TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 28 PAGES

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Swamped with pleas, J&K HC at 50% strength, looks to SC help

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

FLOODED WITH over 250 writs of habeas corpus seeking quashing of preventive detention, and the state just a month away from being split into two Union Territories, the two wings of Jammu & Kashmir High Court, overburdened with litigation, are functioning with just nine judges against a sanctioned strength of 17 judges.

On two separate occasions this year, Chief Justice of Jammu & Kashmir High Court Gita Mittal forwarded seven names to the Supreme Court Collegium to fill the vacancies, *The Indian* Express has learnt. Not a single appointment has been made till

While the Supreme Court, hearing petitions related to the Valley, has sought reports from Justice Mittal on access to justice in the High Court — at one hearing this month, Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi called it "a serious matter" and said "if required, I will go personally and check" — the Collegium is yet to fill the vacancies in the High

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

FROM TODAY, BIG **BENCH TO HEAR J&K PETITIONS**

New Delhi: A clutch of petitions challenging the scrapping of Article 370 in J&K and related issues will be heard from by Tuesday Constitution Bench headed by Justice N V Ramana and comprising Justices S K Kaul, R Subhash Reddy, B R Gavai and Surya Kant. P7



In rush for Shivaji memorial bhumi pujan, Maharashtra govt cut corners for green nod



The design selected by the Maharashtra government

VISHWAS WAGHMODE MUMBAI. SEPTEMBER 30

THE MAHARASHTRA govern-Public Works Department (PWD) has taken many short cuts in the process for obtaining the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) approval to build a Shivaji memorial in the Arabian Sea off south Mumbai, according to RTI responses made available to The Indian Express.

For instance, the state PWD said the distance of the proposed site — a rocky outcrop in the bay between Nariman Point and Raj Bhavan, off south Mumbai – from the Gateway of India was 2 km while seeking MoEF approval in February 2015, whereas the distance was actually 12 km.

This is not the only aspect that raises eyebrows in the state government's rush to seek clear-

Your Right TO KNOW

AN EXPRESS RTI **APPLICATION**

ances for the site of the project which has huge political resonance in Maharashtra and has been a poll plank for both the ruling BJP-Shiv Sena alliance and the Opposition Congress-NCP. The alternate sites proposed

by the PWD for consideration were not serious options, as they are either heritage sites (Elephanta Caves) where construction is not permitted, or naval areas (Oyster Rock) which are out of bounds for civilians, or areas with rough seas and restrictions (Khandheri Island).

Moreover, the PWD had commissioned an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



BIHAR DY CM AMONG THE STRANDED

Bihar Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi, his family await rescue from the flooded Rajendra Nagar in Patna, Monday. ANI PAGE 10

NRC fallout: Assam's N-E neighbours step up border checks, turn people away

ABHISHEK SAHA GUWAHATI. SEPTEMBER 30

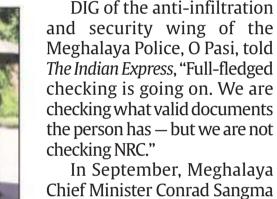
IN THE month since the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) was published on August 31, Assam's neighbouring North Eastern states have intensified checks on people crossing state borders without proper papers, and have turned back scores of people back to Assam.

In Meghalaya, the checks are based on "valid IDs" to prove that the person is an Indian while to enter Mizoram, an Inner Line Permit (ILP) is required, which the state government grants to only those whose names appear in the NRC.



Meghalaya sent back 1,329 people without valid ID. File

According to data from the Meghalaya Police Monday, "1,329 detected persons without proof of Indian citizen were sent back directly to bring their documentary proof".



Minister Amit Shah at a meeting in Guwahati that there were fears about people left out of the NRC entering Meghalaya.

had highlighted to Union Home

To such concerns, raised by Sangma and others, Shah had said, "I want to assure both that not even one ghuspetiya (infiltrator) will be allowed to reside **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

ECONOMY





FELICITATES THE BEST IN BUSINESS PAGE 19

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

NEED COMMITMENT TOHUMAN RIGHTS

BY PRATAP BHANU MEHTA PAGE 14

PAK'S U.N. ENVOY

Minister Imran Khan

Pakistan's Permanent

Representative to the

UN in New York, Dawn

Lodhi, who has held the

said: "A murder may be commit-

ted in the heat of moment upon

passions being aroused. However,

an economic offence is commit-

ted with cool calculation and

deliberate design with an eye on

personal profit, regardless of the

consequence to the community."

reported. Akram will

office since February

2015. PAGE 17

replace Dr Maleeha

Monday appointed

Munir Akram

PAKISTAN PRIME



and Ramlalla Virajman.

The CII said the bench was

option, the Supreme Court had

TITLE SUIT APPEALS

As SC deadline nears, Ramlalla counsel says no to mediation

CJI says trying to conclude proceedings by October 18, extra sittings if need be

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

AS THE Supreme Court looks at October 18 to wrap up hearings in the appeals against the 2010 on the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid title suit, hopes of arriving at a negotiated settlement to the Ayodhya dispute via a parallel mediation process faded after Ramlalla Virajman, one of the three main parties to the suit, said no to further mediation.

Senior advocate C S Vaidyanathan, representing the deity in Ayodhya, conveyed this to a five-judge Constitution Bench which is hearing appeals against the September 30, 2010 verdict of the Allahabad High Court ordering a three-way division of the disputed 2.77 acres between the Nirmohi Akhara, the UP Sunni Central Waqf Board

Vaidyanathan told the bench of Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer that there were reports in the media about fresh mediation and "I want to make it clear that we do not want to be part of any mediation efforts".

hearing the appeals and trying to wrap up the proceedings by October 18 and "if required" will sit even on Saturdays to complete it.

Exploring the mediation





Settlement via talks looks over

THE THREE-MEMBER mediation committee, formed by the SC, had given another shot at a negotiated settlement after its first effort failed. The court, while making clear that hearing of appeals will continue, had given its nod for a fresh parallel effort to resolve the vexed issue. It had also said that should there be a breakthrough, the court should be duly informed.

on March 8 constituted a threemember committee comprising its retired judge Justice F M Ibrahim Kalifulla, Art of Living founder Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and senior advocate Sriram Panchu **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

New numbers show dip in growth of core infrastructure sectors

based deterioration in output across as many as five sectors, including cement and electricity. But for a turnaround in refinery products — the largest constituent of the core sector and an uptick in the growth of fertilisers, the contraction in num-

bers would have been sharper. The August numbers mark the first contraction in core infrastructure output since April 2019, pointing to the continuing weakness in demand conditions. While analysts expect the festival demand to push industrial growth, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is likely to take note of weak demand conditions in its policy review on

The eight core sector industries had expanded by 4.7 per

During the latest reported month, output of coal (-8.6 per cent), crude oil (-5.4 per cent), natural gas (-3.9 per cent) cement (-4.9 per cent) and electricity (-2.9 per cent) contracted while only production of refinery products (2.6 per cent) fertilizers (2.9 per cent) and steel (5 per cent) recorded a growth.

Given that private final consumption expenditure growth in June declined to its slowest in 18 quarters, there are expectations that the RBI could go beyond the 25 basis point cut to support growth. The index of industria production (IIP) had grown 4.3 per cent in July from a downward-revised 1.2 per cent a month ago, according to data released last month.

Devendra Kumar Pant, Chief

Pakistan says Manmohan will be invited to Kartarpur event, his office says no word yet MALEEHA OUT AS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

PAKISTAN WILL invite former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh as a representative of the Sikh community for the inaugural ceremony of the historic Kartarpur Corridor in November, Minister Foreign Shah Mahmood Qureshi told Pakistani media Monday.

However, Singh's office said they had no information of this move, and Congress party sources said he would "decline" any such invitation.



Work in progress at the Kartarpur Corridor in Pakistan. File

"The Kartarpur Corridor inauguration is a big programme and Pakistan is preparing for it in a big way... After consultations,

Pakistan has decided to invite Manmohan Singh to the inauguration, who we hold in high **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

INX Media case: Chidambaram gets no relief, HC says may influence witnesses



WORLD

HAFIZ SAEED CLAIMS THREAT TO LIFE, PAK COURT SHIFTS CASE

IMPEACHMENT PROBE TO INTENSIFY, TRUMP DEFIANT P 17



PRITAM PAL SINGH NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE DELHI High Court Monday denied bail to senior Congress leader and former Union Minister P Chidambaram, who has been in judicial custody following his arrest by the CBI in the INX Media case, on the ground that the possibility of him not



Has been in judicial

influencing witnesses while out on bail, "directly or indirectly, cannot be ruled out". Justice Suresh Kumar Kait

custody in Tihar

In his order, Justice Kait referred to material handed in a "sealed cover" — the CBI had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30 cent in August last year. THE GROWTH of eight infrastructure sectors contracted 0.5 per cent in August following broad-

October 4 and cut rates.

Economist and Senior Director, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

According to

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

Sabarmati, Swachh Bharat on Oct 2: Toilet pit manure in 10,000 jars

KAVITHA IYER MUMBAI. SEPTEMBER 30

TEN THOUSAND bottles of human faecal matter — decomposed in toilet pits that were sealed six months to a year ago, sun-dried over the last seven days, sieved into a tea leaf-like consistency and packed into glass jars — have been sent by truck from Akola in Maharashtra to Sabarmati Ashram in

Ahmedabad. On October 2, these 100gram jars of completely organic manure high in nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium content,

of seeds that will sprout upon watering, will be presented to guests at the celebration to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

and prepared with a sprinkling

For the Maharashtra government, the Akola Zilla Parishad and UNICEF, which together undertook the project to empty toilet pits, collect and process the manure, the idea is to popularise the use of decomposed waste from the nearly 10 crore toilets built across the nation under

Swachh Bharat. The Maharashtra government has christened the manure Sona Khaad, alluding to a gold standard of sustainability — the toilet pits can be re-used only once they are emptied, and the decomposed waste simply goes back into the soil.

UNICEF Mumbai's Water and Sanitation Hygiene specialist Yusuf Kabir, who has a teacup of Sona Khaad on his work table, had in 2017 initiated the delinking of caste and stigma from the emptying of toilet pits. "Secretary to the Government of India Param Iyer, who was then heading the Swachh Bharat Mission, emptied out a toilet pit in a village in Telangana. Later, Bollywood actors and others emptied toilet pits, to show that you do not even need safai workers to empty out the scientific twin pits, something not possible in a septic tank. The stigma associated with cleaning out the pits was removed," Kabir told

The Indian Express. UNICEF Maharashtra, in fact, prepared a step-by-step protocol on emptying out twin pit toilets a couple of years ago. According to Kabir, giving guests at Sabarmati Ashram little jars of Sona Khaad demonstrates the closing of the loop of an ecological cycle, "returning to nature what is natural".

Staffers at the Akola Zilla Parishad got to work on the proj-



guests at the ashram

ect only on September 21, the request for the bottles of manure having arrived by mail the previous afternoon. "One big challenge was identifying toilets that had been built some time back, where a pit would have been sealed for about a year," said Akola Zilla Parishad CEO Ayush Prasad. There is no list of toilets with

date of construction, and the officer eventually sent out a squad in a car. Equipped with shovels and other implements, the team found no suitable toilet over the first two days of scouting. Eventually, an octogenarian woman's home that had a toilet result.

built in 2014 yielded the desired

about looking for toilets built under previous government sanitation projects, including the Gadge Baba Gram Swachhata Abhiyaan and the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyaan of the UPA era. About 45 toilet pits were opened, but only 26 had manure while the others had waste that was still decomposing. Prasad says the team had to be particularly careful in selecting which pits to empty – emptying out a pit with waste that is not yet decom-

scavenging.

The team then began to set

posed would amount to manual

Deshpande, sanitation consultant with UNICEF, of the 10 crore toilets under SBM, at least about 6.5 crore are twin pit toilets When used by an average Indian family, a pit gets filled up every six to seven years. Upon being sealed, faecal matter that comprises 80 per cent water undergoes anaerobic decomposition with the water draining out each pit yielding on average 60 kg to 70 kg of manure. By that math, about 1 crore toilets may be available to be emptied every year, yielding in total about 60 lakh quintals of manure. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

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#POSITIVENAGALAND | EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE GIVES NAGA YOUTH A CHANCE

Launched in 2006, Youthnet has changed the lives of close to one lakh youngsters, helping them seek employment in a state grappling with one of independent India's longest-running insurgencies

VIDEO OF THE DAY



IE100: MOST POWERFUL INDIANS IN 2019

BJP's return has begun to reshape equations across institutions

FULL COVERAGE



LIVE COVERAGE: **BIHAR FLOODS**

Death toll reaches 29 in Bihar as heavy rain batters state

EXPRESS

Maharashtra: Why the **BJP-Shiv Sena alliance** seems unchallenged

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

With elections around the corner, this episode dives into how the BJP- Sena and Congress-NCP alliances are faring and why infighting doesn't seem to deter the former

FROM PAGE ONE

J&K HC

Of the nine judges in the High Court, only two judges have been assigned to hear the writs of habeas corpus in the Srinagar wing. In March this year, the High

Court Collegium, headed by Justice Mittal, forwarded four names to the Governor and the same was marked to the Supreme Court Collegium, according to the standard procedure — of two advocates from Jammu, Rainesh Oswal and Rahul Bharti, and two advocates from Srinagar, Moksha Kazmi and Javaid Igbal Wani. And in July, another set of three names — Registrar General of Jammu & Kashmir High Court Sanjay Dhar and two others from the lower judiciary Vinod Chatterji Koul ,and Puneet Gupta — was sent.

According to procedure, the proposal for appointment of a judge of a High Court is initiated by the Chief Justice of a High Court, and the copy of the Chief Justice's proposal is sent to the Governor, and also endorsed to the Chief Justice of India and Union Minister of Law & Justice. The complete material, including the Governor's recommendation and intelligence reports, are then placed by the Law Ministry before the Supreme Court Collegium which takes the final call on recommending names to the President for appointment of judges.

While the Supreme Court Collegium is yet to take a final call on the names recommended by the High Court Collegium — the last fresh appointment made to the High Court was on August 7, 2018 when District Judge Rashid Ali Dar and advocate Sindhu Sharma were elevated as permanent judges.

While appointing Dar and Sharma, the government had returned for reconsideration the appointment of former Senior Additional Advocate General Wasim Sadiq Nagral. On January 16 this year, the Supreme Court Collegium had then asked the government to "furnish specific information" on the basis of which the proposal for elevation had been returned. It has been over nine months since and the appointment of Nagral remains pending.

were transferred to Jammu & Kashmir High Court. But this year, not a single judge has been sent to the High Court. The last transfer was effected on November 19, 2018 when Justice Rajesh Bindal, from the parent High Court of Punjab & Haryana, was transferred.

Currently, excluding Chief Justice Mittal, there are only eight judges for the two wings in Jammu and Srinagar. Even here, the situation on ground is somewhat different. According to sources, Justice Sanjay Kumar Gupta, who is undergoing medical treatment, is on medical leave from July 1. Moreover, in November, the High Court will witness a further drop in its strength after Iustice Rashid Ali Dar retires it is due on November 17. Given the shortage of

judges, urgent measures are being adopted, as is evident from the official roster of the High Court. In the first half of the day, the Srinagar wing of the High Court has only one division bench comprising Chief Justice Mittal and Justice Rashid Ali Dar; and two singlejudge benches — one under Justice Ali Mohammed Magrey and another under Justice Sanjeev Kumar. The division bench hears matters related to criminal appeals, tax matters and PILs. And the two singlejudge benches hear criminal and civil writ petitions, including the writs of habeas corpus. In the second half, all four judges sit separately on four single-judge benches.

Similarly, in Jammu, the division bench of Justices Rajesh Bindal and Dhiraj Singh Thakur sits in the first half of the day; and two single-judge benches under Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Sindhu Sharma, sit in the first half of the day. In the second half, all four judges sit separately on four single-judge benches.

Core infra sector

Public Finance, India Ratings & Research (Fitch Group), said the contraction in output pointed to the weak demand conditions.

"Only refinery products, fertilisers and steel output increased in August 2019. All eyes are on festival demand to push industrial growth. The MPC will take note of weak demand. falling growth and low inflation in its monetary policy re-

Also, in 2018, two judges

Classifieds

view on 4 October 2019. Ind-Ra expects a rate cut in October monetary policy review, however, the extent of cut could depend on the assessment of growth impact of policy measures announced by the government in past few weeks".

Aditi Nayar, Principal Economist, ICRA Ltd, termed the performance of core sectors in August 2019 as "disappointingly weak" and indicated that "although the contraction in cement output was partly on account of a high base, this in conjunction with the moderation in the growth of steel output does not bode well for the pace of construction activities in Q2 (second quarter of) FY2020". "The weak performance of

electricity generation in August 2019 was driven by the contraction of 3.5 per cent in thermal electricity generation, in contrast to the moderately healthy expansion of 6.2 per cent in July 2019," she said.

However, with the pickup in rainfall and reservoir storage levels, hydro electricity generation rose by 6.7 per cent in August 2019, after having reported a YoY stagnation in the previous month, Nayar said.

The RBI had projected GDP growth for the current fiscal at 6.9 per cent — in the range of 5.8-6.6 per cent for the first half of 2019-20 and 7.3-7.5 per cent for the second half. This could be further revised downward during its October policy review, given the lower-than-expected June quarter GDP growth.

Last week, the Manilabased Asian Development Bank had cut its growth forecast for India for fiscal 2019-20 to 6.5 per cent from 7 per cent projected two months ago.

Manmohan

regard. He will represent the Sikh community," Qureshi was quoted as saying in Pakistani media reports.

"On behalf of the government, as the foreign minister of Pakistan, I invite him to attend the inauguration of the Kartarpur Corridor," said Oureshi, according to the re-

Reacting to the reports, sources close to Singh said: "We have not got any invitation. We have only heard about it in the media."

Sources in the Congress indicated that Singh would decline the invitation. He did not visit Pakistan "even once when he was the Prime Minister for ten years", they said.

Pakistan is scheduled to open the Kartarpur Corridor for Indian Sikh pilgrims on November 9, ahead of the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak on November 12.

The corridor will connect Darbar Sahib in Pakistan with Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur. Pakistan has agreed to allow 5,000 Sikh pilgrims from India to visit on a daily basis to Darbar Sahib in Narowal through the Kartarpur corridor.

While Pakistani officials have said that over 85 per cent of work on the corridor has been completed, differences remain between India and Pakistan on various issues, including a service fee and the number of pilgrims to be allowed on special occasions and protocol officials to accompany them.

--WITH PTI INPUTS

Shivaji memorial for the site it wanted months ahead of getting the go-ahead from the MoEF. Neither of the two alternate sites considered in the EIA was in the list of three alternate sites the PWD forwarded through the Maharashtra Coastal Zone Authority Management

Ayodhya party rules out mediation

Reviewing the progress on August 1, the court announced that the process had failed to make any headway and, five days later, started day-to-day hearing on the appeals. Subsequently, the mediation committee once again approached the bench, saying it had received letters from Zufar Farooqui, chairman of the Sunni Waqf Board, and Dharam Das of the Nirvani Akhara, who had called for resumption of the mediation

On September 18, the Supreme Court said that "the hearing of the appeals, which is at a very advanced stage, will continue without any interruption. If, in the meantime, the parties desire to settle the matter(s), including, by resort to mediation by the

panel, they may do so and place the settlement before the Court, if reached". It also made it clear that

earlier constituted mediation

"the terms and the process of settlement including mediation, if resorted to, will abide by our earlier order dated 8th March, 2019, with regard to confidentiality". Meanwhile, the bench Monday questioned one of

the Muslim litigants on its contention that the legal validity of the actions of Mughal emperor Babur — during whose time the Babri Masjid was said to have been built had to be judged on the touchstone of the law prevailing then and not in the context of the Shariah law.

The Hindu parties had contended that Babur was an not be legitimised. "Are you trying to say that a sovereign is not bound by

invader and his rights could

Quranic injunctions?" Justice Bhushan asked advocate Mohammad Nizam Pasha who appeared for Faizabad resident Misbahuddin. Pasha said Babur was a sovereign and all land was

vested in him and evaluating his actions in the context of Shariah law would not be the proper way. He said the fact that Babur invoked the Quran at times to justify his actions or to motivate his men did not mean that his actions can be iudged in the context of Shariah law.

court today cannot evaluate the validity of the actions of a sovereign 500 years ago and

hold that they were illegal according to what he should have conformed under Shariah law, and that doing so would be stretching the concept of judicial review of executive action beyond breaking point. He also countered the Hindu side's claim that the Babri Masjid was not a mosque as per Islamic law because it did not have a wuzu (for ablution) or minarets. Pasha said the first mosque built by the Prophet himself did not have a minaret and added that under Islamic law, it was not mandatory that a mosque should follow any particular architectural style. On wuzu, he said what

Pasha said a constitutional Islamic law says is that it it better to perform ablution at home and then go to the mosque.

approached by the accused "not to disclose" any information regarding him and his son Karti. "This court cannot dispute the fact that the petitioner has been a strong Finance Minister and Home Minister and presently, Member of Indian

material witnesses have been

Parliament. He is a respectable member of the Bar Association of Supreme Court of India. He has long standing in the Bar as a Senior Advocate." "He has deep roots in the Indian society and may be some connection abroad. But the fact that he will not influ-

ence the witnesses, directly or indirectly, cannot be ruled out... Moreover, the investigation is at an advanced stage... therefore, this court is not inclined to grant bail," Justice Kait said. He did not, however, agree with the SG's contention of

Chidambaram being a flight risk or the possibility of tampering with evidence. "...there is no evidence on record that the petitioner tried to flee from India. The situation of 'Flight-Risk' is possible only if no lookout notice is issued or an accused is not so popular and can leave the country based upon forged passport in the name of other persons...". On the possibility of evi-

dence tampering, he said it is not in dispute that documents relating to the present case are in the custody of the prosecuting agency, Government of India and the court. "Moreover, the petitioner is not in power, except he is a Member of Parliament Therefore, in my considered view, there is no chance of the petitioner tampering with the evidence," he said.

Probing charges of corruption in the INX Media case, the CBI had arrested Chidambaram on August 21 night. The next day he was remanded in CBI custody. He is now in judicial custody in Tihar Jail till October 3.

Assam's neighbours intensify border checks residents whose names did names in the NRC." checks and monitoring have

in Assam nor be allowed to enter into any other state. We do not want to free only Assam from infiltrators but free the entire country from intruders; and, when I say the entire country, the states of North East India are included

Last year after the draft NRC was published, the powerful Khasi Students Union (KSU) had set up check gates on their own alleging that state was not doing enough checking. Later, these check gates were withdrawn when state police intensified checks.

In Mizoram, Home Minister Lalchamliana had said in September that ILPs will not be issued to Assam not figure in the NRC. The ILP is based on the

Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act (BEFR), 1873, and it is a special permit that is required by "outsiders" from other regions of India to enter the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and

In Kolasib district, which borders Assam, police say that non-ILP holders are detained every day and people from Assam without names in NRC are granted an ILP.

Kolasib SP, Vanlalfaka Ralte, told The Indian Express, "Our checking has intensified after the NRC publication and ILP is not issued to those from Assam who do not have

"Everyday, 10-15 people without ILP attempting to enter Mizoram are caught. You can calculate from that the total number since September Nagaland officials con-

firmed that they too have intensified checks and people from Assam are asked for proof of their names in the NRC before issuing an ILP. "If they do not have, they can give some other valid ID also. But there has been no case of suspicious people from Assam not on the NRC trying to enter Nagaland," a senior official.

Abhijit Sinha, Principal Secretary (Home), Nagaland, told The Indian Express, "Our

been intensified and manpower required has also been increased. Post the publication of NRC in Assam there were apprehensions that there could be movement of illegal immigrants into Nagaland. As of now, the flow has been normal."

In an order dated September 2, Sinha had said that any usual influx of people without valid document has to be immediately brought to the notice of the district administration and that village and town authorities need to maintain strict vigil "against influx of people from outside the state in violation of the existing rules/norms."

Chidambaram

registered an FIR in May 2017. alleging irregularities in the FIPB clearance granted to the INX Media group for receiving overseas funds in 2007 during Chidambaram's tenure as Finance Minister — and said: "During investigation, as per 'Sealed Cover', it is revealed that Indrani Mukerjea and Peter Mukerjea (accused) met the petitioner even before the filing of application before FIPB Unit during which the petitioner assured them regarding the FIPB approval and, in lieu thereof, directed that the business interest of his son Karti Chidambaram, who is also an accused, should be taken care of and certain overseas transactions should made in his favour."

large sums of monies has come into the companies owned and/or controlled by the coconspirator Karti Chidambaram during the relevant period for the favours shown by the petitioner to INX Media," the order noted. Holding that the "order of

remand, for judicial custody, of the trial court is justified", Justice Kait said: "It cannot be disputed that if the case is proved against the petitioner (Chidambaram), the offence is on the society, economy, financial stability and integrity of the country."

economic offenders, who ruin the economy of the state, are not brought to book as such offences affect the very fabric of democratic governance and probity in public life," he said. Justice Kait also considered

"It is also on record that

"It is a fact that the entire community is aggrieved if the

the submission of Solicitor

General Tushar Mehta that two

Sabarmati

"In addition, the toilets themselves get some maintenance, and there is rural employment generated in emptying the pits and making the manure available," Deshpande said. For the October 2 function the Akola ZP used an in-house IT engineer's Clipart skills to design a label with a logo depicting the shape of the Indian squatting toilet and maize growing around the pit.

The label describes the process of making and using Sona Khaad. The glass jars, the kind used to pack ghee or pickle, were procured from Vadodara packaging was designed locally with the 'Maha Sona Khaad branding and the total project cost kept at approximately Rs 3 lakh — the manure was free, the main costs were the bottles packaging and transportation.

A dilapidated complex in Akola was used to spread out the collected manure on mats where it was dried using fans and halogen lights as rains continued. In all, 10,240 jars were packed into cartons and despatched in a truck.

Prasad, who followed the Rabi 2018 experiments by the Directorate of Onion and Garlic research near Pune in which Sona Khaad was used on onion fields before transplanting, said that initial assessments showed higher presence of nitrogenphosphorus-potassium (NPK) in the onions, as well as improved yield. "Mahasona Khaad is evidence of a cleaner India, achieved by millions of its poor citizens. It contains decomposed material that may have otherwise caused diarrhoea and killed millions of children. These bottles show that the value chain of sanitation is now com-

plete," he said.

EXPRESS EDUCATION SESSION FOR DJS MAINS special session for DJS MAINS is scheduled on Sep. i.e. Monday, 2:30 pm at Mukherjee Nagar Branch. Don't miss it as the strategy to clear mains would be dealt exhaustively by Director Mr Alok Kumar Ranjan. Willing candidate may register MAINS TEST SERIES ist after test there will be discussion on answer 3 Oct. Civil Law-I 5 Oct. Civil Law-II 7 Oct. Criminal Law 9 Oct. G.K. & Language REGISTRATION FREE

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KAROL BAGH / PUSA ROAD

(MCZMA) to the MoEF for consideration. The MoEF cleared the project based on the predone EIA, not deliberating over the MCZMA-forwarded list of four options.

All this took place amid a flurry of correspondence from the state government, including from the Chief Minister, to the MoEF, pushing for permission stating that a "bhumi pujan" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had already been finalised.

Work on the statue is currently halted after a Supreme Court stay in January 2019 on a special leave petition filed by the Conservation Action Trust (CAT) that challenged MoEF's decision.

According to documents obtained by The Indian Express under RTI, after the MoEF issued a draft notification on December 11, 2014, allowing construction of memorials/ monuments and allied facilities in CRZ-IV areas, the state PWD was required to submit a justification for locating the proposed statue in CRZ area, along with details of alternative, with relative weightage for each on various parameters.

"weightage matrix" of all options to the MCZMA which had to recommend a particular site from the list to the MoEF.

The PWD had to submit this

The central ministry then puts it to an in-house expert appraisal committee, which takes the call on giving the government permission to prepare an EIA under the Terms of Reference (ToR) set by the ministry. The final clearance is given after ascertaining compliance with the ToR.

Accordingly, on January 20, 2015, the PWD submitted a list of nine possible sites, along

with a weightage matrix for each. MCZMA's list proposed the current site as the most suitable, with a highest score of 32. But minutes of an MCZMA meeting held three days later revealed that only four sites were discussed, and the current site was recommended to the MoEF with a score of 72.

Six parameters were considered for each site - distance from the Gateway of India, space availability, feasibility of construction, heritage structure or forts at the site, safety and environmental issues, and each assigned a particular weightage. Environmental impact accounted for 40%, space availability 20%, and 10% each for the remaining four param-

The weightage of the favoured site got bumped up as PWD's submission stated the distance of the proposed site from the Gateway of India as 2 km. However, the PWD's own traffic study in 2014 said the proposed site was 12 km from the Gateway of India.

The MCZMA then wrote to the MoEF recommending this site on January 23, 2015, stating "the site appears to be the suitable location as compared to other sites in respect of better accessibility, 16 hectares of space availability, safety point of view and low impact on coastal environment with environmental safeguards."

The PWD made a presentation on the four sites before an expert panel of the MoEF on January 29, 2015. The MoEF granted the Terms of Reference (TOR) for preparation of the EIA at the recommended site through a letter to the PWD on February 5, 2015.

But as the promise to build a Shivaji statute in the Arabian Sea had been made by the previous Congress-NCP government as well, the PWD had already commissioned an EIA for the proposed site from NEERI and NIO in May 2013. At the time, CRZ-IV was still a 'no go' area for construction of memorials. The EIA report was ready in November 2014. The MoEF notification permitting memorials in CRZ-IV came in

December 2014. The NEERI-NIO report considered the proposed site, and two others, all three located at various points in the Arabian Sea off the Mumbai coast. The other two sites it considered were not included by the PWD in its weightage matrix that it submitted to MCZMA. The PWD submitted this EIA

to MoEF on February 2. Three days later, on February 5, the MoEF granted the Terms of Reference. Four days later, on February 9, as the EIA had already been submitted, the MoEF expert panel recommended grant of environmental clearance. Finally, CM Devendra Fadnavis wrote to then **Environment Minister Prakash** Javadekar on January 30 requesting clearance before February 19. The formal letter was issued on February 23, 2015.

MoEF Secretary Chandra Kishore Mishra was not available for comments. Arvind Kumar Nautiyal, Joint Secretary of MoEF, could not be reached. An email query sent last Thursday to Mishra and Nautiyal did not receive a response. When contacted, PWD sec-

retary CP Joshi, said the report on alternate sites was prepared by a consultant. "There could be some anomalies in it that can be corrected. We had submitted the proposal through an online system," he said.

DWARKA-SECTOR 8

SHADIPUR Good AQI

Moderate

CALL CENTRE HAD 300 EMPLOYEES, RAID UNDERWAY

Clinic promised couples male child through IVF abroad

ASTHA SAXENA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

A CENTRAL inspection team has blown the lid off what appears to be a major sex selection racket running from the heart of Delhi.

The team Monday conducted a raid on a clinic in Karol Bagh offering gender identification services and found around 300 computer systems allegedly used to make calls to couples who wanted a child. The team, comprising officers from the Delhi health department, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the National Commission for Women (NCW), were at the centre till late Monday night.

According to officials, the clinic operated out of a call centre where 300-odd people would offer in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) to people in India and promise to take them to coun-

EXPLAINED Violation

of law

THE Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994, was enacted to prevent sexselective abortions. It banned hospitals, nursing homes and clinics from using ultrasonography or any other technique to determine the gender of an unborn child. Using ultrasound to determine and communicate to the parents the sex of the foetus is an offence, which can lead to a 3-year jail term

and a Rs 10,000 fine.

tries like Thailand, Singapore and Dubai, promising a male child.

The raid was conducted after the Health Ministry received a complaint about the centre offering illegal sex selection services. A decoy couple was sent to the centre, and they were asked to pay Rs 8.5 lakh for a 15-day package in Dubai.

"The centre would guarantee a male child by identifying the gender of the foetus. The couples were allowed to select the sex of the child before leaving the country. We had received a complaint from the Health Ministry after which we planned a raid," said Dr Nutan Mundeja, director, Directorate of Family Welfare, Delhi government.

Sex selection is banned in India but allowed in countries like the US, Mexico, Thailand, Singapore and Dubai.

But identifying the child's gender through IVF and other technologies such as pre-implan-

tation genetic diagnosis, pre-implantation genetic screening and sperm-sorting has emerged as the next challenge towards curbing female infanticide, said officials."A new trend is emerging called reproductive tourism. There are IVF centres abroad that offer sex selection services. Couples who are either unable to conceive or want a male child are being approached. We will seal

Delhi government. The state PC-PNDT cell maintains a record of all centres and machines that provide ultrasonography services. The cell, on an average, conducts 1-2 raids a month, depending on availabil-

Dr Nitin Kumar, special pro-

ity of officers. As per the process, officials from the department receive a tip-off from informers, and a decoy is pulled in to contact the lab/doctor involved.

42-yr-old woman who died is case study against commercial surrogacy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

RAISING RED flags on the impact of commercial surrogacy, doctors at AIIMS have published a case of a 42-year-old woman who died in the 17th week of her pregnancy owing to a medical history of tuberculosis, hydrocephalus and depression. The surrogate, carrying twins, was referred to AIIMS in September 2018 from a private hospital for medical termination of pregnancy (MTP).

The case has been published in RFP Journal of Hospital Administration, and highlights the need for stringent surrogacy laws. The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019, which has been introduced recently, seeks to completely ban commercial surrogacy in the country. It also provides for the constitution of surrogacy boards at national and state levels.

"Her body was brought to the mortuary of department of forensic medicine & toxicology for post-



Doctors at AIIMS published the case of a surrogate mother who died owing to medical complications

mortem. The surrogacy regulation law 2018 was also framed to regulate commercialisation of surrogacy. In this case, a financially challenged woman became a surrogate without providing previous disease history, which later led to complications. The woman died due to non-compliance of surrogacy regulatory laws," said Dr Abhishek Yadav, assistant professor, department of forensic

medicine and toxicology, AIIMS. Surrogacy is a contract in which a woman bears a child for another couple; the child may be genetically linked to her in case she donates her ovum. According

to doctors, for a woman to be chosen as surrogate, she has to undergo inquisitive laboratory and medical examination, provide any past history of medical conditions and family history of diseases.

The investigation further revealed that during the second trimester, she was admitted to a private hospital for treatment of vomiting. She gave a history of consuming 15-20 antidepressants and was advised to undergo genetic counselling. But her condition worsened and she had to be shifted to the emergency, where she died."As per the guidelines of ICMR, which were followed before the approval of Surrogacy Regulation Bill, she was not a suitable surrogate to carry foetus. Still, somehow, she was chosen to carry babies," added Dr Yadav.

According to the new bill, a certificate of essentiality should be issued after securing a certificate of proven infertility of one or both members of the intending couple from a district medical board; an order of parentage and custody of the surrogate child passed by a magistrate's court; and insurance coverage for a period of 16 months covering postpartum delivery complications for the surrogate.

Two held for kidnapping baby

New Delhi: A 29-year-old woman and a man allegedly kidnapped a 12-day-old baby from her mother in Delhi on September 17.

Police said the victim and the accused knew each other, and the accused took the baby on the pretext of taking care of her.

Atul Kumar Thakur, DCP (South), said the duo was arrested and the baby was returned to her mother. **ENS**

401-500 Severe





Relationship beyond bank

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Dr. Arun Kumar Panda Secretary

MSME



Ram Mohan Mishra Additional Secretary & DC. MSME & Chairman, NSIC



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2 3 4 5 6 October, 2019

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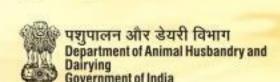


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- Arvind Kejriwal Chief Minister, Delhi



Social Welfare Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

Dip/Shabdarth/D/0142/19-20

DAYS AFTER SC PANEL ORDER

Puri says will change Master Plan to accommodate gyms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

UNION HOUSING and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri Monday said gyms will be accommodated in the new Master Plan for Delhi, which is under deliberation at the moment. At a public event, Puri said: "We will change the master plan of Delhi to accommodate gyms; won't allow for encroachment of land."

This comes days after the Supreme Court-appointed monitoring committee ordered sealing of all fitness centres, gyms and yoga and meditation centres which opened after August 12, 2008. The Master Plan of Delhi (MPD) 2021 does not allow fitness centres outside of DDA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

UNION MINISTER of Housing

and Urban Affairs Hardeep

Singh Puri said no trees will

have to be cut for the redevel-

opment of Kasturba Gandhi

Marg GPRA project, which was

be constructed by the Central

Works Public Department

(CPWD), at a total cost of Rs

state-of-the-art low-carbon

footprint redevelopment proj-

ect will have a 30% green cover.

The plans have been made in

such a way that no trees will be

cut. In fact, 186 trees will be re-

located using modern technolo-

done elsewhere."

Puri Monday tweeted, "This

2,428 crore, in two phases.

The residential complex will

inaugurated by him Monday.

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

Kasturba Gandhi Marg

green cover: Minister

project won't hurt



He also said encroachment will not be allowed

market complexes or shopping malls. However, an amendment in 2013 had declared gyms and centres that came up before August 12, 2008, as legal.

Brijesh Goyal, national convenor of the Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI), had written to the Ministry of Housing and

Earlier in the day, while lay-

ing the foundation stone for the

project, he said: "I assure all

stakeholders that all the rede-

velopment work will happen

without compromising on

green cover. The ministry's ef-

fort is in the direction of increas-

tute 33 per cent of the total

CPWD, Prabhakar Singh, said

the focus will be on eco-

friendly development, and that

the 186 trees coming in the

alignment of building towers

will be transplanted within the

harvesting systems, rooftop so-

lar panels of 800 KW capacity

and MBBR technology-based

Organic waste composts,

Green space would consti-

Director General of the

ing green cover."

area, he said.

campus.

Urban Affairs asking for an extension of the deadline.

"We haven't started working on it yet," said a senior official of Delhi Development Authority on amending MPD 2021 to accommodate gyms.

The cut-off for gyms and fit-

ness centres in residential areas, as per DDA notifications, was extended twice from the earlier date of September 6, 2006, to February 2, 2007, and then to August 12, 2008. As per the recent order by the SC monitoring committee, gyms and fitness centres are not permissable after this cut-off as per MPD 2021, "irrespective of the status of the road, that is, commercial, mixed land or non-notified".

Many stakeholders have asked for an extension of the deadline, including Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor. "The impractical Master Plan allowed car showrooms in residential areas although a family buys a car once in years, but doesn't allow gyms which are used by a large number of people. We have requested the minister to extend the deadline and give them relief," said Kapoor.

In a statement, he claimed discrepancies left by the then Congress government while bringing the MPD 2021 is the cause for the sealing threat, and that the Centre should bail them out. Goval had, meanwhile, cited the example of restaurants: "It has come to my knowledge that the DDA has given relaxations to restaurants on ground floors...The DDA can give us relaxations too."

Historians float petition for clarity on Central Vista

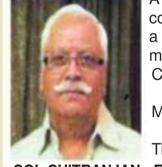
New Delhi: A petition was floated on the website *change.org* on September 27, calling for the cancellation of tenders for the Central Vista redevelopment project. Historians Narayani Gupta and Sohail Hashmi are among the three who started the petition, which has garnered around 3,000 signatures. Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister of Urban Development, had announced the plan for the redevelopment of the Central

Vista by 2024, which includes the Parliament, Rajpath, and many government buildings.

The petition argues that the proposal has been "initiated without consulting stakeholders and public at large". "In the 1980s, there was an open competition asking for designs for the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts. It was a democratic process. There is lack of clarity as to which areas would be redesigned," said Narayani Gupta. **ENS**

OBITUARY





A fearless outstanding soldier, a compassionate being with a heart of gold and a zealous soul born to live and enjoy every moment of life. Chautha/Prayer: 01 Oct 2019, Arya Samaj

Mandir, Defence Colony, New

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Delhi. : 4-5 PM

gies as has been successfully sewage treatment plants would be put in place, Singh added.

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Madhya Pradesh, India

Sort differences,

stop leaks: BJP

BRIEFLY

Water supply to be hit

New Delhi: Heavily polwater from Haryana has forced water treatment plants at Wazirabad, Chandrawal and Okhla to work below capacity, affecting water supply in several parts of the city. DJB officials said parts of North East Delhi, West Delhi, North Delhi, Central Delhi, South Delhi, including Delhi Cant and NDMC areas will be the worst hit.

Worker dies as tanker goes up in flames

New Delhi: A 26-year-old labourer died while another received 50% burn injuries after a gas tanker they were dismantling burst into flames Monday. DCP (North East) Ved Prakash Surya said, "The incident took place in Harsh Vihar. We received a call at 7.14 pm about a fire in a tanker in Mandoli Industrial Area."

Noida body looks at smart traffic system

Noida: Noida Authority is planning to implement an Intelligent Traffic Monitoring System, with increased surveillance across 80 locations, to improve traffic conditions. In a meeting chaired by Noida Authority CEO Ritu Maheshwari, several aspects of ITMS, to be implemented in over a year, were discussed.

11-year-old boy among 2 killed in crash

Ghaziabad: Two people, including an 11-year-old boy, died after the autorickshaw they were travelling in rammed a tractor in Ghaziabad's Loni, said police. The victims, Shiva and Rakesh (40), were rushed to a nearby hospital where they were declared dead on arrival. The driver fled.

HC refuses tostay disqualification

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Monday refused to stay the operation of the Delhi Assembly Speaker's decision to disqualify former AAP MLAs from Bijwasan and Gandhi Nagar, Devinder Sehrawat and Anil Kumar Bajpai, under the anti-defection law.

Bring kids on board dengue fight: CM

New Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal Monday asked principals and vice-principals of private and government-aided schools to educate children about dengue, chikungunya, and pollution and bring them on board in fighting the issues. He will interact with children on October 1 via video conference.

Gangster's associate held

New Delhi: A 33-year-old man, a close associate of gangster Kapil Sangwan, was arrested following a shootout in Dwarka Monday, said police. **ENS**

COMMENTS INSULTING TOWARDS PEOPLE OF BIHAR, SAY TIWARI, GOEL

Purvanchal politics heats up as BJP takes aim at CM over hospital remark

At Sunday event, Kejriwal had spoken about people from outside the capital availing healthcare services here

ABHINAV RAJPUT NEW DELHI. SEPTEMBER 30

THE DELHI BJP Monday trained its guns on Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal over his remark on people from outside the capital availing healthcare facilities here, saying that the comments were "humiliating" towards people from Bihar and other states.

While laying the foundation stone of a new trauma centre Sunday, Keiriwal had said that people from Delhi found long queues at hospitals because those from outside were also flocking to avail healthcare facilities here. This, he said, was a testament to how much the health infrastructure had improved in the city, and how free medicines and treatment were a major draw.

"A person from Bihar buys a Rs 500 ticket, comes to Delhi, gets a Rs 5 lakh operation free in a Delhi hospital and returns. This does make us happy — that people from our own country are getting good treatment and are happy. But Delhi has its own capacity; how can it treat everyone in the country?" the CM had said. Speaking at a press conference

Monday, Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari said: "If people from Bihar

or other states come here for treat-

ment, why is Kejriwal in pain?" "First, he did not give benefits of Ayushman Bharat to people in Delhi, and now he feels the pain if people from other states, especially Bihar, come here," he said. "People from Purvanchal and other states will teach Kejriwal a lesson in the upcoming elections because of the hatred he has shown towards them."

BJP's Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel also raised the issue: "I want

Tiwari also hit out at the Delhi CM for 'not implementing the Ayushman Bharat scheme in the capital'. Express

to ask Kejriwal ji how he can say Bihar and Purvanchal are a burden on Delhi... Delhi is not his private property... most of the health infrastructure was build by government before him... he has insulted the people of Bihar, and

the BIP will make it a big issue." Migrants from Bihar and Eastern UP, who have come to be known as Purvanchalis in the capital, are estimated to comprise nearly a third of the city's over 2 crore population. With elections just four months away, the vote bank will be crucial in deciding political fortunes.

Sanjay Singh asks BJP to look at Gujarat, Maharashtra, Assam

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

UNDER FIRE from the BJP, the AAP Monday fielded its Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh and MLAs Sanjeev Iha and Rituraj Govind, both Purvanchalis, to counter the onslaught.

"The party that makes people of UP-Bihar die in Maharashtra, Gujarat; makes millions of UP-Bihar people homeless by implementing NRC in Assam and declaring them foreigners in their own country, has suddenly become worried about Purvanchalis," said Singh.

"CM Kejriwal made a simple statement that people from UP and Bihar come to Delhi for better treatment because the Delhi government has improved the health sector," he added.

"The AAP government has worked hard to empower the people of UP and Bihar who live in Delhi. But the BJP has tortured the people of Purvanchal and



AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh

thrown them out from states like Maharashtra, Gujarat. When people of UP and Bihar were being tortured in Surat, (Delhi BJP chief) Manoj Tiwari never spoke against it. When people of UP and Bihar were tortured in Ahmedabad, then neither the PM nor the Home Minister spoke a single word," Singh said. He went on to refer to the

deaths of infants due to encephalitis in Eastern UP's Gorakhpur. "Many infant deaths also took in place in Bihar's Muzaffarpur. The BJP is bringing up such absurd issues to divert attention from the case of a rape committed by BIP leader Chinmayanand or from the issue of the flood in UP and Bihar." he said.

diktat to leaders

ABHINAV RAJPUT NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

AFTER SOME incidents of scuffles involving local party leaders came to light, senior BJP leaders have stepped in and asked them to put their house in order by ensuring protocol is followed when it comes to giving space to party leaders on the stage during events, and not "leaking" internal matters to media, it is learnt.

The reasons for clashes among BIP workers and councillors included issues like a particular leader not being given enough prominence at an event to whose face was bigger on a

The party had got reports of such incidents from Dwarka, Rajendra Nagar, Gokulpuri and Kirari over the past two weeks.

Senior leaders said they were upset with clashes and also the fact that the complaint letters that were filed afterwards were "leaked" to the media.

Delhi BJP in-charge Shyam Iaju said, "When there is a big party with so many members in the family, there will be differences, but the issues are being solved."

Senior BJP leaders, in a recent meeting, also warned that such incidents not just damage the party's image but also distract at-



Delhi BIP in-charge Shyam Jaju said issues are being **solved.** *Archive*

tention from its main agenda.

"The party had planned an outreach programme at 22 unauthorised colonies but people were only talking about the clashes," a leader said.

A part of the outreach programme was scheduled to happen on September 29, but the party decided to take a break and put their house in order before launching the next phase, he said

The BJP central leadership had earlier directed its Delhi unit leaders to conduct a survey to take feedback from residents of unauthorised colonies. which was conducted on September 22.

Senior leaders said that before the next phase of the outreach programme, they should be provided details of people whose picture will be on party banners as well as who will get seats on the stage.



RAMLILA SEASON

At the Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra's dance drama, 'Shriram', Sunday. It was inaugurated by Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu. Renuka Puri

Snatchers touch woman's feet, then flee with chain

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

PRETENDING TO be injured in an accident, two men stopped outside a 60-year-old woman's house to ask for help — before snatching her gold chain and fleeing. The incident, among a series of snatching cases in the capital, took place in Jyoti Nagar Saturday.

Police said the woman, Prakashi, reported the matter Sunday and a case under IPC sections 392 and 34 was registered.

She said that around 3.15 pm, two men came on a bike and stopped outside her house. "I was sitting on a cot with my cousin. One of them told us he had injured his hand and asked for some turmeric. I went inside and fetched it. The man applied the powder on his fingers, thanked me, and got on the bike. The other man came towards me and touched my feet — before shoving me and snatching my chain. The duo then fled on the Three journalists were also allegedly targeted by snatchers. No arrest has been made in any of the cases

bike," she said in her complaint.

The same day, two women journalists were also allegedly targeted by snatchers. No arrest has been made in either case. According to police, an intern

with The Hindu was robbed by two bike-borne men on her birthday in the early hours of Saturday. Eva Thakur (20) was returning home with her friends in an auto when the men took the bag from her lap. "I tried to look at the number plate of the bike but it was blank," she said. A trainee journalist with a TV

channel was allegedly robbed of her mobile phone when she was covering the PM's Road Show outside the Palam Air Force Station in Delhi Cantt. The inci-

dent took place around 9.30 pm when she was about to record a video on her OnePlus 7 phone. "I was surrounded by many people. I was about to record the video when a man came and snatched the phone from my hands, I couldn't even see his face. I tried to chase him but failed," she said.

DCP (South West) Devender Arya said, "The incident took place during the PM rally. We have recorded a statement."

On Monday, another journalist was allegedly robbed by two men when he was in an auto The incident took place around 10 am near Ashram. Pushkar Banakar, who works with *The* New Indian Express, was on his way to Janakpuri with his friends when the accused men snatched his phone and fled.

"Police is taking special measures to check street crime near temples and Ramlilas. Pickets and patrolling teams have been deployed to check movements of criminals," said a Delhi Police spokesperson.

Elderly couple's Hauz Khas home burgled, cash, jewellery missing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

ON THE afternoon of September 25, the house of an elderly couple in South Delhi's

Hauz Khas was allegedly bur-

gled by unknown miscreants.

Former journalist Shashi Mehta (64) and her husband Naresh (67) returned to their second-floor home from India Habitat Centre (IHC) around 4 pm and discovered that "the main door lock was broken, and the wooden door next to it with three locks was also broken," as per the FIR.

The FIR states, "The almirah drawers of three bedrooms were ransacked... in one drawer, we had Rs 25,000 which was stolen. A gold chain, two gold bangles, two gold and diamond rings, one mobile and other small items are missing."

Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said the couple was at IHC and their son was in Mumbai that day.

"The couple left for the US the next day. A case has been registered at Hauz Khas police station," said Thakur.

The FIR states that the two left for IHC at 1.15 pm and returned at 4 pm.

"It's shocking for us senior citizens and we are worried about our safety,"said Shashi in the FIR.

As per a police officer, footage from a CCTV camera on the first floor is yet to be accessed.

"The person who lives on the first floor is also travelling, and as soon as he returns, we will get the footage. The phone that has been stolen has been put on surveillance and we are investigating the matter," said a police officer.

As odd-even, free rides approach, bus procurement yet to gather pace

SOURAV ROY BARMAN NEW DELHI. SEPTEMBER 30

WITH TWO major transport policy interventions — odd-even and free rides for women — approaching, the Delhi government has its "fingers crossed" that its bus fleet will be able to absorb the potential rise in passenger volume, having missed the September deadline.

As part of the timeline to augment the cluster bus fleet, Delhi is supposed to get at least 320 new buses ahead of October 29, when the scheme to allow women to travel for free in buses will come into force. The oddeven policy will be enforced between November 4-15.

Of the 320 buses, 25 arrived in August, bringing the cluster bus fleet to 1,679. In September and October, 125 and 170 buses were to be added. However, in September, 25 buses arrived from the manufacturing facility.



Delhi is supposed to get 320 new buses ahead of Oct 29

Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot said the buses are undergoing trials, during which features they are equipped with, such as CCTVs and lifts, are being monitored. "Another 30-40 buses are on their way to Delhi from the factory. We are hoping to stick to the timeline," he said.

A transport department official said the government has its "fingers crossed" as registration

of buses also take time.

The minister has returned from a three-day official trip to Brussels, Paris and Geneva, where he studied implementation of various car-restriction measures and a special transport card for tourists. "By virtue of an arrangement between many hotels and the Transport Authority in Geneva, as soon as guests check in, they are provided with

a free Geneva Transport Card. With this, public transport in Geneva is free for the duration of their stay. In fact, our entire delegation used free public transport using the card," Gahlot said.

Asked if the Delhi government plans to introduce such cards, Gahlot said: "We will surely explore these ideas."

The trip was organised by the International Association of Public Transport, headquartered in Brussels. "All these cities are in the process of changing to ebuses and grappling with challenges of cost and charging infrastructure. We also plan to replace our entire fleet with electric ones in the long run," Gahlot said.

Dialogue and Development Commission vice-chairman Jasmine Shah said tenders received towards procurement of 385 e-buses are being evaluated and their finalisation is expected soon. The government plans to induct 1,000 e-buses by next year.

Ex-DMC secy among four named in cheating complaint

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

DELHI MINORITIES Commission (DMC) chairper son Zafarul Islam Khan has filed a complaint of cheating against three employees of the commission as well as its former secretary. An FIR was registered two weeks ago at Central Delhi's IP Estate police station.

"During inspection in January and May, we found that a lot of office supplies were ordered but not delivered. These included pens, glue sticks, laptops, coolers, pedestal fans, umbrellas and electric kettles. There have all been purchased on paper. The former secretary did this in connivance with the rest of the employees," alleged Khan.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Mandeep Singh Randhawa said, "An FIR was filed and investigation is on. No arrests have been made yet."

The FIR states that orders for 300 pencils, 8,000 plastic folders, a coffee machine, photostat rims, 120 staplers, 20 umbrellas, 10 extension cords, 100 glue sticks, 48 dusters and three LCD monitors, among other items. were made. However, none of

"Some items have also gone missing from the store room, including an Apple laptop," al-

ABVP protests at DU college over 'Krishna comment'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

OUTRAGED BY an allegedly "offensive comment" on Lord Krishna by a student on social media, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad Monday protested at DU's Dyal Singh College (Morning). They also accused a faculty member from the Hindi department of "brainwashing" students and asked the college administration to dismiss him.

Some students of the Hindi department alleged they were beaten up by ABVP when they came out in support of assistant professor of Hindi Rajeev

Kunwar, against whom the organisation has made allegations. The issue pertains to comments by college students on a Facebook post, on a session held by the Dyal Singh Majithia Study Circle. During the session,

Kunwar had spoken to students

on 'Patriarchy and Women Resistance in India: A historical inquiry'.

ABVP state media in-charge Ashutosh Singh claimed: "We expressed dissatisfaction regarding the unresponsive behaviour of the administration, and for taking no action against the 'study circle' organised by Left-affiliated students' groups without approval. It is pertinent to point out that a professor of Hindi... has been trying to

indoctrinate students in values

that are at variance with Indian civilisational ethos.'

Sonakshi Dogra, ABVP unit president of the college, said, "When the entire nation is celebrating Navratri, such insidious conduct of the accused professor points to a surreptitious plan to... perpetuate communal disharmony on campus."

Kunwar, however, said the controversy was politically motivated: "I never made any such comment on Facebook or on so-

cial media. These are concocted stories which are politically motivated to end the space for free speech on campus." He said the department will hold a meeting Tuesday to discuss the matter. Ashutosh Dubey, a final-year

student, claimed, "We came out to support Rajeev sir but the ABVP beat us up." He said they were waiting to lodge a police complaint. Principal I S Bakshi did not respond to calls and texts by The Indian Express.

meets experts for talks New Delhi: Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Monday met experts to

Staggered work hours: CM

discuss implementing staggered office timings in the city to reduce pollution and congestion.

The CM met O P Aggarwal, CEO of World Resources Institute, to discuss the move. "We are pursuing the idea of staggering office hours to cut down on vehicular emissions due to congestion. This is a tried

and tested method used around the world," said a statement is-

last week, where the idea was discussed.

sued by the CM office. Keiriwal had met the L-G

The CM, the statement said, expressed his desire to bring industry associations on board since several industrial areas can also implement the staggered hour plan. **ENS**

leged Khan.

the supplies reached office.

GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



HELPING HAND

BEING A Lok Sabha member comes with its share of responsibilities. This was evident as senior parliamentarian and firsttime Lok Sabha MP Ravi Shankar Prasad rushed to Patna, his constituency, amid a flood situation. While doing so, Prasad, who also holds the telecom portfolio, had to skip an important meeting with Vodafone CEO Nicholas Jonathan Read. Prasad, who was in Jaipur when he was informed about the gravity of the situation in Patna, boarded a train and rushed to Delhi, from where he took a flight to his constituency. He is expected to be back in the capital after normalcy returns in Patna.

COURT CODE

THE SUPREME Court has decided to go back to its old pin code of 110001, and asked all concerned to take note. Sources said that though the top court was granted the exclusive pin code 110201 some six years ago, people continued to use the old one, and thus two pin codes came to be in use. This led to delays in delivery of mails to the court. The postal department took it up with the court recently, following which it was decided to return to the old code.

TERSE REPLY

THE ELECTION Commission has refused to give an opinion on whether YSRCP MP Vijay Sai Reddy's appointment as a special representative to the state will be deemed an 'Office of Profit'. Reddy sought the EC's advice before joining the post. Apparently, the poll panel has said in a terse letter that it will not respond to requests for an opinion on 'Office of Profit' matters unless a formal reference comes from the President or

GUESSING GAME

MP HOPEFULS in the BJP are engaged in a guessing game about who is going to land the Rajya Sabha seats that fell vacant after the death of former finance minister Arun Jaitley (Uttar Pradesh) and Ram Jethmalani (Bihar). Although the BJP and JD(U) have not arrived at an agreement on which party will nominate the candidate, the seat in UP has generated an interesting debate about the potential candidates: whether former Union minister Manoj Sinha will make the cut, or a party general secretary waiting long enough, or someone else.

CBI transfers 200 officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE CBI has transferred more than 200 officials largely belonging to the lower rung of the agency's staff.

Sources said the transfers, effected in the last week, have been done for those who have been working with the same units or been located at one station for a very long time. Sources said some of these officials have been at one place for more than 10 years.

According to the orders passed by the administration department of the agency with concurrence of CBI Director R K Shukla, some 200 crime assistants, lower division clerks and upper division clerks have been transferred along with about a

dozen sub-inspectors. The agency has a sanctioned strength of over 7,000 personnel

but works with over 4,000 ow-

Cong slams EC

move to reduce

disqualification

New Delhi: The Congress on

Monday alleged that the Election

Commission's decision to reduce

the disqualification period of

Sikkim Chief Minister Prem

Singh Tamang by almost five

years has sent out a message -

that one is "immunised from the

law of the land" if one sings

Abhishek Singhvi pointed to

Tamang's case, unconfirmed reports of the Home Ministry com-

muting the death sentence of

Balwant Singh Rajoana, and the

Chinmayanand rape case in

Uttar Pradesh. "The running

Congress spokesperson

praises of the government.

ing to vacancies, sources said.

On August 21, 2019, Joint Director (admin) A K Bhatnagar had asked heads of various units to prepare a list of officials under them who have been posted at one place for a long time. In the letter, Bhatnagar had urged officials to stick to the transfer policy of "annual rotation" as keeping officers at one location creates discipline issues. The officers were asked to furnish three choices of postings, the letter said.

The development comes in the wake of CBI cadre officer N P Mishra shooting off letters to various authorities, including the Prime Minister, alleging that Bhatnagar was under investigation for fake encounters. The CBI officially denied the charge, saying no such findings had come up in its probe. Mishra's own transfer is pending due to litigation in the Delhi High Court.

CBI cadre officers have been opposing transfers carried out by CBI top brass.

linked to Article 370 from today **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

NEW DELHI. SEPTEMBER 30

SET UP to hear the challenge to amendments made to Article 370 of the Constitution, thereby scrapping special status to Jammu and Kashmir, the Supreme Court Constitution Bench will also take up petitions against alleged detentions and communications blackout in J&K following the Union government's August 5 move.

On Monday, a bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi transferred all petitions pending before it to the Constitution Bench headed by Justice N V Ramana. The bench was constituted especially to hear matters related to Article 370 starting Tuesday.

These include pleas by Anuradha Bhasin, executive editor of Kashmir Times newspaper; the habeus corpus petition by CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury questioning detention of party colleague Yusuf Tarigami; and Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad seeking permission to travel to J&K.

The CJI-led bench refused to keep pending a habeus corpus petition filed by Rajya Sabha member and MDMK leader Vaiko, seeking production of former I&K chief minister Faroog Abdullah. The court said that nothing survived in it after Abdullah's detention under the Public Safety Act.

Constitution Bench to hear all pleas

"After the filing of the writ petition, Dr Farooq Abdullah has been detained under the Public Safety Act. The said detention is open to challenge before the appropriate forum. In that view of the matter, we find that no live issue remains to be adjudicated in this writ petition. The same is, accordingly, dismissed," the court said.

Appearing for Vaiko, senior advocate Ajmal Khan questioned the detention order and said the government could not render the petition pending before it infructuos with its action. The bench replied that the petitioner is at liberty to approach the appropriate forum, if so advised.

The court also referred a petition filed by Bhasin against what she claimed was a "communications blackout" after the August 5 decision to the bench headed by Justice Ramana.

While Bhasin's counsel told the bench that the government is yet to file its response to the petition, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said the reply is ready and that it will be filed before the Constitution Bench.

Mehta also contended that nothing survived in Yechury's petition on Tarigami, as the J&K leader had also moved court in his personal capacity. The court told Mehta to raise this before the Constitution bench.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

HAVING VISITED Jammu and

Kashmir earlier this month,

Leader of Opposition in Rajya

Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad on

Monday said the situation in the

state was not at all normal, as was

being claimed by the government.

"government-made disaster".

He said there was an environ-

Not allowed to meet

people freely; cameras

at guesthouses: Azad

The bench headed by Justice Ramana will also hear a petition by child rights activists Enakshi Ganguly and Shanta Sinha challenging alleged detention of children in I&K.

Stating that the plea "raises issues beyond any individual", the court had on the last date of hearing asked the Juvenile Justice Committee of I&K High Court to enquire into it and submit a report. On Monday, CJI Gogoi said the court had received the committee's report and directed that it be given to the petitioners.

In his fresh plea, Tarigami has challenged the Centre's decision to revoke special status to J&K. His petition also raises the issue of alleged lockdown in J&K.

row: BJP leaders seek Kumaraswamy apology, he denies any role

Phone-tapping

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 30

A WAR of words has broken out between the ruling BIP and the Opposition JDS in Karnataka after an inquiry ordered by the state government found that the cellphone of the pontiff of Adichunchungiri Mutt, who is influential among the Vokkaliga community, was tapped when H D Kumaraswamy, also a Vokkaliga, was Chief Minister in the Congress-JDS government.

Some BJP leaders have sought an apology from Kumaraswamy who has claimed that his name has been "unnecessarily" linked to the tapping.

"The reports of the tapping of phone of the Adichunchungiri Swami and the statements of political leaders has caused unbearable pain in my heart. Moreover, the anguish this has caused the Swamiji has only aggravated my pain," Kumaraswamy said on social

A probe ordered by the BJP government into the alleged tapping of phones of political leaders and others between August 2018 to August 2019 — when Kumaraswamy was chief minister — found that the phone of Nirmalananda Swami was tapped by the police. The probe has now been handed over to the CBI.

The name and number of the seer and an aide were listed for tapping among persons being investigated in a case of smuggling of red sanders. The tapping was allegedly done around the

The CBI is currently investigating several police officers in connection with the matter While there is no direct link be-

ping the phones. "Nirmalananda Swami has manner with him. Never,'

Chief Minister Yediyurappa's

Punjab BJP president Shwait Malik said, "I do not want to speak on this. As of now, it is not clear to me...there are assumptions only until now. I will com-

viction. In 2010, the Punjab and Harvana High Court had commuted the death sentence awarded to another accused Jagtar Singh Hawara by a Chandigarh court after Hawara

Shah: Art 370 removal was PM homage to martyred jawans

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 30

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah said Monday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid "real homage" to about 35,000 martyred jawans by removing Article 370 and Section 35A from Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking on the occasion of the 27th Foundation Day of the Rapid Action Force (RAF) in Ahmedabad, Shah also said that time has come to bring "permanent peace" in the Valley so that soldiers can enjoy Kashmir's scenic views instead of putting their lives in danger.

"The real homage to the about 35,000 martyred jawans has been given by our country's Prime Minister who removed 370 and 35A and initiated permanent and constant peace in Kashmir. The martyrdom of these jawans demand that we create a situation in Kashmir so that there is peace forever. So that no jawan would have to sacrifice his life anymore and instead is able to enjoy the scenic views of Kashmir," Shah said.

"For 70 years, no one dared to do this or bothered about it. This time, the people of this country gave the Prime Minister a strong mandate and in very first session, Narendra Modi ji has heralded a new era in Kashmir by removing 370 35A," he said.



Home Minister Amit Shah at a Rapid Action Force ceremony in Ahmedabad. Javed Raja

"I wish to assure the people of Kashmir and the country that Kashmir will embark on the path to development, the path to peace. And, if anyone attempts to disturb Kashmir, our security forces will give them a befitting reply," Shah said.

Referring to the RAF, which was founded in 1992 under the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Shah said it has played a crucial role in ensuring that rioters don't get any opportunity to disturb peace. "Many times, a mob gets discouraged and flees when they get to know that the RAF is going to be deployed... In Ahmedabad and Puri, RAF played a big role in ensuring that the Jagannath Yatra is held in a safe manner every year," he said.

BJP ready for BDC polls: Jitendra Singh

Jammu: A day after the State Election Commission announced J&K Block Development Council elections, Union Minister of State in the PMO, Dr Jitendra Singh, on Monday said the BJP was ready for it. "BJP as a party is always prepared for all sorts of elections whether BDC, Assembly or the Lok Sabha," Singh said, adding that "we do not interfere in the functioning of the EC".

Kin of 2 'minors' challenge PSA order in HC

to travel and meet people freely by the administration despite the Supreme Court permitting

him to do so. Addressing a press conference, Azad said he wanted to visit at least 15 places in Srinagar to meet handicraft workers, those employed in shikaras, rickshaw pullers and roadside vendors, but was allowed to visit only two places. Azad said cameras were in-

stalled at guesthouses where he stayed and details of every visitor recorded. "And the word was spread that... those meeting could be picked up once they return home... many people who wanted to come and meet me sent messages that they were not coming because they feared they could be picked up," he said. At some places, he added, peo-



ment of fear, and business activities in both Jammu and Kashmir regions had taken a hit because of

Azad said he was not allowed ple were turned away.

> "Those who are saying there are no restrictions there... I am a living example... Despite the Supreme Court's order... I was not allowed to meet people freely.... every person's face was captured on camera... the situation was the same in Anantnag.. the surveillance was so much that when I was talking to people on the lawns... the conversation was being recorded... there also I was not allowed to visit 4-

5 places," he said. Azad said that during his visit he found out that business activity had come to a standstill in both the regions. "Every day, some 300 oil tankers used to leave Jammu... it has come down to 50 now..." he said, alleging that the government was "using local government" for repression.

time of Lok Sabha elections.

tween the then chief minister and the alleged phone tapping the investigation is looking at whose instance police were tap-

given me strength. He has given me shelter under his social programmes. He prayed for me to Kalabyreshwara. Is it possible for me to behave in a suspicious Kumaraswamy said on social media. "In this case my name is being taken unnecessarily."

son Vijayendra has demanded that Kumaraswamy apologise to the seer. "There is no match for Kumaraswamy when it comes to stooping low for selfish interests and power. He has not just tapped the phone of a seer respected all over the country but has committed an unforgivable offence by including his name among a list of smugglers. If he has any decency left, he should apologise to the guru,' Vijayendra has said.

"They have tapped phones on a large scale and in an illegal manner. It is a cognizable offence. They will have to give answers and they must face justice for their actions. Let the whole community know about their actions," Deputy Chief Minister C N Ashwathnarayan also from the Vokkaliga community, said.

After encounter, forces conduct search in Batote

Jammu: Two days after three Hizbul Mujahideen militants were killed in an encounter in Batote town of Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district, police and security forces on Monday launched a massive combing operation in the town.

This followed a complaint by one Darshna Devi that a youth in Army fatigue snatched her cellphone and fled into a field. She said in her complaint that the incident occurred about 100 m from her home. Police and Central Armed Police Forces personnel launched searches.

ADIL AKHZER SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 30 THE FAMILY members of two

more "minors" in Kashmir have approached the Jammu and Kashmir High Court in Srinagar challenging their detention under the Public Safety Act.

In the first case, a family from Baramulla district has approached the court with a habeas corpus petition seeking directions to quash the PSA detention order passed by the authorities. While the family members claim the detenue is a 16-year-old, Sopore Police have mentioned his age as 21 years.

"You are highly-motivated

stone-pelter of Sopore area. You are motivating gullible youth of Sopore and other adjoining areas for creating law and order problems..." reads the police dossier. Police have also cited an FIR filed in connection with a law and order incident.

According to the birth certificate, attached along with the petition and issued by a school on May 15, the date of birth of the detenue has been mentioned as "2.2.2003".

In the petition filed by his uncle, it has been submitted that the detention order is "prima facie arbitrary illegal and unconstitutional". "The detenue is prima facie a juvenile and has placed all the relevant records in support thereof in the petition" and "he cannot be placed in custody in any jail which houses adult prisoners", the petition stated. A single bench of Justice Ali

Mohammad Magrey issued a notice on September 20 and fixed October 18 as the next date of In the second case, a family

from Srinagar has approached the court with a habeas corpus petition, submitting that the detenue is prima facie a "juvenile", and terming his detention "arbitrary, illegal and unconstitutional". A certificate issued by the J-K Board of School Education, attached with the petition, shows the de-

Why remission

case can be

considered

RAJOANA'S CASE can be considered for premature release as

any death row convict whose sentence has been commuted

to life imprisonment is liable to undergo 14 years of actual

sentence and six years of remission, as per Punjab's policy

for premature release, according to jail officials. He is also en-

The police dossier which mentions his age as "20 years approximately" cites the detenue's alleged involvement in a case filed this year. "The subject has come to the adverse notice in police records since long owing to his involvement in anti-national activities..." it said.

tenue's date of birth as 8.01.2002.

"When the case came up for hearing last week, the government lawyer informed that the case has been reviewed. The court then asked to provide complete details in the next hearing which has been set for October 3," said advocate Wajid Haseeb, who represented the detenue in the High Court.

PARTIES REACT TO REPORT ON COMMUTING DEATH PENALTY TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

No MHA confirmation on relief to Rajoana, political war of words period of Tamang

EXPLAINED

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 30

WHILE THERE was no official confirmation from the Union Home Ministry on commuting death sentence of former Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh's assassin Balwant Singh Rajoana to life imprisonment, and sources in the ministry said the process is still on, political posturing has begun over reports that the BJPled Union government's plans on such a move.

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Monday distanced the state government from the issue, saying that the Congress party's stand on Beant Singh's killers had "always been clear and consistent — that they should serve their full sentence' — even as he said that he is per-

His predecessor, Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader Parkash Singh Badal. meanwhile called it a "strong positive gesture" on the eve of 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak.

In New Delhi, Congress's chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala termed the development "painful and shameful".

State Congress president Sunil Jakhar called it a move by BJP to establish itself as a "separate entity" in Punjab by breaking free from the SAD.

Welcoming the reported move to commute Rajoana's death sentence and release eight other Sikh prisoners, Badal said the Centre's decision is "statesfar-sighted and manlike,

In New Delhi, a Home Ministry official said the proposal to commute Rajoana's



Balwant Singh Rajoana

death sentence is "yet to be sent for the President's assent".

Amarinder, who was in Ludhiana, said his government had sent a list of 17 TADA prisoners held in Punjab for over 14 years, as required by the Centre, and is yet to receive names of nine prisoners who the MHA had decided to grant remission.

If effected, the remission Rajoana was in that list of 17,

as he was a TADA prisoner who had completed more than 14 years in jail, Amarinder added.

titled to benefits of parole as per law.

A Punjab Police constable at the time, Rajoana was a "backup suicide bomber" in the August 31, 1995 assassination of Beant Singh. commuted.

Rajoana has been in jail for nearly 24 years.

would make him eligible for parole for the first time in 24 years. Congress MP from Ludhiana

and Beant Singh's grandson Ravneet Singh Bittu reacted sharply at reports that Rajoana's death sentence could be

Slamming the reported

move, Bittu accused the BJP of doing petty politics to woo Sikh voters despite the Prime Minister vowing to fight terrorism on a global platform, PTI reported. "Who are they to commute the death sentence to life term when the Supreme Court has given capital punishment (to Rajoana)," Bittu said in Ludhiana. "He is a dreaded terrorist and should not be spared at any cost." Jakhar said, "This is an open

secret now that the BJP is trying to establish itself in Punjab as a separate entity to break free from the Akalis, and I think this is a step in that direction. They (BJP) are not bothered about Sikh sentiments...it is a well-thought -out political move to establish themselves in Punjab.... We also apprehend all these could lead to some kind of resurgence in anti-Punjab activities...'

ment only when there is clarity." Rajoana's March 31, 2012 hanging was stayed after the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) filed a mercy petition before the President on behalf of Rajoana who never challenged his con-

challenged the death penalty. The SGPC's petition to the President had come days before Rajoana was to be hanged. It came on the orders of the Akal Takht.

thread between these examples is the complete abuse of law... sending a clear message that you are immunised from the law of the land if you chant 'tusi great ho (you are great)'," he said. **ENS**

sonally against capital punish-

Dhangar leader joins BJP, named Baramati candidate

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, NAGPUR, SEPTEMBER 30

EVEN WITH the Maharashtra Assembly elections round the corner, desertions in Opposition parties continued, with leaders from the Congress, NCP and Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) joining the BJP on Monday.

Among those who joined the BJP are Gopichand Padalkar from the VBA, Namita Mundada from the NCP, Gopaldas Agrawal and Kashiram Pawara from the Congress.

Immediately after joining the BJP, they were declared party candidates for the upcoming polls to be held on October 21. While Padalkar will contest from Baramati constituency, Mundada will contest from Kaig (Beed), Gopaldas Agrawal from Gondia and Pawara from Shirur seat.

Padalkar, who represents Dhangar (shepherd) community, was inducted in the BJP in the presence of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis in Mumbai. declare Gopichand Padalkar as the BJP candidate from Baramati. He is a fiery young leader. The BJP is confident of winning Baramati seat," Fadnavis said.

Senior NCP leader Ajit Pawar, who quit as the MLA on Friday, was representing the Baramati seat, which happens to be the home turf of Pawars. The Baramati Lok Sabha seat is represented by Supriya Sule, daughter of NCP chief Sharad Pawar.

The BJP wants to cash in Padalkar's hold in the Dhangar community — which has a sizeable vote share in Western Maharashtra and parts of Marathwada — in the upcoming polls. "I decided to join the BJP as the

CM has made sincere attempts to

resolve the problems of the Dhangar community. The BIP has given Rs 1,000-crore package and 22 welfare schemes for the community," Padalkar said, adding that the chief minister was honestly pursuing the long pending demand of the Dhangar community to get reservation under Scheduled Tribe category. The matter is before the courts.



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI. SEPTEMBER 30

SHIV SENA leader Aaditya Thackeray on Monday announced that he would contest the Assembly polls in Maharashtra from Worli constituency in Mumbai. The 29year-old grandson of Shiv Sena founder late Bal Thackeray will become the first member of the Thackeray family to make a foray into electoral politics. "I have always seen our Sena

MPs, MLAs, corporators taking up several issues and I used to feel that I should work with them shoulder to shoulder. I have taken the permission from the party chief who is busy with the ticket distribution. So, if you local Shiv Sainiks and the local sitting legislator give me permission, then I seek the blessings of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, my grandparents and announce that I will contest the polls," Aaditya



Aaditya Thackeray in Mumbai on Monday. Ganesh Shirsekar

said while addressing a meeting of party workers at Lala Lajpat Rai college in Worli.

The announcement was met with huge applause and Sena leaders gave him a ceremonial sword. Sources in the Sena said



that Thackeray is expected to file his nomination papers on October 3.

Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray was not present during the announcement. Aaditya said his father was busy in the distribution of AB Forms to other party candidates. However, the Thackeray scion was joined by his mother Rashmi and younger brother Tejas at the event.

"Since childhood, I loved politics. Many Shiv Sainiks might have seen that I used to travel with my grandfather and father. Whenever my friends and others questioned me what else you can do apart from politics, I told them I can't do anything apart from politics," the 29-year-old said.

Since the Shiv Sena's found-

ing in the 1960s, no Thackeray family member has ever made a foray into electoral politics. So, the upcoming election points to a fundamental shift in the Shiv Sena's political thinking, which had so far insulated the Thackeray clan from playing a hands-on role in running governments.

"This is a historic step for me. As I am taking a big leap, I am not worried as all shiv sainiks are there with me," he said.

Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut said "the historic moment that Maharashtra has been waiting for" had arrived. "While the Chandrayaan

could not land on Moon due technical issues few days back, the Sena's Suryayaan will certainly land on the sixth floor of Mantralaya," said Raut, indicating that Aaditya would become the chief minister. "It is true that nobody from Thackeray family has contested the polls. But, sometimes rules need to be changed to make history."



PM Narendra Modi at IIT Madras on Monday. PTI

Modi: After US visit, realise world is looking at India with great expectations

In Chennai, PM praises Tamil language

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHENNAI, SEPTEMBER 30

STATING THAT the US media widely reported his praise of Tamil as the world's oldest language, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said that after the visit he has "realised that the world is looking up to India with great expectations".

Modi's words, made during his visit to Chennai on Saturday to address two separate events, come days after Union Home Minister and BJP president Amit Shah's "request" that if people learn a second language they they should learn Hindi, had kicked up a storm in Tamil Nadu, with opposition DMK alleging that the BJP-led Union government wants to impose the language on non-

Hindi-speaking states. Addressing people who received him at the Chennai airport, Modi said that he spoke in Tamil to the Indian community in the US and said that Tamil is the world's oldest language. "It was widely reported in all US media," he added.

He also said it is "our responsibility to make India a great nation and make sure that we meet expectations of the international community".

Addressing a gathering at Singapore-India Hackathon 2019, Modi hailed India's innovations and said the country is committed to create homegrown solutions for global applications.

come a \$5-trillion economy and innovation and start-ups will play a crucial role in that, he said encouraging innovation and incubation is important, as there is a need for easy solutions to solve India's problems and make life easier for the people. The event was held at the IIT

Research Park, where the Prime Minister distributed awards for winners of the event. Over the last five years, he said, India has given a great emphasis on innovation and incubation. "India promotes the culture of innovation. Now we are giving exposure to modern technologies," he said.

Modi said encouraging incubation and innovation to find cost-effective solutions will benefit not only India but even the "poorest and most deprived people, no matter where they live". He made a special mention

of a particular research project of a camera technology that can detect who is paying attention in a room. Speaking in a lighter vein. the Prime Minister said he specially liked the idea since it useful for may be Parliamentarians — "I will talk to the Speaker (in Lok Sabha).. I am sure it will be very useful for him," he said, inviting laughter.

Addressing IIT-Madras students at the 56th convocation event later, Modi said he saw an optimism about "new India" during his meetings in the US recently.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

ON THE 59th RAISING DAY OF THE FOURTH BATTALION AND THE 56th RAISING DAY OF THE SIXTH BATTALION OF THE BIHAR REGIMENT, WE PAY HOMAGE TO THE VEER BIHARIS WHO EMBRACED MARTYRDOM TO PROTECT THE NATION AND TO BRING GLORY TO THE REGIMENT

FOURTH BATTALION



GHAMAORAON, **VRC**



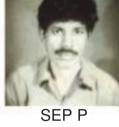
OP PAWAN

Sub Suman Singh Biruli, Hav Bibhuti Narayan Roy, Hav Vikrama Singh, NK Rupan Singh, LNK Gopal Rai, Sep Gopal Jit Singh, Sep Braham Deo Singh Yadav, Sep Vijay Kumar Singh, Sep Lalan Prasad, Sep Basrupan Singh **OPRAKSHAK**

Sub GhamaOraon, VrC, Nb Sub Jena Pingua, Hav Rudal Prasad, KC, Hav Rajesh Bara, Hav Injron Minj Nk Suren Tirkey, Sep Santosh Kumar Singh, Sep Etwa Kharia, Sep Sukhdev Kasiari, Sep Abhay Kumar, Sep Devi Dayal, Sep Rahul, SC SIXTH BATTALION



LT COL SOUMYA SINHA



HEMBROM,SM

SALUKABANRA,SM

INDO PAK WAR 1971

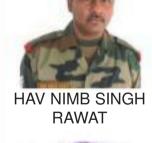
Nb Sub Gopa Bandhu Rout, Nk Rama Hari Mohanty, L/Nk Bishwa Nath Singh, Sep Justin Kisku, Sep Sama Nand Chaubey, Sep Kanta Prasad Singh, Sep Kameshwar Ram, Sep Sharama Nand Chaudhri, Sep Chathu Prasad, Sep Prabhudan Hembrom, Sep Dinba Purty, Sep Chamu Oraon, Sep Saluka Banra, SM, Sep Bhaskar Naik, Sep Amar Behera, Sep Sheo Pujan Singh, Sep Dambaru Sethi, Sep Abanindra Mishra, Sep Ramakant Mahakud, Sep Joseph Tigga, Sep Umesh Chandra Singh.

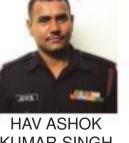
OP MEGHDOOT

Hav Dinesh Prasad Singh, L/NkBraj Kishore Thakur, Sep Siya Sharan Prasad, Sep Surjeet Singh.

OP RAKSHAK / OP RHINO

Hav Narendra Kumar Singh, Sep Ajay Kuamr Singh, Sep Ram Tirth Pandey, Sep Sanjay Kumar, Sep Bandi Bhagat.





NK S K VIDYARTH **KUMAR SINGH**



L/NK R K YADAV







JANARDHAN



SEP U P JANRAO



MUNDA



L/NK GANESH

DULUJI



KUMAR SINGH



SEP HARENDRA

KUMAR

SEP T S

SOMNATH

lived up to the Regiment's motto of "Karm Hi Dharm". Your gallantry will continue to inspire us forever. We, the fraternity of The Bihar Regiment salute you.

SEP RAKESH

KUMAR SINGH

THE BIHAR REGIMENT **ASSOCIATION**

Haryana: BJP releases first list of 78 names Balancing caste

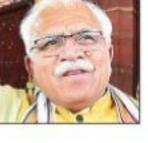
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 30

SEEKING TO retain power in Haryana, the BJP Monday released its first list of 78 candidates, including Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and international wrestlers Babita Phogat and Yogeshwar Dutt, while dropping eight sitting MLAs for the October 21 polls to the 90-member Assembly. The BJP has named nine

women and two Muslims in the list while rewarding at least six Indian National Lok Dal turncoats and the lone Shiromani Akali Dal MLA who joined the saffron party in the run up to state polls. As per the list, Khattar has again been fielded from Karnal

while two of his ministers, Vipul Goel (Faridabad) and Rao Narbir Singh (Badshahpur), have been denied tickets and replaced by Narender Gupta and Manish Yadav, respectively. State BJP chief Subhash Barala will also be re-contesting from Tohana. Three international sportsper-

sons, who joined the BJP in recent weeks, will be making their electoral debut with party fielding Phogat from Dadri, Olympic







medallist Dutt from Baroda and former Indian hockey captain Sandeep Singh from Pehowa, party national general secretary Arun Singh told reporters. Another notable addition to

the list is Aditya Devilal, the grandson of INLD founder and former deputy prime minister Devi Lal. Aditya has been fielded from Dabwali, the Chautala clan's bastion currently represented by Naina Chautala, the wife of former MP Ajay Singh Chautala.

Besides Khattar, six cabinet ministers will re-contest from their respective assembly constituencies. These include Capt

Abhimanyu (Narnaund), Rambilas Sharma (Mahendergarh), Om Prakash Dhankar (Badli), Anil Vij (Ambala cantonment), Krishan Lal Panwar (Israna) and Kavita Jain (Sonepat). Apart from Phogat, BJP has

nominated eight other women including former Union minister Birender Singh's MLA wife Prem Lata Singh, who will contest from Uchana Kalan. Others include Latika Sharma (Kalka), Kamlesh Dhanda (Kalayat), Santosh Danoda (Narwana), Asha Khedar (Uklana), Nouksham Chaudhary (Punhana) and Seema Trikha (Badkhal). The INLD turncoats who have

been fielded include Parminder Dhull (Julana), Zakir Hussain (Nuh), Ranbir Gangwa (Nalwa), Ram Chand Kamboj (Rania), Nagender Bhadana (Faridabad NIT) and Naseem Ahmed (Ferozepur Jhirka).

equations, BJP picks 17 Jats *Chandigarh:* In its first list of 78

candidates for the Haryana Assembly polls, the BJP has fielded as many as 17 Jats in an attempt to balance caste equations in the caste-centric state politics. In 2014 Assembly polls, the BJP had fielded 24 Jats for 90-

member Assembly. The com-

munity makes up for about 25

per cent of the state population. The party has again fielded all six Jats, who had won the 2014 Assembly polls, including Finance Minister Captain Abhimanyu (Narnaund), Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Om Prakash Dhankar (Badli) and BJP state chief Subhash Barala (Tohana). Rajya Sabha MP Birender Singh's wife, Prem Lata, has again been fielded from Uchana Kalan. The

Sukhvinder Mandi from Badhra. Harvana BIP spokesperson Raman Malik said that the party has given adequate representation to all communities. **ENS**

two others are Mahipal Dhanda

from Panipat Rural and

Stating that India is poised to be-

He told the students that they are graduating at a time when the entire world is looking at India as a land of unique opportunities. Order on SC/ST Act: SC to deliver

judgment on

govt's plea today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30



www.bankofbaroda.in

BANK OF BARODA invites tender for Supply of solar power from OFF GRID Roof Top Solar PV Power System (OPEX Model) for Bank's Branches in Rural/semi-urban areas.

Details are available under Tenders section on Bank's website: www.banbkofbaroda.in "Addendum", if any, shall be issued on Bank's website under tenders

section. Bidder should refer the same before final submission of the proposal. Last date of submission: 22.10.2019 up to 03:00 P.M.

Place - Mumbai

Date - 01.10.2019

(K B Gupta) General Manager & Head (FM, COA, DMS & Security)



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER M - III SHAHDARA SOUTH ZONE, SCHOOL BLOCK, SHAKARPUR, DELHI-110092 No. EDMC/E.E.-(M)-III/Shah.(S)/TC/2019-20/17 NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For online tendering at percentage rate tenders are invited for the execution of the following works by the EDMC from approved and eligible contractor and will be received as per time table.

Last Date of Download Tender: 10.10.19 at 12.00 Hours Last Date of Bid Preparation 10.10.19 at 14.00 Hours 10.10.19 at 14.00 to 16:00 Hours Last Date for Close of Bid Date of Re-encryption of 10.10.19 at 16.00 Hours to

Opening of Financial Bid : 11.10.19 at 15.05 Hours S.No.: 1 Name of Work: Improvement Development of Sanjay Drain wall from BI-11 extra Trilokpuri Culvert to Block 12 Trilok puri Culvert by pdg. B/W from in ward no. 02E/210 AC-55 Sh.(S) in East Trilokpuri., Head of Account: XL-VIII-S-(i), Tender Amount: Rs. 95,85,658/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 1,91,700/-, Time of Completion: 04 Months, Cost of Tender: Rs. 1000/-, Tender No.: 316511.

S.No.: 2 Name of Work: Improvement Development of lanes from main gate Gurudwara to Flat No. 526 Pkt.-V Mayur Vihar Phase-1 by pdg. RMC from in Ward No. 001-E/AC-56 in Mayur Vihar Phase-1. Head of Account: XL-VIII-S-(i), Tender Amount: Rs. 97,89,104/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 1,95,800/-, Time of Completion: 03 Months, Cost of Tender: Rs. 1000/-, Tender No.: 316512

S.No.: 3 Name of Work: Improvement Development of lanes from Main Gate to DJB Reservoir, 8A/1 to 8A/341 and 8A/175 to 8A/445 in DDABI-8A Flats Trilokpuri by. pdg. RMC from in ward No. 02E/AC-55 in East Trilokpuri., Head of Account: XL-VIII-S-(i), Tender Amount: Rs. 73,39,041/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 1,46,800/-, Time of Completion: 03 Months, Cost of Tender: Rs. 1000/-, Tender No.: 316513. S.No.: 4 Name of Work: Improvement Development of roads and lanes by pdg. RMC and drain in block-34 adjacent to H.No. 31,480,125,411,160,376,161,375,230,281, and 231 to 280 in Trilok puri in ward no. 003-E/AC-55/ Shah. (S) Zone., Head of Account: XL-VIII-S-(i), Tender Amount: Rs. 75,05,656/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 1,50,100/-, Time of Completion: 03 Months, Cost of Tender: Rs.

1000/-, Tender No.: 316514. S.No.: 5 Name of Work: Improvement Development of side berm and drain from Flat No. 280 to 289,300 to 309,401, to 410,413 to 422,425 to 434,426 to 433,405 to 406 and 421 to 416 and along parks in Mayur Vihar Ph.-1 Pkt.II by pdg. B/W and RMC from in ward No. 01E/AC-55 in Mayur Vihar Ph.-1., Head of Account: XL-VIII-S-(i), Tender Amount: Rs. 2,14,91,629/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 4,29,850/-, Time of Completion: 04 Months, Cost of Tender: Rs. 2000/-, Tender No.: 316515.

The demand draft for tenders cost & earnest money will be deposited in the office of S.E.-II-Shahdara (South), 3rd Floor. Zonal Office Building, Karkardooma, Delhi-110092 Rates are valid up to Six months. Detailed NIT can be seen from the following website or from the office of the undersigned

http://engineering.mcdetenders.com, (WAP & SMS enabled tenders portal). Executive Engineer(M)-III RO No. 59/DPI/East/2019-20 Shahdara (South) Zone EDMC's CITIZENS HELPLINE NO. 155303



MILIND GHATWAI

BHOPAL, SEPTEMBER 30

SENIOR MADHYA Pradesh BJP leader Gopal Bhargav on Monday tried to scale up the byelection to tribal-dominated Ihabua constituency by dubbing it a contest between "Hindustan and Pakistan", prompting ruling Congress in the state to move a petition in the Election Commission (EC).

"Yeh kisi do party ka chunav nahi balki Hindustan aur Pakistan ke beech mein chunav hai. Yeh hamare Bhanu (BJP candidate Bhanu Bhuria) Hindustan ka pratinidhitva karte hai aur Kantilal Bhuria (Congress candidate) Pakistan ka pratinidhity karte hai (this is not a contest between two parties but one between Hindustan and Pakistan. Bhanu Bhuria represents Hindustan and Kantilal Bhuria represents

Pakistan)," the BJP veteran said. He asked the crowd to shout "Bharat Mata ki jai" to prove whether they are on the side of Hindustan or Pakistan.

Bhargava was speaking at a rally organised after Bhanu



Gopal Bhargav

"This is not a contest between two parties but one between Hindustan and Pakistan. Bhanu **Bhuria represents** Hindustan and Kantilal Bhuria represents Pakistan."

GOPAL BHARGAV, MP BJP LEADER

Bhuria, the young BJP candidate, who filed his nomination on the last day. His Congress rival, former Union minister Kantilal Bhuria, also filed his nomination on Monday.

Bhargava accused the

Congress of supporting Pakistan on all issues.

The ruling party called the statement violation of model code of conduct and approached the Election Commission with a plea to file a case against Bhargava for trying to whip up patriotic feelings to influence the election. Chief Minister Kamal Nath's

media coordinator Narendra Saluja accused the saffron party of trying to derail the discourse from main issues. He said Bhargava's Hindustan-Pakistan comment is an admission that the BJP did not do anything for the region in 15 years in power, and Jhabua lagged behind other places in all development indexes.

Quoting global poverty index of 2018, Saluja said Jhabua's neighbouring district, Alirajpur, was the most impoverished district and was compared with Sierra Leone in the report. The west African nation is one of the poorest countries of the world. The Congress today took out

a roadshow and organised a

rally. Addressing the rally, Chief

Minister Nath called the BJP a

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday will deliver its judgement on the Centre's petition seeking a review of its March 20, 2018 judgment forbidding an arrest without prior permission for offences under

> A bench comprising Justices Arun Mishra, M R Shah and B R Gavai had on September 18 reserved its order in the matter, even as it observed that the 2018 order was "against the spirit of the Constitution".

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled

Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities)

Act, 1989, calling it "against the

spirit of the Constitution".

Taking serious note of instances of abuse of the Act by "vested interests" for political and personal reasons, a twojudge bench in the 2018 order had laid down stringent safeguards, including provision for anticipatory bail and vetting of complaint to determine if a case was made out before registration of FIR under the SC/ST Act.

NARADA CASE: MIRZA REMANDED IN 14-DAY JUDICIAL CUSTODY

party of moneylenders.

Lack of video proof doesn't give Roy clean chit, says IPS officer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 30

REFUTING BJP leader Mukul Roy's claim that there was no video showing him accepting any money, arrested IPS officer SMH Mirza Monday stated that it doesn't give him a clean chit. The suspended IPS officer was talking to the media in Kolkata on his way to Bankshall court, which remanded Mirza in judicial custody till October 15 in the Narada tapes case. The CBI produced him in the special

"He is saying he was not cap-

court after his five-day custody

on phone," said Mirza.

with them got over on Monday.

tured taking money, but that doesn't prove that he didn't take money. That will only be clear during investigation. For that confrontation and reconstruction, both have been done. He said something, that doesn't prove anything. He was himself

On Sunday, the CBI took Mirza to Roy's Elgin Road residence in Kolkata, where an alleged transaction of money had taken place in 2014, for face-to-face question-

"Whose money, what money and for what purpose did I take it, there should some clarity on that at least. With full responsibility and accountability, I repeat I was never a part of any exchange of money and am not into all this even today." He reiterated it was a con-

ing and reconstruction of events

The CBI said Mirza had confessed

handing over money to Roy, then

a TMC leader. The entire proce-

ment, BJP leader Roy said,

Responding to Mirza's state-

dure was videographed.

spiracy against him.



minimum period of 15 years, for branch at Name of Localities Carpet Area (in sq. ft)

2. In the vicinity of 2, 1500-1800 sq.ft Patpargani, Delhi For details visit our website www.psbindia.com

ZONAL MANAGER



in a city 1. Preferably near 1, 1000-1200 sq ft the existing branch Premises Saket, in

Bank invites offers, under two bid system (including installation of ON-Site ATM within the total rent), for premises are as below, on Ground floor, on lease basis for a

EXPRESS NETWORK

ON GROUNDS OF PARITY

HC grants bail to 2 more convicts in Gulberg case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 30

THE GUJARAT High Court on Monday granted regular bail to two convicts — Raju alias Mamo Kaniyo alias Ramavtar Tiwari and Dinesh Prabhudas Sharma — of the 2002 Gulberg massacre on grounds of parity, while five others of the total 11 sentenced to life imprisonment, were released on bail earlier.

A total of 24 people were convicted in the case by the sessions court in June 2016.

A division bench, headed by Justice Bela Trivedi, took note of the fact that the main perpetrator, as was observed by the sessions court, Narayan Sitaram Tank alias Naran Chenalwalo alias Naran Kodhiyo, was granted bail by a different division bench headed by Justice Harsha Devani

Given the sessions court's observation that Narayan was involved in seven killings in the massacre, and was yet granted regular bail by the HC, Justice Trivedi said, "The present acbetter footing than those already

months in jail.

The court also noted that Narayan was released on bail after spending eight years and nine

In the case of the applicants, they had spent more than nine years in jail. The court imposed a bail bond of Rs 25,000 and ordered that the two accused cannot move out of the state without the court's permission.

The bail plea was strongly opposed by Special Investigation Team(SIT) counsel R C Kodekar and the lawyer of victims Saira Sandhi and Rupa Mody, advocate Suhel Tirmizi. The SIT submitted that a sug-

gestion was made to the state to challenge Narayan's suspension of sentence at the apex court. Tirmizi too submitted, "Parity doesn't apply wherein some of the accused convicts were granted bail after spending 15 years (such as Kailash Dhobi) in jail. This would be nothing but nullifying the SIT (findings)."

The 24 accused persons were convicted by an Ahmedabad court in June 2016, following which they moved the High cused (Raju and Dinesh) are at a Court in August 2016, appealing against the conviction.

Give Bilkis Bano job, compensation in two weeks: SC to Gujarat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE SUPREME Court on Monday gave the Gujarat government two more weeks to comply with its direction to provide compensation of Rs 50 lakh, a job and accommodation to Bilkis Bano. who was gangraped during the 2002 post-Gondhra communal riots.

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the state, why it had not complied with its April 23 order regarding compensation.

Mehta replied that the state was planning to file a review in view of the fact that the amount has not been mentioned in the victim compensation scheme.

The bench however, ordered that the state must comply with its direction within two weeks.

To which, Mehta said the order may be cited in other cases and requested the court to specify that it order was in keeping with the peculiar facts of the case. The bench agreed to this and

said so in the order.

On April 23, the top court had ordered the compensation for Bano saying, "It is very apparent that what should not have happened, has happened and the state has to give compensation."

It had given the state government two weeks to issue the



Bilkis Bano

compensation.

In March, Bano had declined to accept a compensation of Rs 5 lakh awarded by the state and had sought an enhancement.

A pregnant Bilkis Bano was gangraped on March 3, 2002 in Randhikpur village, while fleeing the riots that broke out in the aftermath of the Godhra train burning and fourteen members of her family were killed.

The trial court, while sentencing 11 persons to life imprisonment in the case on January 21, 2008, had acquitted five policemen and two government doctors. The convicts went in appeal to the High Court against the trial court order.

The HC order referred to the "laxity" and "failures" of the police in the registration and investigation of the case. It upheld the convictions and also set aside the acquittal of the five policemen, holding them guilty under sections 218 (public servant framing incorrect record with intent to save person from punishment) and section 201 (tampering with evidence) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Greenhouse gas emission, innovation top IPCC agenda

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

MORE THAN 200 experts from around 65 countries, including 12 scientists from India, are participating in a week-long consultative meeting of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which began in New Delhi on Monday.

India is hosting the Second Lead Author Meeting of the IPCC Working Group III Sixth Assessment Report, which will look at arriving at solutions to combat climate change.

The Sixth Assessment Report will examine topics like the link between consumption and behaviour and greenhouse gas emissions, and the role of innovation and technology. The report will assess the connection between short to medium-term actions and their compatibility with the long-term temperature goal in

the Paris Agreement. It will assess

mitigation options in sectors such as energy, agriculture, forestry and land use, buildings, transport and industry.

Jim Skea, co-chair of Working Group III, highlighted the role of the report, saying, "Building on previous Working Group III assessments, this report will emphasise what can be done in the near term to mitigate climate change, and how mitigation actions can be enabled through policy, institution-building and finance."

"Aspirations have been set out in the Paris Agreement and we will now be looking at what the collective reaction of the governments has been," said Skea.

Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change Secretary C K Mishra said the IPCC authors and scientists are working to deliver the most relevant and up-todate research on climate change mitigation.

"Global coalition on innovation and technology is the only way forward," Mishra said.



Among the 55 injured, four were extremely critical, officials said.

21 killed as bus overturns in Gujarat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 30

AT LEAST 21 people died and 55 others were injured when a bus packed with devotees returning from Ambaji temple in Banaskantha district in North Gujarat turned turtle after losing control in the Danta taluka of the

Officials said that among the 55 injured, the condition of four is extremely critical. Passengers were trapped under the bus that overturned, they said.

The mishap took place around 4.15pm when the private luxury bus, with more than 70 passengers, lost control at a sharp turn at Trishulia Ghat, a hilly patch on the Ambaji-Danta road near Ambaji town of Banaskantha district, around 160km from here. The driver lost control over the vehicle due to heavy rain in the area. Banaskantha district SP Ajit Rajian said.

"Twenty one persons... died after the vehicle overturned at

orders CBI probe

into Youth Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IN A setback to the ruling CPI

(M) and the state police, the

Kerala High Court on Monday

ordered a CBI probe into the

murders of two Youth Congress

leaders in Kasaragod, in which

CPI (M) workers have been ar-

raigned as accused. The victims,

Kripesh and Sarathlal were

hacked to death allegedly by

CPI(M) workers on February 17

moved by the families of the vic-

tims, the bench of Justice B

Sudheendra Kumar also

quashed the charge sheet sub-

mitted by the state police. The

judge observed, "considering

the facts and circumstances of

the case, this court has strong

reservations about the impar-

tiality and fairness in the inves-

tigation by the state police be-

cause of the political fallout.

Having gone through the mate-

rials, it appears that the genesis

of the incident was suppressed

by the prosecution. The con-

tention of the petitioners that

the twin murder was planned

and executed not by the first ac-

cused alone, but by the CPM

gating officer had filed a charge

sheet without conducting "a

proper and effective probe".

believing the version of the

first accused "as the gospel of

not incline to question the foren-

sic surgeon who conducted the

autopsies showing the weapons,

which had, no doubt, caused se-

rious prejudice to the investiga-

Chennithala said the probe was

torpedoed by Chief Minister

Pinarayi Vijayan to save senior

CPI (M) leaders involved in the

crime. BJP state president P S

Sreedharan Pillai said the ver-

dict was a slap on the CM's face

and he should publicly apolo-

- WITH PTI INPUTS

Opposition leader Ramesh

tion," the judge said.

gise to the people.

"The investigating officer did

The court said the investi-

party, is probable."

truth".

Acting upon the petitions

leaders' killing

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM.

SEPTEMBER 30

this year.

Kerala HC

Trishulia Ghat. The bus driver lost control due to heavy rain as the tyres slipped on the road when brakes were applied. We rescued 53 persons from the bus using a crane," he said.

"The injured persons were taken to Palanpur Civil Hospital and a government hospital in Danta. The identities of the deceased are being ascertained," said a police officer in Banaskantha. Of the 55 injured. 42 were admitted to the Civil Hospital in Palanpur.

"We have deployed more doctors at both the hospitals to treat the injured and carry out post-mortems. All the passengers were residents of Anklav village of Anand taluka and were returning after visiting Ambaji temple," said District Collector Sandip Sagale, who rushed to Danta hospital.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Dr PR Lodhani, chief district medical officer of Banaskantha, said, "All our medical staff and doctors are present at the civil hospital. We have also called all our specialist doctors to deal with the complications in the injuries. Four persons, including a woman, are being shifted to Civil Hospital in Ahmedabad as they are in extremely critical condition."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took to Twitter to express his condolences. "Devastating news from Banaskantha. I am extremely pained by the loss of lives due to an accident. In this hour of grief, my thoughts are with the bereaved families. The local administration is providing all possible help to the injured. May they recover soon," he tweeted.

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijav Rupani said on Twitter, "Saddened by the loss of lives due to a road accident near Trisulia Ghat (On Danta road) Instructed officials to do needful. May those who have been in jured recover at the earliest. pray for the departed souls."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah who attended an event in Ahmedabad earlier in the day also took to Twitter to express condolences.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CELL SCIENCE, (NCCS) PUNE

(An Autonomous Institution of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.) Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus, Pune – 411007.

Advt.No.- PMC/P-07/2019

(SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE) WALK IN INTERVIEW FOR PROJECT POSITIONS

UNDER EXTRA-MURAL PROJECTS. Applications are invited for different project posts to be filled purely or temporary basis at NCCS under Extra-Mural projects

For the detailed specifications of the posts, the prescribed application formal and other terms and conditions; please see our Advt.No.PMC/P07/2019 under Project Staff in Careers tab on our website (www.nccs.res.in). For any updates please check our website Director, NCCS

VENTURE CSIR-NCL Campus, Pune

BIRAC Regional Bioinnovation Center

Upcoming event under BRBC @ Venture Center

Mentor Mixer on Data Analytics & Al in Healthcare

 Topics: Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning; Fund raising & Business development insights-

When: (Sat) 12 Oct 2019 | Time: 0830-1730

More detailed info and registration: http://www.brbc.venturecenter.co.in/events/ (No of seats: 20)

Venture Center is the largest inventive enterprises incubator in the country. It is hosted by CSIR-NCL, Govt of India

Contact: Venture Center (7410045657; 9172232212) 020-2586-5877/76/75 eventsdesk@venturecenter.co.in

Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi

Health & Family Welfare Department 9th Level, A-Wing, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, New Delhi - 110002

INVITATION FOR INDUSTRY CONSULTATION

WORKSHOP-DELHI HIMS PROJECT In continuation to the Public Notice published in all major National Dailies and Region Newspapers of Delhi, Bangalore, and Mumbai, on 20th September 2019, Industry partne are cordially invited to participate in one-day Industry Consultation Workshop for Delhi HIMS project, organized by Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of GNCTD. Thi workshop aims to facilitate better understanding of the HIMS initiative and providing an ope platform as well as opportunity to all interested industry partners to interact with officials fror the Department, mutually discuss and exchange views, and provide valuable feedback of

suggestions, to make this ambitious healthcare transformation initiative a huge success. The agenda and schedule for the workshop is mentioned below: Venue: Main Auditorium, Ground Floor, Delhi Secretariat Date: 14th October 2019 Time: Registration 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM, Workshop 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Project Background: Department of Health & Family Welfare, GNCTD, is the largest public healthcare provider in Delhi. The hospitals / institutions in Delhi provide a range of preventive promotive, curative and rehabilitative healthcare services, including teaching, training and research. The Health Department intends to leverage the advancements in Informatic Technology to implement state of the art ICT Health Management System which is citizen centric, and which improves the productivity of the State Health Department and the state-rui hospitals / institutions, thereby improving the overall healthcare system in Delhi. The total

number of hospitals / institutions to be covered under this project is approx. 300+. Please

refer to the short background note on Delhi HIMS project uploaded or

http://health.delhigovt.nic.in under the latest news section, for ready reference Scope of Industry Consultation: Department of Health & Family Welfare, GNCTD, intends to engage Manage Service Providers, System Integrators, Solution / Technology Companies and/ or OEM's that are experienced in implementing projects of similar nature and scale Department has engaged PwC as Consultants and intends to float a Request for Propos (RFP) for Design, Development & Implementation of a comprehensive HIMS solution acros all healthcare facilities of NCTD. The workshop would welcome suggestions from Industr Partners in following areas

1. Solution Framework and Design 2. Leveraging emerging technologies

3. Implementation and roll out strategy 4. RFP conditions and related terms

The workshop will include Tea break and Lunch. The prospective industry partners a requested to confirm their participation in this workshop latest by 11th October 2019 healthinformation.dhsdelhi@gmail.com, gautam.n.sinha@pwc.com nandini.sharma@pwc.com. Also, all industry partners are requested to bring representatives from each of organization to participate in the workshop. Kindly share the participants names, mobile numbers and their email IDs on the above email IDs. In case of any further clarifications, the participating agencies are requested to send an email reques or contact Mr. Gautam Sinha (PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd.) on +91-9818869880.

DGHS, GNCTD

DIP/Shabdarth/0763/19-20

Uttarakhand HC allows CBI to file FIR against ex-CM Rawat

LALMANI VERMA

DEHRADUN, SEPTEMBER 30

THE UTTARAKHAND High Court on Monday allowed the CBI to file an FIR against former chief minister Harish Rawat in connection with a 2016 video that purportedly showed him negotiating a deal to buy the support of rebel MLAs. A single bench of Justice

Sudhanshu Dhulia passed the order on Monday after the CBI placed a report of the preliminary inquiry before the court. "The court has been informed

that the preliminary inquiry has been completed and now the CBI wants to proceed further in the matter. In case the CBI wants to proceed further and register a First Information Report, this court will not come in its way, but it is made clear that there are larger issues here before this court, such as, the order of the Governor dated 31.03.2016, where the investigation was ordered to be done in the first place by the CBI, and the subsequent notification which followed on 02.04.2016, and then ultimately the Government on 15.05.2016 by which these orders, by which sanction was granted were withdrawn. The question here would be that when the Government itself had withdrawn its consent for the CBI inquiry... why did the



Harish Rawat

CBI continue... and the validity of this enquiry. What has also to be seen by this Court is the validity of the order dated 31.03.2016 read with subsequent notification dated 02.04.2016," the court order stated.

The court said that action taken after filing of FIR shall be subject to the decision in the petition filed by Rawat. He had filed a writ petition challenging the CBI notification initiating an inquiry on April 2, 2016.

The court will next hear the matter on November 1. Speaking to The Indian Express, CBI lawyer Sandeep Tandon said, "The court has read the report of preliminary inquiry and has not stopped CBI from registering the FIR..."

VBS Negi, a senior lawyer associated with Rawat's case, said, "But the court has also said that since petitioner Harish Rawat has challenged the validity of preliminary inquiry, then any action taken by CBI will not affect the petition filed by the petitioner. The court has also said that any action taken by the CBI subject to decision in writ petition."

Held for rape and murder as minor, he now gets death for similar crime

MILIND GHATWAI BHOPAL. SEPTEMBER 30

A POCSO court in Indore sentenced to death a 22-year-old man on Monday for raping and murdering a four-and-half-yearold girl in 2018, five years after he committed a similar offence as a minor.

He was a minor when he was convicted of murdering a sevenyear-old girl after raping her in Mandsaur in 2013. He spent the next three years in an observation home.

District Prosecution Officer, Indore, Mohammed Akram Shaikh told *The Indian Express* that the man moved to Indore after being released. For about five months, he lived with the family of a man who worked as a civic body staffer, Shaikh said.

On October 25, 2018, he was told to leave after he allegedly misbehaved with a woman in the family, said Shaikh. He later disappeared with the woman's four-and-half-year-old daughter.

The minor's body was found on October 27 near the banks of Khan river. An SIT was formed and the man was arrested when he was about to leave for Ratlam. Meanwhile, another POCSO

court in Vidisha sentenced to death another man Monday for raping and murdering a minor on October 25, 2015.

Thermal & Cement Plant Sidings at Jhank, Mohantian Bikanor

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-III, Delhi

4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building,

Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001

lotice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of

ebts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions

ct, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts

n the matter of O.A. No. 570/2019/DRT-III

D-1 Mr. Nitin Bansal & Mrs. Mega Bansal

D-2 M/s Alpine Realtech Pvt. Ltd.

Office at : D-18, Sec-7, Noida (UP)-301301

R/o 4, Anand Vihar, Pitampura, New Delhi

Defendants

Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993

CORPORATION BANK

MR. NITIN BANSAL

& Mrs. Mega Bansal

OBITUARY

Corps of Signals salutes its following Signallers who left us for their heavenly abode during the month of Sep 2019.

(a) 15396539K Hav Karande Kiran Sadashiv (b) 15672634W Nk Venkatagiri Santosh Kumar

(c) 15710404P Nk Hemendra Rathore

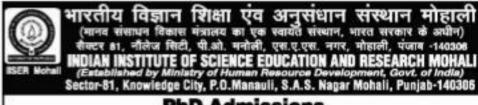
(d) 15714194X LNk Dharmbir Singh

(e) 15721025Y Sigmn Rohit Kumar Singh

(f) 15725151H Sigmn Ajith BS

(g) 15701064W Sigmn Sanjeev Mullik (h) 15745808W Sigmn Gowtham S

On behalf of the Corps, we sincerely pray to Almighty for peace to departed souls & strength to the bereaved families to bear this irreparable loss.



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Last date: The online application facility will be open till 12.00 noon October 21, 2019. For further details about the program and research areas, please visit our website: http://www.ilsermohall.ac.in

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Jawahar Education Society's

A. C. PATIL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Plot No. 17, Opp. Kharghar Railway Station, Sector - 4, Kharghar, Navi Mumbai - 410 210. Website: www.acpce.org • email: principal@acpce.ac.in Tel.: 91-22-2774 5721 / 22 / 23 / 24 • Fax : 91-22-2774 5732 APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POST OF

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The Educational Qualification, Experience & pay-scale for the post of Principal is

as prescribed by the University of Mumbai, AICTE & DTE from time to time. Please refer the University Circular No. CONCOL/ICC/04 of 2012 dated 10/02/2012, for qualification and experience for the post. Applicants who are already employed must sent their application through proper channel. Applicants are required to account for breaks, if any in their academic

Application with full details should reach PRESIDENT, JAWAHAR EDUCATION SOCIETY'S, A. C. PATIL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, Plot No. 17, Sector-04. Kharghar, Navi Mumbai-410 210 within 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. This is University approved advertisement.

through its Director Mr. Ramsingh S/o Sh. Rajbali Singh, R/o D-171, Sector-49, Noida-Whereas the above named applicant has nstituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 31-10-2019 at Take notice that in case of your failure to

appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and Given under my hand and seal of this Fribunal on this the 19th day of Sept., 2019. By Order of the Tribunal

4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001 Notice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-III, Delhi

Assistant Registrar DRT-III. New Delhi

Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993 in the matter of O.A. No. 572/2019/DRT-III CORPORATION BANK Applicant

Mr. Niraj & Mrs. Sangita Kumari & Ors Defendants

D-1 Mr. Niraj & Mrs. Sangita Kumari, R/o WZ 2 B, Near My Mother Optics Dayal Sir Road Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059 D-2 M/s Newtech La-Palacia Pvt. Ltd.,

regd. office unit no. 219, S/F Vasundhara Enclave, Plot No. 01, Vardhman Sunrise Plaza LSC, Delhi-110096

Also at : Corp. Office H-190, Ground Floor, Sector-63, Noida, 201301 through its Director Mr. Mukesh Kumar Roy

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 31-10-2019 at 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this

Tribunal on this the 19th day of Sept., 2019. By Order of the Tribunal Assistant Registrar DRT-III, New Delhi

epaper.indianex

IMD: Wettest monsoon in India in 25 yrs

ANJALI MARAR PUNE, SEPTEMBER 30

THE RAINFALL during the southwest monsoon season, which ended on Monday, has been termed as "above normal" as the country experienced its wettest monsoon in 25 years, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Rainfall during September this year was the second heaviest in 102 years, according to the IMD's 2019 Southwest Monsoon Rainfall report, issued on Monday.

The rainfall across India during June to September this year was recorded at 968 mm, taking the total rainfall to 110 per cent of the Long Period Average (LPA), which was last seen in 1994, according to the agency.

Meteorologists attributed this excess rain to the continuous low pressure systems that formed over the Bay of Bengal and traversed along the monsoon trough, bringing good spells of rainfall, mainly over central Indian regions. "The larger states like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, along with Chhattisgarh, benefitted due to these systems, some of these that lasted for as long as even 10 days," D Sivanand Pai, head of the IMD's Climate Research and Services at Pune, told The Indian Express.

Most states have received normal or above normal and some even recorded excess rainfall this

However, some states remained rainfall deficient, including Manipur (-56 per cent), Haryana (- 42 per cent), Delhi (-35 per cent) and Jammu and Kashmir (-21 per cent).

States that recorded excess rain were Madhva Pradesh (44 per cent), Gujarat (43 per cent), Maharashtra (23 per cent),

Purvanchal

(PuVVNL)

Purvanchal Vidyut Bhavan

Vidyut Nagar, P.O.- D.L.W.

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of e-tender no., EAV-124,

145, 146/18-19 & EAV-06,

07, 08, 09, 10/19-20 is here

by extended up to 14.10.19

(15:00 PM) & 15.10.19

(15:00 PM) respectively.

Further details can be seen

at website www.etender.up.

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tions shall remain same. Sd/

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for Three (03) years.

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Karnataka (32 per cent) and Sikkim (22 per cent).

The weakening of El Nino in early July helped the monsoon regain strength after a delayed onset and rainfall in June being 33 per cent short of normal.

It was also for the first time since 1931 that the seasonal rainfall remained more than the LPA (88 cm), despite an over 30 per cent rainfall deficiency in June, the statement said.

Monsoon activity, which picked up during July and August, wiped off all existing deficiencies in most regions barring the Northeast. The cumulative rainfall recorded during August and September (130 per cent) this year was second highest after 1983 (142 per cent) for these two months.

While the Met department had in June forecast normal rainfall for this season, the total reaching the above normal category was due to large-scale intra-seasonal variability. "The positive phase of Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) during the second-half of the season coupled with the many low pressure systems formed in the Bay of Bengal brought this excess rainfall that took the total rainfall to above normal category," Pai said.

The monsoon trough, this season, largely remained to the south of its normal position, that enhanced the rainfall activity over central, west and the south peninsular regions during the months of July and August. IMD officials also observed that the northwestern regions remained on the warmer side in comparison to the southern region. "This difference in temperatures acted favourably in pulling monsoon winds landwards, keeping the monsoon active for most time of the season." said AK Srivastava, head of the Climate Research Division at IMD.

ESHAROY

use of plastic".

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NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE GOVERNMENT does not propose

a blanket ban on single-use plastic on

October 2 and instead prefers a phased

reduction in the use of plastic prod-

ucts, Secretary, Ministry of

Environment, Forest and Climate

Change C K Mishra said on Monday.

He added that what the government

proposes is launch of a "mass move-

ment to sensitise the public against the

tries and start exploring alternatives

to plastic use. Industry has already

committed research on alternative

eco-friendly material for manufacture

of their products as a part of their

"We will also start talking to indus-

Vidyut

sub-

Power

limited)

Kumar)

Engineer



Residents being evacuated from low-lying areas of Patna on Monday. Nagendra Kumar Singh

40 killed in rain-related incidents in Bihar, Patna still waterlogged

SANTOSH SINGH PATNA, SEPTEMBER 30

AS PATNA and 12 other districts of Bihar continued to face a flood-like situation following heavy rainfall over the past couple of days, the state disaster management authority on Monday stated that 40 people have been killed in rain-related incidents in the last few days.

The state received 370 mm rainfall between Saturday morning and Monday morning.

Patna continued to remain waterlogged on Monday. However, there has been a let up in rainfall with the state capital receiving 91 mm of rain in the past 24 hours.

According to officials of the Meteorological Department, seven districts in the state are expected to get nil to heavy rainfall in the next 24

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Monday conducted an aerial survey of Patna and other affected areas and conducted a review meting later.

GANDHI BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi, renowned folk singer Sharda Sinha and Addl DGP (civil defence) Kundan Krishnan were among those rescued on Monday.

The Deputy Chief Minister was rescued by the Patna administration from his Rajinder Nagar house. He was seen wading through chest-deep water in the first floor of his house to get on an NDRF boat. He did not take questions from the media and left for his official residence.

Sinha and her family members were evacuated after the folk singer took to Facebook to appeal for help.

Low-lying areas like Rajinder

Nagar, Kankerbagh and Kumhrar are still waterlogged and most people are not ready to leave their homes for fear of theft. The state government on Monday arranged to air-drop food packets and medicines from two IAF helicopters in these areas. About 50 NDRF and SDRF teams are engaged in rescue work. At several places in the state capital, power lines are snapped and there is no water supply.

No ban on single-use plastic, buildings around

Extended Producer Responsibility

Swacch Bharat mission programme,

but recycled," said Mishra.

they are thrown away or recycled.

an equal amount of plastic waste un-

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19.10.2019

DIPR/ 3428 /TENDER/2019

der the EPR framework.

KERALA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

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295/80 R.22.5 TUBELESS TYRE

govt aims to sensitise public Sabarmati Ashram

Awkash Kumar from Vishwakarma Nagar of Kumhrar said, "Thirteen members of my family are living in one room. After three days, I came out to buy food items and candles. We cannot leave the homes vacant as thieves are moving around. We cannot depend on the government. Two choppers cannot provide food to 10 lakh affected people in low-lying areas."

Vinay Kumar, a psychiatrist who lives near Kankerbagh, said the situation is worse than the 1975 floods. Kankerbagh residents blamed Patna Municipal Corporation for not cleaning maior nullahs. With the water level in the Ganga not receding much despite the opening of all gates of Farakka Barrage, the low-lying areas might remain waterlogged for a week.

Medical services have been affected at the state-run Nalanda Medical College and Hospital and over 50 private hospitals in

Kankerbagh and Rajinder Nagar. Over a dozen trains have been cancelled or rescheduled and the road to the airport re-

mains waterlogged.

Govt to consolidate

Heavy rain lashes north India, 111 dead in UP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

SEVERAL PARTS of Uttar Pradesh were on Monday reeling from floods following incessant showers over the past few days, with the death toll in rain-related incidents mounting to 111.

Since Thursday, 104 people have died in rain-related incidents, with the state government on Sunday cancelling leave of officials in view of the situation. On September 26, 36 people

died, 18 people on September 27, 28 on September 28, 18 people on September 29 and four on Monday, according to officials. In Ballia, authorities had to

shift about 900 prisoners to other jails after flood waters entered the barracks of the district jail located near the Ganga river.

In Jharkhand, three members of a family died in Dumka district after a wall collapsed on them following heavy rains in the region. Besides these states, as many

as 13 deaths were reported on Saturday from Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Delhi may witness scattered rains over the next three to four days, according to the weather office. In Himachal Pradesh, light to moderate rainfall occurred in most places since Sunday evening, bringing the maximum temperature down by a few notches, the IMD said.

In Gujarat, three women drowned after their car was swept away at a flooded causeway in Rajkot district on Sunday.



In Ballia, 900 prisoners were **shifted to other jails.** PTI

SHAHJAHANPUR

Court rejects bail pleas of Chinmayanand and law student

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 30

THE DISTRICT and Sessions court of Shahjahanpur on Monday rejected the bail applications of both former BJP minister Chinmayanand in the sexual assault case as well as the complainant, the 23-year-old law student arrested for allegedly trying to extort Rs 5 crore from the 72-year-old politician.

A lower court had earlier reiected the bail pleas of the two. "District and Sessions Court judge Ram Babu Sharma heard

the bail applications of Chinmayanand and the student. The court rejected both the bail applications," government counsel Anuj Kumar Singh said. Based on a complaint filed by

the student who studied in a law college run by a Trust led by Chinmayanand, the former Union minister was booked under IPC sections 376-C(sexual intercourse by a person in authority), 354-D (stalking), 342 (wrongful confinement) and 506 (criminal intimidation). Though the student had accused the former minister of raping

her, he was not booked for rape. Meanwhile, the SIT also booked the law student and three youths for alleged extortion attempt based on a complaint filed by Chinmayanand's lawyer. She has been booked under IPC sections 385 (putting a person in fear of injury in order to commit extortion), 506 (criminal intimidation), 34 (Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) and 201 (causing the disappearance of evidence of the offence, or giving false information to screen offender).

The two cases are being probed by the SIT formed by the state government on the direction of the Supreme Court and are running parallel.

"We will appeal against today's judgment in the Allahabad High Court," Chinmayanand's lawyer Om Singh said. The family of the student said they would also move the High Court

Meanwhile, Chinmayanand was discharged from the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute (SGPGI) in Lucknow where he was admitted on September 23 after he complained of chest pain "The former minister has been sent back to Shahjahanpur iail from where he was brought to the SGPGI on September 23. On the same day, doctors at SGPGI conducted an angiography and no significant blockage was found," said SGPGI's Director Rakesh Kapoor.

Cong workers held ahead of march in support of Shahjahanpur student

Shahjahanpur: Hours before the Congress's Nyaya March in support of the 23-year-old law student who had accused former BJP minister Chinamayanand of rape and sexual assault, police here on Monday arrested about 80 Congress workers.

Congress leader and former Union minister Iitin Prasada was also detained before he could take part in the 180-km march from Shahjahanpur to Lucknow.

SP (Shahjahanpur City) Dinesh Tripathi said Congress workers were holding a meeting in front of the party office at a time when prohibitory orders were promulgated in the city. "They had not taken any permission from the administration. After arrest, they have been taken to Police Lines," Tripathi said.

But the Congress accused the BJP government and its police of blocking the march.

UP: Congress, SP to boycott marathon Assembly session

(EPR). As a part of this mass move- **PARIMAL DABHI**

ment, which will be a part of the GANDHINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 30

villages and gram panchayat as well as THE CENTRAL and state governments are planmunicipalities will collect plastic waste ning a consolidation of around 63 historical and deposit it at one designated locabuildings related to Mahatma Gandhi around tion. The eventual goal is that plastic Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad and turning waste is not dumped on land or water them into a "world class memorial" to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Gandhi.

Single-use plastics, also referred to A declaration on the same is likely on October as disposable plastics, are commonly 2 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is schedused for packaging and include items uled to attend a public function at Sabarmati intended to be used only once before Riverfront. Kartikeya Sarabhai, trustee of Sabarmati

Under the Plastic Waste Ashram Preservation and Memorial Trust Management Rules 2016, all produc-(SAPMT), said details are yet to be worked out ers that use plastic packaging for their on the project but an initiative has been taken. products are required to collect back

According to Sarabhai, at present, visitors tour only an area of around 3-4 acres, housing the Hriday Kunj and the museums, where as the actual area spreads around 30 acres, housing around 63 historical buildings related to Gandhi.

The Sabarmati Ashram precincts, which was earlier called the Satyagraha Ashram, had 120 acres and 28 gunthas of land till 1951. It was then divided into five trusts. "(So) the idea is that the Ashram area should be a bigger experience for the visitor by consolidating the different properties... Some land (also) has to be readjusted.

Details are yet to be worked out," said Sarabhai.

MAULSHREE SETH LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 30

EVEN AS the state government is aiming at setting a record by holding a special two day session of the Legislative Assembly round-the-clock to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, on October 2, the main opposition parties, including the Samajwadi Party (SP) and the Congress have decided to boycott the special

The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), however, has not made its stand clear yet. Senior party leaders said no instructions had been issued to attend the session. Several also cited personal engagements. While the Congress has

made it clear that none of its legislators would attend the session, the SP said its MLAs would be busy with the party's own event on October 2. "When they (state govern-

ment) are adamant on killing

democracy, what kind of discussion do they plan to have in the name of Mahatma Gandhi? There is no law and order in the state, there is no employment and the government is unable to do much about it," claimed Congress Legislative Party leader Ajay Kumar Lallu.

He added, "We will not attend the session just to become part of some record making. There are more pressing issues in the state that should be addressed but the government is not allowing any space for anyone to raise their voice. So what is the point of attending the session?"

The Congress has announced a "peace march" from Shaheed Smarak to Gandhi statue near GPO in Lucknow on October 2 to mark Gandhi Jayanti and senior leaders have been asked to participate in it.

Meanwhile, a senior legislator of SP, who did not wish to be named, said, "In fact, we were the first to organise our own event, a bhajan programme, to mark Gandhi Jayanti at Gandhi Pratima

in Lucknow. Our party chief Akhilesh Yadav, will participate, along with all our party MLAs and MLCs. Moreover, we also fail to understand the actual motive of the exercise, (two-day Assembly session) where more than about Mahatma Gandhi, the government will be speaking about its own schemes and initiatives."

SP spokesperson Rajendra Chaudhary said, "Our party is organising its own event to mark Gandhi Jayanti, which would be led by Akhilesh ji. All the party legislators along with senior leaders will be present there."

While the Bahujan Samaj Party is yet to make any announcement, sources said that many of its leaders are likely to be absent at the two-day session. "I will be busy with the ongoing bypoll campaign and will not be able to attend the Assembly session,'

BSP leader Lalji Verma said. BSP leader and MLA Sukhdev Rajbhar, said, "We will all be in Lucknow on Tuesday for a party meeting, where it will become clear."

Lucknow: 10 lakh students to read for 45 mins for world record

AVANEESH MISHRA LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 30

TO SET a new "world record", more than 10 lakh students from schools and colleges will simultane-

> books in Lucknow for 45 minutes on Tuesday as part of 'Padhe Lucknow, Badhe Lucknow' campaign initiated by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben

ously read

Patel. Coordinated Lucknow University (LU), event will include stu-

dents from Class 6 onwards. They will read books, preferably on Mahatma Gandhi or the freedom struggle in their classrooms from 11 am to 11.45 am on Tuesday.

More than 2,500 educational institutes in Lucknow colleges affiliated to LU. AKTU. Dr Shakuntala Mishra University, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University and the KGMU, and all the schools under the Basic Education, Secondary Education, Madrasa and Ashram boards and Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan are part of the campaign. Five teams of the "World Book of Records" have arrived in Lucknow and will monitor the event, officials said.

"We have counted all the students and the number reaches to around 10.34 lakh. All the students will read books in their respective classrooms and libraries of their schools and colleges from 11 am to 11.45 am," said Professor N K Pandey, spokesperson,

Lucknow University.

"Teachers and school and college staff will also take part in the reading. For monitoring and counting, two photographs and a 30-second video from each classroom will be uploaded on the LU portal. Five teams of the World Book of Records can randomly inspect any of the school or college randomly. By around 2 pm, we are expecting all the photos and videos to be uploaded, and by evening all the data will be compiled and released," said Pandey.

An LU official said that the students' participation was not mandatory and that they had been asked to read books on Mahatma Gandhi or the freedom struggle to honour the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation next day. "If not available, students can

read any book, except their syllabus books. The books will either be provided by the institution or students can bring their own," the LU official said.

(Sd/-) Chairman & Managing Director Date: 01.10,2019 NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE (through e-tendering) **Earnest Money** of the work Name of work with its location Document to be deposited Officer Address Fee (In Rs.) (in Rs.) Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Rs. Rs. Engineer/C, Northern Railway, 62,28,092/-5.900/-1,24,600.00 Contract (AMC) of Statcon make 20 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, only Nos. IPS at JNC, RH-8, RH-9, RH-10, New Delhi-110055. SLKN, GNU, SMK, RH-23, RSH-24, RH-25, MUD, PH, lodhi colony, PH Naraina Vihar, NGI DBD, RNA, LC-579 A, PNP, TKD, & Bhamewa of Delhi Division

Date & Time for Closed of tender: Tender uploaded date & time- 23.10.2019 up to 15.00 hrs. Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc. : See the N.Rly, website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch 3rd Floor, DRM office, State entry road, New Delhi-110055. Tender No. 558 Sig/16/M/Tender/AMC/044/2019-20 Dated: 30.09.2019. 3154/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS :: TIRUPATI CHITTOOR DIST, ANDHRA PRADESH OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, TTD, TIRIPATI O'-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

| S. No. | NIT No. | Name of the work | Estimate Amount Rs. in Lakhs & Time for completion | Schedule Download strat date | Down load end date & last date for bid submission | |
|------------|--|--|---|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 4 | | | |
| 5 | | TENDING ENGINEER-II | | | | |
| 1. 1 | 67 SE-III Expression of Interest for disposal of Dry waste generated | | EOI | 03-10-2019 | 21-10-2019 | |
| | TTD/ 2019- | from Tirumala | OFF LINE TENDER | 5.00PM | 1.00PM & | |
| 20 | | | | | | |
| For | | 67/SE-JI/TTD/2019-20 ECI document can be downloaded fro | 15 Years | yw tinumala o | 3.00PM | |
| hou | NIT No:1 be purch irs and sh SUPERIN | 67/SE-II/TTD/2019-20 ECI document can be downloaded from the second of t | om TTD Website (ww o 21-10-2019 upto 1 | .00 PM 1ST 6 | rg) and also during office | |
| can hou | NIT No:1 be purch irs and sh SUPERIN | hased at 0/o SE-II, TTD, Tirupati from 03-10-2019, 5.00 PM to hall be Deposited in Tender box kept in 0/o SE-II,TTD.Tirupate TENDING ENGINEER-(Elec) Providing of Centralised AC system to Sri Padrnhvathi | om TTD Website (ww o 21-10-2019 upto 1 ti on or before 21-10 Open Tender | .00 PM 1ST 6 | rg) and also during office PM IST. | |
| hou | NIT No:1 be purch irs and sh SUPERIN | hased at 0/o SE-II, TTD, Tirupati from 03-10-2019, 5.00 PM to hall be Deposited in Tender box kept in 0/o SE-II,TTD.Tirupat TENDING ENGINEER-(Elec) | om TTD Website (ww o 21-10-2019 upto 1 ti on or before 21-10 Open Tender | .00 PM 1ST 6 -2019 by 3.00 | rg) and also during office | |

Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India-695014 Phone No: +91 471 4252855, 4852855 email: kcb@keralacashewboard.com

KERALA CASHEW BOARD LIMITED (KCB Ltd)

T.C-29/4016, Women's College-Bakery Junction Road

Web: www.keralacashewboard.com No: KCB/11/616/2019/IDN Date: 28.09.2019 e-Tender Notice

Kerala Cashew Board Limited invites e-tenders through e-procurement portal for import of 2000-3000 Metric Tonnes of quality Dried Cashew Nut of

2019 crop of Indonesia origin. (Tender Id: 2019_KCBL_304271_1) Last date for submission and : 1700 hours on 17th October 2019 uploading e-tenders

: 1100 hours on 18th October 2019 Opening of e-tender All details can be viewed, downloaded and applied through the e-procuremen portal www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Managing Director, Vellore Smart City Limited

Corporation Office, Vellore Roc.No.6209 /2015/E1 Date: 30.09.2019 **OPEN TENDER NOTICE** The Commissioner, Vellore Corporation / Managing Director, Vellore Smart City Limited , invites tenders two cover system for the following works as per the conditions laid down in the tender notice published in website https://tntenders.gov.in. Value put the Tende Details of Work for which Tender is called Rs. in Lakhs Bus Terminal Development, Public Transport Name of the Work Improvement and Transit Hub with State of 3920.00 Art Amenities in Vellore City Municipal Corporation. SI.No.1 - 21.10.2019 at 11.00 AM Pre-Bid Conference 06.11.2019 Wednesday 3.00 PM Date of Tender Date, Time and Venue 06.11.2019 Wednesday 3.30 PM at Vellore of opening Corporation Office Other Details can be obtained from the tender notice published in Tender document availability website https://tntenders.gov.in or from Vellore Corporation and other details Office, Engineering section during working hours on all working For contact : 0416 - 2220578 Commissioner, Vellore City Municipal Corporation /

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

VELLORE CORPORATION

ess.com



North

Hungarian man goes missing during trek in Uttarakhand

Dehradun: A Hungarian national, Peter Wittek (37), has reportedly gone missing during a trekking tour of the Trishul mountain in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, officials said on Monday. The administration has dispatched rescue teams of the NDRF and Forest department to search for Wittek. It is suspected that

Wittek went missing during an avalanche on Sunday. According the information the district administration received from the tour operator, that group had started trekking from Sutol about four days ago. The other five members include four from Singapore and one from Mauritius.



Members of the Jewish community at the Succath Shelomo Synagogue in Pune on the occasion of Rosh Hashanah on Monday. Ashish Kale

BrahMos's land-attack version successfully test-fired

Balasore: India on Monday successfully test-fired the land-attack version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from a base at Chandipur in Odisha's Balasore district. The state-ofthe-art missile, with a strike range of 290 km, was jointly launched by DRDO and BrahMos Aerospace from

Balasore's Integrated Test Range, a statement said. The test, conducted at 10.20 am, met all flight parameters, the statement said. "...the indigenous content in the formidable weapon has reached a high value, thus bolstering India's defence indigenisation and the 'Make in India' programme," it said.

WEST

Maharashtra minister's car hits motorcycle, rider killed

Pune: A 45-year-old man was killed after an SUV, belonging to Maharashtra minister Tanaji Sawant, hit his twowheeler in Solapur district on Monday, police said. The incident took place around 8.30 am on a state highway intersection, some 220 km from Pune, an official from Barshi police station said. Sawant, a Shiv Sena MLC and

the state water conservation minister, was not in the vehicle at the time of the accident, he said, adding that its occupants comprised driver Anuradh Surwase (28) and one more person. "The victim, identified as Shyam Hole, was trying to go to the other side of the road on his motorcycle when he was hit by the SUV," police said. PTI

South

Family suicide pact: Woman's body recovered, pet dog saved

Mangaluru: The body of the woman who jumped into the Nethravati river with her mother, brother and pet dog was recovered early Monday while the dog has been saved even as search was on to trace the brother's body, police said. Unable to bear the death of her husband Kishan (65) on

Saturday, Kavita Mandanna

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A DAY after real estate giant Ansal

API's vice-chairman Pranav Ansal

was arrested by Lucknow Police

in Delhi, a nine-member special

monitoring team headed by an

IPS officer was formed on Monday

to monitor the cases registered

lodged at Vibhuti Khand, Gomti

Nagar, PGI and Hazratgani police

stations in Lucknow against Ansal

API chairman Sushil Ansal -- still

absconding --, his son Pranav and

others for allegedly cheating flat-

be re-investigated and evidence

was being collected in the rest,

said SP (North) Sukriti Madhav,

the IPS officer who is heading the

team formed by the Lucknow SSP.

some are fresh and re-investiga-

"Among the Lucknow cases,

Thirteen of these cases would

buyers and diverting money.

A total of 24 cases have been

against the company here.

LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 30

Lucknow SSP forms

against Ansal API

team to monitor probe

Pranav Ansal

and new cases registered. All the

investigating officers of their re-

spective cases will be monitored

by this team," he said. Pranav was

nabbed at Delhi airport while he

was trying to board a flight to

London. A lookout circular was is-

sued against him in July on the ba-

sis of an FIR under charges of

cheating, forgery and criminal in-

Gomti Nagar and Hazratganj cir-

cle officers, joint director (prose-

cution), and additional SHOs

(crime) of Vibhuti Khand, Gomti

Nagar, PGI, Hazratgani and

Gosaigani police stations.

The monitoring team includes

timidation, among others.

(55), her son Kaushik (30) and daughter Kalpita (20) entered into a suicide pact, the police said. Before Kishan's funeral on Sunday, the family went to the bridge across Nethravati and jumped into the river. Kavita was saved but she died on the way to hospital, while Kalpita's body was recovered Monday.

SIGNING IN

Air Marshal R K S Bhadauria takes charge as chief of Indian Air Force, succeeding Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa, in Delhi on Monday. Bhadauria said IAF is monitoring developments along the western front and is ready to deal with any situation. He also said the procurement of 36 Rafale jets will give IAF enhanced prowess over the country's "adversaries". PTI

GOVT ANNOUNCEMENT OF STOCK LIMITS ON ONION

Nashik traders say move impractical, stage protest

PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS

PUNE, SEPTEMBER 30

ONION TRADERS in Nashik staged a protest on Monday against the Centre's announcement of a stock limit for onions. They termed the move "impractical" and threatened to boycott the auction of onions if action was taken against them for violating the stock limits.

With less than a month to go for state elections in Maharashtra and Haryana, the Centre on Sunday decided to ban the export of onions in a bid to control the retail price hike across the country. Union Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Ram Vilas Paswan also announced a stock limit for onions, prescribing a limit of 500 quintals for wholesale and 100 quintals for retail traders per day till November 30. The minister also asked state governments to take action against traders found violating this limit.

Prior to this, the Centre had slapped a steep Minimum Export Price (MEP) of \$850 per tonne to stem exports so that the prices dip in wholesale and retail markets.

On Monday, trade in most wholesale markets in Maharashtra remained suspended as traders and farmers from various parts of Nashik and Pune took to the streets to protest against the stock limits. Several traders gathered at Chandwad in Nashik to discuss the fallout of the measure. Trade resumed in the second half,



Farmer leaders and onion growers stage a protest against the ban on onion export, at Satana in Nashik Monday. PTI

but remained slow, sources said. Sohanlal Bhandari, president

of Nashik onion traders' association, said, "Once onion is procured from wholesale markets, it has to be sorted and graded before it can be sent across. This process takes two to three days. This notification would virtually dry up the trade as traders would have to dispose of their stocks before they can buy more," he said.

Several other traders told *The* Indian Express that in every market, there were four to five traders who control the trade and buy in bulk. "If such traders stop buying, what will the market committees do if the whole arrival from farmers is not sold?" they said.

Traders also pointed out that at the present rates, hoarding did not make sense. They claimed that while the government yields the stick for traders operating out of the wholesale markets, there was little or no mechanism to control the prices at the retail end.

Bhandari, who led a delegation of traders to meet the Nashik Collector, said they have asked for a reconsideration on the stock limit. "We are ready to submit daily reports of procurement and sales of onion, but action should be initiated only if the trader fails to dispose of the onion within seven days of purchase. If any action is taken before that, we will boycott auction in the wholesale markets," he said.

Onion prices in wholesale markets of Nashik had crossed Rs 3,500 per quintal, while in the major cities, the bulb is trading at Rs 60-80 per kg. A dip in production in the states of Maharashtra and Karnataka has led to the spike in its price.

NH 766 STRETCH PASSING THROUGH FOREST AREA

SC proposal intensifies protests over traffic ban

Bandipur tiger reserve

Why it

affects

Wayanad

THE TRAFFIC ban at night

has affected inter-state

movement of provisions

and crippled Wayanad's

tourism industry, which

mainly depends on trav-

ellers from Bengaluru.

Bengaluru and Mysuru-

bound vehicles from

Wayanad and other parts

of north Kerala now take

a lengthy alternative ro-

ute. The restrictions came

as a double whammy for

Kerala as another inter-

state highway cutting across the elephant corri-

dor in Nagarhole Rajiv

Gandhi National Park had

been closed for traffic in

ed support to the agitation and

addressed the protest in Bathery.

krishnan, who represents Sulthan

Bathery, said all political parties,

traders, religious organisations

and youth outfits have come to-

gether on the issue. "It is a matter

of life and death for Wayanad. The

life and development of Wayanad

have already been hit by the night

Congress legislator I C Bala-

the night in 2008.

Kozhikode

SHAJU PHILIP

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, SEPTEMBER 30

MASS PROTESTS have flared up across Wayanad district in Kerala with people demanding lifting of a traffic ban at night on the forest stretch of Kozhikode-Mysuru-Kollegal national highway 766, which cuts through Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka and is one of the three major corridors linking Kerala with the rest of the country.

It has been a decade since the ban came into effect but protests intensified last Wednesday after the Supreme Court earlier this month asked the Union Ministry of Forest, Environment and Climate Change to suggest alternative routes so that the NH 766 could be closed forever.

The court's suggestion for a complete ban on traffic on the forest stretch of NH 766, which is the lifeline of Wayanad district, has triggered an indefinite relay fast at Sulthan Bathery town in Wayanad, where Congress, BJP and CPM supporters have shared the protest venue that is thronged by hundreds every day. On Monday, farmers joined in with a long march to Karnataka border, demanding that the ban be lifted.

Kerala Transport Minister and NCP leader A K Saseendran said the state government wants the ban to be lifted. "We want that the night traffic be restored with some regulations. The Union government has rejected our proposal for elevated highway through the tiger reserve. The SC suggestion for closing down the highway would only aggravate the situation. People of two states are deprived of their right to mobility. In the country, no other highway passing through forest is closed for traffic in such a manner. Why the trouble in Kerala alone," he said.

BJP MLA C S Niranjan Kumar, who represents neighbouring Gundlupet in Karnataka, extendtraffic ban... We don't have alter-

native routes for this highway. Its closure means death knell for Wayanad," he said, adding that the Supreme Court will hear the

matter on October 14. On Sunday, Congress leader and Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi, tweeted, "I stand in solidarity with the youth on an indefinite hunger strike since September 25th protesting against the daily 9 hour traffic ban on NH-766 that has caused immense hardship to lakhs of people in Kerala and Karnataka." D Rajkumar, managing trustee

of Mysuru-based Wildlife Conservation Foundation, which is among the petitioners in Supreme Court, said the highway's closure would help wildlife. "The previous Congress government in Karnataka supported the ban, which is a must to ensure safety of animals. Wild animals move to and fro between Bandipur reserve and the adjacent Wayanad wildlife sanctuary. Traffic along the highway has increased manifold over the years. At night, we have noticed that all types of animals move very close to the road. If the highway is opened again for traffic during the night, animals would be exposed to danger," Rajkumar said.

The traffic ban at night was first imposed by the Chamarajanagar district administration in Karnataka in 2009. It was also slapped along the Bandipur-Mudumalai forest stretch of the Mysuru-Ooty road.

The ban was upheld by the Karnataka High Court and later by the Supreme Court. Acting on PILs the apex court on August 7 ordered that the ban would continue and asked the Centre to come up with a permanent solutions to avoid traffic through the tiger reserve, giving the government a month to submit suggestions.

Bandipur Tiger Reserve, spread over 1,400 sq km, was established in 1973 as part of Project Tiger and declared a core critical tiger habitat in 2007.

Aarey petitioner to HC: BMC commissioner said project must pass before poll code kicks in ude the reason if objections by ex-The court was hearing a PIL by

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE PETITIONER challenging the proposed Metro carshed at Aarey Milk Colony Monday told Bombay High Court that the BMC commissioner had observed that the proposal needed to be passed before the model code of conduct for Assembly polls came into effect.

activist Zoru Bhathena, challenging decision of the Tree Authority to cut 2,646 trees. The plea said the August 29 resolution for the removal of the trees is a "brazen breach" of a High Court order in July. The order had said the opinions of expert members must be valued and should become an essential facet of decision-making. The final decision must also incl-

perts are ignored, the order said. Arguing for Bhathena, Janak Dwarkadas told the court that one of the observations by BMC commissioner to pass the proposal soon was that the code of conduct would come in force. "You're not deciding on 2-3 trees, it is about 3,000 trees and there is no relevance of code of conduct...,

Dwarkadas said.

Andhra Pradesh CM Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy hands over appointment letter to a candidate in Vijayawada Monday. PTI

Hours after accusing Rabri, Misa of domestic abuse, Tej Pratap's wife back to former CM home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

PATNA. SEPTEMBER 30

AISHWARYA RAI, wife of former Bihar health minister Tej Pratap Yadav, returned to the residence of her mother-in-law and former CM Rabri Devi hours after making allegations of domestic violence against her and Tej Pratap's eldest sister and Rajya Sabha MP Misa

Bharati. No police case had been registered in the absence of a written complaint.

A family court in Patna has been hearing Tej Pratap's divorce plea. Tej and Aishwarya, daughter of former minister Chandrika Rai and granddaughter of former Bihar CM Daroga Rai, married in November 2018.

Aishwarya had alleged before the media on Sunday that

ing her food since June and she was getting food from her parents in Patna". She had also accused Rabri and Misa of "misbehaving with her". "When I was trying to make a video of the house, a guard snatched my phone", she said, adding that she had no complaints against her husband and her brotherin-law and Leader Opposition Tejashwi Prasad

her in-laws "had not been giv-

Yadav had been cooperative. She said things could have improved if her father-in-law Lalu Prasad was in Patna.

While Rabri refused to comment, Misa said she was "shocked" at Aishwarya's allegations as she had been living in Delhi.

Sources in RID said Rabri Devi allowed Aishwarya to return on Sunday night after she

Kerala govt hits jackpot in lottery craze, revenue from ticket sale up

SHAJU PHILIP KOCHI, SEPTEMBER 30

IN A state with a population of 3.34 crore as per 2011 Census, an astounding 7.92 crore lottery tickets are sold every week in Kerala. making lottery one the major sources of non-tax revenue. A large chunk of this revenue earned goes towards meeting costs of the state government's social welfare schemes.

According to Kerala Economic Review, 2018, the rise in non-tax revenue as a proportion of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) since 2013-14 in Kerala is due to the increase in gross receipt from lotteries. The share of revenue from sale of state lotteries increased from 13.4 per cent in 1980-81 to 38.39 per cent in 2000-01 — and to a whopping

80.49 per cent in 2016-17. According to data from the state lottery directorate, revenue from lottery in 2018-19 financial year was Rs 9,276 crore, up from Revenue from lottery in 2018-19 financial year was Rs 9,276 crore, up from Rs 8,977 crore the fiscal before. Last fiscal, the profit was Rs 1,673 crore, says data from lottery directorate

Rs 8,977 crore the fiscal before. Last fiscal, the profit was Rs 1,673 crore. This year's projected revenue is Rs 11,800 crore.

Sources said there is a whopping increase in the number of tickets printed and sold. "If 60 lakh tickets were printed in 2016, the figure has now reached 1.32 crore. We don't have any unsold tickets. At present there are six weekly tickets, all of which are equally popular."

According to sources, out of the state's 14 districts, most business comes from Palakkad and Thrissur. In Palakkad, an official said, people from neighbouring Tamil Nadu also come every day to buy tickets.

A Vinod, a lottery trader in Thiruvananthapuram, said people from across social and economic spectrum buy tickets. He said: "I have government officials who spend Rs 30 or Rs 50 on tickets every day. Sometimes, they may win small prizes, which make them invest in their luck every day. Many do not disclose this at home. Most of my customers are above the age of 40."

Vinod said he sells 400 tickets on average.

Besides being a just source of revenue for the state, government officials said, lotteries also provide jobs, including to physically challenged people, who constitute a section of ticket-sellers.

According to Kerala State Lottery Agents and Lottery Sellers Welfare Fund Board, the number of sellers or agents are growing in tune with the growth in ticket sale. S Kaneshyas, member of the

Board, said when the CPI(M)-led LDF government assumed office in 2016, there were 38,000 registered vendors. The figure, Kaneshyas said, is 70,000. "Of them, at least 55,000 are actively engaged in the agency/selling business," she said.

Ten per cent of the prize-winning money goes as agent's commission and 30 per cent income tax is levied on the remaining amount. In cases of tickets not winning, an agent gets a certain percentage as commission on the selling price. For a ticket priced Rs 30, the agent gets a commission of Rs 5.80, officials explained.

Talking about the "addiction" that business is for scores of people, Dr R S Dinesh, a senior psychiatrist at Government Mental Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram, said said psychiatrists occasionally get people who go into depression, or develop other forms of disorder, due to their obsession with lottery. "The lottery craze should be seen as part of a general addiction of a society," he said.

Jagan: Village, ward secretariats to start functioning on Oct 2

SREENIVAS JANYALA HYDERABAD. SEPTEMBER 30

ANDHRA PRADESH Chief Minister Y S Iagan Mohan Reddy on Monday said village and ward secretariats aimed at decentralising administration and ensuring better delivery of government schemes and services will start functioning

in the state from October 2. An idea floated by Jagan soon after he was sworn in, these secretariats are to serve as the final link between the government and beneficiaries of various welfare

schemes in the state. The government has so far recruited 1.26 lakh people to man these secretariats. These employees will supervise 2.41 lakh volunteers, who will be in direct contact with beneficiaries. Each volunteer, who is paid a honorarium of Rs 5,000 per month, will be in-charge of servicing 50 beneficiary households. According to the Jagan, over 21 lakh people applied for jobs in the secretariats. The Chief Minister Monday

handed over appointment letters to several secretariat employees who were selected after an examination and screening process last month. "Village secretariats wil ensure decentralised administration and deliver transparent, accountable and corruption-free services to the people of the state and create over five lakh jobs, Jagan said at the event.

According to the Chief Minister, 11,158 village secretariats and 3,786 ward secretariats will start functioning on October 2.

Some of the schemes that the secretariat staff are supposed to ensure doorstep delivery of include the delivery of 20 kg rice bags at Rs 1 per kg; Rs 3,000 per month pension to senior citizens; Rs 10,000 per month to kidney disease patients requiring dialysis; Rs 15,000 per annum to women with two children in school: farm investment support of Rs 12,500 per annum to eligible farmers.

tion has been ordered in the rest. Several complaints are being filed



GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION SPECIAL PROJECTS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Commission and Maintain underground City Wide Optical Fiber Connectivity for Chennai City under PPP mode. Availability of Eol From 01-10-2019 in website https://tntenders.gov.in document Date and time of 14-10-2019 at 3.00 pm clarification conference Venue of clarification Office of the Superintending Engineer conference Special Projects Department, GCC Due date and time of 04-11-2019 upto 3.00 pm



DIPR/3422/Tender/2019

Indian Overseas Bank आपकी प्रगति का सच्चा साथी Good People to grow with

Kathalbari, Darbhanga 846004, Ph: 06272-246038, iob1276@job.in

notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act, read with rule 8 of the said rule. The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property herein below and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Indian Overseas Bank for the amount mentioned against their names and interest thereon.

Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the

Traders, Prop.: Mr. Sadique, S/o Nesarul Haque, At-Gangwara Road, Outstanding amount as per demand notice:- ₹54,00,966/- as on 15.07.2019 with further interest, charges etc till date of realisation, The dues payable as on the date of taking possession is ₹55,46,549/payable with further interest at contractual rates & rests, charges etc till date of payment, Description of the Immovable Property:-All piece and parcel of Land in the name of Sadique bearing Registered Sale Deed No. 1085 dt. 24.01.2013, situated at Mauja: Beladullah, Pergana- Purab Bhigho, PS & Anchal: Sadar, District Darbhanga bearing Khata No. 91(O) 45(N), Khesara No. 221(O), 222(O), 223(O), 242(N) admeasuring 1 Katha. **Boundary:** North: Rasta 12 feet wide, South: Raj Date : 25.09.2019 Authorised Officer

Indian Overseas Bank Place : Darbhanga

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one boy Namely: Manish Kumar, S/o: Sh. Jai Karan Sahni, R/o: Vill-Gadhiya, PS Madhuban, Distt-East Champaran, Bihar has been missing/kidnapped since 08.09.2019 from H. No. 5/5218, Gali No. 5, Krishana Nagar, Karol Bagh, Delhi from the area of P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 204/19 dated 16.09.2019 us 363 IPC

has been registered at P. S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi. The description of the missing boy are as under: Age: About 14 years, Height: 4', Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Eye: Black, Hair: Small Black, Wearing: Orange Colour T-Shirt, Blue Nikker and Red chapple in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the boy but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this boy kindly inform to the following. Website: http//cbi.nic.in

E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi Fax No. 011-24368639 Tel.No. 011-25725652, 8750870432 DP/6607/CD/19



Request for Proposal (RFP) for Selection of Service Provider for providing Project Management Cell (PMC) for Uttarakhand Aerostat technology (Balloon) & DRONE

Earlier Tender Notice No. 04/ITDA-565(A)/2019 dated 22/08/2019 stands cancel. Request for Proposal (RFP) is being issued by ITDA, Department of IT, Uttarakhand to the reputed companie: neeting the qualification criteria for Selection of Service Provider for providing Project Management Cell (PMC) for Uttarakhand Aerostat technology (Balloon) & DRONE The RFP document can be downloaded from www.uktenders.gov.in from 30.09.2019 from 10 AM onwards The parties willing to participate in the RFP will have to apply through the Electronic Tendering Procedure (e-Tendering) as per the guidelines issued by Government of Uttarakhand available on the above mentioned web site under the link "Bidders Manual Kit" Director ITDA reserves the right to cancel the RFP at any point of time, without assigning any reason thereol

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष विशेष प्रमण्डल, गुमला

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 1159 दिनांक 24.09.2019 द्वारा आमंत्रित ईo-अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या RDD/SD/ GUMLA/15/2019-20 जिसका पी०आर०(PR) सं० 217909 Rural Development (2019-20) D है, में अपरिहार्य कारणों से आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है।

जिसे क्रम संख्यावार निम्नवत पढा जाय:-

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय - 10.10.2019 अपराहन 5:00 बजे तक

4. ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गुमला / मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रक्षेत्र, एफ0 एफ0 पी0 भवन, धूर्वा, राँची में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, Bank Credit Certificate एवं Affidavit जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय 11.10.2019 अपराहन 05:00 बजे तक अन्य शर्ते पूर्ववत् रहेगा।

कार्यपालक अभियंता बुंद - बुंद नहीं बरतेंंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, गुमला PR 218433 (Rural Development)19-20#D

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED



Website: http://cbi.nic.in

General public is hereby informed that one female namely Punita Devi, W/o Sh. Mukesh Kumar, R/o: D-2301/N-39, Jhuggi Sarai Pipal Thala, Mandi, Delhi, Age: 25 years, Height: 4'6", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Hair: Black, wearing unknown clothes, has been missing since 19.08.2019.

In this regard a DD No. 41A, dated 20.08.2019 has been registered at P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi.

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

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO Fax: 011-24368639 Ph. No.: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi Ph.: 011-27632501, 27632502 DP/9333/NW/19

TAMIL NADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED Kagithapuram - 639 136, Karur District, Tamil Nadu, E-mail: pmd6@tnpl.co.in , Web: www.tnpl.com Phone No. 04324-277001 (10 lines), Extn. 4202/4295

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

एकोडः - ६३२६ (अशीर्व्यक्तिर्वेश्वर्यक्तिराज्यकारमञ्जूषिकविकविकार्यकार स्वर्याः

12. Hiring of tampoos and

trucks for supply of

Verka Milk Products to

other plants

For Design, Manufacture, Supply & Supervision of Installation and **Commissioning of Distributed Control System (DCS)**

Bidders may request the tender document at the above address by post/mail. Detailed NIB may be viewed in websites: www.tenders.tn.gov.in/www.tnpl.com Date of Issue of Bid Document: 01st October, 2019

Due date for submission: 30th October, 2019 DIPR/3415/Tender/2019 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Pape

DAKSHINANCHAL VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED (UNDERTAKING OF U.P. GOVERNMENT) (CIN: U31200UP2003SGC027460) e-Tender Extension Notice

Fraire -- 30 00 2010

General Manager,

Verka Ludhiana

Dairy. Ph No.

0161-5203350,

5203353

| Tender No. | Short Description | Estimated Cost in Rs. | Revised Tender Fee in Rs. | Tender Opening Date & Time |
|---------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2019- | Transformer Replacement Work under EWD Agra/ Aligarh | | Rs. 5,000.00 (GST Extra) | |
| | Transformer Replacement work under EWD Kanpur | | Rs. 5,000.00 (GST Extra) | |

OP Government https://etender.up.nic.in or contact us at given address as follows: Urja Bhawan, 220 KV Sub-Station, Bye Superintending Engineer (Workshop)

Pass Road, Sikandra, Agra-282007(UP) D.V.V.N.L. AGRA Ph. No. 9068944455

One year with

extension up to

3 months.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED FEMALE

General Public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) namely Asha W/o Surender R/o H.No.142, Madan Pur Dabas, Delhi Aged-32 Years has been reported missing/kidnapped since 08.09.2019 vide DD No.63-A Dated 08.09.2019 registered at Police Station Kanihawala, Delhi, Her physical description is as under:-



WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Asha

Complexion: Fair, Height: 5', Face: Long, Clothing: Green coloured Suit, Salwar and Blue

coloured slipper in feet. Any person having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped female, may inform SHO, Kanjhawala, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or website http://cbi.nic.in

Tele No.: 011-24368638 or 24368641

FAX No.: 011-24368639 DP/3313/RD/19

SHO, Kanjhawala, Delhi Tel.: 011-25952485, 25951486

| | NORT | HERI | N RAILWAY | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------|--|--|--|
| | NOTIC | E INVIT | ING TENDER | | |
| Name of work and its location | 30-ELECT-45 Comprehensi Railway office | ive AMC | of Omega make lifts installed at CNKP | | |
| Approx. cost of | of the works in | Rs. 8. | 88 lacs | | |
| Address of the | office | Sr. Di | Sr. Divil. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. | | |
| Earnest Money | | Rs. 17 | Rs. 17800.00 | | |
| Date & time of | submission of | tender | 22.10.2019, 15.00 Hrs. | | |
| Opening of ten | der | | 22.10.2019, 15.15 Hrs. | | |
| Website & not | ice www.ire | | & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/ | | |

Date Оре Wel board General, New Delhi 3153/19 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE PDPM Annexure A Indian Institute of Information Technology

Design & Manufacturing, Jabalpur TENDER NOTICE (Second Call) NIT NO: IIITDM/B&W/19/09/178

Board of Governors, PDPMIIITDM Jabalpur, for the following works from reputed contractors of appropriate class borne on approved list of the CPWD MES, Railways and other PSU of the Central Government Name of work Estimated EMD Stipulated (In Rs.)

up to

11:00 A.M.

30.10.2019

at 11:30 A.M.

Financial bid

General Manager (QA&E)

Chain link fencing around Rewa As per Residency-2 at IIITDM Jabalpur. schedule attached-A Application for tender document shall be received at IWD office upto 10.10.2019

Registrar invites separate and sealed **percentage rate tenders**, on behalf of the

(17:00 hrs.) Tender documents can be obtained on written application from the IWD office, PDPMIIITDM, Jabalpur on payment of Rs. 1,000/- in shape of Bank Draft/Challan during working hours from 11.10.2019 to 15.10.2019 or may be downloaded from Institute website. Tender will be received upto15:00 hrs. 16.10.2019 and will be opened at 16:00 hrs. on the same day. Detailed NIT and other information regarding tender cost, EMD, eligibility criteria etc. about tenders can be seen at our website: www.iiitdmj.ac.in Registrar 05.10.2019 29.10.2019 Technical bid 500/- 50.000/-

from

11:00 A.M.

branches, army and 08.11.2019 other plants at 11:30 A.M. branches, army and other parties having capacity upto M.Ton, 2 M.Ton, 4 M.Ton, 7.5 M.Ton, 9 M.Ton, 13.5 M.Ton, 15 M.Ton and 18.5 M.Ton for various stations. 09.10.2019 31.10.2019 Technical bid 13 Supply of Veterinary Annual -do-500/-50,000/-Rate from up to 01.11.2019 Medicines 11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. Contract at 11:00 A.M. Financial bid 08.11.2019 at 11:00 A.M. 05.10.2019 24.10.2019 Technical bid 14 Supply of Liquid -do-Annual 500/-25.000/-Rate Nitrogen Gas from up to 25.10.2019 12:00 P.M. 11:00 A.M. Contract at 11:00 A.M. Financial bid 25.10.2019 at 11:15 A.M. 07.10.2019 31.10.2019 15. Supply of Disposable Technical bid Annual -do-500/-25,000/-Rate from up to 01.11.2019 Items. 11:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M. Contract at 11:00 A.M. Financial bid 05.11.2019 at 11:00 A.M. 03.10.2019 14.10.2019 14.10.2019 16 Pest/Rodent Control Annual General Manager, 200/-10,000/-Verka Cattle Feed Up to Rate From Service at Cattle Feed 01:00 PM 12:30 PM Contract Plant, Bhattian Plant, Khanna 02:00 PM (Khanna) Ph No. 01628-521450,51,57 14.10.2019 17 Hiring of five seater 03.10.2019 14.10.2019 -do-5.000/--do--do-Up to Bolaro Camper or From 01:00 PM 12:30 PM equivalent model 2017 02:00 PM 18. Engaging of Outsource 03.10.2019 16.10.2019 16.10.2019 -do--do-50,000/-500/-From Up to Agency for providing 01:00 PM Security Staff. 01:00 PM 02:30 PM 16.10.2019 19 Engaging of 03.10.2019 16.10.2019 -do--do-50,000/ 500/-From Up to Outsource Agency for 01:00 PM 01:00 PM providing of 02:30 PM Unskilled/Skilled/ Highly skilled & other Man Power. 04.10.2019 20.10.2019 21,10,2019 20 Auction of General Manager, 44 nos 200/- 25,000/-Verka Amritsar Upto Unserviceable 5:00 PM Dairy. Ph No. material as is where 12.00 PM 0183-2263139 73555-48163 20.10.2019 04.10.2019 21.10.2019 2 Nos 21 Auction of -do-200/-20,000/-Condemned Road Upto for each 5:00 PM milk Tanker no. PB02-12.30 PM vehicle J 9822 and PJA-7819 both TATA make. Capacity 10,000 ltr 22. Hiring of Tata indica. 24.10.2019 25.10.2019 03.10.2019 9 Vehicle -do-200/-5000/-Upto ndigo, swift dz, swift & Period from From at 01.11.2019 05:00 PM 4:30 PM 11.00 AM other similar vehicles to for official use 31.10.2020 Model No. 2014 & above 23 Hiring of Diesel 45 Routes 03.10.2019 24.10.2019 25.10.2019 -do-200/-15,000/-From Upto vehicle for lifting milk Period from 05:00 PM 4:30 PM 01.11.2019 11.00 AM in can route. capacity 1 ton & 31.10.2020 above less than 2 ton Model No. 2013 & above

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debit/credit card for getting registered for etendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, Internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970284 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e-tendering please visit website eproc.punjab.gov.in Note:- Tender processing Fee is Non-Refundable.

Saaled Tanders, are hereby invited on the prescribed Performs for the purchase of following items:

Section - B

18.10.2019

at 11:00 AM

| Sr | Name of the Item | Qty/ Contract | Consignee/ Place | Tender | E.M.D | Last Date & Time of | Date & time of receipt |
|----|---|---------------|--|------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| No | | Period | of Tender Opening | Cost (Rs.) | (Rs.) | Submission of Tenders | and opening of tende |
| 1. | Hiring of Double cabin Pickup jeep (AC) Passenger vehicle for purchase, Marketing and Engineering etc for all India area.(Jeep Imperio, Xenon, Bolero | 370 1000 700 | Dy.General Manager, Verka Cattle Feed Plant, Ghania-Ke- Banger (Batala) Ph No.01871-266741 | Millestera | 5,000/- | | 10.10.2019 |

Interested parties may obtain detailed Tender Documents from the office of Consignee where tender is to be opened on any working day from (9AM to 5 PM). If any clarification is required may contact on Phone Numbers given above. The Tender Notice may also be seen at Verka Website (www.verka.coop). TENDER (S) WITHOUT EARNEST MONEY ARE LIABLE TO BE REJECTED. The Consignee reserves the right to accept/reject any/ all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.

submission of Eol Date and time of opening 05-11-2019 at 3.30 pm of Eol

> **Superintending Engineer** (Special Projects & BRR)

इण्डियन ओवरसीज़ ढेंक **POSSESSION NOTICE** (For immovable Property) Rule 8(1)

Bank under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the borrowers/Mortgagors/ Guarantors mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the

The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the

Name of the Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor:-M/s New Karbia

Darbhanga, Resident At-Chhapki Parri, Laxmi Sagar, Darbhanga 846009 Date of Demand Notice:-15.07.2019, Date of Possession:-25.09.2019 Bahadur Gupta, East: Samta Devi, West: Ranjeet Kumar.



THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD. SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022, EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-13

Notice Inviting Tender www.verka.coop

| ı | Trottoe inviting Tender |
|---|--|
| ı | Section-A |
| ı | e -Tenders are hereby Invited for the purchase and supply of following items - |

| monet mining in | | | | | 401 | | ormanooop | |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|--|
| I-A | reby Invited for the purchase and supply of following items – | | | | | | | |
| ers are nereby in | vited for the pui | chase and supply o | TOHOWIN | g items | = | | | |
| ne of the Item | Qty/ Contract Period | Consignee/ Place of Tender | Tender Cost | | Date & Time for Sale/ Downloading | of Submission of | | |

| No | | Contract Period | Place of Tender Opening | (Rs.) | (Rs.) | Sale/ Downloading of e-tenders online | of Submission of online e-tenders | of opening of e-tenders |
|----|---|----------------------------|---|-------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Providing & Laying of paver blocks & Drainage System at Milk Chilling Centre Morinda. ApproxCost.23.20Lacs | 4 Months | Verka Head Office, SCO No. 153-155, Sector 34A, Chandigarh, Ph No. 0172-5041812-13 | - | 46,400/- | 03.10.2019 From 11:00 AM | 21.10.2019 Up to 03:00 PM | Technical Bid 22.10.2019 at 03:00 PM Financial Bid 25.10.2019 at 03:00 PM |
| 2. | Purchase of visi- coolers and chest coolers (Annual Rate Contract) | 01 year | -do- | 200/- | 1,50,000/- | 01.10.2019 | 16.10.2019 Up to 05:00 PM | 17.10.2019 at 11:00 AM |
| 3. | Hiring of Insulated S.S. Road Milk Tankers for transportation of Milk from Verka Mohali Dairy to sister Unions, other Unions/Plants within or outside Punjab | 12 nos | General Manager, Verka Mohali Dairy. Ph No. 0172-2271020-21, 2271784 | 500/- | 1,00,000/ Per Tanker | 04.10.2019 From 01:00 PM | 17.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM | 18.10.2019 at 12:30 PM |
| 4. | Providing Security Services on job contract basis | Annual Rate Contract | -do- | 100/- | 1,00,000/ | 03.10.2019 From 03:00 PM | 18.10.2019 Upto 11:00 AM | Technical Bid 18.10.2019 at 03:00 PM Financial Bid 24.10.2019 at 03:00 PM |
| 5. | Lifting of rice husk/coal/firewood from the husk/coal yard to the boiler furnaces | * | General Manager, Verka Hoshairpur Dairy. Ph No. 01882-238157-77 | 200/- | 10,000 /- | 02.10.2019 From 05:00 PM | 17.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM | 18.10.2019 at 10:30 AM |
| 6. | Filling of Ghee Tins in ½ ltrs, 1 ltrs, 2ltrs, 5 ltrs Tin, 15 kg Tin & Mono Cartons in ½ ltrs & 1 ltrs packing and related jobs on per tins/Mono cartons basis. | | -do- | 200/- | 10,000 /- | 02.10.2019 From 05:00 PM | 17.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM | 18.10.2019 at 10:30 AM |

| | related jobs on per tins/Mono cartons basis. | | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|-------|------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 7. | Rice Husk (2500 MT) | 600 MT for the Month Nov 2019 600 MT for the Month Dec 2019 800 MT for the Month Jan-Feb 2020 500 MT for the Month Mar-Aprl. 2020 | General Manager, Verka Sangrur Dairy 01672-505270 | 200/- | 1,00,000/- | 03.10.2019 (10:00 AM) to 20.10.2019 (01:00 PM) | 20.10.2019 Upto 05:00 PM | 21.10.2019 at 12:00 PM |
| 8. | Hiring of insulated road milk tankers for | 1117900020777115 | Dy. General Manager, | 500/- | 100,000/- per | 03.10.2019 From | 18.10.2019 Upto | Technical Bid 21.10.2019 |

3:00 PM 5:00 PM Verka Ferozepur transportation of milk tanker at 11:00 AM Dairy from MCC's to various Financial Bid Ph No. Milk plants in Punjab 22.10.2019 80549-23077 etc,on Annual Rate at 11:00 AM Contract. CAPACITY 15000 Kgs (Double Chamber) 03.10.2019 18.10.2019 Technical Bid Security Service General Manager, 1,00,000/-Upto **Provider** Verka Patiala Dairy From 19.10.2019 Ph No. 02:00 PM 11:00 AM at 11:00 AM 80549-98531, Financial Bid

80549-98534. 07.11.2019 80549-98535 at 11:00 AM 03.10.2019 15.10.2019 Technical Bid 10 Printing, supplying Annual -do-100/-15,000/-From Upto Rate 16.10.2019 and installing 02:00 PM 11:00 AM Contract at 11:00 AM advertisement materials i.e. Glow Financial Bid Sign Boards, flex 16.10.2019 boards, flex and at 02:00 PM

outdoor digital printing vinyl stickers at Patiala, Fatehgarh Sahib distt, and Harvana area 11. Fabrication & 16.10.2019 W.e.f Technical Bid 01 Nos. -do-50,000/-07.10.2019 Upto 17.10.2019 installing of 04:00 PM at 02:00 PM Refrigerated Financial Bid Container complete

ess.com

epaper indianex

with Refrigerating

Government plans penicillin revival to fight rheumatic fever

ABANTIKA GHOSH

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

IN A bid to fight drug resistance and tackle rheumatic heart disease, the Government of India is planning a revival of penicillin, one of the oldest antibiotics known to man. Not many organisms have developed resistance to it yet.

Penicillin went out of production in India because of unrealistic price control, officials said. The government is now planning to procure penicillin centrally for three years and give it to all children between 5-15 years who have a sore throat, at least once. The drug will be dispensed through primary health centres or administered by

A committee has been formed with officials from the department of health research to finalise the contours of the plan to tackle rheumatic fever and heart disease burden and re-

vive penicillin. ficial said, "We are looking at a plan to deal with rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease load and are trying to revive penicillin availability because it is the cheapest option for rheumatic fever treatment. We are exploring various options including talking to the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority to take it off the price control list. Also, to kickstart production, we are looking at procuring the medicine centrally --- enough stock for three years so that manufacturers are encouraged to restart production."

Penicillin, discovered in 1928,

is still the first line antibiotic in many western countries, but it gradually went out of the Indian market even though some of its more expensive derivatives continue to be prescribed.

Population-based studies indicate the prevalence of rheumatic heart disease in India to be about 2/1000 population. However, surveys conducted in school children in the age group of 5-16 years by ICMR gives overall prevalence of 6/1000. Rheumatic fever is endemic in India and remains one of the major causes of cardiovascular disease, accounting for nearly 25-45% of acquired heart disease. Not all sore throats go on to become rheumatic fever with severe joint pain or affect the heart in a disease that eventually leaves no option but to replace the heart valves --- a condition known as rheumatic heart disease. However, doctors say, it is better to give an antibiotic dose and nip the possibility

Dr Arun Singh, advisor to the A senior health ministry of Ministry of Health, said: "Penicillin is one of the oldest antibiotics and in many western countries still remains the first antibiotic. Yet in India it has almost gone out of the market because of price control. The prices were kept so low that manufacturers stopped making the drug. On the other hand, India has a high burden of rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease --the latter often goes undiagnosed and leads to many maternal deaths at the time of childbirth. The first presentation often is a sore throat, so we are looking at giving a course of penicillin to all children between 5-15 years once."



EXPRESS TRAVEL

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Delhi-Meerut Expressway phase-III, Monday. The 82-km-long expressway connects Delhi with Meerut in western UP. Abhinav Saha

Kerala best, UP worst performer in NITI school education index

HARIKISHAN SHARMA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE NITI Aayog on Monday released its first School Education Quality Index (SEQI) report, in which Kerala emerged as the best performing state, while Uttar Pradesh was the worst among the larger 20 states in the

Aimed at assessing the quality of school education in states and Union Territories, the SEQI is based on 30 indicators grouped into two broad categories - 'outcome' and 'governance processes aiding outcomes'. States and UTs have been ranked in the index based on their overall performance in the reference year of 2016-17.

The list does not include West Bengal as the state did not participate in the exercise.

Titled 'The success of Our Schools: School Education Quality Index 2019', the report was released by NITI Aayog vicechairman Dr Rajiv Kumar and CEO Amitabh Kant.

According to the report, among larger states, Kerala topped the list with a score of 0.766 in overall performance, with Rajasthan second with a score of 0.729.

Uttar Pradesh was the worst performer with a score of just 0.364. and ranked at the last place on the list. The other big states with dismal performance are Jammu and Kashmir (0.411), Punjab (0.411), Bihar (0.420) and Jharkhand (0.439), ranked at 19th, 18th, 17th and 16th place respectively.

The report has ranked eight smaller states and the seven Union Territories separately. As far as the smaller states are concerned, Manipur topped the list with a score of 0.688, followed by Tripura (0.645) and Goa (0.584), with Arunachal Pradesh (0.246) the worst performing state.

Among Union Territories, Chandigarh topped the list with a score of 0.829, followed by

OVERALL RANKING: LARGER STATES

| Rank | States | Index Score | | |
|------|-------------------|----------------|--|--|
| 1 | Kerala | 0.766 | | |
| 2 | Rajasthan | 0.729 | | |
| 3 | Karnataka | 0.696 | | |
| 4 | Andhra Pradesh | 0.679 | | |
| 5 | Gujarat | 0.62 | | |

SMALLER STATES

| Rank | States | Total |
|------|----------|-------|
| 1 | Manipur | 0.688 |
| 2 | Tripura | 0.645 |
| 3 | Goa | 0.584 |
| 4 | Mizoram | 0.498 |
| 5 | Nagaland | 0.486 |

Dadra and Nagar Haveli (0.586) and Delhi (0.490). Lakshadweep was the worst performing UT with a score of 0.319.

Initially, the NITI Aayog had planned to prepare this index along 33 parameters, but due to a lack of reliable data, it had to drop at least three indicators.

Highlighting the credibility of

the education data in the country, NITI officials said some indicators have been dropped due to inconsistencies in data submitted by States/UTs. A similar index was released

by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) in April. However, officials at NITI Aayog said that the SEQI is a subset of a Performance Grading Index (PGI) released by the MHRD, and the only difference between the two indices is that SEQI accords a higher emphasis to learning outcome, whereas the PGI accords a higher weightage to input and infrastructure. PGI measures the quality of the school education on the basis of the 70 parameters, and is a tool to provide insights on the status of school education in states and

UTs.

Woman 'throws' 2-yr-old granddaughter out of sixth-floor flat, arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE POLICE arrested a woman on Monday for allegedly killing her two-year-old granddaughter by throwing her out of the window of a sixth-floor apartment in Malad East last week.

Police said the incident occurred between 5.30 am and 5.45 am on Saturday when the baby, Jiya Ansari, was home with her parents, grandparents, aunt and a cousin. The sleeping family was woken by neighbours, who spotted Jiya lying motionless and bleeding on the ground. They rushed her to a nearby hospital where doctors declared her dead on arrival. Investigators who visited the

home allegedly noticed that the front door and kitchen window from where Jiya had fallen were both shut. "The manner in which Jiya's body was found also suggested that she been thrown out," said an officer of Kurar police station. This led police to suspect that someone in the house had thrown Jiya out of the window, the officer added.

Balasaheb Salunkhe, senior inspector, Kurar police station, said an investigation revealed that Ruksana Ansari had never warmed to her granddaughter "The accused was not fond of her granddaughter and would become constantly irritated when she played at home. Twenty days ago, she had even fought with her son and daughter-in-law over the issue and left their home," said Assistant Inspector G S Gharge.

Gharge said Ansari had returned on Friday after staying with another son for a few weeks. "Even after she came back, the anger she felt towards her granddaughter did not go away," he said.

ASSAM

Case against Wipro over labour law 'violation'

ABHISHEK SAHA

GUWAHATI. SEPTEMBER 30

THE OFFICE of the Labour Commissioner in Assam lodged a case against Wipro at the CIM court in Guwahati based on a two-year-old complaint by a group of eight data-entry operators working on contract for the NRC through the IT company, officials said on Monday.

"The case has been registered against Wipro for violating the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act of 1970 because they had not obtained the required license," said Labour Commissioner Narayan Konwar.

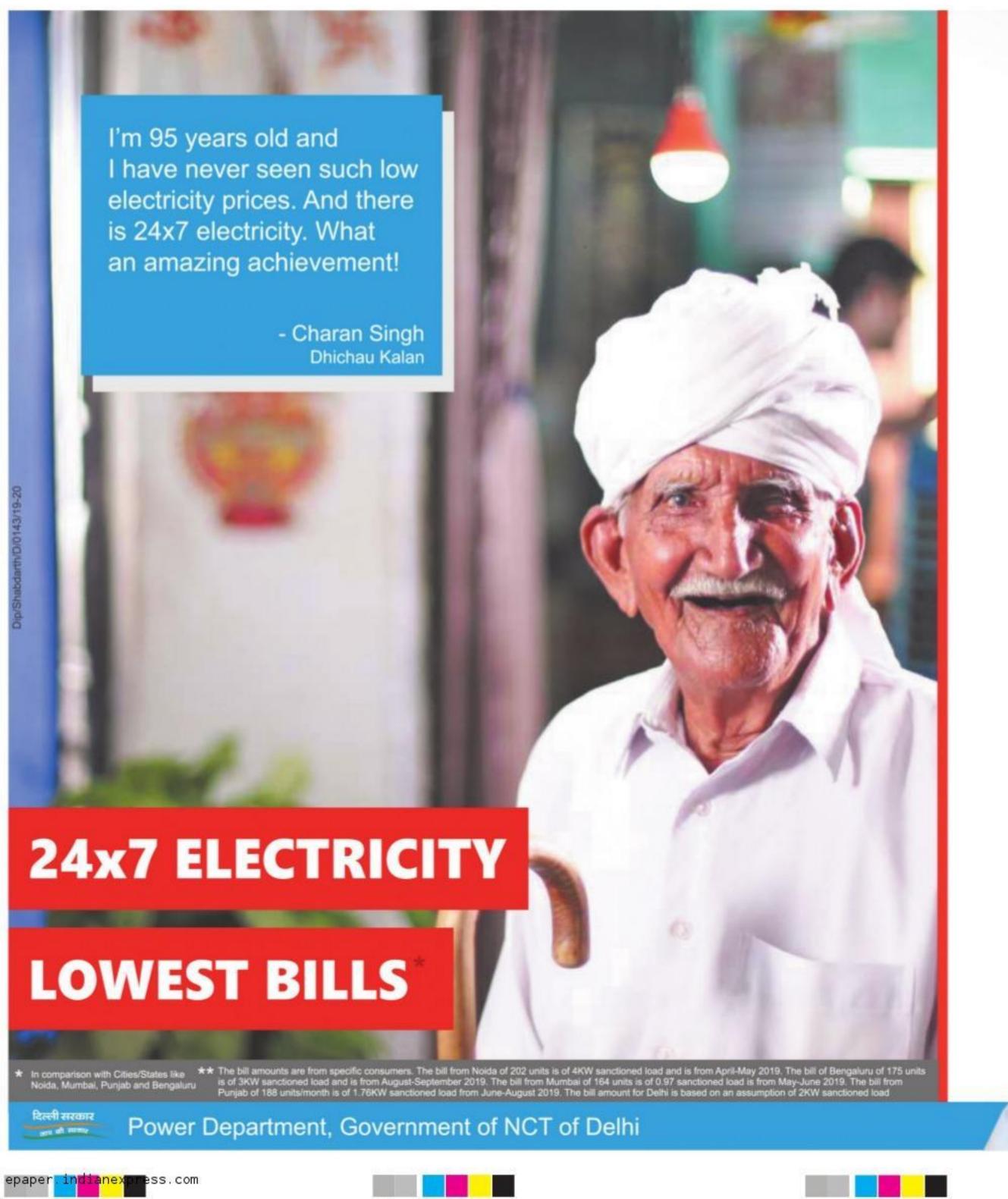
In September 2017, eight dataentry operators had lodged a complaint saying that they were not paid the minimum wages. An official of the commissionerate said that the operators had alleged

a payment of around Rs 5,000 per month, much less than the minimum for a "skilled worker".

"While investigating this, we landed upon the fact that Wipro didn't have the license in the first place. So we filed a case. We are investigating into the allegation of violation of minimum wages, the official said.

The Labour Commissioner's office expects a list from complainants on October 14 regarding the total number of such contractual data-entry employees working for the NRC and their current salaries.

"Wipro abides by the laws of every jurisdiction where it does business and adheres to the highest standards of integrity and fairness in its employment and labour practices. The company does not comment on pending litigation," the company said in a statement.

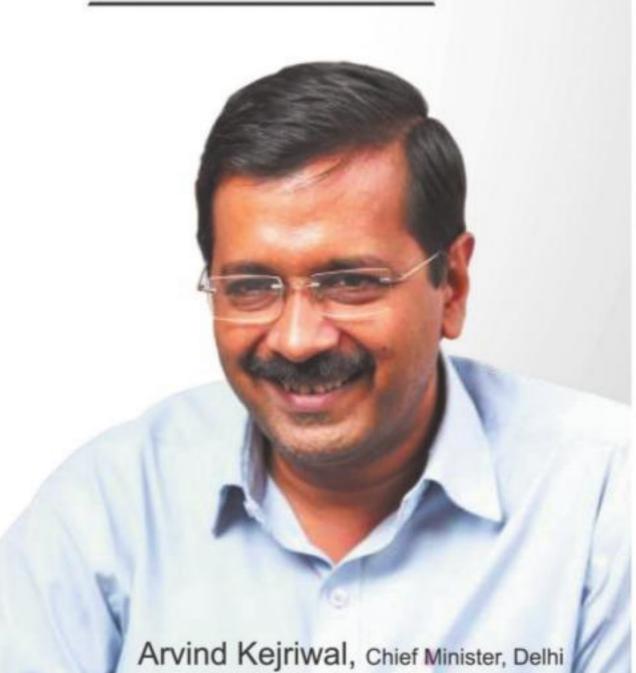




DELHI NOW HAS LOWEST BILLS

| 1010 1011101 11110 | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| Upto 200 units/month | | | | | | |
| City | Units | Bill** | | | | |
| Delhi | 200 | 0 | | | | |
| Noida | 202 | 1374 | | | | |
| Mumbai | 194 | 1244 | | | | |
| Bengaluru | 175 | 1272 | | | | |
| Punjab | 188 | 1357 | | | | |

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WORDLY WISE

CLIMATE CHANGE IS ABOUT PROTECTING OUR EARTH FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

— MIKE QUIGLEY

The Indian EXPRESS

∽ FOUNDED BY ∽ RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

ELECTION, RESTRICTION

Holding local body elections in J&K amid lockdown and detentions could only deepen the distrust

HERE IS SOMETHING of the surreal about Sunday's announcement by the Jammu and Kashmir State Election Commission: Block Development Council elections will be held on "party lines" on October 24. According to this plan, the BDC polls will take place — for the first time in the state — at a juncture when restrictions imposed on citizens by the Centre since August 5 remain largely in place and political leaders continue to be detained, bringing to a standstill all political activity that calls for, and depends upon, the freedom of expression, movement and association. The panchs and sarpanchs, who form the electorate for the BDC polls, are also inhibited by these curbs. In fact, they have been especially affected, for longer. As this paper has reported, almost a year after the last round of J&K panchayat polls, many of these representatives of the people at the bottom-most tier of electoral democracy from different parts of the Valley continue to seek refuge in a hotel in uptown Srinagar as they are fearful of visiting their villages. Even before the current lockdown and communication blockade, this persistence of fear has served to underline the many questions of legitimacy that afflicted the electoral exercise at the end of which many seats of panch and sapanch in the Valley lie vacant, and most of those elected were elected unopposed.

Given that there has been little progress since then in empowering and enabling panchayati raj institutions, and in view of the heavy pall of anxieties and insecurities that has descended over the people and politicians in Kashmir now, the move to push ahead with the BDC polls raises serious questions about what that exercise could possibly achieve. But these questions are being stonewalled by the top echelons of government and the bottommost. The J&K Chief Electoral Officer, Shailendra Kumar, has sought to sweep the political questions under the administrative carpet. The state election commission, he said, is ready and willing to "facilitate" a level playing field, "whenever any candidate or political party approaches us". The BDC polls cannot be preceded by bypolls to fill the vacant panch and sarpanch seats, he said, because that would require electoral roles to be prepared afresh. It is important to go ahead with the BDC polls because "at block level many development works have stopped and are not moving ahead". And Union Home Minister Amit Shah has countered the questions about continuing restrictions in Kashmir by targeting the Opposition for the decades-old militancy in the state and the long imprisonment of Sheikh Abdullah, by invoking the deaths of jawans, and of course, by blaming the "Himalayan" blunders of Jawaharlal Nehru.

In just over a month, the map of J&K is about to change. It is still not known to what extent the move has sparked opposition among the people most affected by it — that assessment can be made only after the restrictions on them are completely lifted. Undoubtedly, what is needed in J&K is a genuine political process with politicians on the ground, not in detention. The push to hold elections when the basic conditions of democracy are not met could only deepen public distrust.

AT HOT SEA

IPCC report on oceans underlines urgency of upscaling GHG reduction targets, building resilience to climate change

Y 2100, OCEANS all over the world will absorb five to seven times more heat than they have done in the past 50 years, if we do not reduce our emissions trajectory," notes a report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released last week. This, the report warns, will lead to global sea- levels rising by at least a metre, submerging several coastal cities, including Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Surat. Marine heatwaves are projected to be more intense, they would last longer and occur 50 times more often. Sea-level rise could also lead to an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events, which occur, for example, during high tides and intense storms.

Oceans cover more than 70 per cent of the earth's surface and provide critical ecosystem services such as soaking up heat and distributing it evenly. So, as the planet warms, it's the oceans that get most of the extra energy. But hotter oceans also mean stronger cyclones and storms. This could mean unprecedented volatility in several coastal regions. For instance, in 2014, Cyclone Nilofar was the first extremely severe cyclone to be recorded in the Arabian Sea in the post-monsoon season. Earlier cyclones impacting the country generally originated in the Bay of Bengal and made their landfall on India's eastern coast. Cyclone Nilofar did not make a landfall but it led to heavy rains in the country's west coast. And in October last year, a higher than normal surge in sea-level due to the dual impact of Cyclone Luban and high tide swamped several beaches in Goa. Some of them, in fact, went completely under water for a few hours. Warming seas have changed cyclone behaviour in other ways as well. In 2017, Cyclone Ockhi, which originated in the Bay of Bengal, travelled more than 2,000 km to wreak havoc on India's western coast — the first cyclone to do so in 30 years.

The IPCC report warns of more "frequent El Nino and La Nina events". These events in the Pacific Ocean are critically linked to the southwest monsoons in India. In fact, a El Nino caused a severe drought in the country in 2015. This means that countries will not only have to upscale efforts to check GHG emissions, they will also need to ramp up investments in infrastructure and knowledge systems that help build up peoples' resilience against extreme weather events. However, after the Paris Climate Treaty, progress on both counts has been patchy at best. The latest IPCC report should serve as a wake-up call.

THRESHOLD IN ORBIT

Elon Musk ups the ante in the space race, and this time it is a target worth shooting for

PACE ENTREPRENEUR ELON Musk, long criticised for setting unrealistic deadlines, and then criticised some more for trying to meet them with an inhuman work schedule, has done it again. He threatens to put a prototype of his heavy and reusable rocket Starship into orbit in six months. It's a deadline that even the engineers of the Apollo 11 mission, who won the race to space, would have balked at, and they had a government budget and a huge space industry at their command. But a reusable rocket system — rather than single-use rockets for every flight — is the Holy Grail of space exploration.

A rocket system that can ferry people back and forth between earth and orbit is the threshold for the leap to the planets and the stars. It is speculated that craft with other propulsion modes unsuitable for use near planets, like ion drives, could take over from there, propelling crews at tremendous speeds to distances now unimaginable. The exist $ing\,transport\,system\,on\,earth\,works\,efficiently\,because\,people\,can\,easily\,change\,modes$ — bus to train or plane, then bus or taxi to the final destination. Space mass transport would probably be similarly variegated and interconnected.

But why is Musk in such a hurry to "extend consciousness beyond earth", in his words? Perhaps it's because he believes that consciousness is up to no good down here. Musk has repeatedly sounded warnings about artificial intelligence, currently the Holy Grail of communications technology, running wild. Even if the AIs don't get us, climate change will. It appears certain that extreme events at shorelines will be experienced by people alive today. Against this grim backdrop, the sands of Mars as depicted by Edgar Rice Burroughs may seem inviting, and reaching earth orbit would be the first leg of the journey to safety.

Free together, or not at all

South Asia needs a culture of commitment to human rights, not human rights as communal props

PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

THERE IS, NO doubt, a stunning irony in Pakistan positioning itself as a champion of the rights of Kashmiris and human rights more generally. India's biggest asset diplomatically is that it is dealing with a state whose commitment to self-serving violence and the persecution of its minorities is so evident that it will taint any human rights cause it touches. But the superficial satisfaction that a diplomatic victory might yield for India should not blind us to one practical danger, and one deep moral truth. The practical danger is this: We can dismiss the current rhetoric as mere words. But two things stand out: India and Pakistan are now not just accusing each other of specific actions that are evil. They are impugning the core character of each other. Pakistan's charge against India is now not that India is a state that illegally occupies and oppresses Kashmir; it is that the nature of the Indian regime has changed to a majoritarian racial ideology. For India, Pakistan is not a state that uses terror; the core of the state is terror incarnate. These mutual accusations have been implicit in India-Pakistan relations. But now they are explicit positions, an attack on each other's core identity.

Combine this with another fact. The heightened rhetoric has raised expectations of action in both countries. Imran Khan incoherently oscillates between expressing helplessness and warning of nuclear apocalypse. But it is difficult to see the current political establishment in Pakistan not losing face, if it is not seen to do something. India, for its part, has clearly announced an intention to now "solve" the Kashmir problem and make sure Pakistan is taught enough lessons that it cannot get away with its characteristic perfidy. After the misinformation in India on what Balakot achieved and the constant need to drum up nationalist frenzy, there is also heightened domestic expectation in India's capacity to now take this fight to the finish. Whether this signal gets Pakistan to back down or increases the risk of conflict is an open question. There is also a leadership vacuum in the international system. The conflict has become a lot more existential on both sides. The room for clawing back is less, the prospect of a violent dénouement high. It would be complacent to deny this im-

India is being complacent if it thinks that the decimation of law, the suspension of habeas corpus, and the near permanent state of emergency we have practised in Kashmir is not coming to imperil the liberties of all of us. In some ways it already has. Whichever we look at it, there is no way out for South Asia unless there is a culture of commitment to human rights, not human rights as communal props. The challenges of both India and Pakistan can be solved only if we re-imagine ourselves, internally, as a zone of freedom, not warring identities.

pending danger. But here is another moral issue. It is touching to see Pakistan express a love for India's minorities. India, quite legitimately, in turn used Pakistan's treatment of Ahmadiyas, Shias, and Balochis, as props in its own ideological defence while minorities in both countries say, "Don't use us. You will delegitimise us. We will deal with our own oppressors, thank you very much." But implicit in these rhetorical invocations is a clue to what went wrong in ideological thinking in South Asia. Rather than a general commitment to human rights, or the dignity and inviolability of the individual, rights were always invoked in the context of one community or the other. The problem of human rights was framed as the problem of distribution of power in particular communities: Muslim against Hindu, Hindu against Muslim, Shia against Sunni, Kashmir against India, Balochistan against Pakistan. The list could go on. In part, this was understandable since groups were often targeted in virtue of particular identities. But this framing had two unfortunate consequences. We invoke the rights of our favourite

group as and when we want; often those of our co-ethnics at the expense of others. So, rights are tied to communal sympathies. They set up a competitive dynamic over whose human rights matter. Human rights are, paradoxically, used to divide, not unite. In the South Asia context, we also have the challenge of endless minorities within minorities. If one group gets self-determination, for instance, chances are you will land up with another minority to protect within that group. In short, group-based rights don't work if there is no commitment to human rights and freedom within those groups. But if there is a general commitment to freedom and human rights, the claims of group-based rights become less necessary.

This paradox can be seen in the relation between nationalism and subnationalism. It is a truism that in the modern world a nation state is the political form under which rights can be claimed. But the process of consolidation of nation states can also become exclusionary, and often spawn counter resistance in the form of subnationalism. But if nationalism is, by virtue of its exclusions, illegitimate, so should subnationalism be (unless purely defensive), which often produces the same logic in miniature. It should be subject to the same suspicion. In a way, both need to be held to a human rights standard.

If South Asia wants to get out of the morass of deadly identity politics, it will have to make a commitment to human rights in general, not align them to a communal imagination. If individuals have freedom and dignity, identities will flourish and proliferate anyway. But these will be freely chosen, not scripted by exclusionary nationalisms. No matter how presumptuously a community might feel it can get away by denying other communities their rights by virtue of its power or numbers, eventually the culture of impugning rights comes and bites back.

India is right: Pakistan's persecution of its minorities has deeply distorted its nature and character. But India is being complacent if it thinks that the decimation of law, the suspension of habeas corpus, and the near permanent state of emergency we have practised in Kashmir is not coming to imperil the liberties of all of us. In some ways, it already has. Whichever way we look at it, there is no way out for South Asia unless there is a culture of commitment to human rights, not human rights as communal props. The challenges of both India and Pakistan can be solved only if we re-imagine ourselves, internally, as a zone of freedom, not warring identities.

It is easy to hear the utter derision human rights evokes. They can be conceptually complicated. But we have a good start. It looks like we understand the rights of individuals in particular groups. All we need to do is extend the same courtesy to everyone else. But in a week when we will be drowned in Gandhian piety, it is worth going back to first principles and asking: Even with these bombastic diplomatic victories, and full arsenal of force and repression at our disposal, can we imagine an enduring peace in South Asia, without reorienting its culture to individual dignity and freedom?

As Gandhi knew: We can either be free together or not at all.

> The writer is contributing editor, The Indian Express



BAD AIR, BUT HOW BAD

Smog does affect health but there is no data on the problem's magnitude

SOUMI ROY CHOWDHURY AND SANJIB POHIT

IN THE PAST three years, several studies have linked air pollution with health effects. For instance, the State of Global Air 2019, published by the Health Effects Institute (HEI), claimed exposure to outdoor and indoor air pollution contributed to over 1.2 million deaths in India in 2017. Another study conducted by researchers at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and partner institutes peg the economic cost of exposure to air pollution from crop residue burning at \$35 billion, or nearly Rs. 2.35 lakh crore annually, for the three north Indian states of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi.

While we do not question the basic premise that air pollution has adverse health impact, we are sceptical about the figures quoted and the methodology adopted in estimating the cost.

First piece of the jigsaw of such studies relates to the availability of data on measurement of air pollution levels, notably mean concentrate on particulate matter (PM)10 (particles smaller than 10 microns) and PM2.5 (particles smaller than 2.5 microns, about 25 to 100 times thinner than a human hair). The availability of data has no doubt improved significantly in recent years, with an increase in number of nodes where such data is now being collected 24x7. However, while the discourse on air pollu-

The magnitude of air pollution's health effects can only be judged when, apart from scientists measuring air pollution and social scientists assessing economic values, medical practitioners are also involved in collecting clinical and biometric information. It appears that the last part is missing in most studies.

tion in the Indian context centres around PM10 and PM2.5, there are other pollutants in the atmosphere which are more harmful - nanoparticles, for example. Soil erosion, dust storms, burning of unprocessed fuel and industrial and mechanical processes also cause air pollution. The lack of data on these implies that research excludes an important aspect of the health implications of pollution. This may mean that the total economic cost of exposure can, in fact, be higher than what is reported. But is it really so?

This brings to us the second piece of the puzzle: Estimating the impact of pollution on health. There can be two ways to understand it. For instance, IFPRI has used India's fourth District Level Health Survey data to correlate pollution with health impact. However, it is a general health survey and does not cover all diseases linked to air pollution. Moreover, the information is collated from households. Resource constraints preclude any attempt to collect clinical and biometric information of individuals exposed to air pollution. Health assessment based on respondents' perceptions may not provide a real picture unless a medical examination on the subjects captures the residues of such pollutants in the blood. Only then can the extent and severity of pollution impacts be ascertained.

In India, the general approach is to get the cost estimates from developed countries and then deflate the numbers using the purchasing power parity (PPP) conversion approach to arrive at economic costs of pollution. However, there could be a major flaw in this approach. For example, it overlooks how human immunity develops in polluted and non polluted areas. To completely overlook this fact may lead to an overestimation of pollu-

tion's adverse impacts. While the severity of the air pollution problem is a fact, its magnitude can only be judged when, apart from scientists measuring air pollution and social scientists assessing economic values, medical practitioners are also involved in collecting clinical and biometric information. It appears that the last part is missing in most studies. Of course, given the shortage of doctors in India, it would always be costly to involve the medical profession in such studies. But then, researchers should acknowledge that they may be off the mark. As of now, the true picture remains shrouded in the smog that prevails over our cities.

Roy Chowdhury is associate fellow and Pohit is professor at National Council of Applied Economic Research New Delhi. Views expressed here are personal

OCTOBER 1, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

RSS-STATE EQUATION BALASAHEB DEORAS SAID in Nagpur that the RSS considered politics to be only a part of the total national life and "our relationship with politics is to the same extent and of the same nature as we have with other aspects of life". He added that the "Sangh does not believe that the state is the chief or the sole instrument for achieving social good". Addressing an RSS rally on the occasion of the 54th anniversary of the founding of the organisation, The RSS sarsanghachalak explained at length the character and objectives of the organisation which, he said, believed in the secular character of the

state and was dedicated to the rejuvenation

of Hindu national life.

Media Critique

RAJ NARAIN, LOK Dal leader, has alleged that mass media was being systematically exploited by capitalist forces. "I will take the department of mass media in my own hands if this situation continues," Narain told newsmen in Varanasi. Narain said that the peasants and common people of the drought-affected region of eastern UP had strongly demanded postponement of the mid-term poll till the middle of February 1980. "I will convey this message of the people to the Prime Minister and to the Chief Election Commissioner," he said.

JANATA MANIFESTO A DRAFT OF the first part of the Janata Party election manifesto circulated among national executive members contains a strong denunciation of President Sanjiva Reddy, defectors led by Charan Singh, the CPI and CPM It is a review of the developments that led to the fall of the Janata government, the dissolution of the Lok Sabha and the announcement of the mid-term poll. The second part a review of the Janata government's achievements, would be circulated among the national executive next week. The third part, listing the policies, if the party returned to power, would be drafted after a discussion on the suggestions by the national executive.