, crack it and see if it was going to be better.” The 37-year-old Serena was dominant from the start, firing off 25 winners, compared to zero from 18th-seed Wang, and winning 90% of her first serve points. “I never thought that I would get to 100,” said Serena.

Match stats			
Federer			Dimitrov
6	Aces		6
1	Double Faults		7
61	First Serve (%)		69
64	Net Points Won (%)		65
4/14	Break Points Won		5/15
40	Winners		35
60	Unforced Errors		41
135	Total Points Won		139
11.70	Distance Covered/pt (m)		11.86

THE RESULTS

Quarterfinals: Men: 5-Daniil Medvedev (Rus) bt 23-Stan Wawrinka (Sui) 7-6(6), 6-3, 3-6, 6-1; Grigor Dimitrov (Bul) bt 3-Roger Federer (Sui) 3-6, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2.
Women: 8-Serena Williams (USA) bt 18-Wang Qiang (Chn) 6-1, 6-0; 13-Belinda Bencic (Sui) bt 23-Donna Vekic (Cro) 7-6(5), 6-3.

Smith and Labuschagne steady the ship

Duo bails Australia out on rain-marred day, after another failure for the openers

THE ASHES

REUTERS
MANCHESTER

Steve Smith continued his outstanding Ashes form, striking an unbeaten 60, as Australia recovered from another failure by its openers to reach 170 for three at the close of the rain-affected first day of the fourth Test against England at Old Trafford on Wednesday. Rain caused a delay of over two hours after lunch but plans to extend play to regain that lost time were abandoned after rain came in again during the break for tea.

The afternoon delay did little to disrupt Smith, returning from missing the last Test due to concussion, making his eighth straight Ashes half-century. Smith and Marnus Labuschagne put on 116 for the third wicket before the latter was bowled by Craig Overton for 67. It was a much-needed stand after England had made a great start, bringing



Child’s play: Steve Smith came to Australia’s rescue with his eighth straight Ashes half-century, on the opening day of the fourth Test. **REUTERS**

its supporters to their feet with just the fourth ball of the day. **Warner’s agony**
Stuart Broad claimed the wicket of David Warner for the fifth time in this series with the left-hander caught behind for a duck as he made a belated decision to leave the ball. Australia found itself at 28 for two when Broad rapped

SCOREBOARD

Australia — 1st innings: Marcus Harris lbw b Broad 13, David Warner c Bairstow b Broad 0, Marnus Labuschagne b Overton 67, Steve Smith (batting) 60, Travis Head (batting) 18; Extras (b-4, lb-8): 12; Total (for three wkts. in 44 overs): 170.

the pads of Marcus Harris and, after some consideration, umpire Kumar Dharmendrasinh Jadeja

masena raised his finger and his verdict was upheld by video review.



Silver lining: Despite falling short of a century, Hanuma Vihari said his 93 in the first Test gave him lot of confidence. **AP**

EXCLUSIVE

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

High on confidence after being the lead performer with the bat in the just-concluded Test series in West Indies, Hanuma Vihari said it was important for him to come up with substantial contributions to cement his place in the Indian team. “It was definitely a crucial tour for me and the first objective was to seize the opportunities that came my way,” Vihari said in an exclusive chat with *The Hindu*. “The 93 in the second innings of the first Test gave me lot of confidence. Though I was disappointed at missing the century, I was glad that I could contribute my bit to a winning cause on a difficult wicket to bat,” he said.

Simple advice pays
“But, I must say one simple advice by Ravi (Shastri) sir – to correct my stance as he felt I was standing more upright, and let the knees be more flexible – made a lot of

difference on this West Indies tour,” the 25-year-old Vihari said. “I was waiting for the big day – to score my maiden Test century. I felt it was an important knock,” he said. According to Vihari, the conditions in West Indies were a mix of England (seam and swing) and Australia (bounce). “If you have noticed, most of them were 250-plus wickets and I think we did really well to score 400-plus in the series,” he said. Vihari hopes to do well again in the forthcoming South Africa Test series at home. “It is always good to take any tournament or series match by match. Hope to do well again,” he added. On his captain Virat Kohli’s comment that dressing room feels calm when Vihari bats, a smiling Vihari hoped it was a sign of bigger responsibility in the days to come. “To be honest, to be given a chance ahead of others itself meant the kind of confidence the team management had in me. So, the onus is on me to keep doing well,” Vihari said.

Dhawan keeps India-A in the hunt

Rain forces contest into reserve day; Hosts need 137 more

SA-A IN INDIA

M.R. PRAVEEN CHANDRAN
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

In the end, the morning’s bright sunshine turned out to be a mirage. Rain kept its date and played spoilsport in the fourth unofficial one-day match between India-A and South Africa-A at the Sports Hub on Wednesday. Two rain interruptions spilled the contest into the reserve day, with India-A, chasing a revised target of 193, needing a further 137 to win off 17.2 overs. Shikhar Dhawan showed glimpses of his old self in compiling an unbeaten 33 as India-A was 56 for one off 7.4 overs when play was stopped for the second time due to rain.

Delayed start
In the morning, wet outfield delayed the start by more than an hour and the match was reduced to 43 overs. Put in to bat, the South Africans enjoyed their best start of the series. Matthew Breetzke, opening for the first time, and Reeza Hendricks attacked the medium-pacers and picked up boundaries. The duo raised a 50-run partnership in quick time. However, the introduction of spin through Rahul Chahar brought an end to the promising stand as Breetzke (25) swept Chahar



Shikhar Dhawan. **SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**

straight to Tushar Deshpande at the square-leg fence.

Fluent
Captain Temba Bavuma was fluent and rotated the strike while Hendricks played the big shots to keep the scoreboard moving. South Africa was well placed at 108 for one off 22 overs when rain interrupted play for the first time. After a three-hour delay, the match restarted and was reduced to 25 overs. Bavuma retired hurt and his replacement, Heinrich Klaasen, smashed 18 runs from an Ishan Porel over. But

Deshpande bowled a splendid last over and conceded just a single. In reply, Shubman Gill struck two pleasing boundaries in Beuran Hendricks’ first over to start the chase on a positive note. However, in the next, he pulled Anrich Nortje straight to Marco Jansen at fine leg. Dhawan swished and missed but also played a few delectable shots. At the other end, Prashanth Chopra was all at sea, and thankfully for him, the rain came at the right time. **The scores (match reduced to 25 overs):**
South Africa-A: Matthew Breetzke c Tushar b Rahul Chahar 25, Reeza Hendricks (not out) 60, Temba Bavuma ret’d. hurt 28, Heinrich Klaasen (not out) 21; Extras (w-1, nb-2): 3; Total (for one wkt. in 25 overs): 137.
Fall of wicket: 1-46.
India-A bowling: Tushar Deshpande 5-0-26-0, Ishan Porel 4-0-29-0, Washington Sundar 5-0-25-0, Shivam Dube 4-0-25-0, Rahul Chahar 5-0-18-1, Nitish Rana 2-0-14-0.
India-A: Shubman Gill c Jansen b Nortje 12, Shikhar Dhawan (batting) 33, Prashanth Chopra (batting) 6; Extras (b-4, w-1): 5; Total (for one wkt. in 7.4 overs): 56.
Fall of wicket: 1-13.
South Africa-A bowling: Beuran Hendricks 3-20-0, Anrich Nortje 3-0-26-1, Marco Jansen 1-0-5-0, Bjorn Fortuin 0.4-0-1-0.
Toss: India-A.

Unadkat swings day one Red’s way

Green batsmen start well but fall to excellent bowling

DULEEP TROPHY

ASHWIN ACHAL
BENGALURU

India Red pacer Jaydev Unadkat exploited helpful conditions to the fullest to pin India Green down to 147 for eight on a rain-affected first day of their Duleep Trophy final at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Wednesday. Through a lovely exhibition of swing bowling under overcast skies, Unadkat recorded figures of four for 58. The Saurashtra left-arm fast bowler moved the ball both ways, and created awkward angles from around the stumps. Unadkat got going by trapping opener and captain Faiz Fazal (12, 22b) leg-before with one that came back in sharply. Siddhesh Lad fell for a golden duck, a loose drive going straight to the hands of Priyank Panchal at cover. Unadkat reserved his best for four-drop Akshay Wadkar (6), getting a length delivery from over the wicket to straighten and hit the middle stump. Tailender Rajesh Mohanty was his fourth victim, nicking one to wicketkeeper Ishan Kishan. A pleased Unadkat said, “I can move the ball both ways, and when you can do that from over and around the wicket, it makes it all the more difficult for batsmen. That’s what I work on in the



Jaydev Unadkat. **SUDHAKARA JAIN**

nets – to be accurate from both angles.” **A beauty**
For India Green, Akshath Reddy (16, 56b) and Dhruv Shorey (23, 37b) put on 34 runs for the second wicket, before Shorey came undone to a beauty from Sandeep Warrior. Kerala speedster Warrior got Shorey to edge a perfect

outswinger – moving away from just outside off. The impressive Warrior was unlucky to end up with just the one scalp. Akshath, meanwhile, drove Unadkat straight to Avesh Khan at mid-on, and senselessly took off for a single. His partner Akshdeep Nath did not respond, leaving Akshath stranded. Avesh had enough time to wait for Kishan to come up to the stumps before lobbing an underarm throw. Akshdeep (29, 46b, 5x4) played well, but let his side down with poor shot selection. Intermittent showers restricted play to only 49 overs for the day. After five delays, action was called off in the late evening. **The scores: India Green — 1st innings:** Faiz Fazal lbw b Unadkat 12, Akshath Reddy (run out) 16, Dhruv Shorey c Kishan b Warrior 23, Siddhesh Lad c Panchal b Unadkat 0, Akshdeep Nath c Panchal b Sarvate 29, Akshay Wadkar b Unadkat 6, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja c & b Avesh 15, Mayank Markande (batting) 32, Rajesh Mohanty c Kishan b Unadkat 0, Tanveer Ul-Haq (batting) 8; Extras (nb-1, b-4, lb-1): 6; Total (for eight wickets in 49 overs): 147.
Fall of wickets: 1-19, 2-53, 3-54, 4-65, 5-92, 6-99, 7-107, 8-112.
India Red bowling: Unadkat 17-58-4, Warrior 13-3-25-1, Avesh 12-0-45-1, Sarvate 6-1-14-1.
Toss: India Green.

Bulls snatch a thriller

Delhi edges Jaipur earlier in the day



Leading by example: Skipper Rohit Kumar, jersey No. 9, turned in a much-improved performance to help Bengaluru Bulls to its second successive win. **K. MURALI KUMAR**

PKL

N. SUDARSHAN
BENGALURU

Star raider Pawan Kumar Shrawat starred yet again, scoring 17 points, as Bengaluru Bulls snatched a thrilling 40-39 win over Patna Pirates in the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) at the Sree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium on Wednesday. Fellow raider and skipper Rohit Kumar turned in a much-improved performance (7 pts) as the home side overturned a 29-37 deficit to record its second successive win. With just seconds left and the Bulls still trailing 35-37, Pawan reeled off four points on the bounce to help his team nose ahead. In the process, he also went past 500 raid

points in the PKL. The Pirates, in fact, led even at half-time (22-16) courtesy a fine showing by Pardeep Narwal (14 pts). At 7-7, the skipper showed his class as he came up with a three successful raids fetching nine points, including an all out (4 pts) and a super raid that scalped four players. In the end though, it all came to naught. In the day’s first match, Dabang Delhi KC edged Jaipur Pink Panthers 46-44. With less than two minutes left, Delhi was 39-43 behind, but a super raid by Naveen Kumar, which took out two players, followed by Chandran Ranjit effecting an all out turned the tide. **The results:** Bengaluru Bulls 40 bt Patna Pirates 39; Dabang Delhi KC 46 bt Jaipur Pink Panthers 44.

A settled side should do India good

Against Oman it will be time to implement coach Igor Stimac's vision

WC QUALIFIER

ANIRUDH VELAMURI
GUWAHATI

India gets its FIFA World Cup 2022 and AFC Asian Cup 2023 qualification underway when it hosts Oman at the Indira Gandhi stadium in Guwahati on Thursday.

It will be Igor Stimac's first competitive game since taking charge of the Blue Tigers. Since he came in, the Croatian has gone about making wholesale changes to the team – from personnel to playing style.

His predecessor Stephen Constantine's direct football has been replaced by a possession-based, controlled game with an emphasis on building from the back. Those changes have had several players talking positively about what the Croatian has been trying to implement, and captain Sunil Chhetri stressed on it in his pre-match press conference.

Great preparation

"It has been a great (pre-World Cup) training camp minus the Amarjit (Singh Kiyam) debacle. The players have a lot of time to gel, to understand the new techniques and the boys are optimistic about the game," he said.

While there has been positive talk about everything Stimac has brought in, the results, however, haven't gone his way. India played five games across two friendly tournaments, the King's Cup in Thailand and the Intercontinental Cup at home. It won only one game, lost three and drew one – scoring seven goals but conceding 13. Stimac though isn't concerned about those results. "These two tournaments were organised before I was appointed, I would have done something different if it was up to me," he said, adding, "I did not like losing days for games rather than training, to be honest."

Best team

Using 29 players across the five games, with as many as 30 changes to the starting line-up, was one big reason for India's porous defence. But beginning with the game against Oman on Thursday, there should be a more settled side on the pitch as Stimac has decided on what his



Hard at work: After wholesale changes to its playing style, the Sunil Chhetri-led India will hope to best Oman on Thursday.
• RITU RAJ KONWAR

best team is.

"The players are very clear about the starting 11 for tomorrow's game. They have known for the last seven days," he said. "The rest are

there, ready and fit. Each one who is participating (in the training camp) is ready. And we will follow their performances and form in ISL and that will be base for

sending invitations for future call-ups."

Like India, Oman also changed its coach since the Asian Cup. Dutchman Erwin Koeman has taken over the

reins and he also hasn't had enough time to impart his ideas.

Winning run

Unlike the host though, the

Stimac plumps for gradual growth for the Blue Tigers

Realistic aim is later stages of Asian Cup before targetting the World Cup

SPORTS REPORTER
GUWAHATI

With the Blue Tigers starting their qualifying campaign by taking on the two strongest teams in its group – Oman and Qatar – coach Igor Stimac is cautiously optimistic about their chances but emphasised on the bigger picture.

The Croatian stressed on the need for Indian football to grow "step by step" before dreaming of the big stage – a maiden World Cup appearance.

"Oman and Qatar are favourites in our group. Our first aim is to make sure we continuously participate in the last stages of the Asian Cup. In the meantime if we progress to the later rounds of the World Cup qualifiers, we will take it," he said.

Needs time

"In football, you need to grow gradually. If there's a chance to skip a step, yes we will take it. But realistically,



Thinktank: Coach Igor Stimac will bank on skipper Sunil Chhetri to put his plans to practice.
• RITU RAJ KONWAR

this team needs time."

He also made it clear that it is difficult to replicate the success made by other countries, notably his home nation Croatia.

Stimac also does not want his team to stick to one style of play. "We are building different styles. When we play Qatar in a few days, we need to be clever and smart. We should be ready to adapt our game."

So what was the most difficult thing for him to deal with since coming to India? "Injuries," said the 51-year-old. "It was the most difficult bit. I couldn't see some of the players who were under Stephen Constantine. Jeje, for example. He was very important to the national team and we miss him. And now Amarjit (Singh Kiyam)." Stimac might have chopped and changed his

starting line-ups throughout the King's Cup and the Intercontinental Cup, but one mainstay in the team was 18-year-old Amarjit who played in all five games.

Such was his impact that captain Sunil Chhetri admitted that the team will surely miss the 18-year-old.

"Amarjit was our favourite. When I first saw him, I honestly thought it was too early (for him to be with the senior team). He is a livewire and his energy translated to every one of us," he said.

Impact of youngsters

Speaking about the impact of youngsters, Stimac added, "Always believe in the youth because they bring great motivation to the team, they bring freshness and a fighting spirit."

"We have Amarjit, Sahal (Abdul Samad), Narender (Gahlot), (Anirudh) Thapa, Anwar Ali, Sarthak (Gouli) and many others. When the day comes for Chhetri to

visitor is on a three-game winning run. In Koeman's first assignment, Oman won the Airmarine Cup in Malaysia, a four-team friendly tournament, with a 5-0 trashing of Afghanistan and a penalty shootout win against Singapore. The third match was a 1-0 win against Yemen in a friendly.

India lost to Oman, home and away, at the same stage four years ago. Three points on Thursday will be very vital, both in terms of qualification and in boosting the team's confidence ahead of a daunting away game against Qatar on September 10, and Chhetri knows it.

"I really hope the team has come along since our last meeting," he said, taking about the 2-1 defeat in Bengaluru in 2015. "One part of me feels that we can do it (win and progress to the next round) and we do have a great team. But of course the other teams are stronger and we can't make predictions. I just hope that when you compare (Thursday's game with the 1-2 defeat), it will be done in a happy way."

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU
JINAN (CHINA)

Top seed Prajnesh Gunneswaran cruised past qualifier Renta Tokuda of Japan 6-2, 6-2 in the second round of the \$162,480 Challenger tennis tournament here on Wednesday.

In doubles, Saketh Myneni and Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan made the quarterfinals, while Sriram Balaji and Vishnu Vardhan lost to Hiroki Moriya and Goncalo Oliveira.

In the Challenger in France, Ramkumar Ramanathan went down to Daniel Masur of Germany in the second round after a bye, but made the doubles quarterfinals with Evgeny Karlovskiy of Russia.

The results:

\$162,480 Challenger, Jinan: **Second round:** Prajnesh Gunneswaran bt Renta Tokuda (Jpn) 6-2, 6-2; **Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Saketh Myneni & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan bt Shintaro Imai & Toshihide Matsui (Jpn) 6-4, 6-3; Hiroki Mori-ya (Jpn) & Goncalo Oliveira (Por) bt Sriram Balaji & Vishnu Vardhan 3-6, 7-6(2), [10-7].

€137,560 Challenger, Genoa, Italy: **Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Attila Balazs (Hun) & Fernando Romboli (Bra) bt Rameez Junaid (Aus) & Purav Raja 7-6(2), 7-6(3).

€46,600 Challenger, Cassis, France: **Second round:** Daniel Masur (Ger) bt Ramkumar Ramanathan 6-3, 6-2; **Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Evgeny Karlovskiy (Rus) & Ramkumar bt Ivan Sabanov & Matej Sabanov (Cro) 6-4, 6-1.

\$15,000 ITF men, Sao Bras Alportel, Portugal: **First round:**



Prajnesh Gunneswaran. • AP

Maxime Pauwels (Bel) bt Terence Das 6-1, 2-0 (retired).

\$15,000 ITF men, Hua Hin, Thailand: **First round:** Dayne Kelly (Aus) bt Anirudh Chandrasekar 6-4, 6-3; Sidharth Rawat bt Chien Hsun Lo (Tpe) 6-2, 6-3; Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Worovin Kumthongkittikul (Tha) 4-6, 6-0, 6-3; Seita Watanabe (Jpn) bt Arjun Kadhe 6-2, 6-2.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Ray Ho (Tpe) & Kelsey Stevenson (Can) bt Anirudh & Nitin 6-3, 7-6(2).

\$60,000 ITF women, Changsha, China: **First round:** Rutuja Bhosale bt Meiqi Guo (Chn) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

\$15,000 ITF women, Sajur, Israel: **First round:** Tiffany William (GBR) bt Mihika Yadav 4-6, 7-6(5) retired.

\$15,000 ITF women, Yeongwol, Korea: **First round:** Daye-on Back (Kor) bt Ashmitha Easwaramurthi 6-0, 6-2.

\$15,000 ITF women, Tabarka, Tunisia: **First round:** Lilly Elida Haseeth (Nor) bt Likhitha Kalava 6-3, 1-6, 7-5; Ani Vangelova (Bul) bt Bhuvana Kalva 6-2, 6-3; **Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Yekaterina Dmitrichenko (Kaz) & Antonia Schmidt (GER) Kaaviya Balasubramanian & Niditra Rajmohan 6-2, 6-3; Coralie Garrigues (Fra) & Likhitha bt Luna Meers & Zoi Meers (Bel) 6-3, 6-2.

India to open against the Netherlands

FIH PRO LEAGUE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Indian men's hockey team will open its campaign in the FIH Pro League against the Netherlands at home in January, 2020.

According to the FIH Pro League Season 2 schedule released on Wednesday, India, which pulled out of the inaugural event, will play the Netherlands on Jan. 18 and 19.

India will then host World

champion Belgium on Feb. 8 and 9, followed by two more home fixtures against Australia on Feb. 22 and 23.

The Indian team will then leave for away games in Germany (April 25 and 26) and Great Britain (May 2 and 3). India will return to play at home on May 23 and 24 against New Zealand before travelling to Argentina on June 5 and 6.

India will play the last leg of the round-robin matches in Spain on June 13 and 14.

CG&CC makes Asian Tour comeback

GOLF

RAKESH RAO
NEW DELHI

Asian Tour makes an unscheduled stop at Gurugram when the \$300,000 Classic Golf & Country Club International Championship debuts on Sept. 12.

With the originally scheduled Take Solutions' event moved to early next year, the available slot was grabbed by the Classic Golf & Country Club (CG&CC). As a result, one of the oldest golf facilities in the National Capital Region will host two dollar-events – the other one being the \$400,000 Panasonic Open – in the same season.

The Jack Nicklaus Signature course, where the last



Jyoti Randhawa. • FILE PHOTO

Asian Tour event was the 2009 SAIL Open, will witness a full field of 156 players from 24 countries. The winner's share is \$54,000. Even the 72nd-placed golfer will receive \$600.

Players to watch

The Indian challenge will come mainly from a mix of youth and experience. Though Jyoti Randhawa,

Rashid Khan and Chiragh Kumar are part of the field, Bangalore's trio of S. Chikkarangappa, Viraj Madappa and Khalin Joshi will be watched with added interest.

Ajeetesh Sandhu, rookie pro Aadil Bedi, amateurs Harshjeet Sethi, Kartik Sharma along with Saurav Rathi, who turns pro with this event, add variety to the Indian challenge.

Among the overseas contenders, the recent winner of the Indonesia Open Miguel Carballo of Argentina, Taehye Lee (Korea) and Malcolm Kokocinski (Sweden) along with several Thai professionals will seek to deny another home-grown challenger from adding to the list of Indian winners.

A record qualification for World Cup Finals

SHOOTING

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The four best women's air rifle shooters in the country – Anjum Moudgil, Apurvi Chandela, Elavenil Valarivan and Mehuli Ghosh – have all earned their berth for the World Cup Finals to be staged at Pultan, China, from November 17 to 23.

A record 14 Indians have qualified for the World Cup Finals in rifle and pistol as India had topped the medals table in each of the four World Cups in Delhi, Beijing, Munich and Rio de Janeiro. They collected 16 gold medals in all, which is also a

record. Anjum has qualified for both the air rifle and women's rifle 3-position events. Manu Bhaker also qualified for two events, women's air pistol and sports pistol.

The list of Indians:

Men: **Air rifle:** Divyansh Singh Panwar; **Rifle 3-position:** Akhil Sheoran, Sanjeev Rajput; **Air pistol:** Saurabh Chaudhary, Abhishek Verma, Shahzar Rizvi; **Rapid fire pistol:** Anish Bhanwala.

Women: **Air rifle:** Anjum Moudgil, Apurvi Chandela, Elavenil Valarivan, Mehuli Ghosh; **Rifle 3-position:** Anjum Moudgil; **Air pistol:** Yashaswini Singh Deswal, Manu Bhaker; **Sports pistol:** Rahi Sarnobat, Manu Bhaker.

tives are finally met. It won't be easy though.

On Wednesday evening, the National Institute of Sports here had a laidback feel. Apart from a bunch of javelin throwers, including Davinder Singh Kang, and steeplechaser Sudha Singh, triple jumper Arpinder Singh was the only one sweating it out, running endless loops on the jump track trying to get his speed, technique and take-off in perfect sync under the watchful eyes of coach Antony Yaich. The weather, sultry after a sudden downpour earlier in the day, was a relief though.

Disappointing

The federation had hoped

for the same at the Lucknow Inter-State Championships last week but things didn't go according to plan with the number of qualified individual entries remaining at 17 (Jinson Johnson has since made the cut, taking the number to 18).

The only one to get the qualifying mark was quarter-miler Anjali Devi, who had already made the cut last year. Disappointing performances, farcical anti-doping measures and less than satisfactory marks marked the inter-state meet.

Thursday's IGP would be the last opportunity for those still missing to get their act together. The federation has already marked out its

hopefuls from the event. Besides Arpinder – who missed qualifying by 12cms in Lucknow – the AFI has hopes from Dutee Chand in 100m and Archana Suseendran in 200 besides securing yet another spot in javelin to make up for Neeraj Chopra's likely absence with rehabilitation.

Second shot

Interestingly, some who have already qualified would be trying for a second shot including Sudha in steeplechase, having qualified in marathon. But the spotlight would definitely be on the men's 4x400m squad.

After a farcical run in Lucknow that saw all three

AFI teams disqualified or not finishing, barely managing to hold on to its 16th spot in rankings and injuries to Dharrun and Alex Antony, the AFI would be under pressure to not just ensure a better timing from its star medal hope but also unsure of its final composition when the selection committee meets to pick the Doha side on September 9. Thursday's outing would be keenly watched.

Thursday's events: **Men:** 100m, 200m, 400m, 1500m, 3000m steeplechase, 4x400m relay, long jump, triple jump, pole vault, javelin throw, shot put.

Women: 100m, 200m, 400m, 1500m, 3000m steeplechase, long jump, javelin throw, shot put.



Aiming high: Punjab's Davinder Singh Kang was one of the few athletes who were practising on Wednesday ahead of the Indian GP. • FILE PHOTO: V. RAJU

Welcoming the world



The big reveal: The Official Emblem of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 was unveiled in Doha at 20:22 local time on Tuesday. The Emblem was projected onto a number of iconic buildings in Qatar, like the Al Zubarah Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and displayed on outdoor billboards in more than a dozen renowned public spaces in major world cities, including Mumbai. • GETTY IMAGES

Sixth leg of Indian Grand Prix offers athletes chance for qualification and improvement

UTHRA GANESAN
PATTALA

The sixth leg of the Indian Grand Prix has already seen a number of changes. The venue has been shifted from Chennai to Delhi to here, citing weather and logistics. The number of events too have seen an increase – from seven to 11 in men including sprint events and from four to eight among women.

All in the hope of either securing a few more spots at the upcoming World Championships or giving the ones already there – like the men's 4x400m relay side – a chance to improve its performance and bolster its rankings. On Thursday, the AFI would be hoping its objec-

tives are finally met. It won't be easy though.

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TV PICKS

US Open: Star Sports Select 2 (SD & HD), 4.30 a.m.
Bangladesh vs Afgh-anistan: Only Test, Star Sports Select 1 (SD & HD), 9.30 a.m.
The Ashes: Fourth Test, Sony Six (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.
Football: India vs Oman, Star Sports 3, 8.30 p.m.
Euro 2020 Qualifiers: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 9.30 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Friday)

IN BRIEF



Giorgio Chiellini out for six months

ROME
Veteran Juventus captain Giorgio Chiellini underwent successful surgery on a torn knee ligament the club said on Tuesday, saying it expected him back in action in six months. The eight-time reigning champion has signed 20-year-old Dutch defender Matthijs de Ligt. **AFP**

Indian cadet paddlers finish runner-up

ULAANBAATAR
The Indian junior boys' team, seeded second, went down 3-0 to top seed China in the final of the 25th Asian junior and cadet table tennis championships here on Wednesday. By finishing runner-up, India has qualified for the World juniors to be held in Korat, Thailand, in November.

The results: China bt India 3-0 (Xu Yingbin bt Raegan Albuquerque 11-7, 11-8, 11-9; Xiang Peng bt Manush Shah 11-7, 10-12, 11-5, 11-9; Liu Yebo bt Anukram Jain 11-6, 11-4, 11-5). **IANS**



Misbah named Pakistan head coach

LAHORE
Former captain Misbah-ul-Haq was named Pakistan's head coach on a three-year contract on Wednesday with pace great Waqar Younis joining him as the team's new bowling coach. Misbah and Waqar have worked together in the past when the former was the Pakistan captain and the latter was the head coach. Misbah will also take over as the chairman of selectors with head coaches of the six first-class associations sides as his fellow selectors.

Easy win for Tamil Nadu

BASKETBALL

SPORTS BUREAU
CUTTACK

Tamil Nadu boys crushed Karnataka 77-43 in the sub-junior National basketball tournament here on Wednesday. Tamil Nadu, with a strong show in the third and fourth quarters, quelled Karnatala's challenge. Yakson and Abhimnayu, with 18 points each, shone for the winner which led 29-22 at half-time.

The results:
Boys: Chandigarh 70 (Janmeyjay 25, Ajay 13, Gaurab Malik12) bt Odisha 56 (Upasak 15, Shreyan 13).

Jharkhand 32 (Prem Kumar Singh16) bt Himachal Pradesh 28 (Vedansh Ranot 12, Aarav Chandra 10); Haryana 73 (Kapil 19, Uday 12) bt Chattisgarh 56 (Sanju Gajbhiye 18, Shalandra Singh 12); Tamil Nadu 77 (Yakson 18, Abhimnayu 18) bt Karnataka 43 (Milind Sahoo 14); Madhya Pradesh 74 (Rohen Shejwal 19, Goutham Pal 15) bt Jharkhand 15; West Bengal 53 (Rajveer Mahali 12) bt Himachal Pradesh 20 (Mayank Bhardwaj10).

Girls: Madhya Pradesh bt Odhisa 33-23; West Bengal bt Himachal 40-26.
Puducherry 30 (Manjari 13) bt Bihar 10; Kerala 43 (Tiyana Ann Pilip11) bt Haryana 17; Jharkhand 27 bt Manipur 13 (Omega Devi 11).
Himachal Pradesh 35 (Sapna 10) bt Puducherry 25; Maharashtra 56 (Gunjan 17, Saheeksha 13) bt Punjab 30.

Contrasting day for Srihari and Sajan

Kenisha breaks 100m freestyle record; Likith completes breaststroke sweep

NATL. AQUATICS

STAN RAYAN
BHOPAL

Despite returning from the Junior Worlds in Hungary just a week ago, Srihari Nataraj walked away with four individual golds, three meet records and the best male swimmer award at the 73rd Glenmark National senior aquatic championships at the Prakash Tarun Pushkar pool here on Wednesday.

The 18-year-old from Bengaluru had eight golds in all, including four in the relay, and topped the final day with a meet record in the 100m backstroke, an event where he looks to qualify for next year's Tokyo Olympics.

But another big star, Olympian Sajan Prakash, was a very disappointed man though he won three individual events in the five-day meet, including two in the butterfly.

Disappointed

"I'm really upset and disappointed with my performance here, I feel burned out, I feel exhausted," said Sajan, a very talented swimmer who has probably been competing in too many events in the last few weeks.

"Today's event, the 200m fly, was crucial because I'm trying to qualify for the Olympics ('A' standard) in this. Unfortunately, I did



Simply superb: Thanks to their spectacular show, Srihari Nataraj, right, and Shivani Kataria were adjudged the best swimmers at the conclusion of the Nationals on Wednesday. **• A.M. FARUQUI**

three seconds off my best time, it is totally a negative sign. So, I need to rest and start training again because last month, I did not train at all."

Meanwhile, Mumbai's promising 16-year-old Kenisha Gupta broke the women's 100m freestyle meet record of Harayana's Shivani Kataria while Karnataka's S.P. Likith completed his set of three breaststroke golds

while winning the 100m on the final day.

"Last year, I did not get any gold so it's a huge improvement for me this time. And timing-wise I've improved by one full second in the 100 breast and in the other events too," said Likith who had trained in Austria under a JSW scheme earlier.

New coach

"I have a new coach now in

Partha Varanashi, he was in Australia for six years and is very passionate about swimming, he brought about a big change in me. He was willing to provide whatever I needed, he is more of a friend than a coach."

Karnataka, as expected won the overall championship and men's team title while Maharashtra took the women's team trophy. Harayana's Shivani Kataria was

Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Pratisthan, Nilmani in final

SUBROTO CUP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Pratisthan (BKSP) defeated Tamil Nadu's Govt. Girls

High School 5-0 to enter the final of the Subroto Cup (under-17) girls international football tournament here on Wednesday.

In the other semifinal, Manipur's Nilmani English

School defeated Assam's Simbargaon High School 4-0.

The results (semifinal): Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Protisthan 5 (Sapna Rani 2, Aklima Khatun, Unnotti Khatun, Surma

Zannat) bt Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School, Tamil Nadu 0.

Nilmani English School, Manipur 4 (Hoinelhat, Babina, Kipgen, Kim Langel) bt Simbargaon High School, Assam 0.

Yubarani outguns fourth seed Avika

Samhitha sails past Rutvi; Vaidehi advances

ASIAN TOUR TENNIS

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

Yubarani Banerjee unleashed the big serves and whipping strokes to outgun fourth seed Avika Sagwal 6-1, 6-1 in the first round of the Asian Tour women's tennis tournament at the DTLA Complex here on Wednesday.

Having moved to train with coach Aditya Madkekar in Pune recently, Yubarani revealed new dimensions in her game to outwit her opponent, who tried hard to keep pace with her.

In the pre-quarterfinals, Yubarani will play qualifier Ananyaa Bhargava who endured three sets in taming lucky-loser Deepshikha Saw. Top seed Sai Samhitha



Yubarani Banerjee. **• KAMESH SRINIVASAN**

timed her single-handed backhand with a touch of assurance to sail past Rutvi Chaudhari, while second seed Vaidehi Chaudhari smashed her way past Seerat Pannu with equal ease.

Samhitha will face one of the bright juniors in the coun-

try, Salsa Aher, in the second round.

Four-time national champion Perna Bhabri handled the sharp game of Adrija Biswas with conviction to set up a second round against Arthi Muniyan, who weathered a three-set fight against qualifier Bela Tamhankar.

The tall and strongly-built Kashish Bhatia fought hard to tame qualifier Srinidhi Sridhar in three sets and will play Sonashe Bhatnagar.

Entertaining match

In an entertaining match, Soha Sadiq beat wild card Sanvi Ahluwalia, who demonstrated a good all-round game and free flowing strokes in her first wo-

men's circuit match.

The results (first round):

Sai Samhitha bt Rutvi Chaudhari 6-1, 6-0; Salsa Aher bt Vaibhavi Trivedi 6-3, 6-0; Priyanka Rodricks bt Kriti Tomar 6-2, 6-1; Sara Yadav bt Sunskriti Damera 7-5, 6-1; Perna Bhabri bt Adrija Biswas 6-0, 6-0; Arthi Muniyan bt Bela Tamhankar 3-6, 6-2, 6-4; Kashish Bhatia bt Srinidhi Sridhar 7-5, 4-6, 6-3; Sonashe Bhatnagar bt Shefali Arora 6-3, 6-3; Prathiba Narayan Prasad bt Tejasvi Kate 6-4, 6-2; Vanshita Pathania bt Shilpi Das 6-0, 6-1; Ananyaa Bhargava bt Deepshikha Saw 6-1, 3-6, 6-1; Yubarani Banerjee bt Avika Sagwal 6-1, 6-1; Akanksha Nitture bt Harshita Chugh 6-4, 6-0; Soha Sadiq bt Sanvi Ahluwalia 6-2, 6-2; S.B. Apoorva bt Rashi Malviya 6-3, 7-6(8); Vaidehi Chaudhari bt Seerat Pannu 6-1, 6-0.

Sourabh Verma starts well

CHINESE TAIPEI OPEN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
TAIPEI

Former champion Sourabh Verma made a positive start at the \$500,000 Chinese Taipei Open, progressing to the second round with a straight-game win over Japan's Kazumasa Sakai in men's singles on

Wednesday.

The 26-year-old National champion, overcame Sakai 22-20, 21-13 in 38 minutes to set up a clash with top seed and local favourite Chou Tien Chen.

Sourabh emerged as the only surviving Indian in the World Tour Super 300 tournament following the loss of women's singles player Riya

Mookerjee and women's doubles pair of Aparna Balan and Prajakta Sawant in the opening round.

The results: Men: Sourabh Verma bt Kazumasa Sakai (Jpn) 22-20, 21-13.

Women: Supanida Katethong (Tha) bt Riya Mookerjee 19-21, 21-11, 21-13. **Doubles:** Cheng Yu-Pei & Juang Tz-Ren (Tpe) bt Aparna Balan & Prajakta Sawant 21-19, 21-23, 21-15.

RACING

Side Winder wins feature on a truncated day

MYSURU: Side Winder (Chetan G upw) won the K.T. Shamaiah Gowda Memorial Trophy (Div. D), the main event of the races held here on Wednesday (Sept 4).

The winner is owned by Mr. H.R. Pai and trained by M. Rajendra Singh. The Stewards of the Mysore Race Club decided to cancel the last two races of the day due to inclement weather and the wet track condition.

1. SQUANDERER PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over: **SKY JASMINE** (John) 1, Ayahuasca (S. Shareef) 2, Italian Stallion (Jagadeesh) 3 and Queenofgoodtimes (Nazerul) 4. Not run: Scorpene and Velvet Rose. 4-1/4, Hd and 2. Im, 14.38s. ₹34 (w), 14, 42 and 48 (p), SHP: 149, THP: 88, FP: 1,920, Q: 549. Trinella: 18,949 and 5,414. Favourite: Queenofgoodtimes. Owner: Mr. Gnanadeva Rao. Trainer: J. Sharavanan.

2. LT. COL. D.K. MISTRY MEMORIAL PLATE (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 00 to 25: **GIRL WITH PEARL** (Arshad) 1, Safe Bet (K. Raghu) 2, Ultimate Power (Darshan) 3 and Romantic Haven (Rayan) 4. 3-3/4, 1 and Snk. Im, 28.28s. ₹22 (w), 11, 42 and 13 (p), SHP: 174, THP: 48, FP: 810, Q: 194. Trinella: 1,620 and 424. Favourite: Girl With Pearl. Owner: Mrs. Sangita Vashisth. Trainer: Imtia Khan.

3. SANCTITY TROPHY (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45:

STARS IN HIS EYES (Mark) 1, Birthday Babe (Sai Kiran) 2, Winning Force (Dhebe) 3 and Industrialist (Vaibhav) 4. Not run: Sandarina. 2-3/4, 1 and 1/2. Im, 14.75s. ₹93 (w), 10, 36 and 46 (p), SHP: 156, THP: 57, FP: 3,012, Q: 947. Trinella: 6,394 and 2,740. Favourite: Aerospeed. Owners: Mr. K.V. Bhaskarraju, Mrs. Radhika Narredu & Mr. Vasant Shankar Yadav. Trainer: S. Narredu.

4. SANCTITY TROPHY (DIV. D), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45: **SUN POWER** (S. Shareef) 1, Spanish Beauty (John) 2, Mustertion (Srinath) 3 and Morrane Gabriella (R. Pradeep) 4. Not run: Stari Grad. 2-1/2, 5 and 2 1/4. Im, 13.67s. ₹100 (w), 26, 17 and 10 (p), SHP: 44, THP: 52, FP: 763, Q: 322. Trinella: 758 and 321. Favourite: Spanish Beauty. Owner: Mrs. Sangita Vashisth. Trainer: Imtia Khan.

5. K.T. SHAMAIAH GOWDA MEMORIAL TROPHY (DIV. D), (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over: **SIDE WINDER** (Chetan G) 1, Noahs Ark (Rayan) 2, Star Cracker (T.S. Jodha) 3 and Class Above (Darshan) 4. Snk, 3 and 1/2. Im, 14.17s. ₹160 (w), 29, 15 and 29 (p), SHP: 36, THP: 53, FP: 1,752, Q: 783. Trinella: 10,718 and 2,297. Favourite: Fair Warning. Owner: Mr. H.R. Pai. Trainer: M. Rajendra Singh.

Jackpot: ₹43,083 (12 tkts. paid on 3rd leg); Treble (d): 1,440 (carried over); (ii): 104 (60 tkts. paid on 1st leg).

Knotty Ash well prepped

MYSURU: Knotty Ash, who is in fine fettle, may score an encore in the H.H. Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar Memorial Trophy (1,400m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Thursday (Sept. 5). False rails (width about 6m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1. YELAHANKA PLATE (DIV. II), (1,100m), rated 00 to 25, 2-30 p.m.: 1. Odyssey (J) John 60, 2. Master Of War (9) Chetan G 59, 3. Premier Premises (8) Arshad 58.5, 4. Honey Queen (4) S. Qureshi 58, 5. Dont-breaktherules (0) Nazerul 56, 6. Lady Diana (2) T.S. Jodha 56, 7. Majestic Rajkumari (3) Md. Asif Khan 56, 8. Archive (11) M. Prabhakaran 55.5, 9. Hunters Moon (7) Rayan 55, 10. Ireland (12) Rajesh K 54.5, 11. Kruger Park (6) S. Shareef 53.5 and 12. High Hawk (5) Dhebe 52.5.

2. B. SHETTIGERI PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 3-00: 1. Ascendancy (9) Arshad 62.5, 2. Admiral Act (8) S. Manohar 61.5, 3. Dean's Gold (5) Imran Ashraf 60, 4. San Vinto (3) Srinath 60, 5. Perfect Legacy (6) John 59.5, 6. Green Meadow (7) H. Rahul 57.5, 7. Vijaya Arjun (2) Madhu Babu 55, 8. All In (4) Rajesh K 53 and 9. Tough Sussex (1) C. Umesh 52.

3. CIVIL SERVICES TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Coorg Regiment (3) S. Manohar 60, 2. Good Time Indeed (11) Sai Yamshi 59, 3. Greek Goddess (2) Shvinnat 58, 4. Glorious Destiny (1) C. Umesh 57.5, 5. Standout (12) Srinath 57.5, 6. Turf Legend (10) Madhu Babu 57.5, 7. Thea's Gift (7) Mukesh K 56.5, 8. Export Quality (4) H.M. Akshay 53.5, 9. Beat The Odds (6) R. Shiva K 52.5, 10. Monte Greco (5) N. Jodha 51.5, 11. Reczai (8) Arshad 51.5 and 12.

Charmed Life (9) Dhebe 51. 1. STANDOUT, 2. RECZAI, 3. GLORIOUS DESTINY

4. H.H. SRI KRISHNARAJA WADIYAR MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Knotty Ash (3) John 60, 2. Tutankhamun (7) Trevor 59, 3. Cavallo Veloce (5) A. Imran 58, 4. Aeolus (8) Zervan 56, 5. Dream Catcher (9) Darshan 56, 6. Grand Tenton (6) C. Umesh 56, 7. Smile Stone (4) Srinath 56, 8. Merlot (1) Antony 54.5 and 9. Shesmyscript (2) C.S. Jodha 54.5.

1. KNOTTOY ASH, 2. CAVALLO VELOCE, 3. AEOLUS
5. YELAHANKA PLATE (DIV. I), (1,100m), rated 00 to 25, 4-30: 1. Andra King (11) Tauseef 62.5, 2. Estella (7) Ajay K 62.5, 3. Fantastic App (10) R. Pradeep 62.5, 4. Oceana (12) Rajesh K 61.5, 5. Arrogance (1) Trevor 62, 6. Hawking (8) Arshad 61.5, 7. Lee and Grant (6) S. Shareef 60.5, 8. Nerva (2) Chetan G 60.5, 9. Perfect King (4) John 60.5, 10. Genuine Star (9) Mark 60, 11. Nostradamus (3) T.S. Jodha 60 and 12. Aqua Blessing (5) Chetan K 59.5.

1. ARROGANCE, 2. HAWKING, 3. PERFECT KING
6. MONSOON PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Dancing Blues (7) Md. Asif Khan 62, 2. Unimaginable (6) Shiva K 62, 3. Spiritual Force (9) C. Umesh 59.5, 4. Willow Glen (3) Janardhan P 59.5, 5. Tashkent (8) Arshad 57.5, 6. Astara (4) J. Paswan 57, 7. Ashwa Vikrant (5) N. Jodha 55, 8. Grand Reward (2) Dhebe 55, 9. Masters Mind (10) L. Prashant 55, 10. Kimbo (1) Md. Mushraf 54.5 and 11. Festive Star (11) Jagadeesh 54.5.
1. TASHKENT, 2. SPIRITUAL FORCE, 3. WILLOW GLEN
Day's best: **KNOTTOY ASH**
Double: **TOUGH SUSSEX** – STANDOUT
Jkt: 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6; Tr: 4, 5 and 6.

Indian Navy in last four

K. KEERTHIVASAN
CHENNAI

Indian Railways has been a team that plays with an attacking mindset and with a swagger normally associated with a champion team. But seldom in the recent past of the MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup hockey tournament has its record been as patchy as this year.

The 3-0 defeat to Indian Navy in their final Group-B tie here on Wednesday meant that the reigning National champion has just five points from four matches. Later in a Group-A match, Indian Army beat Indian Air Force 2-1, for its first win. Navy has been the best team in its group. With 10 points from four, it has entered the semifinals in style.

The results: Group-A: Indian Army 2 (Prathap Shindhe 45, Vishwa Thakur 49) bt IAF 1 (Jagat Nachana 8); IOC 4 (Afan Yousuf 15, Armaan Qureshi 45, S.K. Uthappa 59, Rahil Mosin 60) bt Bengaluru HA 1 (Nithin Thimmaiah 52).
B: Indian Navy 3 (Ajinkya Yadav 32, Pawan Rajbhar 37, Jugraj Singh 59) bt Indian Railways 0.

La Liga live on Facebook

ANANT KAUR
NEW DELHI

This year Facebook will have the exclusive broadcast rights of La Liga Santander for India to give fans a thrilling experience.

La Liga has a massive fan following from India (over four million) on the Facebook page.

Facebook Watch and La Liga want the fans to catch the football action live and exclusive free of cost on their mobile phones.

They want to create an environment for fans to interact with other people on a global level.

They also want the followers to connect with people by exchanging ideas.

Manish Chopra, Director and Head of Partnerships India- Facebook said, "Younger audience will help the league grow with more than 82 percent of the audience less than 35 years old in India.

"La liga for India is the number one followed page for La Liga globally. Facebook platform offers a won-

Ashwin likely to join Delhi Capitals

IPL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

R. Ashwin is all set to join Delhi Capitals for the next edition of IPL after Kings XI Punjab decided to release its skipper of last two seasons.

KXIP releasing Ashwin was on expected lines after the franchise finished seventh in 2018 and sixth in 2019 under his leadership.

"Ashwin's release approval is already with the BCCI and an announcement is likely soon. Delhi Capitals showed interest in him and KXIP, after thinking it through, felt they needed a younger spinner in the squad," a source close to the development said.

After finishing runner-up in 2014, KXIP has not made the IPL play-offs.

The franchise has under-performed since IPL's inaugural season in 2008.



R. Ashwin
• FILE PHOTO: ROHIT JAIN PARAS

STOCKHOLM
U.S. rapper A\$AP Rocky, who got a suspended sentence for his role in a brawl in Stockholm, will not appeal against his assault conviction, his lawyer said on Wednesday. The rapper was convicted on August 14 of kicking and beating a 19-year-old man after an argument. A\$AP Rocky had told the court he acted in self-defence. **REUTERS**

The firm is predicting enormous growth in the sector and recently launched an upgrade of its “Smile-to-Pay” system, using a machine roughly the size of an iPad. Tencent, which runs the WeChat app with 600 million users, unveiled its new facial payment machine called “Frog Pro” last month.

A ND-NDE