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Voter turnout in 2014: **63.08%**

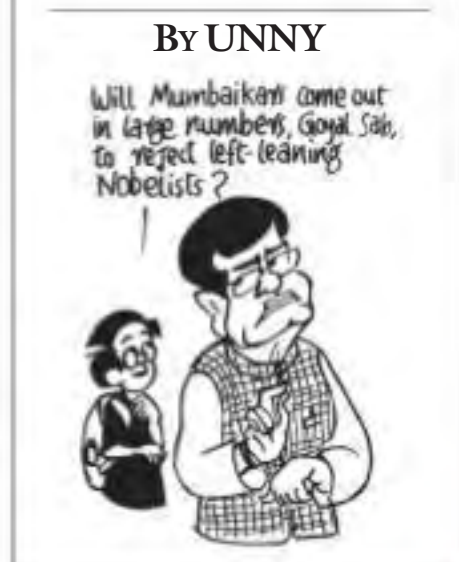
HARYANA

Total Assembly seats: **90**
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2014 Results: BJP **47** seats; Cong **15**; INLD **19**; Independents **5**
Voter turnout in 2014: **76.54%**

BYPOLLS IN 51 ASSEMBLY, 2 LOK SABHA SEATS

REPORTS PAGE 6

BUSINESS AS USUAL



THE EDITORIAL PAGE

JUDGE RECUSAL IS ABOUT DUE PROCESS

BY FAIZAN MUSTAFA P 10

Debt-laden DHFL loaned to firms tied to its promoters: ED probe

KHUSHBOO NARAYAN
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

DEWAN HOUSING Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL) loaned a total Rs 2,186 crore to firms allegedly linked to its own promoters, including Sunblink Real Estate Pvt Ltd and its subsidiaries, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has found. Investigators suspect the loaned money was subsequently diverted to firms directly or indirectly controlled by the promoters of DHFL.

Kapil Wadhawan and Dheeraj Wadhawan, popularly known as Baba Dewan, are the promoters of DHFL, a housing finance company that has a debt of Rs 1 lakh crore. One of the directors of Sunblink, Sunny Bathija, is the brother-in-law of Dheeraj Wadhawan, sources familiar with the ED case said.

Sunblink is also under the scanner for a Rs 225-crore land deal in Mumbai involving Iqbal Memon aka Iqbal Mirchi, a trusted aide of Dawood Ibrahim, who died in London in 2013. The ED has alleged that about Rs 190 crore of the Rs 225 crore was paid to Mirchi through the hawala route.

Continued on page 2

Generations will feel impact, go by values laid in Constitution: Mosque sides to SC

SEEMA CHISHTI & ANANTHAKRISHNAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE PARTIES arguing for a mosque at the disputed Ayodhya site have urged the Supreme Court to bear in mind that its judgment in the case would have far-reaching implications, and urged it to "mould" the relief in such a manner that it reflects "constitutional values".

"Since the judgment of this Court will have far-reaching implications, it is for the Court to consider the consequences of its historic judgment by moulding the relief in a fashion that will reflect the constitutional values that this great nation espouses... we hope that the Court, in moulding the relief, upholds our multi-religious and multicultural values in resolving the issues confronting it," the seven mosque parties said Sunday in a joint, one-page statement on the question of 'moulding' of the relief.



The statement came a day after several parties supporting a temple at the site objected to the mosque side filing written submissions on the question of relief to the Supreme Court in a sealed cover.

The five-judge apex court Bench, which wrapped up hearing in the Ayodhya case on October 16, had given the parties three days to file their written submissions in the matter.

In their statement, issued by

MORE REPORTS PAGE 8

Assaults, murder of journalists: YSRCP men named in 4 FIRs

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 20

WHILE THE Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has refused to take up a proposal by a state minister to initiate legal action against news reported with "mala fide intentions", leaders of the ruling YSR Congress Party have been accused of unleashing attacks on mediapersons who are seen to be critical of them, or of the state government.

The latest — and most serious — of these attacks took place on October 15, when a reporter of *Andhra Jyothi* newspaper was hacked to death while on his way home in the evening. Three days later, police registered an FIR against YSRCP MLA and party



Chief Whip in the Assembly, Ramalingeshwara Rao Dadiseti, in the journalist's killing.

The day after the reporter's murder, state Information and Public Relations Minister Perni Venkataramaiah submitted a proposal to empower "departmental secretaries having wherewithal to judge whether the news is true or false to file cases against defamatory content appearing in print, electronic and social media".

Continued on page 2

EXCHANGE OF FIRE ACROSS LINE OF CONTROL

6-10 Pak soldiers killed, terror infra hit severely: Army Chief

First such incident after Article 370 move; India says retaliated to Pak ceasefire violation

KRISHN KAUSHIK, ADIL AKHZER & SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 20

IN THE first significant escalation of hostilities on the Line of Control since the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian Army targeted several terrorist launchpads in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. India said it was in retaliation to "unprovoked" firing by Pakistan, leaving two Indian soldiers and a civilian dead in border Kupwara district.

Army Chief General Bipin Rawat said the Indian side had "caused severe damage to terrorists' infrastructure across... Six-10 Pakistani soldiers have been killed, three camps have been destroyed". He added that they had information that terrorists had arrived at camps in the forward areas and said that, in the last one month, with Diwali approaching, repeated infiltration attempts had been made.

Pakistan summoned Indian Acting High Commissioner Gaurav Ahluwalia in Islamabad and lodged an official protest. Pakistan Army spokesperson Major General Asif Ghafoor

Continued on page 2



Houses hit by shells in Jura village near the LoC in Pak Occupied Kashmir on Sunday. Reuters

EXPLAINED

Ceasefire strained

SIXTEEN YEARS after India and Pakistan signed a ceasefire accord, there has been a spike in the number of violations by Pakistan. July saw 296 such violations, August 307, and September 292. The corresponding figures for 2018 were 13; 44; 102.

Letters 'put on hold' as Pakistan stops mail from India for the first time

AMITAVA CHAKRABORTY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

EVEN THROUGH Partition, three wars, and extended tension, and despite the circuitous route involving the Middle-East, one service did not stop between India and Pakistan. In the wake of abrogation of Article 370 however, Pakistan has stopped postal mail between the two countries. It's been more than one-and-a-half months since Pakistan last

accepted a consignment from India, on August 27, forcing the Indian postal authorities to put mail marked for the country "on hold". Said R V Chaudhary, the Director of Postal Services (Mail and Business Development), Delhi, "It was a unilateral decision on their part. This is the first time they have taken such a stand... We are not sure when the order will be lifted."

Of the 28 Foreign Post Offices (FPOs) across the country notified

Continued on page 2

Tiwari killing: Police find bloodstained knife, clothes

MANISH SAHU & KAMAAL SAIYED
LUCKNOW, SURAT, OCT 20

A BLOODSTAINED knife that was allegedly used to kill Kamlesh Tiwari has been recovered from a hotel room that his two assailants occupied in Lucknow, police said on Sunday. Bloodstained *kurtas* worn by the two alleged assailants too, were recovered from the room in the hotel in the Lalbagh area of the city, police said.

Police said the alleged assailants checked into the room after reaching Lucknow from Gujarat on October 17, and after killing Tiwari, left without informing the hotel staff. Police sealed the room and collected footage from the hotel's CCTV camera network. Forensic experts collected the bloodstained clothes and a towel from the room, and lifted fingerprints.

Police said the men seen in the hotel footage were the same as the ones in the footage from near Tiwari's residence.

Continued on page 2

THE GOVERNANCE PAGE



EDUCATION REFORM: DELHI'S SECRET SAUCE

Page 12

WORLD



PENTAGON CHIEF IN AFGHANISTAN AS US LOOKS TO RESTART TALIBAN TALKS P 13

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PUNHANA, THE CENTRE OF ATTENTION THIS HARYANA ELECTION

Punhana is a Meo-Muslim dominated constituency in backward Nuh district of Haryana, which struggles with even the basics of development though situated just 60 km from the industries of Gurgaon

VIDEO OF THE DAY



MARKING 150 YEARS OF MAHATMA GANDHI

SRK, Aamir, Kangana and other film stars join Prime Minister

FULL COVERAGE



KAMLESH TIWARI MURDER

Tiwari's family spent around 30 minutes with the chief minister

EXPRESS AUDIO

Why the govt is struggling to keep its promises to J&K

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In this episode of the 3 Things podcast, we look at reasons why development in the state remains stagnant, why sarpanchs are unhappy and the government's plans

FROM PAGE ONE

Ayodhya

Senior Advocate Rajeev Dhawan and attested by other lawyers representing them, the mosque parties said, "The decision by this Hon'ble Court... will impact future generations. It will also have consequences for the polity of this country. This Court's decision may impact the minds of millions who are citizens of this country and who believe in constitutional values embraced by all when India was declared a republic... Moulding the relief is the responsibility of this Court, which itself is the sentinel of our Constitution... This Court must also consider how future generations will view this verdict."

claim on behalf of the mosque. "In the light of the admission of the sacredness of the place, it will be unjust to expect Hindus to share the place with others. It will be in the best interest of everybody if Hindus are permitted to retain the most sacred place to themselves," the counsel said.

In its written submission, handed over on Saturday, the counsel for Ramlalla Virajman, the deity of Ayodhya, staked claim to not just the disputed site but also the adjacent land acquired by the Centre in 1993. It said the 67,703 acres would be needed for the convenience of devotees when a grand Ram temple was built on the disputed 2.77 acres.

They also submitted that the other major party arguing for a temple — the Nimohi Akhara — had "disintegrated themselves" by setting up a claim "adverse to the deity", by "questioning the very status of Ram Janmasthan" and by disputing the maintainability of the suit filed by Ramlalla.

In case the Supreme Court decides to uphold the Allahabad High Court order of September 2010, dividing the disputed site three ways — between Ramlalla Virajman, Sunni Waqf Board and Nimohi Akhara — the Akhara has asked the Court to give it the inner courtyard and direct the Waqf Board to give its share of the land on a long-term lease to it for construction of a temple. In return, it has argued, the Waqf Board could be given land on the 67,703 acres of acquired premises or somewhere else in Ayodhya, and asked the Court to set up a committee to oversee construction of the temple and mosque in that case.

In case of a trust being formed to oversee affairs, the Akhara strongly posits its rights to ensuring that the 'Ramanandi Sampradaya' character of the temple is maintained (the Sampradaya emphasises worship of Ram), all "religious functions" are conducted by it, and that it has a decisive say in any such organisation. If all the suits are dismissed, the Nimohi Akhara has said, the Magistrate must reopen "all the 145 proceedings (including old title suits)".

Pak stops mail

to deal with international consignments, only Delhi and Mumbai FPOs are designated to handle postal mail to and from Pakistan. While the FPO on Central Delhi's Kotla Marg acts as

the nodal agency for consignments from six states — Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, and Himachal Pradesh — besides J&K, the FPO in Mumbai is the exchange office for the rest of the country.

Said Delhi FPO Superintendent Satish Kumar, "Most of the postal mail to Pakistan are dispatched by this office and a majority of them are from Punjab and J&K. It is mostly academic and literary material." Adding that it is a fraction of what they usually handle, Kumar said he had no details of the numbers over the years.

Pakistan's press attache to India Khwaja Maaz Tariq said he had not heard anything on the matter.

Jatin Desai, member of the Pakistan India People's Forum for Peace and Democracy, said while such bans have no meaning at a time when communication has moved to the Internet, "letters are a way of expression". "And the right cannot be taken away by any State. I cannot remember a similar incident from the past."

Besides, Desai added, some official communication has to be by posts. "For instance, if an Indian fisherman is arrested, the power of attorney that has to be sent to his lawyer cannot be couriered. And courts do not accept emails."

Nazar Husain, whose sister lives in Karachi, said the exchange of documents between India and Pakistan mostly pertains to sponsor letters for visa. "In the last 10 years, I have started e-mailing her the documents. But officials sometimes demand an original letter." Husain also talked about using a round-about way, through courier to Kuwait and then Karachi, during the Kargil War or other times of tension.

What remains less known is that even India-Pakistan postal mail took this long route, due to the lack of a direct flight between the two countries — except for the parcels booked through Railways. "Until the suspension of service by Pakistan, the Saudi Arabian Airlines carried mails from India to Pakistan and vice-versa, with Riyadh acting as the exchange centre for letters. Prior to that, letters were exchanged in Dubai. About a couple of years ago, even Singapore was the exchange centre," said a senior official in the Delhi FPO, refusing to be named.

Consequently, the cost of mailing a consignment to Pakistan went up, which could be another reason for this exchange's slow death. Said the FPO's Kamlesh Rajput, who deals with Pakistan-specific mail, "A 250-gram consignment to Pakistan costs about Rs 810, a similar package to the US Rs 850."

Chaudhary, the Director of Postal Services, said they were waiting for the Union government to decide their next step. "We have written to the Ministry (of Communications) seeking permission to temporarily suspend booking (of consignments to Pakistan from India)," he said.

— WITH INPUTS FROM TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA IN MUMBAI

Tiwari killing

"The two sets of footage were matched and efforts are being made to arrest the assailants. We have found a bloodstained knife from the room of the hotel," Additional Director General of Police, Lucknow Zone, Satya Narain Sabat said.

Tiwari, a former working president of the Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha, was murdered by two assailants at his home around noon on October 18. Tiwari had appealed on behalf of the organisation in the Ayodhya case before the Supreme Court.

'Pak soldiers killed, terror camps hit'

accused India of unprovoked ceasefire violations "in Jura, Shahkot & Nousehri Sectors deliberately targeting civilians", and tweeted, "9 Indian soldiers killed several injured. 2 Indian bunkers destroyed." The Indian side denied this.

The Indian Army had last targeted terrorist launch pads in February this year, after the deadly Pulwama attack, hitting a Jaish-e-Mohammed camp in Balakot, deep inside Pakistan. Earlier, in September 2016, the Army had carried out surgical strikes on terror launch pads across the LoC. Unlike that time, Saturday night's attacks were conducted from within Indian territory.

The Indian Army accused Pakistan of ceasefire violation in the Tangdhar Sector at multiple places, starting around 11 pm on Saturday and continuing till the few hours of Sunday, and said Pakistani troops were trying to give covering fire to militants trying to infiltrate. "The Indian Army retains the right to respond at a time and place of its choosing in case Pakistan continues to assist terrorist activities."

A Defence spokesperson said that in the Pakistani firing, two soldiers were killed, apart from the death of a civilian and injuries to three. The dead were identified as Armymen Padam Bahadur and Gamil Kumar, and

Mohammad Sadiq, 55, a resident of Tangdhar.

Pakistani Rangers also resorted to small arms fire and mortar shelling along the international border in Jammu's Hiranagar Sector in Kathua district on Saturday. While one hut was damaged, the family escaped by hiding in a bunker.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of an event in Delhi, General Rawat said, "Ever since the abrogation of special provisions (for Jammu and Kashmir), we are getting repeated inputs about infiltration by terrorists... So far, as per the information available with us, six-10 Pakistani soldiers have been killed and nearly as many terrorists... Three terror camps have been destroyed and on the fourth one also, we have caused severe damage."

The Army Chief gave the location of the destroyed terror camps as Athmuqam, Kundal Shahi and Jura, and said the Army had information about damage to a camp in Leepa Valley too. The General claimed there was a kind of "radio silence" on the other side and "we are not even able to pick up any mobile communication... which implies that there have been casualties, damage, which the Pakistan Army does not want to highlight... But, definitely, as and when we get it, we will provide

you with more evidence."

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was briefed about the retaliatory action, the Army Chief said. Adding that they are "regularly" in touch on the issue, he said, "The political leadership and the military are working in close coordination... The political leadership is fully backing us and no restriction has been put."

Warning that if Pakistan persisted with such activities, the Army would not hesitate to retaliate, General Rawat said the neighbouring country was trying to stir trouble after the abrogation of Article 370. "Gradually, things are returning to normal in the Valley, but obviously somebody is working behind the scenes, at the behest of terrorists and agencies, some within and some outside Pakistan and PoK, to disrupt the peaceful atmosphere."

A senior police officer in Tangdhar told *The Express* that several houses were damaged in the Pakistani firing. Officials said the area had seen such heavy shelling after a long time. Kupwara Deputy Commissioner Kupwara Anshul Garg said eight people also received injuries, including some Armymen. A civilian told *The Indian Express* over the phone, "There is complete panic among people here."

Pakistan claimed that the

Indian firing had resulted in death of five of its civilians. In a statement, the Pakistan Foreign Ministry said that Pakistan's Director General (SA & SAARC) summoned the Indian Acting High Commissioner and condemned India's "unprovoked ceasefire violations". Pakistan, it said, categorically rejects Indian reports about "so-called launchpads". "Pakistan has called upon the P5 (the UN Security Council's five permanent members) to ask India to provide information about the so-called 'launchpads' and stated its willingness to arrange a visit of the P5 diplomats to those locations to expose Indian falsehood."

In another statement, the Pakistan Foreign Ministry criticised the "anti-Pakistan tirade" of the BJP during campaigning for the Haryana and Maharashtra Assembly elections, and accused the party of "regurgitating" baseless allegations of Pakistan's support to terrorism and drug smuggling, and questioning its threats to disrupt flow of river water to Pakistan as well as its claims taking credit over the opening of the Kartarpur Corridor. "... the instrumental use of Pakistan for domestic, political gains and electoral dividends must come to an end," said the statement.

— WITH PTI INPUTS AND ENDS, JAMMU

Nellore Rural constituency, and his followers. Vishnu, Murali Krishna Yadav, and Suresh, criminally trespassed into the house of the complainant, N Dolendra Prasad, the editor of *Zaminryot* Telugu weekly, "with a view to kill him with sharp weapons".

"The motive for this incident is that the complainant published a news article in his weekly against Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy, MLA Nellore Rural Constituency," the FIR said. Reddy denied that he threatened or assaulted Prasad. "I merely went to his house to inquire about the article he had written, and tried to convey the facts," the MLA said.

A reporter from *ABN Andhra Jyothi*, whose journalists are often the target of YSRCP leaders, said: "Threats of assault and intimidation from YSRCP leaders have been common ever since the party came to power. Many journalists have not gone to police out of fear," said the reporter, who declined to be identified.

M Koteswara Rao, president of the All India Working Journalists' Association, said the media in AP was working in an atmosphere of fear. "We have requested the government to bring the accused to justice in a week, or we will be forced to hold protests," Rao said.

DHFL loans

On Saturday, the agency conducted searches at multiple locations connected to DHFL, its associate firms such as Dheeraj Realty, and the promoters in Mumbai.

DHFL has denied links to Sunblink Real Estate. In response to queries mailed by *The Indian Express*, it said: "DHFL in the normal course of its business has funded certain projects of various companies... The dues of Rs 2,186 crore comprise the principal amount and the interest payable on the principal sum. On account of certain corporate actions undertaken with/by Sunblink, as on date, Sunblink is mentioned as a borrower. The amounts were never lent to Sunblink as alleged in the media. The corporate actions have been only to enhance DHFL's security cover and cash flow receivables on the lending."

Sources said that a part of the Rs 2,186 crore loan was invested in Faith Realtors Pvt Ltd, Marvel Township Pvt Ltd, Able Realty Pvt Ltd, Poseidon Realty Pvt Ltd, and Random Realtors Pvt Ltd, in the form of share capital. Records accessed by *The Indian Express* show that on July 23, 2019, Faith Realtors and Marvel Township merged with their holding company — Sunblink Real Estate.

One of the shareholders of Faith Realtors before its merger with Sunblink was Yardstick Developers Pvt Ltd, which is managed by Wadhawan Holdings Pvt Ltd from its office in Bandra East in Mumbai.

As per the latest financial disclosures of 2017-18, Faith Realtors has borrowed Rs 622.89 crore, while Marvel Township has taken loans worth Rs 585.79 crore. Poseidon Realty, Random Realty and Able Realty and have borrowed Rs 350.37 crore, Rs 316 crore and Rs 192.65 crore respectively as of March 2018. All these firms had zero revenue from operations in 2017-18.

Faith Realtors and Marvel reported losses of Rs 51.34 lakh and Rs 84.42 lakh respectively as of March 2018. Poseidon, Random, and Able made losses of Rs 51.66 lakh, Rs 62.54 lakh, and Rs 20.10 lakh in the same period. Dheeraj Wadhawan's RKW Developers Pvt Ltd is a shareholder in Poseidon Realty, while Random Realty borrowed from RKW Developers. As of March 2018, Poseidon Realty and Marvel Township were among the shareholders of Able Realty.

FULL REPORTS ON www.indianexpress.com

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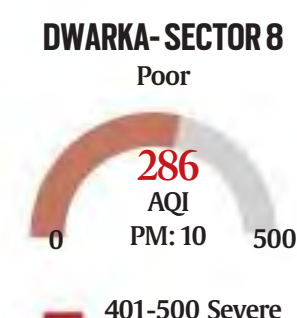
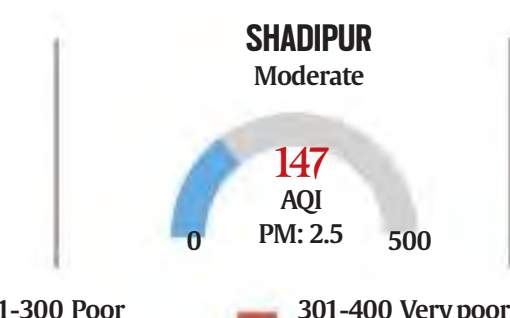
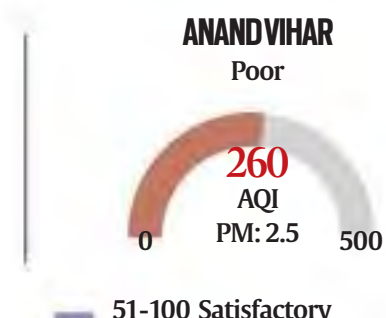
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Parthasarathy Rocks not closed, entry restricted: JNU

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

AFTER PROTESTS by the JNU students' union over the decision to block entry to Parthasarathy Rocks, the administration Sunday issued a circular stating that the area had not been permanently closed but entry timings had been restricted — from 5.30 am to 7.30 pm — for "safety and security".

"This is to inform the JNU community that a rumour is going around that Parthasarathy Rocks has been permanently closed. No such decision has been taken. A lock was temporarily put up at the time due to repair work at the gate. Some miscreants broke open the lock and uprooted the gate on the night of October 19-20. This tantamounts to criminal offence of damaging university property; investigations are on to find the culprits," said the circular signed by the Chief Security Officer.

"All members of JNU community... will be allowed into this area during opening hours by producing their ID card. Current arrangements will be in force until further notice," it added.

27-YR-OLD WAS PURSUING PhD AT IIT-DELHI

St Stephen's teacher, mother found dead in suspected murder-suicide

JIGNASA SINHA & SHAJU PHILIP
NEW DELHI/
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
OCTOBER 20

A 27-YEAR-OLD teacher at St Stephen's College and his 55-year-old mother were found dead at two separate locations in the capital on Saturday. Police said while Alan Stanley's decapitated body was found on the tracks at Sarai Rohilla railway station, his mother Lissy was found hanging from a ceiling fan, with a cloth in her mouth at their Pitampura house. Police said it appears to be a double suicide but are also probing if Stanley killed his mother before committing suicide.

Police received a call about the incident from Lissy's neighbour at 10 am. "The caller said Lissy's house was locked from inside and she couldn't contact her. We went to the house and found the woman hanging from a ceiling fan in her room. We tried contacting her son but couldn't



Alan Stanley (27) and his mother lived in Pitampura

reach him. Later, we found that he had committed suicide on the railway tracks. We are looking at possible motives behind the deaths," said DCP (Outer) Dr A Koan. A post-mortem will be conducted Monday to ascertain the cause of death in both cases.

Mother and son hailed from Kottayam in Kerala, and lived in Ashiana Apartments. Stanley was an ad-hoc teacher and taught Philosophy, and was also pursuing a PhD from IIT-Delhi. While he moved to Delhi a year-and-a-half ago, his mother shifted eight months ago.

According to police, Lissy was

married twice and Stanley was her child from the first marriage. She remarried in 2018 after her second husband, Wilson, died in December 2018, a case of abetment to suicide was registered against her and Stanley in Kottayam. Subsequently, mother and son had moved the Kerala High Court demanding that the FIR be quashed. But on August 8, the court ordered a detailed probe into Wilson's suicide.

DCP Koan added, "A criminal case is pending against them and they were granted anticipatory bail by a court in Kottayam."



Alan Stanley (27) and his mother lived in Pitampura

The Idukki district Crime Branch Deputy Superintendent of Police, T A Antony, said the probe is at the initial stage.

"There are two allegations against the mother and the son. One is that they had harassed Wilson, causing him depression and leading to suicide. It was stated that Wilson hanged himself at his house. We have to ascertain whether the offence of abetting suicide could be made out against the duo. Secondly, Wilson's children had alleged that Rs 1.50 crore was transferred to Lissy's account, and that she was made a nominee in several

of their father's accounts. The children have agreed to furnish documents next week. As Lissy was Wilson's legal wife, we have to look into whether there was any illegal aspect to it," he said.

He added that no summons had been issued so far to Lissy and Stanley to give statements. The officer also denied allegations that had appeared in certain media reports that Wilson's death had been a case of slow poisoning. "The post-mortem report had stated that Wilson's death was due to hanging."

During enquiry, police said witnesses alleged that Stanley wanted to commit suicide five days ago and had tried to "convince" his mother to join him but she refused. DCP Koan said they found a suicide note written in Malayalam from the apartment. No note was found in Stanley's possession or on the railway tracks, said police.

A case of murder has been registered in Lissy's death while railway police are probing Stanley's suicide.

'He was troubled by media coverage of stepfather's suicide'

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

AFTER THE death of PhD scholar and teacher Alan Stanley, and his mother, Saturday, his mentor and friends have alleged the two were driven to death by media coverage of the death of his stepfather.

The 27-year-old was a second-year PhD candidate at IIT-Delhi's School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and his area of research was the philosophy of chemistry. In January, Stanley had joined St Stephen's College as an ad-hoc teacher in its philosophy department. He had studied BSc Chemistry at St Stephen's before doing an MA in Philosophy from Hyderabad Central University and beginning his PhD.

"Everyone was aware that both mother and son were very disturbed by reports in Malayalam newspapers, connecting them to his stepfather's death... We are going to pursue the matter legally and demand that there be some kind of guidelines on how reporting is done," said his PhD supervisor Sanil V.

In a social media post,

Stanley's friend Rajiv Pereira also made similar allegations, referring to reports in two Malayalam news portals on October 15 and 18: "Auntie was compared to the prime suspect of the Koodathai murder incident. For the past six months, Alan and his mother were facing legal battles on (a) property dispute and an investigation regarding the suicide of Alan's stepfather. These cases had broken them down... Alan stopped communicating after October 15. Our friends in Delhi reached (out) to him, only to find he and his mother had lost all hope."

His students remember him as being deeply passionate about teaching philosophy. "We were the first batch that he had taught; he was very excited about it. He would spend a lot of time teaching us different mathematical paradoxes. I will always remember the internal assessment test he conducted. In the middle of it, he pulled out packets of fruit juices. We stopped writing for a few moments to squal about how sweet the gesture was," said Uma Chakraborty, whom Stanley had taught in her final semester.

3 dead in accidents in Gautam Budh Nagar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, OCTOBER 20

THREE PEOPLE died and one person was injured in two separate accidents within 12 hours in different parts of Gautam Budh Nagar district Sunday.

In the first incident, a car flipped after hitting a divider in Noida's Sector 47 around 4 am. Police said two victims, Anil Sharma (30) and Ajay Chaudhary (34), succumbed to injuries in hospital, while another passen-



Two people died after their car hit a divider and flipped

ger, Chanshyam, is in the ICU. "A police team rushed to the

spot and a crane was also called to move the car, a Tata Tiago. No complaint has been received from any family member," said Navneet Jaswal, SP (City), Gautam Budh Nagar.

Police said the victims were colleagues and worked for a private travel agency in Noida. Chanshyam's family told police that the man had gone out of town on official work and were due to return by Monday.

Police found no traces of alcohol in the victims' blood and believe the person driving fell asleep

at the wheel. Anil hailed from Haldwani while Ajay was from Meerut.

In the second incident, a man riding a motorcycle died after a speeding truck hit him near Aditya Thermocol Company in Greater Noida. Police said Indrajeet (34) was returning home to Surajpur when the incident took place at 10 am. The driver fled while the truck, with a UP licence plate, was seized.

Indrajeet hailed from Bihar and was working as an assistant in the chambers of a lawyer.

4 held for snatching bag from judge's car

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

NEARLY A month after an additional sessions judge (ASJ) was robbed by men, who allegedly broke the window of her car and stole a bag, in South East Delhi's Okhla Industrial Area, police arrested four men of the 'Gulel' gang in connection with the robbery Friday.

Police said Arun (25), Satvel (25), Sanju (22) and Ritik (20), were involved in over 10 cases of



The men allegedly broke the car window and stole a bag

robbery and theft. Along with items like cash, documents and ATM cards, police also recovered the ASJ's visiting cards.

During questioning, the accused said they kept the cards to target her in the future, "as she was an important person".

The robbery took place around 8 pm on September 24, when the ASJ was on her way to the Saket Court Judge's residential complex from Okhla. Two of the men followed her to an intersection, broke the car's window, took her bag and fled.

Police initially detained members of the 'Thak Thak' gang as they follow a similar modus operandi. "Over 20 CCTVs were

scanned and secret informers were deployed. The men were identified and arrested near Madangir Friday," said DCP (South East) Chinmoy Biswal. Police said the accused would target vehicles with lone drivers who had bags. "They would break the glass with a catapult. Before the victim could understand anything, they would take the bag and flee," said Biswal.

Police said while Arun, Satvel and Sanju have previously been arrested in cases of theft, Ritik joined the gang recently.

Directorate of Education
Government of NCT of Delhi
organises

CAREER CONCLAVE 2019-20

A golden opportunity for the students of class XII of Delhi Government schools to get guidance for their careers. Institutions/Organisation working in the field of Higher Education, Vocational Education, Technical Education and Employment sector will be participating in this Career Conclave.

Date: 21st to 25th October, 2019
Time: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Venue: Thyagaraj Stadium, INA, New Delhi

Manish Sisodia
Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

Directorate of Education
Government of NCT of Delhi

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

Police Commemoration Day
21st October, 2019

DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

Every Day
We Fight Crime.
Today, We Fight
Our Tears.

Our heads bow today
In the memory of colleagues
Who laid down their lives
In the line of duty.
Their supreme sacrifice makes us
Proud to wear the khakhi.

DP/9/165/19

4 HARDLOOK CLASS X RESULTS

At a government school in Mehrauli. For the 350 low-performing schools, focused revision on maths through private coaching will begin in January



Abhinav Saha

"I JUST couldn't wrap my head around polynomials. There's x and y and z... there's x on both sides of the equation... there is division and multiplication. It didn't make any sense to me," said 17-year-old Hemant, half embarrassed and half exasperated.

"For me it was all that sin, tan, cos, theta mumbo jumbo," piped in his friend Shivam, with other boys around him nodding in agreement.

Both boys were among 47,231 students of Delhi government schools who were unable to clear the CBSE class X board examinations conducted in March this year. Like over half of these students, they had failed in only one subject — Mathematics.

Low pass percentage in CBSE class X examinations has been a pattern in Delhi government schools, and the children's struggle with maths has been the biggest cause. After this year's examination, around 350 schools had been identified where less than 55% of students had passed in maths in class X. These schools — and the government machinery behind them — are now working on a single mission: To increase the number of students passing in maths in the 2020 exam.

For a government which forefronts education as its most major field of interventions and initiatives, the low pass percentages remain a glaring gap in an otherwise favourable public image of work done in its schools.



The quest to conquer mathematics began soon after results were declared in May, and analyses of the results by education department officials threw up some clear trends.

"Looking through the data we had collected, we found that students were performing well in other subjects. More than 96% had passed in English, Hindi and social science but maths emerged as a major issue. Only around 73% students had passed in it. Around 86% had passed in science," said Shailendra Sharma, principal advisor to the Directorate of Education.

A still closer look at the results showed that it might not yet be too late to help some of these students save an academic year. For students who fail in either one or two subjects, the central board provides an opportunity to appear for compartment examinations in those particular subjects a few months later.

Of the students who had not passed the March exams from Delhi government schools, only 2,715 had failed outright while 44,516 had been placed in compartment. It was found that 24,502 of these students had failed only in maths, while 6,092 had failed only in science.

"Compartment exams are never really taken seriously by schools, students or the board because once they don't pass, the students are considered to have failed and everyone moves on. But we thought that this was a gap that might be possible to fill through targeted focus on these two subjects, particularly maths," said Sharma.

And thus began a new exercise, in which the students placed in compartment were pushed to attend remedial classes in their schools during the summer vacation months of May and June, in preparation for the exams in July.

Every working day, for one-and-a-half months, these students went to school for one-and-a-half hours of classes and specialised attention from their teachers, who received teaching plans from the education department suggesting which topics within

which chapters they could focus on in these two subjects.

As a result, 16,395 students — including Hemant and Shivam — managed to clear the compartment exams and move to class XI with their classmates.

"I really pushed myself during that time because I didn't want to waste a year. I told myself that it's just a matter of one or two months and that once I would reach class XI, I would be free of maths forever," said Hemant. After scoring 17 out of 80 in the March examination, he pulled through with 40 on 80 in the compartment and is now a student of humanities.

However, both boys have seen their closest friends move out of their classrooms after not being able to pass the compartment either — some have been re-admitted in class X, some have moved to open schooling, while some are preparing for the re-compartment next March from outside school.



Carrying forward the lessons from the result analyses and experience with the compartment exam, government schools in general and the 350 schools identified as low performing in particular are gearing up for next year's board exam from early on, by going the extra mile to push up the numbers of those passing in mathematics.

"The director of education told us that we have to target a pass percentage of 90 in class X maths, so that is what we are focusing our energy on," said Hansraj Meena, Head of School (HoS), Government Boys Senior Secondary School — one of the schools earmarked for weak performance in mathematics.

According to numbers crunched by the education department, around 30,000 students had appeared in the class X exam from these 350 schools, of whom 42% had passed in maths. In Meena's school, only 32 of the 64 boys had passed in maths and the school's overall pass percentage was 46.88%.

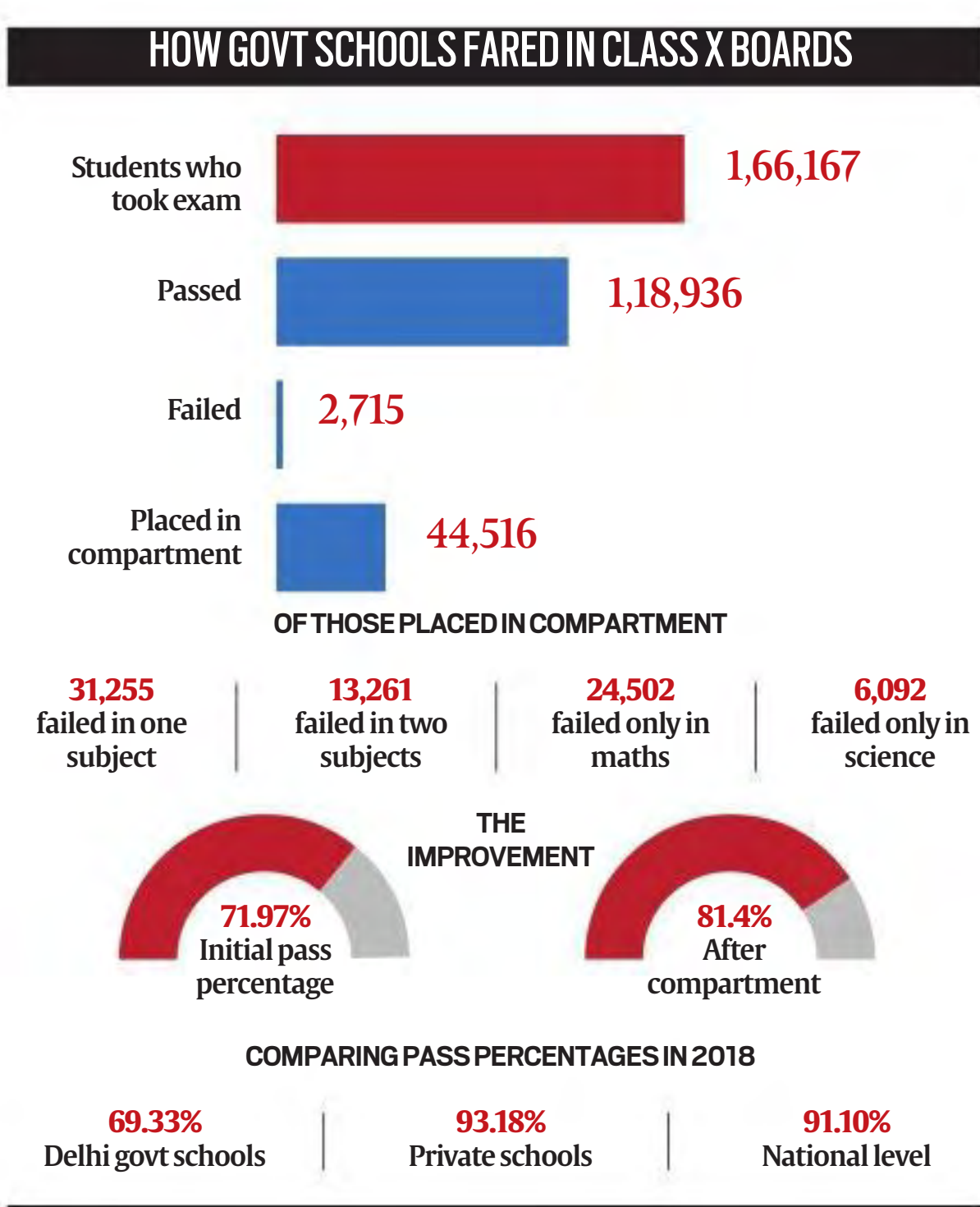
The struggle with mathematics becomes even clearer when it is put in perspective with the students' performance elsewhere. All students had passed in English, Hindi and Sanskrit, one had failed in social science and nine had failed in science. In class XII, the pass percentage was 95.51%.

One of the biggest interventions lined up for these schools is focused revision on mathematics through private coaching, starting January. "We have thought of outsourcing some amount of maths teaching to external expert agencies, the way we have hired academies like British Council to help students with spoken English. This is to supplement what is taught by our teachers; it will help with clearing their concepts and practicing

A MATH PROBLEM

The 2019 board exam results were the start of a new experiment for the Delhi government. Having realised that mathematics was dragging the pass percentage down, schools and the education department have spent months trying to address the stumbling block.

SUKRITA BARUAH reports on how they're going about it



solving problems," said Education Minister Manish Sisodia.

Currently the focus is on completing the syllabus in November so that students can enter revision mode as soon as possible.

The government is working on sending out request for proposals (RFPs) to such agencies and will begin revision classes for a duration of two-three hours in the 15 days of winter break in January, continuing till the exams, with a 100-hour training package with the agencies for every school.

When *The Indian Express* asked why the government was turning to private parties for assistance, it was pointed to a long-standing problem of government schools — lack of teachers. "Not only is there a lack of teachers, even when we sent out notifications of vacancies for regular maths teachers, we received very few candidates. Even when we opened a portal looking for guest teachers, we got few applications," said Sharma.

Earlier this year, the education department had sent out a requisition for 610 Trained Graduate Teacher (TGT) maths teachers to the DSSSB, which carries out recruitment through a competitive exam

process. Only 115 candidates were short-listed by the DSSSB, whose dossiers were sent to the department.



This year, the CBSE has provided a new option which might create higher pass percentage numbers not just in Delhi but elsewhere too — to choose either basic or standard mathematics for the class X board examination. While all students will study the same syllabus, those who have opted for basic maths will be tested at an easier level with simpler questions. However, these students will not be able to choose maths as a subject in class XI and XII.

The Delhi government had sent out directives to counsel all schools stating that "students who are low performers in mathematics be counselled to opt for basic and not standard mathematics for CBSE class X board examination 2020".

The forms for examinations have been sent by schools to the board and a large number of students from these 'low-performing schools' have opted for basic maths for next

year's exam.

At Government Boys Senior Secondary School No. 3, Ambedkar Nagar, out of 118 class X candidates, only 15 have opted for standard maths while the rest opted for basic maths for the 2020 Class X boards.

In the 2019 exam, out of 105 boys from the school who had appeared for the exam, 54 had failed.

"There was no coercion to opt for basic maths. The subject teacher identified weak students and counselled them by telling them what basic maths is and what options they have, and the final decision was left to students and their guardians," said HoS Ram Dayal Khatik.

At Meena's school, too, 65 out of 78 class X candidates for next year's exam have opted for basic maths.



The foot soldiers at the centre of this mission, the teachers, are making sure preparations are in full swing. One hour of remedial classes for students of class X before school hours commenced last week. Teachers have started helping students with maths sample papers provided by the board, and have also begun identifying topics to focus on.

At the school in Mehrauli, Meena has also appointed two resource persons — for maths and science — through the School Management Committee fund to take a couple of classes a week, and to observe classes of teachers and give them feedback on their teaching methods.

"We recently completed our mid-term exams and I'm analysing answer sheets to see which questions students did not attempt, and which they could not solve, to identify problem areas. From last week, I also started group study sessions, by forming groups of four-five and giving them a problem together so that they can brainstorm and learn from each other. We have also been given a list of easy chapters to focus on by the education department so that students can at least be assured of marks from those chapters. These are eight out of 15 chapters in the syllabus, including triangles, number systems and arithmetic progression. We have attended workshops in this as well," said Nimendra Kumar, a TGT maths teacher at the Ambedkar Nagar school, while also acknowledging that these are limited goals.

"Currently, the directive is to push up the pass numbers. I, too, feel at a loss when despite my efforts as a teacher, a large number of my students fail. But right now, the eye is on the quantity of students while the quality of their engagement with maths can only be improved with stronger foundations at an earlier level," he said.

INTERVIEW MANISH SISODIA

'Big problem in the way we teach maths'

Education Minister on steps to improve teaching methods, need for interactive classrooms



Why do you think mathematics appears to be such a big problem for students?

There is a certain 'maths-phobia'... In schools, rote learning is applied to all subjects, but maths simply cannot work through rote learning. After every year's exam, I meet the toppers. Similarly this year, I was talking to one of the class X maths toppers. She scored 100 in maths. I asked what her favourite topic in maths was and she said trigonometry. Off-hand, I asked her how trigonometry is used in real life. She took almost 2-3 minutes to answer the question, despite saying that it's her favourite topic. There is a big problem in the manner in which we teach maths.

Are there any long-term measures being adopted to strengthen math teaching?

We are trying to work with our maths mentor-teachers in improving approaches. So far, we have focused on overall mentoring of all other teachers by these 200 selected teachers, but it looks like the next step will probably have to be subject-specific mentoring by them. We have been working with Jodo Gyan, a non-profit organisation which works on innovative practices in maths and science, at the primary level. But from last year, we have also asked them to work with our mentor-teachers from the maths discipline. They have invited resource persons from higher education institutes to interact with these teachers.

You mentioned 'maths-phobia'. Can anything be done to make it less frightening for children?

One of our big initiatives is Math Labs. Math Labs is a private organisation; in collaboration with them, we have set up labs in three schools for classes VI, VII and VIII. Work seems to be good, so we have given them another three schools. Through learning in a lab at the elementary level, students' concepts will be clear and an interest in the subject can be awakened. Ideally, we want to bring all subjects into lab teaching which will take some time. Currently, our classrooms are static but we would like to look at subject-specific classrooms, or labs equipped with appropriate resources, that students can move in and out of, as per their time-table.

BRIEFLY

Truck hits scooter, 1 dead

New Delhi: A 35-year-old woman died while her husband and their two children sustained minor injuries after a truck hit their scooter in Bhalswa Dairy Saturday. Police have arrested the driver.

Woman raped outside airport

New Delhi: A 27-year-old woman was allegedly raped outside the parking lot of the domestic airport by a man who promised to get her a job abroad and later promised to marry her. Police said an FIR has been registered.

Woman held for killing husband

New Delhi: A woman, along with a man, was arrested for allegedly killing her husband at an under-construction site in Patel Nagar Saturday.

2 held for rape

New Delhi: After conducting physical verification of over 4,000 persons for a month, police have arrested a man who allegedly raped a woman near a bus stand in Sarai Kale Khan last month. Police said teams working under the supervision of ACP Brijinder Singh traced the accused.

Tonnes of debris cleared

New Delhi: Around 10,000 metric tonnes of construction and demolition waste dumped illegally in North MCD's Keshavpuram Zone has been cleared in a 24-hour drive since Saturday.

2 snatchers held after shootout

New Delhi: Police arrested two snatchers, involved in over 47 cases of theft, from Rohini Sunday after a brief exchange of fire.

Fire at landfill

New Delhi: A fire broke out at a landfill in Bhalswa Saturday and was doused Sunday. ENS

'WILL ASK CBSE TO TREAT IT AS MAIN SUBJECT'

Vocational subjects must be in curriculum: Sisodia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

CONTINUING HIS emphasis on vocational education, Delhi Education Minister Manish Sisodia Sunday said he would approach the CBSE to make vocational subjects as main subjects, instead of additional ones, for students of schools affiliated to it. "We will be talking to CBSE about this. All schools should have vocational subjects in their curriculum, which will be treated on par with regular subjects," he said. Sisodia also said the government will set up Schools of Excellence in vocational studies in Delhi. There are five Schools of Excellence, which are the most resource rich and exclusive government schools, in the capital. In

February, *The Indian Express* had reported that the government was deliberating on setting up such schools specialising in particular streams of study — science, humanities or commerce.

Last week, the Delhi government had announced it would set up a Skill and Entrepreneurship University, dedicated to securing employment for its students. "The university will give students confidence to opt for skill and vocational subjects offered in schools, which they are hesitant to take up now because it doesn't get them admission in universities," Sisodia had said.

On Sunday, he said students of vocational subjects in schools will be given preference for admission in the university. Vocational courses are currently offered in 274 Delhi government

schools at both the secondary and senior secondary level.

As per the CBSE's course selection scheme, students in classes XI and XII can select up to three elective skill subjects as part of their five main subjects. Further, they can also choose an optional skill subject. However, they are not given the same weightage as academic subjects in college admissions. For undergraduate admission to Delhi University, a certain percentage is deducted from the 'best of four subject' calculation of a student for every vocational subject that they include in it.

Among the 42 skill subjects on offer are retail, tourism, beauty and wellness, insurance, horticulture, electronic technology, media, fashion studies and business administration.

Village elders, bahus and betis steal the show at Shahpur Jat fest

SHIVAM PATEL
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

A GROUP of women with dupattas over their heads and children by their side looked on as other women and girls from their village walked the ramp at the Shahpur Jat Autumn Festival in South Delhi Sunday.

As the show ended, the crowd, mainly residents of Shahpur Jat, erupted into applause and praises. "We feel really proud seeing them on the stage. We were thinking just now that we would like to be up there too," said Suriya (35), who runs a boutique in the area.

Suriya was talking about their bahus and betis — wearing conventional Haryana *kurtadaman* and jewellery, and designer traditional wear — who stole the show.

Pooja Bawal (27), one of the



At the Shahpur Jat Autumn Festival, Sunday. Renuka Puri

bahus from Shahpur Jat who participated in the fashion show, said, "I did not feel scared or tense at all. We felt like we were professional models than bahus."

Later, older men from the village too walked the ramp, accompanied by models.

Labelled as one of the highlights of the two-day festival organised by the Delhi government, the fashion show Sunday showcased clothes made by local designers from Shahpur Jat, an urban village in the heart of South Delhi.

This is the second edition of the festival, which was launched by the Delhi government last year with a view to showcase Shahpur Jat's culture and history.

AAP's Greater Kailash MLA Saurabh Bharadwaj, who helped organise the festival, said it brought together people from across the capital. "People from CR Park told us that they came to Shahpur Jat for the first time and that they did not even know a place like this existed," he said.

Stalls promoting local designers, artwork and cuisine were spread across the venue, an MCD park, with village elders sitting on charpoyas and smoking hookahs.

Shiv Charan Lal (65), a visitor from Sheikh Sarai, said, "At the festival, we met our friends and relatives living in other villages, whom we don't often see."

As Gurgaon goes to polls, some old and new promises

SAKSHIDAYAL
GURGAON, OCTOBER 20

AS GURGAON goes to polls with the rest of Haryana Monday, over 3 lakh voters in the constituency will choose between 16 contenders for the post of MLA. All have made a variety of promises to "develop" the constituency — bringing the Metro to Old Gurgaon, providing better safety for women, resolving traffic issues and preserving and restoring the environment.

For Congress candidate and former MLA Sukhbir Kataria, the main focus is bringing connectivity to Old Gurgaon by extending the Metro. "In 2014, the BJP had promised to extend the Metro but this hasn't been done... We will bring the Metro to Old Gurgaon," said Kataria, adding that other areas of focus include lessening traffic snarls and setting up a medical college. "We also hope to provide jobs to the youth, and give an impetus to these by allowing loans for traders and small-time businessmen at subsidised rates," he added.

In AAP's Gurgaon manifesto, party candidate R S Rathee elaborates on his plans for the area — building a flyover on Sheela Mata Road, shifting the 11KVA high tension line near Patel Nagar and bringing down the wall at Friends Colony to expand its entrance. He said providing basic

amenities to residents living within 900 m of the Air Force Station and residents of Rajendra Park area will also be his priority.

For the wider constituency, Rathee has promised a permanent source of water to resolve water scarcity, better law and order, "eco-sustainable development" and better sports facilities.

For BJP's Sudhir Singla, meanwhile, "cleanliness, environment, and water harvesting" will be the main areas of focus if he is elected. "Public transport is also a big focus. We will work to establish an inter-state bus depot outside the city, so that Old Gurgaon is made jam-free," he said.

Of the 16 candidates, only Swaraj India's Sheilza Bhatia is a woman. Women's safety is first on her list of commitments and in this regard, she has proposed setting up legal advisories and fast-track courts; conducting self-defence training in schools, colleges, workplaces and RWAs; and ensuring well-lit roads and alleys, as well as installing cameras on roads.

Her manifesto also includes a commitment to generate employment, provide access to clean water for residents, and reduce air pollution through short- and long-term measures.



READY, SET, GO

People take part in the 15th Airtel Delhi Half Marathon, Sunday. Air quality dipped to 'poor' again, after momentary relief Saturday when it was in the 'moderate range'. Weather agencies expect heavy pollution till month end. Gajendra Yadav

BJP will end power subsidy if it comes to power: Kejriwal

Goel hits back: BJP will provide power at lower rates than AAP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

POWER POLITICS took centre stage Sunday as Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Aam Aadmi Party leaders locked horns with BJP MP Vijay Goel over the electricity bill subsidy. Kejriwal, while addressing volunteer meetings in Shahdara and Paharganj, said the BJP will end Delhi's power subsidy if it came to power.

Kejriwal was referring to an interview Goel gave to *The Indian Express* where, when asked about his stance on the recent power subsidy extended to those using under 200 units of power, Goel had said: "We will not give subsidy but create such an environment that electricity is cheaper..."

"It is good the BJP has de-

clared its intent, to end power subsidy, before the election. The leader who made this statement is himself a senior leader and member of parliament, and received 4,000 units of free power per month, but has a problem when the public gets 200 units free," Kejriwal said.

Goel, meanwhile, said the BJP aims to provide power at a lower price than AAP. "Under the BJP, electricity will be cheaper than subsidies provided by the AAP government. AAP leaders have been lying that BJP will end subsidies. Kejriwal was elected by opposing power companies, now he is helping these companies benefit. Why did Kejriwal not ask the power companies to cut prices?" he said.

Earlier in the day, AAP MP Sanjay Singh also addressed a press conference, alleging that

the subsidy will be taken away if BJP came to power.

In July, the government had declared that those using less than 200 units of power per month will not have to pay for it. Those using up to 400 units get a 50% subsidy. The move was called populist by the Opposition but AAP believes it has given the party's political campaign new wings.

Goel also said that Kejriwal was wasting public money. "Common people understand very well that Kejriwal is not paying for these subsidies from his pocket. He is misusing tax paid by people. We, on the other hand, will promote competition between power companies, owing to which they will reduce rates. The BJP will promote solar energy as well and will implement central government schemes in Delhi," he said.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

SASHASTRA SEEMA BAL FONDLY REMEMBERS AND CHERISHES THE VALIANT ACT OF THE BRAVE HEART CT/GD VIJAY KUMAR OF 42ND BN SSB, WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE OF HIS LIFE FOR THE NATION IN THE LINE OF DUTY. 42ND BN SSB WHEN WAS DEPLOYED FOR URBAN AND PANCHAYAT ELECTION DUTIES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR. ON 21ST OCTOBER 2018 MILITANTS ATTACKED 180 BN CRPF CAMP CT/GD VIJAY KUMAR OF SSB WAS PERFORMING GUARD DUTY. IN THE EXCHANGE OF FIRE CT/GD VIJAY KUMAR SUSTAINED SEVERE HEAD INJURIES AND ATTAINED MARTYRDOM. HIS COURAGE AND VALOR WILL CONTINUE TO INSPIRE US ALL. WE SALUTE THE VALOR AND SUPREME SACRIFICE OF THE BRAVE SOLDIER.

SASHASTRA SEEMA BAL
05 OCT 61 - 21 OCT 87
We pay homage to our noble martyr, who made the supreme sacrifice while fighting the enemy in OP PAWAN - 1987 (SRILANKA). His dauntless courage and sacrifice will forever inspire the organization.
CO AND ALL RANKS 6TH BATTALION BRIGADE OF THE GUARDS.

NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA
Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India
'Nehru Bhawan', 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II, Vasanth Kunj, New Delhi- 110070
Email: office.nbt@nic.in | Tel.: 011-26707783
Website: www.nbtindia.gov.in

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR ADVT ON AUTO RICKSHAW. HOOD WRAP FOR PROMOTION OF NDWBF2020

National Book Trust, India (NBT, India), an autonomous organization under Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India is organizing the annual **New Delhi World Book Fair 2020** (4th to 12th January 2020) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Applications are invited for EOI to empanel reputed agencies for conducting campaign through Auto rickshaws in Delhi region only. The display is proposed to be implemented with the objective of increasing footfall and improving awareness amongst general public towards NDWBF 2020 the largest Book Fair in the Afro-Asian region. The applicant should be an empanelled agency of DAVP. For Application Form and detailed terms and conditions, please refer to our website i.e. www.nbtindia.gov.in. Last date for submitting applications is **01 November 2019**. The decision of the Director, NBT, India will be final and binding. The decision of the Director, NBT, India will be final and binding.

davp 21103/11/0031/1920

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Notice is hereby given pursuant to circular no. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOS3/CIR/P/2018/139 dated November 6, 2018 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India, that the Company has received the following requests to transfer the equity shares from the name(s) of the shareholder(s) ("Transferor") to the name(s) of the proposed transferee(s) ("Transferee").

The details of the proposed transfers are as follows:

Sr. No.	Folio No.	No. of equity shares of ₹10 each	Name of the Transferor(s)	Distinctive numbers	Name of the Transferee(s)
1	S1J0050944	70	Jagruti Gunvantil Shah	32102251-32102300 248903566-248903585	Rajendra Ravichand Mehta
2	S1D0055325	70	Dipak Kantilal Shah	118333971-118334020 240775525-240775544	Rajendra Ravichand Mehta
3	S1V0027806	10	Viji Thomas	388305467-388305476	P P Zibi Jose
4	S1N0071626	5	Niti Agarwal Neelam Rani	328295080-328295084	Sardar Jagjeet Singh Aluja
5	S1F0300056	9	Freny Firoz Mehta Firoz Jamshedji Mehta Sharookh Firoz Mehta	373643852-373643860	Manish Shah
6	S1S0072080	7	S S Kantharaja	286169295-286169301	S J Bavishi J C Bavishi
7	S1K0094010	5	Kaushikkumar Ranjital Dalal Megna Kaushik Kumar Dalal	376604837-376604838 610714319-610714320 797426187-797426187	Manish Shah
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DOUBLE ROLE

BESIDES BEING a superstar in the Bengali film industry, Deepak Adhikari aka Dev is deftly wearing his other hat, that of a TMC MP from the state. Adhikari recently wrote to Railway Minister Piyush Goyal, seeking construction of a Road Over Bridge over a level crossing in his constituency on cost-sharing basis between the Railways and state. Now, Goyal has written back to him saying a joint inspection with state authorities has found that the proposed alignment sought to use railway land which would affect further expansion plans of railways and so the state has been asked to propose a new alignment.

ON THE CARDS

LUTYENS'S DELHI is set to see another Bhawan come up. The Gramin Vikas Bhawan will house all departments related to rural development under one roof. Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar is going to lay the foundation of the building next week. The building, to come up at KG Marg, will have a big auditorium apart from the office complex. It is expected to be completed in two years. Once it is completed, the Rural Development ministry will move out of Krishi Bhawan.

PRE-POLL POSTURING

WITH ASSEMBLY polls in Maharashtra and Haryana turning out to be a high-stakes battle, the Congress high command is yet to focus fully on Jharkhand where Assembly elections are due later this year. But the party is nevertheless playing mind games with the JMM with which it is in talks for a seat-sharing pact. The JMM is said to be bargaining hard. And the Congress is trying to flex muscles too before formally going to the negotiating table. The party will hold three rallies this week and ministers from Jharkhand are being invited to address them. The rallies will be in Bokaro on Monday, Jamtara on Tuesday and Jagannathpur on Wednesday. The idea is to energise the cadre as also send out a message to the JMM that it cannot take the Congress lightly.

Day before voting, EC notice to BJP candidate over EVM remark

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 20

THE ELECTION Commission on Sunday issued a showcause notice to BJP's Assandh candidate, Bakshish Singh Virk, for purportedly making controversial remarks about EVMs in a video clip that went viral on social media.

The EC also appointed a 1982-batch retired IAS officer as a "special observer" to conduct elections peacefully and transparently in Assandh, Karnal district.

"After the video circulated on social media, the Election Commission took cognizance and issued a showcause notice to Virk," Haryana's Joint Chief Electoral Officer Dr Inderjeet said.

In the 43-second video clip, Singh, a sitting BJP MLA seeking re-election, purportedly says: "A mistake of 5 seconds, you will have to bear for five years. Whoever you vote for, we will get to the flower only. Whichever button you want, you can press, but it will be of flower only. We have



Bakshish Singh Virk



But if somebody asks, we will tell him who he voted for. Because Modi ji's eyes are very sharp. Manohar Lal's eyes are also very sharp."

He purportedly adds: "Whoever you vote for, it will go to the flower only. Whichever button you want, you can press, but it will be of flower only. We have

fitted a part in the machine." Bakshish was addressing a small gathering in a village.

Virk, however, has dismissed the video as "doctored", calling it a conspiracy to defame him and his party.

Talking to *The Indian Express*, Virk said, "Some local channel reporter made this video. It is doctored and a concocted version has been uploaded. All I meant was that people will say that whoever they voted for, their votes went to the BJP alone. I respect the Election Commission and have full faith in the EVMs. This is a conspiracy to defame me and my party."

The remarks in the video led to various parties complaining to the EC.

Dr Inder Jeet, Joint Chief Electoral Officer, Haryana, said: "The Election Commission of India, after taking strict cognizance of the video going viral from Assandh assembly constituency, has appointed Mr Vinod Zutshi, former Deputy Election Commissioner as a special observer in the constituency."

A statement by the Commission said that "Zutshi has been requested to proceed to the constituency to take necessary corrective action and ensure free, fair and peaceful election".

Hitting out at the BJP, Aam Aadmi Party's state president Naveen Jaihind said, "It is absolutely absurd. BJP MLA is openly admitting that a part is fitted in the EVM and whichever button people will press, the vote shall go for 'Lotus' only. Election Commission must take stern action against the BJP. Not only him, even Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has said that EVM means 'Every Vote for Modi, Every Vote for Manohar'. It misleads the voters. Election Commission must take action against such violations."

Haryana Congress chief Kumari Selja said the the BJP "knows that it will be rejected by the people" and that is why its MLA was making such remarks. Congress leader Shamsheer Gogi and JJP demanded that the EC should cancel Virk's candidature. (WITH PTI INPUTS)

NCP candidate faces heat for remark on Pankaja

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

A CASE pertaining to the violation of the model code of conduct has been registered against Dhananjay Munde, NCP candidate in Maharashtra's Parli constituency, after a video purportedly showed him as using objectionable language for BJP candidate and his cousin Pankaja Munde. Dhananjay has denied making any objectionable remark on Pankaja, a state minister, and alleged that the video clip was doctored.

The clip is from a speech Dhananjay allegedly delivered on October 17. In it, the Leader of the Opposition in Vidhan Parishad, is purportedly heard saying that being the daughter of the elder brother gave Pankaja "undue advantage". He is then allegedly heard making an objectionable remark about her.

On Sunday, BJP workers staged demonstrations against Dhananjay in parts of Beed district. The Parli unit of the party filed a police complaint against him under sections pertaining to obscenity, defamation and outraging the modesty of a woman. Maharashtra State Commission for Women has taken suo motu cognizance of the matter.

According to a PTI report, Pankaja told reporters, "The statement of Dhananjay Munde has brought a feeling of disgust to my mind. I am fed up with this men-



Dhananjay Munde



ality. This is perverted politics."

"There is no political lesson for me to learn in this episode but people should understand what is going on," she added. Pankaja said she felt quitting politics for a while in view of the remarks. "I am strong, I will not sit at home. As a woman, I felt bad," she said.

At a press conference on Sunday, an emotional Dhananjay claimed the video was doctored and that he would never utter anything offensive about his cousin. "I don't want such politics, I would prefer to die," he said. "I have not taken the name of my sister, I have never used words which will hamper the brother-sister relationship. This is an attempt to finish my political career," he said, according to a PTI report.

Will 1,646 fodder camps for 11 lakh cattle count in Maharashtra polls?

HARISH DAMODARAN & PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS
SOLAPUR, PUNE, OCTOBER 20

THE SOUTHWEST monsoon season is over, but Kakaso Gaikwad's "chara chavani" (fodder camp) still has 540 animals. At its peak — from late-April till almost the end of September — there were over 700 cows and 200 calves housed in his fodder camp at Shirashi. This village in Mangalwedha taluka of Solapur district had two more such camps, with up to 700 animals each, which shut shop after September 30.

"Our village has some 2,000 people and 3,000 animals (including buffaloes). Most of these were at the three camps. Mine will run till the end of this month," says Gaikwad, a former sarpanch of Shirashi who is also an NCP worker. The other two chavani organisers, Ashok More and Shivaji Autade, are with the BJP.

Bharat Salunkhe has kept all his 20 cows and calves at Gaikwad's camp. "My animals (mostly Holstein crossbreds) are now giving 7-8 litres of milk each daily, as against their normal 18-20 litres. But they are at least surviving here. I could not have afforded to feed them at home," points out this farmer, who cultivates jowar (sorghum), bajra (pearl-millet), tur (pigeon-pea) and green fodder on his four acres of rainfed land.

The three chara chavani in Shirashi are among the 1,646 in Maharashtra that, at their peak in June (just before the monsoon's arrival), officially sheltered 11.16 lakh animals: 9.92 lakh large and 1.24 lakh small. While the camps have made a difference between life and death for the cattle — and their owners — over an extended drought period from last October to this July, the impact on the coming state assembly



Kakaso Gaikwad at his fodder camp in Shirashi near Solapur. The camp currently has 540 animals. Harish Damodaran

EXPLAINED Eye on elections

FEW FARMERS can afford to maintain cattle during droughts, with prohibition on sale for slaughter compounding the difficulty. By meeting the basic cost of feeding animals housed in temporary camps, the Devendra Fadnavis government has sought to tackle any possible backlash ahead of state elections. The estimated burden on the exchequer: Rs 1,000 crore-plus.

elections remains to be seen.

The Devendra Fadnavis-led BJP-Shiv Sena government has already cleared payments worth Rs 850 crore to the chavani since January, with the final bill likely to cross Rs 1,000 crore. On January 9, when the government resolution for starting them was issued, the organisers were entitled to a reimbursement of Rs 70 per day for each adult animal and Rs 35 in the case of calves. These rates were revised up-

wards, first to Rs 90 for an adult animal and Rs 45 for a calf in April and then to Rs 100 for an adult animal and Rs 50 for a calf in May.

Out of the 1,646 fodder camps, the maximum were opened in Beed (549, with 3.49 lakh animals), Ahmednagar (507 and 3.34 lakh), Solapur (248 and 1.75 lakh) and Osmanabad (92 and 0.85 lakh) districts. While the camps were technically closed down after September 30, some in Solapur, like Gaikwad's, are still functioning.

The stipulated daily ration for large animals in the chavani is 15 kg of green fodder, 6 kg of dry fodder and 0.5 kg of feed concentrates, with small animals to be given half of these quantities. Most organisers, however, are alleged to have been feeding whole sugarcane along with some concentrates and dried jowar or maize stalks.

"There was very little green fodder available in the first place till end-July. The chavani operators found it more convenient to source whole cane from the fields. The growers did not mind, as they were being paid Rs 3,000-4,000 per tonne in cash, which was more than the Rs 2,900-3,000 rate (inclusive of harvesting and transport

charges) that sugar mills would have given with delays. But feeding whole cane (instead of its green tops) would affect milk yields and calvings down the line," warns a private dairy company owner with procurement operations in Solapur.

Many chavani organisers are bulk milk vendors supplying to large dairies. Gaikwad sells roughly 1,000 litres daily to the Solapur District Cooperative Milk Producers Union's chilling centre at Mangalwedha. Ananda Godse, who ran a 1,000-animal camp at Medshingi village of Solapur's Sangola taluka from April 27 to September 30, supplies about 5,000 litres daily to the Kolhapur District Cooperative Milk Producers Union and private dairies such as Prabhat and Sonai.

Gaikwad is now paying farmers who have kept their animals in his camp around Rs 28 for a litre of cow milk containing 3.5 per cent fat and 8.5 per cent solids-not-fat. This milk he is supplying to the Solapur union at Rs 30.5 per litre, after adding transport and commission charges of Rs 2.5. The incentive for bulk vendors to run chavani comes from being able to assemble cattle that can be milked at one place. Farmers also gain as they don't have to arrange for water tankers or fodder. While the quantity and quality of feed may be poor, if not deleterious to productivity and reproductive health in the long run, the animals not dying of starvation is itself some consolation.

But the camp organisers aren't happy. Gaikwad claims that he has hasn't been paid for maintaining the animals in his camp since July. A top official at Maharashtra's department of relief and rehabilitation admits to a delay in clearance of bills. "The reason for it is reports of fraudulent claims because of which we are subjecting all bills to detailed scrutiny," he adds.



Officials take EVMs and VVPATs to set up the booth at Amala Fort island on Sunday. Deepak Joshi

EVMs take a boat-ride to reach this booth

GARGI VERMA
VASAI, OCTOBER 20

THE ZONAL officer of the polling booths in Amala Fort, Manohar Kedare, reassures his team of 10 that they will be fine as they take the Assembly election to the island for the first time, on a boat from Vasai beach.

"The government has provided plastic cover for the machines but no raincoats for us. This should explain to you the order of priority," says Kedare, adding, "this is my fifth time, so I understand the process. Nothing will happen to any of you, just be extra cautious about the items."

Every election, the government makes special provisions for

taking the voting process to the Amala Fort island, around 8 km from the Amala beach in Vasai.

"We hire boats in advance, make lists of what we need from the mainland and check and recheck every item multiple times. If we miss any item, we will have to take a boat back to the mainland and then travel 30 km to the Vasai tehsil office," Kedare says.

For the villagers, the arrival of the officials is an event worthy of taking a day off from work as they are visiting the island after six months. "I came home early as I like to see the officials walk in with their equipment. It feels like we are part of something bigger than the island," says Nanubai Geni (48), a fisherman.

ASSEMBLY BYPOLLS TODAY

In Azam stronghold Rampur, BJP plays up 'sabka vishwas' slogan

LALMANI VERMA
RAMPUR, OCTOBER 20

"THIS IS the ideal time to win Rampur. We are in power both at the state and the Centre," said a BJP leader in Rampur Assembly constituency of Uttar Pradesh which goes to bypolls on Monday. The SP has fielded Rajya Sabha MP Tazeen Fatma, but the ruling BJP knows that it is the influence of her husband, SP leader and Rampur MP Azam Khan, that they are up against. While Bharat Bhushan is the BJP candidate, Congress has fielded Arshad Ali Khan and BSP has fielded Zubair Masood Khan. The constituency, which has



Azam Khan

around 2.58 lakh Muslim voters and 1.32 lakh Hindu voters, was vacated after Khan was elected to Lok Sabha earlier this year. In the past 10 elections in the Assembly seat, Azam has been elected nine times. The BJP has never won the seat and no Hindu candidate has been elected there. Determined to leave no stone unturned this time, the BJP has made "sabka saath, sabka vikas, sabka vishwas"

its poll plank.

At a BJP rally on Friday, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said, "We did not discriminate in providing benefit of government-rural schemes." Actor-turned-politician Jaya Prada, who lost the Lok Sabha election against Azam, accused Khan of dynastic politics. "He became MLA nine times and then became MP. Now he wants his wife Tazeen Fatma, currently a Rajya Sabha member, to become an MLA. His son Abdullah is already an MLA. Is this okay?"

The SP campaign has termed the polling day as the day of "avenging atrocities". "Around 85 cases on baseless charges have been lodged against Azam in the past

few months to demoralise him. This election is against atrocities of the administration that is working with vendetta against Azam on the directives of the BJP government," said Asim Raja, SP's Rampur city president and in-charge of the party's poll office. At a public meeting on Friday, Fatma said, "Eighty-five cases have been lodged against Azam Khan saahab. Cases have been lodged against me and my son too. And these cases are of... theft of buffalo, goat and books. There is a case of buffalo theft against me. Will a professor steal a buffalo?" Azam said at the meeting, "Those who filed FIRs should be ashamed of themselves."

Muslim, Dalit voters, 'outsider' tag make Gangoh a tough fight for BJP

LALMANI VERMA
DEHRADUN, OCTOBER 20

THE BYPOLL for Gangoh Assembly segment in Uttar Pradesh on Monday is a tough contest for BJP as the electorate comprises Muslims and Jatav Dalits in large numbers. Also, the BJP candidate, who is not from Gangoh, is up against local heavyweights.

Out of the nearly 3.69 lakh voters in Gangoh 1.20 lakh are Muslims and 80,000 Dalits. Most of these Dalits are Jatavs, considered traditional voters of the BSP. Gujjars too make a large share, but among them are 57,000 Muslims. The BJP is pinning hopes on Hindu

Gujjars and other upper castes to retain the seat it won in 2017 when BJP's Pradeep Kumar defeated the Congress's Nauman Masood. Pradeep's selection to Lok Sabha necessitated the bypoll.

Nauman, twin brother of former Congress MLA Imran Masood, is once again the party candidate. He is also the chairman of Gangoh Nagar Palika. SP candidate Indrasen is son of former minister Chaudhary Yashpal Singh and BSP nominee Mohammad Irshad is a former Zilla Panchayat chairman and a Gujjar.

The BJP's district general secretary Kirat Singh is contesting his first election. "Another drawback is that Kirat is from Rampur

Maniharan outside Gangoh. Other prominent candidates are from Gangoh," said a BJP leader.

The BJP leader added, "If Muslims unite in support of any candidate to defeat BJP, the election will become tough for us. Another concern is that BJP's traditional voters do not take much interest in bypolls. BJP has lost bypolls in the past due to low turnout."

During Lok Sabha elections, BJP leaders had raised Muzaffarnagar riots in Gangoh and other parts of western UP. This time, their plank is the Centre's decision to scrap Jammu and Kashmir's special status, the Bill criminalising instant triple talaq and welfare schemes of Narendra

Modi government.

The SP, BSP and Congress are focusing on police encounters and hiked fines after changes to Motor Vehicles Act.

BSP candidate Irshad said, "By winning Gangoh bypoll, we will send a message that BSP is emerging as an alternative to BJP." He said he has appealed to people to vote on issue of "development".

Congress nominee Masood said, "My fight is to help Congress emerge as an alternative to the BJP for 2022 state polls. This bypoll result will send a message for the future." Nauman said his campaign covered issues like hike in power tariff, hike in penalty under the amended Motor Vehicles Act and farmers' issues.

TRANSFER OF SCHOOL HEADMASTER OVER POEM

Will write to authorities to bring him back: Parents

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 20

"MAIN BHI wahi admission loonga (I will also take admission there), says a class V student of the government primary school II in Bisalpur block of Pilibhit district after he is told that the headmaster — Furqan Ali — has been transferred to another school.

"He is the best teacher. Everyone loves him at school because he is kind and has never hit us," the students added.

Parents of children at the school are also battling for the headmaster.

Kavita (35), whose two children go to the school — a boy in class II and a girl in class I — says, "My children have told me that master sahib used to get vegetables for the school from his own money. After his suspension, every morning, the children wake up and start crying saying they don't want to go to school. I don't know what I am going to do."

Another parent, Poonam (33), whose son is in class II, says they are planning to submit a written application to the Block Education Officer. "We are not literate, but we will do what we can to get him back at the school," she says.

On October 14, the Pilibhit administration had suspended Ali after local VHP members complained that he made students recite a religious prayer during the morning assembly. They had alleged that the particular prayer is recited in madrasas.

On October 19, the Basic Shiksha Adhikari (BSA) of Pilibhit district temporarily revoked Ali's suspension on "humanitarian grounds" and transferred him to another school.

Speaking to *The Indian Express* on Saturday, Pilibhit DM Vaibhav Srivastava had said, "Headmaster Furqan Ali was sus-



On Saturday, the Basic Shiksha Adhikari of Pilibhit district temporarily revoked Furqan Ali's suspension and transferred him to another school. Express

ended because a video went viral on social media in which he is seen and heard saying that because most of the students of the primary school belong to a particular community and following their request, he used to get the Iqbal's poem recited during the morning assembly."

Ali, a resident of Habibullah Khan Janoobi area in Ghyaspur was posted to the primary school in 2011.

His father, Irfan, says Ali was the first person in the family to get a government job. His right leg afflicted with polio since childhood, Ali was always a "quiet child who kept to his books", says Irfan. "Now, Ali is the person who pays for my medicines. He did not get married because he says he will do it after all his sisters get married," he added. Ali is the eldest among seven siblings.

Ali's sister Ghazala (28), who is to get married in December, and has completed her BA from a college in Bareilly, says the headmaster was always fond of children. "Because he was the eldest, he would always look af-

ter us. He always liked children. They instantly befriend him and start playing with him. That is the reason he is so good with children at the school," said Ghazala.

Prem Narayan, a fourth-class employee at the BEO office on the primary school premises says that Furqan has a "good rapport" with the students. "If he would ask the students to stand in line once, they would. It was not due to fear but because out of respect. I am not surprised that the attendance has dipped since he was removed. One teacher controlling 150-200 students is a big thing," said Narayan.

After Ali's suspension, the attendance at the school has dipped substantially. A day after he was suspended, only five students showed up at the school according to the attendance register.

Kavita, whose children refuse to go to school since the suspension, added, "The administration is playing with the future of our children. They don't care about our children because we are poor."

'For peace, can jail 300 for 2-3 months'

Ram Madhav says each J&K job will go to state youth, no loss of land after scrapping of special status

ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 20

DURING HIS first visit to Kashmir after the scrapping of the state's special status and the move to create two new Union Territories on August 5, BJP general secretary Ram Madhav on Sunday said the government would ensure peace and development in the region, "even if we have to keep 200-300 people behind bars for 2-3 months," and that each job in J&K would go to youngsters from the region.

Addressing a political event in Srinagar, the senior BJP leader also said that several leaders from the state who were detained at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) were sending out a message asking people to pick violence and make sacrifices and that anyone coming in the way of the region's peace and devel-



BJP general secretary Ram Madhav in Srinagar on Sunday during his first visit to J&K since the scrapping of the state's special status on August 5. Shuaib Masoodi

opment would be "dealt with sternly".

"Don't believe that now there will be a loss of jobs and land after the special status is scrapped. Where will they go? No step will be taken against your interests. Each job will go to each youth of

this state," he said.

"Care will be taken to ensure that J&K's tradition, culture, jobs, education are not affected. Once the UT comes into effect, the government will make efforts in this regard. Don't get misled. It is time to celebrate," he added.

Speaking of the leaders in detention currently, Madhav said, "I want to ask, who was running violence here? It was being run for political benefit," he said.

He asked political parties in the Valley to raise issues politically. "...if you think (parties) that the people of Jammu and Kashmir should have a right over jobs, it is a political issue. Raise it. We are with you on this. But don't send out messages secretly from SKICC that the gun is to be picked up. This is not politics," he said.

"You can carry out politics without disrupting peace, but while sitting inside jail, some politicians are sending out messages that the gun has to be picked up and sacrifices are to be made. I want to tell the people of J&K to tell those politicians, 'you come first and sacrifice yourselves'."

"Those who come between the peace and development,

there are many jails for them in India. The state will completely shut violence and move ahead on the path to peace, even if we have to keep 200-300 people behind bars for 2-3 months," he added.

Naming the Mehbooba Mufti-led People's Democratic Party (PDP), he exhorted the younger generations to start a new political narrative in the state. "Two generations have passed. Now, I am seeing the third generation. As if there is no other leader in PDP," he said.

Speaking on the situation in the Valley, he said people need not be afraid and that there was no reason to "close shops".

"You don't need to fear anybody. Everyone fears Modi ji (Prime Minister Narendra Modi) and whom do you fear. Be brave and come forward. They are paper tigers. I know how strong they are. Only a phone call sends them shivers," he added.

Pak to open Kartarpur Corridor on Nov 9: Imran

PRES TRUST OF INDIA
LAHORE, OCTOBER 20

PAKISTAN WILL open the Kartarpur Corridor on November 9, Prime Minister Imran Khan said on Sunday.

The proposed corridor will connect Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur with Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Gurdaspur district of Punjab and facilitate visa-free movement of Indian pilgrims to Kartarpur Sahib.

"Pakistan is all set to open its doors for Sikhs from all across the globe, as the construction work on Kartarpur project enters final stages and will be open to public on November 9, 2019," Khan said in a Facebook post, clearing the air on whether the corridor will be open on the occasion of the 550th birth an-

niversary of Guru Nanak Dev on November 12.

"The world's largest gurdwara will be visited by Sikhs from across India and other parts of the World. This will become a major religious hub for the Sikh community, and will boost the local economy, result in earning foreign exchange for the country creating jobs in different sectors including travel and hospitality," Khan said.

Earlier on Sunday, Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said former PM Manmohan Singh had accepted his invitation to attend the inauguration ceremony as "a common man". Sources close to Singh in New Delhi said he would not attend the formal inauguration ceremony but would visit the historic shrine as a common pilgrim.

Calangute cattle now non-veg, being treated to turn veg again: Goa minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANAJI, OCTOBER 20

GOA'S Minister for Waste Management Michael Lobo has said specialist veterinarians are being called in to treat stray cattle and "turn them into vegetarian once again" after 76 impounded cattle were found refusing to eat gram or special feed.

"We have lifted 76 cattle from Calangute and taken them to the gaushala where they are being looked after. The cattle had turned non-vegetarian here. We always say cattle are vegetarian. But cattle from Calangute are non-vegetarian. They (gaushala operators) are facing this issue now. These cattle do not eat grass. They do not even eat gram or special feed which is given to them," Lobo said, speaking at a function at Arpora village in north Goa on Saturday.


"The cattle at the gaushala are being treated. Specialist veterinarians have now been roped in to treat them. It will take them four to five days to turn the cattle into vegetarians again," the minister said.

The minister said it has been found in the course of the treatment that the cattle have been eating chicken and fried fish from the leftovers in the garbage in the area.

"The cattle from Calangute and Candolim are used to eating non-vegetarian food, like left-over chicken and stale fried fish from restaurants. Due to consumption of such food, their system has become like that of humans. Earlier they were vegetarian, pure vegetarian. They would smell non-vegetarian food and move on, but now cattle from Calangute only eat non-vegetarian," he added.

Last year, police had issued reasons for road accidents involving two-wheelers and cited stray cattle as one of the reasons. Villagers too have complained of stray cattle leading to traffic jams on busy roads.

Lobo told the villagers that stray cattle were now being impounded as part of a government drive and they were being taken to a cattle pound run by Gomantak Gosevak Mahasang Trust in Mayem village.



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Head Office: 2, Netaji Subhash Road, Kolkata-700001


POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Allahabad Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement (Security) Interest Act, 2002 in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rules 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice u/s 13(2) on the dates noted against the Account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon them to repay the amount 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 under noted borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sec 13(4) of the said Act read with Rules 8 & 9 of the said Rules on the date mentioned against the Account. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Allahabad Bank for the amounts and interest thereon mentioned against the account herein below. Attention is also drawn regarding 13(8) of the said Act to redeem the secured asset in respect of time available to them.

Sr. No.	Name of the Branch	Name of the Account	Name of the Borrower/ Guarantor (owner of the property)	Description of the charged/ mortgaged property (all the part & parcel of the property consisting of)	Date of Demand Notice	Amount outstanding as on the date of demand Notice (amt in Rs.)	Date of possession notice
1.	Patna Main Branch	Smt. Poonam Rai W/o Brindaban Rai & Brindaban Rai S/o Sankar Dayal Rai, Tribhuwan Rai, Gopal Enclave, Flat No.F/1, Phase-1, Finance Dept Colony, Khajpra, Patna.	Mortgagor/ Guarantor:- Smt. Poonam Rai & Brindaban Rai	All that part & parcel of property situated at Flat No.-301 on Third Floor in M.K.S. Residency having super built area 1294 Sq.ft. situated at Nandanpuri, Pargana & Survey P.S Pulwari Sharif, Mauza-Khajpura, Thana No.-11, Cadastral Survey Plot No.796, Khata No.20, Tazui No.-5173, P.S. Shastri Nagar, and within the jurisdiction of Sub Registry & District-Patna, Dist.-Patna in the name of Smt. Poonam Rai & Brindaban Rai, Deed No.8489 Dated 20.03.2013, Boundary: North-Set Back Area of the Apartment, South-Flat No.-302, East-Set Back Area of the Apartment, West-Set Back Area of the Apartment.	06.07.2019	₹9,26,590/-	15.10.2019
2.	Patna Main Branch	Sri Nishant Jain S/o Ujjwal Kumar Jain and Sri Ujjwal Kumar Jain S/o Bimal Singh Jain, B-701, Aditya Tower, White House, Budh Marg, Patna.	Mortgagor/ Guarantor:- Sri Nishant Jain and Sri Ujjwal Kumar Jain	All part and parcel of property situated at Flat No.501 & 502, Super Built-up area admeasuring 2675 Sq.Ft on Fifth Floor of DIVYA KANTI MANSION, situated at Mauza-Rajapur under Survey Thana-Phulwari, Present Police Station- Sri Krishnapuri, Patna Ward No.14, Circle No.249, Within Revenue Survey Thana No.03, Tazui No.5339, bearing Cadastral Survey Plot No.661, appertaining to Khata No.176, and Cadastral Survey Plot No.662, appertaining to Khata No.195 and bounded as follows: Boundary of Flat No.501 & 502 Divya Kanti Mansion: North-Flat No.503 & 504 of the building, South-Front Setback of the building, East-Side setback of the building, West-Side setback of the building.	30.07.2019	₹54,44,180/-	15.10.2019
3.	Patna Main Branch	Sri Narendra Jha, S/o Late Yadunath Jha, Mohalla-Rupaspur, P.O.-Dhanaut, Rupaspur, Baily Road, Patna-800015	Mortgagor/ Guarantor:- Sri Narendra Jha	All part and parcel of property situated at Mohalla-Rupaspur, Baily Road, Jagdeo Path, Patna, Tazui No.-5559, Khata No.-417, CS Plot No.-1655, Thana No.-20, admeasuring area-15 dhur in Name of Sri Narendra Jha, Registered Sale Deed No.79 at 07.01.2004 which is also recorded in Book No.1, Zild No.-4, Page 583 to 592 at SRO Danapur. Boundary: North-Rasta 6 Feet (as per Deed) Gali/Chunnu Lal Yadav (Present), South-Champa Devi (as per Deed), H/o Thakur Jee (Present), East-Lehkhari (as per deed), Kumhara Shambhu Pandit(Present), West-Rasta 6 Fit (as per deed), Rasta 6 fit (present).	30.07.2019	₹7,13,123/-	17.10.2019
4.	Patna Main Branch	Smt. Kumari Hema W/o Ravi Ranjan & Sri Ravi Ranjan S/o Devedra Prasad, Flat No.208, Urmila Palace, Trishul Vihar Colony, Rupaspur, Danapur, Patna-801503	Mortgagor/ Guarantor:- Smt. Hema Kumari	All part and parcel of property situated at Flat No.208, on Second Floor in Urmila Palace, C.S. Plot No.-177, Thana No.-18, Tazui No.5283, Mauza-Rukanpura, Presently known as Trishul Vihar, Near Anand Vihar, Pargana-Phulwari, P.S Rupaspur, Patna. Admeasuring Area 846 Sq.Ft in the name-Smt. Hema Kumari, Registered Sale Deed No.4815, Token No.-5913, Serial No.5843, dated 07.05.2012 in book No.1, Volume No.83, C.D 14/Year 2012, Pages 531 to 547. Boundary: North Corridor, South-Open Space of the Building, East-Open Space of the Building, West-Flat No.-207.	22.07.2019	₹22,62,647/-	17.10.2019
5.	Patna Main Branch	Sri Anup Kumar Srivastava S/o Late Krishna Prasad, Smt. Tulika Srivastava W/o Anup Kumar Srivastava, Budh Nagar, Road No.-3, Kankarbagh, Patna-800020	Mortgagor/ Guarantor:- Sri Anup Kumar Srivastava	All part and parcel of property situated at Mauza-Nauratanpur, P.S Kankarbagh, Mohalla-Buddha Nagar, Road No.3, South-Chandmari Road, Kankarbagh, Patna-800020, Thana No.11, Plot No.91, Tazui No.245, Khata No.200, admeasuring Area 2294 Sq.Ft. in the name-Sri Anup Kumar Srivastava, Deed No.Registered Sale Deed No.25086 dated 24.10.2013 in book No.1, Volume No.549 on pages from 586 to 597 in CD No.85. Boundary: North-Sri Avinash Kumar, South-6' wide land (3+3) after then Sri Ashwini Kumar, East-Sri Nandu, West-20ft wide Road.	10.07.2019	₹32,85,316/-	17.10.2019

Date : 19.10.2019
Place : Patna

Authorized Officer
Allahabad Bank



इलाहाबाद बैंक **ALLAHABAD BANK**
विश्वास की परंपरा *A tradition of trust*

(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
Head Office: 2, Netaji Subhash Road, Kolkata-700001

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given under the "Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement (Security) Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer issued a Demand Notice on the date noted against the account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon them to repay the amount 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 under noted Borrowers/ Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rules 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned against the Account. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Allahabad Bank for the amount/s and interest thereon mentioned against the account herein below. The attention of the borrowers details hereunder is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

Name of the Branch	Name of the Account	Name of the Borrower/ Guarantor (Mortgagor)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice	Amount outstanding as on the date of demand notice
ARI, Patna	M/s Shree Krishna Food, Prop.: Smt. Lata Devi W/o Mr. Baiju Kumar	1. Mr. Naresh Kumar 2. Mr. Mahesh Kumar 3. Mr. Baiju Kumar 4. Mr. Ajit Kumar All are S/o Lt. Dwarika Prasad and Smt. Seema Devi W/o Lt. Shankar Prasad.	25.06.2019	16.10.2019	₹86,86,599/- (Rupees Eighty eight lakh eighty six thousand five hundred ninety nine only) & Interest accrued thereon along with costs, charges and expenses.
Hanuman Nagar	M/s Vaibhav Enterprises, Prop.: Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh	1. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh S/o Mr. Daya Shankar Singh 2. Smt. Deep Mala W/o Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh	11.06.2019	17.10.2019	₹29,21,927/- (Rupees Twenty nine lakh twenty one thousand nine hundred twenty seven only) & Interest accrued thereon along with costs, charges and expenses.
Agwanpur	M/s Manju Poultry, Prop.: Sri Anil Kumar Singh	Mr. Anil Kumar Singh S/o Mr. Hare Krishna	18.07.2019	18.10.2019	₹10,41,345/- (Rupees Ten lakh forty one thousand three hundred forty five only) & Interest accrued thereon along with costs, charges and expenses.
Agwanpur	M/s Chhote Krishna Poultry Farm, Prop.: Mr. Chhote Krishna	Sri Ramdeo Prasad Singh	26.07.2019	18.10.2019	₹18,58,613/- (Rupees Eighteen lakh fifty eight thousand six hundred thirteen only) & Interest accrued thereon along with costs, charges and expenses
Phulwari Sharif	M/s Sigma Enterprises, Prop.: Sd. Abdullah S/o Md. Ataulah	1. Mr. Zile Kibria S/o M. Maqbool Ahmad 2. Smt. Anjum Ara W/o Zile Kibria	11.06.2019	17.10.2019	₹16,60,711/- (Rupees Sixteen lakh sixty thousand seven hundred eleven only) & Interest accrued thereon along with costs, charges and expenses
Phulwari Sharif	Mr. Naresh Paswan S/o Mr. Kishun Paswan	1. Mr. Naresh Paswan S/o Mr. Kishun Paswan 2. Mr. Harendra Rai S/o Mr. Mahavir Rai	19.03.2019	17.10.2019	₹10,43,049/- (Rupees Ten lakh forty three thousand forty nine only) & Interest accrued thereon along with costs, charges and expenses.
Muradpur, Patna	M/s Ashok Kumar, Prop.: Shri Ashok Kumar	Mr. Ashok Kumar S/o Mr. Vishwanath Prasad R/o Newati Tola (Kurmi Tola), Morcha Road, Begumpur, Patna City, Patna.	19.07.2019	17.10.2019	₹41,85,817/- (Rupees Forty one lakh eighty five thousand eight hundred seventeen only) & Interest accrued thereon along with costs, charges and expenses.

Description of the Charged/Mortgaged property: Simple (Registered) Mortgage: All that part and parcel of the Land and Building along with present and future construction thereon: -In the name of Mr. Anil Kumar Singh S/o Mr. Hare Krishna Singh, admeasuring 9.984375 Decimal, Registered Mortgage Deed No.1818 dated 05.04.2018, (Sale Deed No.6786 Dated 30.12.2017) Bearing Book No.1 Volume No.29, Page No.393 to 401, Comprising in Khata No.102, Survey Plot No.856, Thana No.62, Jamaband No.690, Situated at Mauza-Agwanpur, PS-Barh, Sub-Registry-Barh, District-Patna, Bihar and bounded as per Deed: North-Niz. Executant, South-Road thereafter Rama Nand Singh, East-Hira Devi, West-Hira Devi

Description of the Charged/Mortgaged property: Simple (Registered) Mortgage: a) Registered mortgage deed no. 1252 dated 09.03.2018 of land and building admeasuring 0.75 katha, situated at Mouza-Langarpur Turaochak @ Malahi P.S.-Barh, Touzi No.8270, Thana No.71, Khata No.21, Plot No.76, Dist.-Patna, Sub Registry Office-Barh & Sadar Registry Office-Patna and bounded as under: North-Property of Bindeshwari South-Property of Lalita Devi, East-Property of Siyaram Singh, West-Property of Saroj Devi.

Description of the Charged/Mortgaged property: Equitable Mortgage: All that part and parcel of the Land and building along with present and future construction there on: In the joint name of Zile Kibria S/o Maqbool Ahmad & Anjum Ara W/o Zile Kibria, area admeasuring 2.28 Decimal, Sale Deed No.8079 dated 26/08/2002, Book No.1, Volume No.318, Page 19-40, Khata No.1138 & 1140, Survey Plot No.1403 & 1404, Tazui No.5292, Thana No.35, situated at Mauza-ishopur, Thana-Phulwarisharif, District-Patna, Bihar, bounded as under (as per deed): North-Khankah Boundary, South-Zintur Nisha & Others, East-3 ft wide Rasta, West-Khankah boundary and Plot No.1403.

Description of the Charged/Mortgaged property: Equitable Mortgage: All that part and parcel of the Land and building along with present and future construction there on: In the name of Mr. Naresh Paswan S/o Mr. Kishun Paswan, area admeasuring 10-Dhur, Sale Deed No.5305 Dated 11.09.2001, Book No.-1, Volume No.138, Page No.387-402, Khata No.506, Survey khasra No.991 Tazui No.5561, Thana No.20, Situated at Mauza-Dhanaut, Pargana-Phulwarisharif, PS-Danapur, District Patna, Bihar, bounded as under (as per Deed): North-Niz Principal Land Owner, South-Other Purchaser, Par Plot No.991, East-5 Feet Wide Road, West-Part Plot No.991.

Description of the Charged/Mortgaged property: All that part and parcel of land and building-In the name of Mr. Ashok Kumar S/o Mr. Vishwanath Prasad, R/o Newati Tola (Kurmi Tola), Morcha Road, Begumpur Patna City, Patna land area 1800 sqft bearing Circle No.189, Holding No.29(P), Ward No.28, Sheet No.257 Municipal Survey Plot No.1969(P) situated at Newati Tola alias Kurmi Tola, P.S Chowk Kalan, Dist.-Patna bounded by: North-Yusuf Mian and Karim Mian, South-Niz Mokir Plot Haza, East-Ashok Kumar & Rameshwar Prasad, West-Yasin Mian and Manjur Mian.

Date : 21.10.2019
Place : Patna

Authorized Officer
Allahabad Bank

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Yogesh Kumar S/O Shanker Dass/R/O Hno.727/12, Vishnu Nagar, Employment Office, Gohana, Sonapat-131301. Changed My Name to Yogesh Kumar Raheja. 0040516727-9

I, PREM SINGH S/O Munshtat. Do state that the name of my son HARDEEP SINGH S/O PREM SINGH and SUNITA. R/250, Indira Camp-1, Taimur Nagar, New Delhi-110065, have changed his name to AARAV SINGH from HARDEEP SINGH for all future purposes. 0040516537-1

I, Kuldeep Kumar S/O Rajesh Kumar Jain R/O C-77, Galino-4, Mahendru Enclave, Model Town, Delhi-110033.Changed My Name To Kuldeep Jain. 0040516727-11

I, Dharmendra S/O Shri Govind R/O 89, Shiv Shakti Vihar, Lajpat Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, UP-201005 have changed my name from Dharmendra Bhardwaj to Dharmendra for all future purposes. Both name belongs to same person. 0040516766-1

I, Mahendra Singh S/O Nathu Singh Karki R/O Room no.03, Rishal Apartment, Near Row Mansa Ram Public School, Kapashera, Gurgaon Road, South west Delhi, Delhi-110037. Have Changed My Name To Mahendra Singh Karki For All Purposes. 0070679640-1

I, Iqbal Hussain S/O Mr. Nasruddin R/O D-178/1, Shaheen Bagh, Abul Fazal Enclave, Part-II, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025, inform that in my school certificate my and my father name wrongly written as my name Iqbal Husain instead of correct name Iqbal Hussain and my father name Nasrudin instead of correct name Nasruddin. 0040516569-2

I, Suraj Parkash S/O Ram Chand Dua R/O Flat.No-602, Tower B-5 Gardenia Glory, Sec-46 Noida U.P, have changed my name to Suraj Dua. 0040516737-1

I, Mohan Singh Hora S/O Jeet Singh R/O 1/125, Subhash Nagar, Delhi-110027. Have Changed My Name To Mohan Singh. 0040516727-10

I, Ruchi Goyal W/O Sandeep Goyal R/O Flat no. 228, Tower-1, Hewo 2, Opposite More Market, Sector-56, Gurgaon, Haryana-122011, have changed my minor daughter's name Shanaya Goyal to Freya Goyal for all future purposes. 0040516787

I, Ruchi Goyal W/O Sandeep Goyal R/O Flat no. 228, Tower-1, Hewo 2, Opposite More Market, Sector-56, Gurgaon, Haryana-122011, have changed my minor daughter's name Shanaya Goyal to Freya Goyal for all future purposes. 0040516787

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that I, K. D. Parashar S/O Late Sh. Daulat Ram Parashar R/O Flat No. F-283, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076 owner of DDA Flat No. 283, First + Second Duplex, Pocket-E, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076, along with Scooter Garage. Vide File No. F-128553386/52/SV/III, has applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from lease hold to free in DDA. The original document i.e Allocation Letter, Fifth & Final Demand Letter, Possession Letter and NOC Electricity & Water etc., of the above said flat have been lost. An NCR in this effect has been lodged in Police Station.

Any person (s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original document, write contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9910625663 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director (LAB) H or Director (H)-1, D Block 3rd Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi.

FOR SALE

We have Equity Shares of 'M/s. Cityon Systems India Ltd.' (Listed in BSE - ITP Platform) in dematerialized form. We want to sell these shares at the best price. Therefore, interested entities can contact us at the details given below: Mob.: 8299552686 E-mail: ankit_jain9999@rediffmail.com

"IMPORTANT"

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E-Tender Notice

इंजीनियरिंग-सीएचओ-कॉन्-उप-एचओ-निविदा-96-19-20 दि 16.10.2019 E-TENDER NOTICE NO.- ECR-CAOCON-NORTH-ETN-96-19-20 E-TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDER MENTIONED WORK. SI.No. 1. Name of work: Construction of gate lodges .LC approach roads, supplying, fabrication and fixing of height gauges, lifting barriers at LC gates, fixing of various sectional boards and other allied works between Harinagar (excluding) to Valmikinagar road station (including) in connection with doubling of NKE-VKNR section. SI.No. 2. Approx. cost of the work: Rs. 7,95,89,106.46/- SI.No. 3. Earnest money: Rs. 5,48,000/- SI.No. 4. Date and time for closing of tender: 12.11.2019 at 14.30 hrs. SI.No. 5. Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc: The above E-Tender, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. http://www.ireps.gov.in and also can be seen in the office of CAO/Con/ECR, MHX, Patna Note: Tenderers are requested to visit the website http://www.ireps.gov.in atleast 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/ corrections etc in response to this E-Tender

CAO/Con/North East Central Railway/MHX, Patna PR/1479/CON/ENGG/T/19/20/52

E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, CD-XII, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, GNCTD Opp. ESI Hospital, Basal Darapur Office Complex New Delhi-110027 invites on behalf of the President of India, online Item rate tender from approved and eligible contractors for the following works :-

1. NIT No. EE/CD XII/19-20/61-(ID No. 2019_IFC_181891_1)-HOA-4225-Improvement of SC/ST Basties in NCT of Delhi. SW — Construction of RMC Road at Balmiki Basti at village Hirankudna in Distt. West in Mundka Assembly Constituency(AC-08). E.C. Rs.84,95,884/- Earnest money Rs. 1,69,918/- period of completion 180 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25-10-2019 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1.
2. NIT No. EE/CD XII/19-20/62-(ID No. 2019_IFC_181892_1)-HOA-2702-NON PLAN- A/R & M/O Minor Works. SW- Restoration of Road along on Right Bank of Feeder Channel from Ranhola Vihar Road to Tilangpur Kotta Pump House in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 30,53,402/- Earnest money Rs. 61,068/- period of completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25-10-2019 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1.
3. NIT No. EE/CD XII/18-19/63-(ID No. 2019_IFC_181893_1)- HOA-2711- NON PLAN-A/R & M/O Drains. SW- Maintaining free flow of water by Super Sucker Machine in RCC Pipe Line from Pond in Kh. No. 482 to West Phirni Road at village Tikri Kalan in Distt. West (2020-21). E.C. Rs. 16,95,000/- Earnest money Rs. 33,900/- period of Completion 365 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25-10-2019 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1
4. NIT No. EE/CD XII/18-19/64-(ID No. 2019_IFC_181894_1)- HOA-2702-NON PLAN- A/R & M/O Minor Works. SW- Restoration of Road along on Right Bank of Feeder Channel from Ranhola Bridge to Ranhola Vihar Road in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 31,17,485/- Earnest money Rs. 62,350/- period of completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25-10-2019 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1.
5. NIT No. EE/CD XII/18-19/65-(ID No. 2019_IFC_181895_1)- HOA-2702-NON PLAN- A/R & M/O Minor Works. SW- Restoration of Road along on Right Bank of Feeder Channel from Amrita Puri Colony to Ranhola Bridge Road in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 29,14,325/- Earnest money Rs. 58,287/- period of completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25-10-2019 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1.
6. NIT No. EE/CD XII/18-19/66-(ID No. 2019_IFC_181896_1)- HOA-2702-NON PLAN- A/R & M/O Minor Works. SW- Restoration of Road along on Right Bank of Feeder Channel from Amrita Puri Colony to Ranhola Bridge Road in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 29,14,325/- Earnest money Rs. 58,287/- period of completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25-10-2019 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1.

Note :-

- 1) Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded from the web site https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in.
- 2) Amendment (s)/ alteration (s)/ corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.
- 3) EMD in the form of Banker's Cheque or Demand Draft or Fixed Deposit Receipt (drawn in favour of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CD XII, I&FC DEPTT., GNCT OF DELHI) shall be scanned and uploaded to the e-tendering website within the period of bid submission. The original EMD should be deposited in the office of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CD XII, I&FC DEPTT., GNCT OF DELHI within the period of bid submission. (The EMD document shall only be issued from the place in which the office of receiving division office is situated).

Sd/ EXECUTIVE ENGINEER/CD-XII DIP/Shabdath/0876/19-20

RS 1,100 CRORE LOAN FRAUD

FIR against former chief of J&K Bank, 23 others

Searches at locations in Jammu, Kashmir and New Delhi

ARUNSHARMA JAMMU, OCTOBER 20

THE JAMMU and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau on Sunday initiated a preliminary inquiry based on an FIR lodged on Saturday against former chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Bank Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh, the chairman of Rice Exports India (REI) Agro Limited Sanjay Jhunjhunwala, and 22 others in connection with an alleged loan fraud to the tune of Rs 1,100 crore.

Soon after the FIR was registered, a spokesperson of the ACB said they conducted searches at the residences of the accused in 16 locations, including those of REI Agro vice president and MD Sandeep Jhunjhunwala. The locations included nine in Kashmir, four in Jammu and three in the Delhi-NCR region, the spokesperson said.

According to an ACB release, officers of the bank's Mahim branch in Mumbai and a branch in New Delhi allegedly sanctioned loans worth Rs 800 crore in favour of REI Agro Ltd based on "fake documents and in violation of the laid down banking procedure during the year 2011-2013". The accounts were declared Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) in 2014, thereby causing a huge financial loss to the bank,

the statement added. During the inquiry, it emerged that REI Agro approached the Mahim branch and was given loans/advances worth Rs 550 crore. The bank's Vasant Vihar branch in New Delhi also sanctioned Rs 139 crore in favour of the company, the release said.

The company had approached the bank for these advances to pay farmers who provided paddy to it. According to the release, the accused bank officials disbursed loans to REI Agro through Joint Liability Groups (a small group of villagers that approaches a bank for an institutional loan), even though the company had already received the paddy and was not entitled to such funding.

Further, the JLGs were non-existent entities whose antecedents were not verified by the bank, the statement said, adding that the objective was to facilitate the company to divert the loan amount for its own benefit.

The bank also violated NABARD guidelines which state that JLG members must be from the same area/village. This aspect was ignored by bank officials "deliberately and with malafide intentions", the statement said.

The ACB said bank officials also failed to take cognisance of

disbursement requests of the company, wherein REI Agro mentioned that it had already received the produce from the farmers/JLGs, thus making the loan unwarranted. There are no records on who drafted the loan documents and no vetting certificate of the concerned law department, it pointed out.

According to bank records, the Vasant Vihar branch had taken over the loan obtained by the company from IDFC & IREDA. This account was also declared as an NPA. According to the inquiry, Rs 54 crore was recovered from the company by selling its machines and an outstanding debt of Rs 85 crore remained.

"These loans/advances were sanctioned/dischursed by officials of the Mahim and Vasant Vihar branches in connivance with and under patronage of the Mahim and Vasant Vihar Chairman Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh under a single conspiracy spread over several years, in a planned and pre-designed manner, by misuse and abuse of their authority as public servants of the bank just to serve the interest of the promoters of company REI Agro Ltd., inflicting a huge loss of Rs 635 crore (Rs 550+85 crore). This amount, along with interest component of Rs 489.45 crore, comes to 1124.45 crore," it added.

Holding verification cards, family awaits return of fisherman in Bangladesh custody

SANTANU CHOWDHURY JALANGI (MURSHIDABAD), OCTOBER 20

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Archana Mondal has been carrying a passport size photograph of her fisherman father for anyone who comes to the house enquiring about Pranab Mondal. Standing in front of their tin-roof mud-house in Sirachar village, in Murshidabad district, her eyes well up as she speaks about Pranab, who is presently in custody of the Bangladesh Police.

"I want my father to return soon. He had promised to buy us firecrackers for Kali Puja. Now I don't know whether he will come back before the puja," Archana told *The Indian Express*. Pranab was one of the three fishermen who were apprehended by the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) personnel on October 17, after they reportedly strayed into the Bangladesh side of the Padma river.

The incident led to a flag meeting on Thursday, during which a BSF personnel Vijay Bhan Singh was killed and an-



Family members of Mondal at Sirachar, Murshidabad. Express

other injured after the BGB opened fire. After the three fishermen were caught by the BGB, Pranab who was the boat owner, was detained. The other two — Bikash (32) and Achintya Mondal (28) — were sent back and told to call the BSF for a flag meeting. Bikash accompanied the BSF personnel for the meeting, which took place in Bangladesh waters, while Achintya remained on the river bank. After she heard about the in-

cident, Pranab's wife, Rekha Mondal (40), had rushed to Kakmarichar border outpost, manned by the BSF, with her husband's voter ID and Aadhaar cards for verification. "Someone from our village told us about what happened in the river. When I heard that one BSF officer was killed, I feared the worse. But after reaching the border outpost we learnt that Pranab has been detained by the BGB. We want the Bangladesh government to release my hus-

band as soon as possible as he is the only earning member of our family," said Rekha. Since the incident three days ago, she has been making *bidis* to earn some money as she has three daughters, one son and a mother-in-law to feed. Rekha has been earning Rs 200 per day. She said her husband made around Rs 20,000 to Rs 30,000 in the Hilsa season depending on the size of the fish. "He bought fishing nets and other equipments for this season after leaving out our land. All this is of no use now," she said, pointing to the nets.

Residents of Sirachar village too have been demanding that Pranab should be released soon. "It is not unusual to stray into the Bangladesh side while fishing in Padma river. But those who go there come back quickly. We do not know why he has been detained by the BGB," said local resident Barun Mondal.

Special Director General (Eastern Command), BSF, Sanjeev Kumar Singh said on Saturday that they are making all efforts to bring back the fisherman.

Military options to dictate talks will not work: NSCN-IM chief

LEIVON JIMMY IMPHAL, OCTOBER 20

CHAIRMAN OF the NSCN-IM, Q Tuccu, has alleged that the Centre is creating fear psychosis in 'Nagalim' by deploying thousands of armed forces personnel. The NSCN-IM chairman, in a statement, said that even if the government chooses the military option to dictate the negotiating team, that will not be the end of the matter.

"The issue will remain alive and kicking. The Nagas are always for a negotiated settlement based on the doctrine of mutual consent and recognition of rights. I believe the present Indian leadership will not commit the mistake of their past leaders," he said.

"The Indian authorities who deal with the talks are also well informed that the Indo-Naga political solution without a Naga flag and a Constitution is not conclusive and that will create a room for future headache. We are looking for a lasting solution," he reiterated.

The NSCN chairman further asserted that the Framework Agreement is the meeting point for the two contending parties — Indians and the Nagas — and the rallying point for the divided Nagas.

Buy swords to be prepared for Ayodhya verdict: UP BJP leader

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 20

WITH THE Supreme Court verdict in the Ayodhya case expected soon, a BJP leader in Saharanpur has triggered a controversy by urging Hindus to buy swords instead of utensils and ornaments this Dhanteras, as they would be handy to ensure safety after the verdict.

According to custom, Hindus purchase metal utensils and gold or silver ornaments on Dhanteras, which falls on October 25 this year.

In two videos, which went viral on social media, BJP's Deoband Nagar president Gajraj Rana also urged Hindus to ensure that a grand Ram temple was constructed in Ayodhya.

"People have kept Lord Ram in their hearts and everyone in the country wants the construction of a grand Ram temple. On the upcoming Dhanteras, I want to suggest to my Hindu friends especially to not buy silver utensils, but iron swords. This will help in maintaining safety," Gajraj says in the first video, purportedly shot while he was talking to media persons Saturday.

In another video, reportedly made a day before, he urged people to ensure a Ram temple was constructed in Ayodhya before Diwali this year.

When asked, BJP spokesperson Chandramohan said he was unaware of the remarks and would "have to confirm". Gajraj Rana was unreachable for comment.

Sunni waqf board chairman denies any influence behind stand in SC

ASAD REHMAN LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 20

DENYING ANY kind of influence on him in relation to the Ayodhya case, the chairman of Uttar Pradesh Sunni Waqf Board Zufar Faruqi has said that the two cases lodged against him in Rampur recently have no connection with his stand in the Supreme Court. These cases relate to alleged irregularities in transfer of Waqf properties.

On the last day of hearing in Ayodhya matter, the mediation committee submitted contours of a "deal" to the Supreme Court premised on the chairman of Sunni Waqf Board offering "no objections" to the government taking over the disputed portion of the land. Six of the seven appellants on the mosque side, except Faruqi, rejected the process and content of the mediation deal, as well as circumstances and timing of the submission of the final report.

Faruqi told *The Indian Express*, "The cases have nothing to do with the issue. The mediation process has been on since March 8. I have been the most active participant. The Rampur cases were lodged in August and March. I cannot disclose what I submitted to the mediation panel because it is confidential. Whatever has been submitted has been done after consultations with eminent personalities and people belonging to the Muslim community."

Two cases have been lodged against Faruqi along with others, including SP MP from Rampur Azam Khan, at Azim Nagar and Kotwali police station in Rampur. In an FIR lodged on August 19 in connection with the alleged usurping of around 86 bigha classified as Enemy Property, Faruqi is named with MP Khan, his wife Tazeen Fatma, his son and MLA Abdullah Azam Khan and Shia Waqf Board chairman Wasim Rizvi. In all, nine people have been made accused.

The FIR has been lodged under IPC sections including 420 (cheating), 467 (forgery), 447 (criminal trespass), 409 (criminal breach of trust by public servant, or by banker, merchant or

agent) and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence, or giving false information to screen offender) and 120-B (criminal conspiracy).

The complaint by Allama Zameer Naqvi, who claims to be a social worker, says, "According to the report of a panel, headed by Syed Ejaz Abbas 'Naqvi' and constituted by the Centre, it was noted that the chairman of the Sunni Waqf Board Zufar Faruqi was also part of the corruption."

Azim Nagar SHO said the chargesheet in the case will be filed soon.

In another case at Kotwali police station on September 12, Faruqi has been named with Azam Khan, Rizvi and others. The FIR has been lodged under IPC sections 452 (house-trespass after preparation for hurt, assault or wrongful restraint), 427 (Mischief causing damage to the amount of fifty rupees), 389 (putting person in fear of accusation of offence, in order to commit extortion), 395 (dacoity), 448 (house-trespass), 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace), 506 (criminal intimidation), 120-B (criminal conspiracy).

The complaint, lodged on the basis of a complaint by local resident Naseema Khatun, says "On October 15 2016...20-25 people, including Circle Officer Aaley Hasan, Wasim Rizvi, Zufar Faruqi, Mohd Salim, Fasahat Shanu, came to my house...They told me to vacate the house as Azam Khan's school was going to be built here. When I showed them the property papers, they tore them and Faruqi and Rizvi assaulted my husband...They forced us out of the house and got it demolished..."

Circle Officer (City) Satyajit Gupta said the chargesheet will be filed soon.

On October 12, UP government recommended a CBI probe into alleged irregularities into sale, purchase and transfer of Waqf properties. A statement by the state government Saturday said it has recommended a CBI probe in two cases — one lodged in Prayagraj and the other in Lucknow in 2016 and 2017, respectively.

History-sheeter killed in encounter in Meerut

Meerut: A 32-year-old history-sheeter, carrying a reward of Rs 75,000 on his head, was killed in an encounter in Kakkepur village of Meerut district on Saturday. The deceased, Sanjeev alias Pakori, has more than a dozen cases of murder, loot and intimidation against him.

Police said Sanjeev and two accomplices reached Saroorpur

on Saturday to shoot the village head but her security guards retaliated, forcing them to run into the forests. "The village head informed the police...When they were confronted, the criminals fired. We retaliated and a bullet hit Sanjeev...We took him to a local health centre where he was declared dead," said Sardhana deputy SP Pankaj Kumar.

Kerala doctor who claimed infant recovered due to Mariam Thresia's intervention under lens

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 20

THE KERALA branch of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has initiated a probe against a doctor in Kerala for his 2009 testimony to a Catholic Church tribunal that a new-born under his treatment was cured of acute respiratory issues due to the intervention of Mariam Thresia, who was made a Saint at a ceremony in the the Vatican on October 13.

The ethics committee of the IMA is probing the claims of Dr VK Sreenivasan, a senior paediatrician at the Amala Institute of Medical Sciences, Thrissur.

The baby — later named Christopher — was born on April 7, 2009 prematurely and was suffering from acute respiratory trouble. He was placed under the care of Sreenivasan at the Amala Hospital. After the doctor informed the parents that chances of baby's survival were dim, the parents had placed a relic of Mariam Thresia at his bed in the evening of 9 August. Next day, the baby was found breathing normally.

The Church had formed a tribunal in Thrissur where Sreenivasan had testified that it

A major reason for canonisation

In March 2018, a Vatican medical team had examined the issue of the infant's recovery and certified that it was a miracle. This was one of the major reasons behind Mariam Thresia's canonisation on October 13. Kerala-born Catholic nun Thresia was declared a saint by Pope Francis in Rome. She is the third nun and fourth clergy member from the Kerala-based Syro-Malabar Church, one of the prominent eastern churches under the Vatican, to be canonised into the league of saints. Five others were canonised with her.

He added that Sreenivasan should have backed his testimony with evidence. The act of acknowledging an unscientific method would dent the credibility of the medical professional and modern medicine, said the IMA office-bearer.

Dr Sreenivasan refused to comment on the issue after his return from St Thresia's canonisation ceremony at the Vatican. The Catholic Church meanwhile, stepped away from the matter. "The Church does not want to intervene in the issue. Let the doctor who has given the testimonial defend himself before the IMA," said Syro-Malabar Church spokesman Fr Abraham Kavilpurayidam.

TELLING NUMBERS

93% milk samples found safe, 41% had quality issues: survey

ON FRIDAY, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) released the National Milk Safety and Quality Survey 2018. It recorded data from 6,432 samples of milk, out of which 40.5% were processed samples and 59.5% were raw milk samples, taken from towns with populations of 50,000-plus. The samples were analysed for fat and SNF (solids not fat), 13 adulterants and three contaminants.

Overall, above 93% of the samples (5,976 of 6,432) were found safe for human consumption. However, about 41% of the samples, though safe, fell short of one quality parameter or another.

Among the samples found unsafe, 12 were adulterated (6 with hydrogen peroxide, 3 with detergents, 2 with urea, 1 with neutralisers). Nine of the samples were taken from Telangana,

two from Madhya Pradesh and one from Kerala.

In 368 samples, the survey found residues of aflatoxin M1 (a type of mycotoxin that can cause disease and death) beyond permissible levels. This was the first time milk in India was tested for aflatoxin M1, which comes into contact with milk through feed and fodder, not regulated in the country at present. States with the highest levels of residues of this contaminant were Tamil Nadu (88 of 551 samples), followed by Delhi (38 of 262) and Kerala (37 of 187). Most of the residues were found in processed milk.

Out of 77 samples found to be non-compliant for antibiotics, most were taken from Madhya Pradesh (23), followed by Maharashtra (9) and Uttar Pradesh (8).

CRITERIA	TOTAL SAMPLES	PROCESSED	RAW	%
Survey total	6,432	2,607	3,825	-
Safety issues	456	271	185	7.1

(I) CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Total	Processed	Raw	%
Aflatoxin-M1	368	227	141	5.7
Antibiotics	77	40	37	1.2
Pesticides	1	0	1	<0.1

(II) ADULTERANTS

Adulterant	Total	Processed	Raw	%
Urea	2	0	2	<0
Detergents	3	1	2	<0.1
Hydrogen peroxide	6	3	3	0.1
Neutralisers	1	1	0	<0.1

Percentages are based on the total 6,432 samples in the survey. The sum of individual failures will not add up to 456 because some samples failed on more than one parameter. Source: National Milk Safety and Quality Survey 2018, FSSAI

THIS WORD MEANS

THYLACINE, OR TASMANIAN TIGER

Considered extinct, yet 'sightings' continue

INTEREST IN an animal considered extinct has been freshly revived, with Tasmania's Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment releasing a document that mentions possible sightings between September 2016 and September 2019. Called thylacine, or Tasmanian tiger, the animal is actually a marsupial, believed extinct since 1936, when the last one known, Benjamin, died in captivity in Tasmania's Hobart Zoo.



Thylacine specimen. Australian Museum

It was a carnivorous animal that looked like a large dog, with a band of stripes at the rear. Present in mainland Australia over 2000 years ago, it was limited to Tasmania in later years before it disappeared from there too, mainly because of hunting by humans, diseases and competition from the dingo, a wild dog.

Over the decades, there have been many claims about sightings but most of them have turned out to be wrong identification. The James Cook University in

2017, in fact, launched a search in 2017 following possible sightings. In 1980, a study of 320 sightings, which had been reported over 1934-80, found that roughly under half of these could be considered "good sightings". Now, the Tasmanian government has released eight recent records of people having encountered the animal.

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Why interest rates aren't falling

Since February, RBI has cut its interest rate by 135 basis points. Yet, bank lending rates for new loans have not fallen by much while interest rates on many existing loans have actually gone up. What explains this?

UDIT MISRA
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

SINCE FEBRUARY, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has aggressively cut the repo rate. This is the interest rate that the RBI charges the banks when it lends them money. By cutting the repo rate, the RBI has been sending a signal to the rest of the banking system that the lending rates in the system — the interest rates that banks charge from you and me when we take a loan — should come down. This process of repo rate cuts leading to interest rate cuts across the banking system is called "monetary policy transmission".

The trouble is, in India, this process is rather inefficient. For example, between February and August, the RBI cut repo rate by 110 basis points — 100 basis points make a percentage point — from 6.5% to 5.4%. But, the interest rate charged by banks on fresh loans that they extended during this period fell by just 29 basis points — that is just 27% of the amount by which the repo rate came down.

Frustrated by the sluggish transmission, the RBI decided to cut the repo rate by another 25 basis points in October and urged banks to link their lending rates to the repo rate. Yet, for the most part, the banking system has ignored the signalling and only some banks have reduced lending rates on new loans by 10 basis points.

In essence, while the RBI has cut its lending rate to the banks by 135 basis points (or 1.35 percentage points) in the nine months since February, the interest rates being charged to the common consumer this Diwali have come down by only about 40-odd basis points.

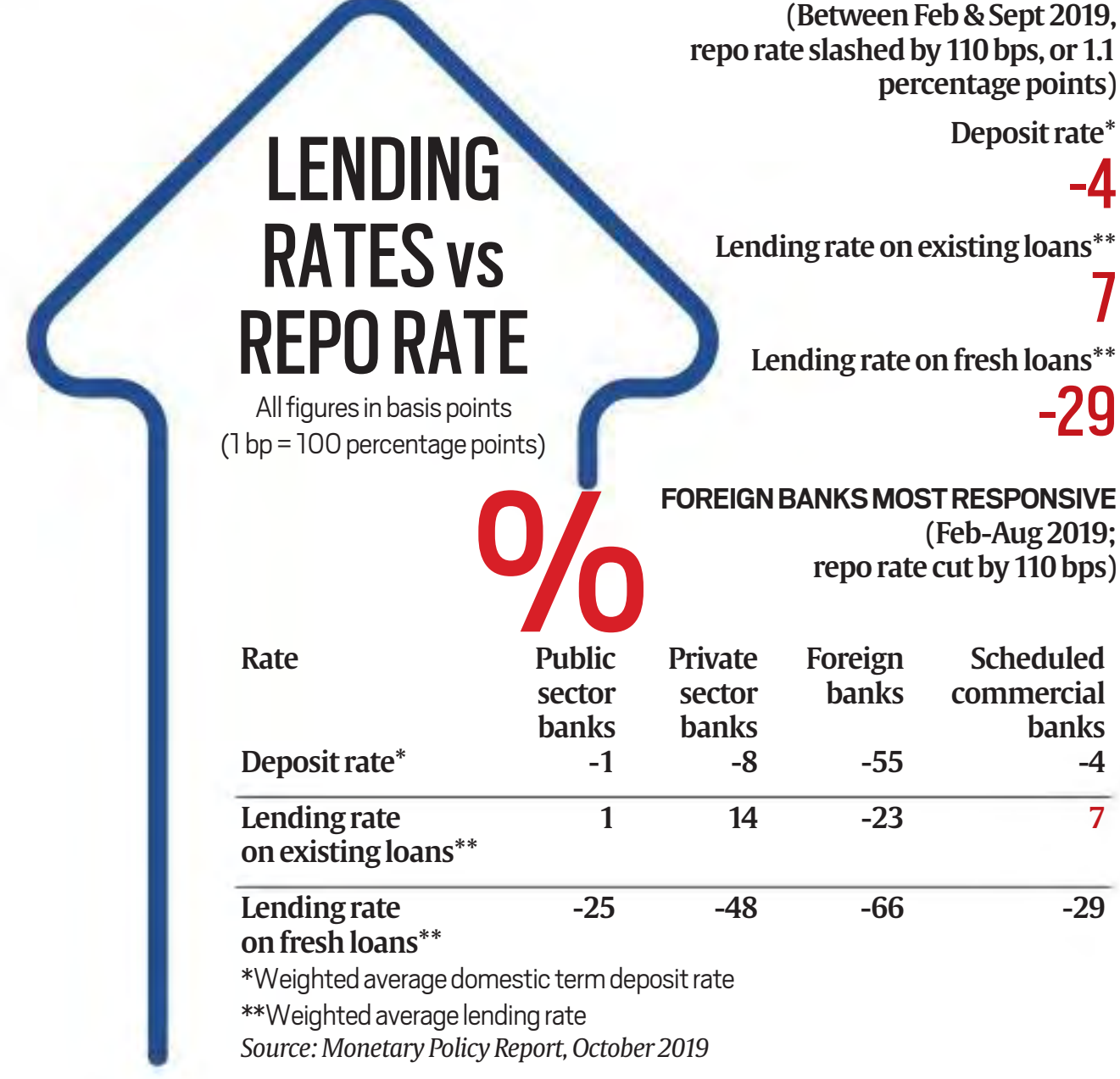
Indeed, even though it is counter-intuitive, interest rates on existing loans (not new loans) have actually gone up by 7 basis points.

Why does RBI want lower interest rates?

Since February, India's economic growth momentum has rapidly decelerated. Projections of GDP growth rate have come down from roughly 7.2%-7.5% in February to 5.8%-6.0%.

There are two key problems in the economy and a lower interest rate regime is expected to help in resolving both.

The main issue is that people are not consuming at a high enough rate. On paper, the argument is that if banks reduce their lend-



ing rates, they would also have to reduce their deposit rates (the interest rate banks pay when we park our money with them in a savings bank deposits or a fixed deposit). This, in turn, will incentivise people to save less and spend more.

The other problem in the economy at present is that businesses are not investing in existing or new facilities. Part of the reason is that they have unsold inventories because people are not buying as much; as such, they argue, what is the point of borrowing money and investing. But part of the reason is also that the interest rate charged on loans is quite high. If banks reduce the interest rates on loans, more businesses are likely to be enticed to borrow new loans for investment. This is particularly so as the government has recently cut corporate tax rates in the hope that it will boost the corporate sector's profitability and get it thinking of investing more.

No matter which way one looks at it, RBI's decision to cut repo rates was a justified move, especially since overall retail inflation has been well within the RBI's comfort zone of 4%.

So, why aren't interest rates coming down?

Simply put: Because repo rates have little impact on a bank's overall cost of funds, and reducing lending rates just because the repo has been cut is not feasible for banks.

Here's why. For any bank to be viable, there must be a clear difference between the interest rate it charges from borrowers on loans it provides and the interest rate it gives to consumers on deposits it accepts. The difference between these two sets of interest rates has to be not only positive but also big enough for the bank to make profits.

To attract deposits, banks pay a high deposit rate. Such deposits make up almost 80%

of all banks' funds from which they then lend to borrowers. Banks borrow a minuscule fraction under the repo. So even sharply reducing the repo rate doesn't change the overall cost of funds. Unless banks reduce their deposit rates, they will not be able to reduce lending rates.

Why are banks not reducing their deposit rates?

That's because if a bank were to reduce its deposit rates, depositors would shift to a rival bank that pays better interest rates or park more and more of their savings in small saving instruments such as public provident fund, Sukanya Samridhi Yojana etc that pay much higher interest rates.

There is another aspect. Even if banks wanted to reduce their deposit rates, they can't always reduce them immediately. Miren Lodha, Director, CRISIL Research, said 65% of total deposits are "term" deposits (fixed for a certain duration) and take, on an average, up to two years to get repriced at fresh rates. "Therefore, banks generally go slow on reducing the interest rates on advances as deposits take longer to get repriced."

But why are interest rates going up on existing loans?

This, too, has to do with the banks trying to manage their finances. If they are under pressure to reduce the interest rate they charge on new loans, then one of the things they could do is to push up the interest rates on old loans that allow for such flexibility. It also has to do with the financial health of a bank; weaker banks would be forced to raise rates to cover for past losses, explained Suvodhdeep Rakshit of Kotak Institutional Equities.

What hasn't linking the lending rate to the repo rate worked?

Because it is not a viable solution. The banks cannot link their lending to the repo rate because repo doesn't determine their cost of funds. For a repo-linked regime to work, the whole banking system would have to shift to that — in other words, along with banks' lending rates, their deposit rates too must go up and down with the repo. But if such a regime were in place, depositors would have earned 1.10 percentage points less interest rate on their savings account.

Longer version on www.indianexpress.com

Uterine transplant: how it's done, risks, debate

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS
 PUNE, OCTOBER 20

IT IS now one year since India's first baby was born to a mother with a transplanted uterus (*The Indian Express*, October 18). Such cases are rare across the world — Radha, whose parents have just celebrated her first birthday, is the 12th such baby worldwide. Now demand has risen, especially at Pune's Galaxy Care Hospital, where the transplant had been done on Radha's mother Meenakshi Valan of Gujarat on May 19, 2017. Since then the hospital has got over 1,000 applications.

The reasons, the results

Approximately 1 in 500 women are estimated to have uterine factor infertility according to the September issue of the *British Medical Bulletin*. In India, about 17% of all women face issues relating to infertility, and the reason is related to the uterus in 20% of these. For women whose uterus is not healthy, or who do not have one, a transplant

is the newest form of infertility treatment.

Valan had a scarred uterus due to multiple abortions and cases of stillbirth. Her mother donated the uterus. Usually, women related to the recipient are potential donors. The donor may be either living or deceased, and is chosen from among women up to the age of 50 years.

Dr Shailesh Puntambekar, laparoscopic surgeon and Director of Galaxy Care Hospital, said worldwide there have been 30 uterine transplants and 15 babies born. Among the babies, one was born after a cadaveric uterus was transplanted. The transplanted uterus is generally intended to be removed after the woman has undergone one or two childbirths.

Normal reproduction is not possible with a transplanted uterus — a transplant makes sense only with in vitro fertilisation (outside the body). The first successful transplant was performed in Saudi Arabia in 2002 but did not result in pregnancy. In Turkey, pregnancy following a 2011 transplant lasted only eight weeks. The first birth after a transplant, in 2014, happened in Sweden.

Is it the future?

Uterine transplants are still extremely rare, complicated and expensive. In the case of Meenakshi — and Shivamma, a woman who had undergone a transplant the day before Valan underwent hers — the entire process (up to the birth of Valan's child) was made free because these were the first two such cases in India.

In the earliest cases, doctors took almost 13 hours to retrieve the uterus, because they performed open surgery. With laparoscopic intervention, the time has now come down to about six hours, Dr Puntambekar said. While the donor should ideally be a cadaver, it is difficult in practice — the donor has to be less than age 50, her uterus should have produced children, and the risk of organ rejection is higher when it is from a dead person. Minimally invasive surgery (robotic surgery) has become the standard procedure and in the future, it is likely that the recipient of the uterine transplant has to undergo only one surgery as vessels can also be sutured laparoscopically, Dr Puntambekar said.

A uterine transplant, like that for other organs, requires clearances at several levels. Now the cost is going down as patients are being discharged on the 14th day following the transplant.

Ethical considerations

There has been debate whether uterus transplants are ethically justified. There is vast literature on this debate, covering psychological and physical risks as well as complications arising out of immunosuppressive therapy. According to the *British Medical Bulletin's* September issue, concerns have been raised about the welfare of living donors who may end up regretting their choice to donate. Experts suggest that a living donation is justified only after informed consent by the donor, and this after counselling by physicians and psychologists.

Dr Puntambekar said that in the last two years, they have done eight transplants and kept several on hold as they wanted the couples and family members to be extremely sure and committed about a transplant.

Telangana transport strike: what unions want, why govt is unyielding

SREENIVAS JANYALA
 HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 20

SINCE OCTOBER 5, some 47,000 employees of the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) have gone on strike, with no resolution in sight two weeks later.

Their demands

TSRTC employees have listed 26 demands. These include merger of the TSRTC with the state government, which would make them eligible to a number of perks and benefits; reimbursement of government dues to TSRTC; and an allocation of 1% of the state Budget to TSRTC. Other demands include job security for drivers and conductors; and immediate reimbursement of a salary hike due since April 1, 2017.

TSRTC union leader Ashwathama Reddy said employees called for the strike also because they felt the government was preparing to privatise the corporation. Reddy said employees fear that Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao would hand over the corporation to PV Krishna Reddy, managing director of Megha Engineering and

Infrastructure Ltd (MEIL), which is executing some major works under the Kaleswaram irrigation project in Telangana. These apprehensions started after MEIL acquired last August a controlling stake in Olectra Greentech, which makes electric vehicles. Olectra at present runs 40 electric buses in Hyderabad to the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport; TSRTC unions fear that more routes would be privatised and given to MEIL.

Government acts tough

Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, who was supported by TSRTC unions during the statehood movement, has dug in his heels saying he will not negotiate with the unions over their demands.

Transport Minister P Ajay Kumar said: "The Telangana Rashtra Samiti never promised or assured that TSRTC would be merged with the state government. It was not a poll promise either. Salary hike is due but it will be done at an appropriate time, and there was no need for the TSRTC unions to go on strike urgently during Dussehra, which caused immense hardship to people."

Dussehra is Telangana's most important festival, with lakhs travelling to their homes



A commuter carries his luggage at a bus terminal in Hyderabad on Saturday. AP

in the state. Although the unions had issued their strike notice 10 days ahead of Dussehra, the government had ignored it saying it would not be blackmailed. "The CM saw no immediate need for the TSRTC

staff to go on strike especially before the festival," a CMO official said. As a warning to the strike proposal, the state government did not deposit the September salaries of TSRTC employees.

In the absence of TSRTC drivers and conductors, the government has hired temporary drivers, offering them Rs 2,000 for eight hours of duty. Many drivers of garbage trucks of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation have apparently gone on leave, and were found driving TSRTC buses. But these buses are running only on certain routes, and for short distances. The government also extended Dussehra holidays until October 19, and has impounded school buses to run them along some routes. Striking staff are not allowing buses to leave depots by squatting in front of the gates.

Suicides, then and now

Srinivas Reddy, a TSRTC driver at Khammam depot, immolated himself, allegedly because he did not receive his salary and could not pay his EMI or afford household expenses. He died at a hospital in Hyderabad last week. A day later, Surrender Goud, 50, a conductor, hanged himself at his Hyderabad home.

During the statehood movement between 2009 and 2013, the TRS had attributed every suicide and immolation bid to the movement. Now, it is silent on the sui-

cides of the two TSRTC employees, and a suicide attempt by another one.

To remind the TRS and KCR how they had thrown in their might behind the statehood agitation, TSRTC employees are organising 'vanta varpu' cooking on the roads — which they had done several times during the Telangana agitation — to bring transport to a halt once again.

No looking back

While the Congress and the BJP have piled on the pressure, analysts say KCR cannot turn back after taking such a tough stand. There is a by-election on Monday in Huzurnagar Assembly seat. The TRS hopes to wrest the seat from the Congress and leaders believe the TRS's position will be weakened if it softens its stand on the strike.

Although KCR has said the 47,000-odd staff of TSRTC cease to be employees after they failed to rejoin duty before 6 pm of October 3, the government has not sent out suspension or dismissal notices. At a review meeting, KCR told officials they are deemed as dismissed and cease to be employees. TSRTC unions are preparing to approach courts if the government recruits staff in their place.



The Indian EXPRESS

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RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

THE SCREWS TIGHTEN

Islamabad evades FATF blacklist, but Delhi's campaign has put the spotlight on Pakistan's support for cross-border terrorism

PAKISTAN'S ESCAPE, AT least for the moment, from the so-called black list of the global Financial Action Task Force (FATF) that acts against terror financing in the world has surely disappointed Delhi. It also seems to reinforce Delhi's critics, who believe Pakistan can't be "isolated" even if its army brazenly violates its international legal commitments on fighting terrorism. Disappointment and criticism arise from the fact that the government of Narendra Modi had mounted a sustained campaign in the last few years to apply the existing international norms against money laundering and terror financing on Pakistan. The grey list is about putting countries on notice and seek time-bound compliance with a range of FATF benchmarks. If countries fail to comply, they get on to a black list that calls on nations to take additional measures against financial transactions involving Pakistan's jurisdiction. At the moment, only two countries are on the black list — Iran and North Korea.

Pakistan was first put on the grey list in 2012 but got off it in 2015. That was when the FATF and its procedures caught Delhi's serious political interest. Once the Foreign Office put it at the top of its diplomatic priorities, the FATF became part of the public discourse on Pakistan. The intense Indian effort resulted in Pakistan being put on the grey list again in 2018. There is a good case for tempering India's disappointment at the international community's reluctance to put additional pressure on Pakistan's support for terrorism, despite the FATF's acknowledgement that Pakistan is in full compliance with only five of the 27 benchmarks Islamabad had to address.

The FATF has certainly issued a stern warning to Pakistan that it could get to the black list if there was no progress by February 2020. There is no guarantee, of course, that Pakistan will pay the price four months down the road. For the FATF, in the end, is a multilateral mechanism, where bilateral political considerations do impact on the outcomes. Pakistan can thank China, Turkey and Malaysia, whose support helped it escape the black list. There is nothing to suggest that the Pakistan policies of the three countries might change any time soon. Is "isolating Pakistan", then, a "fool's errand"? No, not by any measure. Although Delhi can't bet on complete success in its FATF campaign, the effort has generated unprecedented international pressure on Pakistan Army's support to cross-border terrorism. Sustaining the international mobilisation also turns harsh light on Islamabad's allies — especially China — that talk the talk on opposing terrorism and improving ties with India but refuse to walk the walk.

PM-CM PUSH

The BJP campaign in Maharashtra and Haryana was an endorsement of the leadership of its chief ministers

THE BJP CAMPAIGN in Maharashtra and Haryana, the two states that vote today, was led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister and BJP chief Amit Shah. PM Modi addressed nine rallies in Maharashtra and seven in Haryana whereas Shah spoke at 18 meetings in Maharashtra and seven in Haryana. This wasn't unexpected since the two leaders had won a second term for the party with an enhanced majority in the Lok Sabha just a few months ago. But what stood out in the assembly election campaign was the big endorsement the BJP national leadership gave to the outgoing chief ministers in the two states: Modi and Shah, in fact, were seeking the mandate for Devendra Fadnavis in Maharashtra and Manohar Lal Khattar in Haryana.

At his rallies in Maharashtra, PM gave the slogan, "Dilli mein Narendra, Mumbai mein Devendra" (Narendra in Delhi, Devendra in Mumbai). He said the Narendra-Devendra formula has been a super-hit for the last five years and "when Narendra and Devendra stand together, 1+1 is not 2 but becomes 11". Similar was his appreciation for Khattar, who was handpicked by Modi and Shah in 2014 to head the government in Haryana though he had no previous experience as a legislator or in government. The BJP campaign in Maharashtra and Haryana, of course, bet high on the issue of nationalism, especially the Centre's actions in Jammu and Kashmir. But the party also championed the record of the chief ministers in office, which it claimed was superior to their predecessors. The party also leveraged the fact that Fadnavis and Khattar were from non-dominant castes and projected them as leaders who stood above sectarian interests. This has been an interesting strategy since dominant castes such as Marathas and Jats have had a disproportionate influence on electoral politics in Maharashtra and Haryana respectively for a long time. Of course, the BJP's claims went uncontested also because of the lacklustre campaign run by the opposition parties, which seem to have failed to regroup after the general election drubbing.

The rise of Fadnavis and Khattar is in some ways a throwback to the 2000s, when the BJP under Atal Bihari Vajpayee and L K Advani encouraged relatively young parliamentarians such as Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Raman Singh and Vasundhara Raje, to establish themselves as state leaders. The rise of these leaders and the free hand the party allowed them in running governments helped the BJP to expand its vote base and become the dominant electoral force it has now.

FREEZE FRAME

E P UNNY



FAIZAN MUSTAFA

JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR Mishra is in the news, again. This time for his refusal to recuse himself from the Constitution Bench that has to re-examine a controversial judgment that he delivered last year. The repeated use of the word "impartial" by the parties seeking his recusal has naturally "hurt" Justice Mishra. Taking exception to the campaign on social media against him, Mishra asked: "Is maligning a judge on social media not akin to maligning the integrity of the court?"

"I may be criticised for my view, I may not be a hero and I may be a blemished person but if I am satisfied that my conscience is clear, my integrity is clear before God, I will not budge. If I think I will be influenced by any extraneous factor, I will be first to recuse," the SC judge asserted. He added "the question is can we not sit in the constitution bench though it is us who referred the matter to the larger bench. It is not the appeal against the verdict in which I was the party. I may change or correct my view, if persuaded". Justice Mishra has a valid point. However, the case in question is not a routine referring back of a SC verdict to the Chief Justice. It pertains to an exhaustive verdict which was challenged days after it was delivered.

In 2014, a three-judge bench led by the then CJIR M Lodha unanimously held, in the *Pune Municipal Corporation* case, that compensation under the Land Acquisition Act had to be deposited in the Court. It ruled that a mere deposit of money in the government treasury cannot be regarded as payment made to landowners and the acquisition would lapse. But on February 8, 2018, another three-judge bench of Justice Mishra, Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel and Justice Mohan M Shantanagoudar overruled this verdict in the *Indore Development Authority* case. Justice Shantanagoudar differed with the majority verdict.

But the 2:1 verdict in the *Indore Development Authority* case did not satisfy the apex court's criteria for setting aside a

The decision of a judge to recuse is about due process, respecting people's trust in judiciary

A judge should ideally recuse from a proceeding in which his impartiality might reasonably be questioned due to the possibility of personal bias or prejudice or if he has been a lawyer or judge in the matter at some stage. Justice Mishra is absolutely right that the decision of recusal should be made by the judge as per the dictates of his conscience. But ideally, when a judge recuses himself, as in the *Gautam Navlakha* case, he should state the reasons for his decision. A recusal should not become a convenient method to get rid of a judge. Bench hunting must not be permitted through recusal requests and such requests should not be used to intimidate a judge.

verdict. In the *Dawoodi Bohra Community* case in 2005, the court had said that a verdict can be overruled only by a bench of larger strength. On February 20, 2018, another case on land acquisition compensation came up before a SC bench. Justice Madan Lokur, who headed this bench, put a stay on all such cases till the anomalies in the *Indore Development Authority* case were referred to the CJ. The next day, Justice Mishra referred the matter to the CJ and asked him to constitute a larger bench. Since the CJ was aware of the circumstances of referral and Justice Mishra's "predisposition" towards a particular interpretation, he should not have placed Mishra on this bench. Assuming that his inclusion is appropriate, why was Shantanagoudar not included in this larger bench?

There have been other recusal refusals. On May 2, CJ Gogoi refused to recuse himself in the *Assam Detention Centre* case. He observed that, "Do not even remotely think that we will recuse. We will not allow anyone to browbeat the institution. Recusal will be destructive for the institution." Like Mishra, he went on to add that "the inability, difficulty or handicap of a judge to hear a particular matter is to be perceived by the judge himself and no one else." But the law on recusal is slightly different. It was laid down by Justice M N Venkatachaliah in *Ranjit Thakur* (1987), where he observed that, "The proper approach for the judge is not to look at his own mind and ask himself, however honestly, 'am I biased?'; but to look to the mind of party before him".

A judge should ideally recuse from a proceeding in which his impartiality might reasonably be questioned due to the possibility of personal bias or prejudice or if he has been a lawyer or judge in the matter at some stage. We do trust our judges and that's why no one sought the recusal of judges in the *Babri Masjid* case on the ground that judges who believe in the divinity of Lord Ram cannot decide a case in which Lord Ram himself is a party.

Justice Mishra is absolutely right that the decision of recusal should be made by the judge as per the dictates of his conscience. But ideally, when a judge recuses himself, as in the *Gautam Navlakha* case, he should state the reasons for his decision. A recusal should not become a convenient method to get rid of a judge. Bench hunting must not be permitted through recusal requests and such requests should not be used to intimidate a judge. In the *R K Anand* case (2009), the Supreme Court rightly that "a motivated application for recusal, therefore, needs to be dealt with sternly and should be viewed as interference in the due course of justice leading to penal consequences".

The country's judicial system should consider changing the system of hearing recusal requests. Ideally, such a request should not be heard by the bench but only by the judge concerned. In the *Jewell Ridge Coal Corporation* case (1945), the US Supreme Court held that it is the responsibility of the judge in question to hear such a request. In 2014, Justice Antonin Scalia of the US Supreme Court heard the requests for his recusal in a case pertaining to the country's Vice President Dick Cheney. In the *Hanrahan* case in 1980, Justice Rehnquist of the US Supreme Court observed: "Since generally the court as an institution leaves such motions (recusal), even though they are addressed to it, to the decision of the individual judges to whom they refer, I shall treat the motion as addressed to me individually."

The Justice Mishra-led bench will now pronounce its verdict on the recusal on October 23. One hopes it will bear in mind that procedural fairness is an integral part of due process, especially after *Maneka Gandhi* (1978). Propriety, not legality, is in question here. Justice, after all, is rooted in the people's confidence.

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



GIRISH KUBER

WE ARE living in times when finding the middle ground is becoming increasingly difficult. The latest case in point is the BJP's call for Bhart Ratna for Vinayak Damodar Savarkar aka Swatantryaveer Savarkar. The Maharashtra BJP incorporated this demand as part of its manifesto along with asking for a similar honour for Mahatma Phule. Soon after, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and party president Amit Shah joined the chorus, clearly in an effort to paint Savarkar critics as "anti-BJP", and hence, anti-Hindu.

First, why did the BJP, which has been ruling the state and the Centre for the last five years, think it prudent to demand the highest civilian honour for Savarkar even while it failed or ignored the same all these years? The answer lies in the state BJP's recent political manoeuvres aimed at winning over the Maratha and other caste groups either by offering them reservations or engineering defections. Most of the imported breed of leaders are either from the Congress or its off-shoot, the NCP, and therefore, clearly lack the Hindutva pedigree. This accommodation by the BJP undoubtedly antagonised its traditional vote base of Brahmins and upper castes. Having faced severe criticism for open and unabashed defections, how can it convey to its traditional vote base that it is not deviating much from its core agenda? By making a demand to honour Savarkar with the Bharat Ratna.

This is the BJP's new-found way of outreach to various communities, even while keeping its core in good humour. By doing so,

CONTESTED TERRAIN

Savarkar, father of Hindu rashtravad, also represents a tradition of social reformers

it has exposed itself yet again to criticism of its "selective appropriation" of icons representing divergent ideologies. Savarkar is more known as the father of Hindu rashtravad (Hindu nationalism), but at the same time he also represents Maharashtra's glorious tradition of social and religious reformers. The BJP doesn't seem to be interested in Savarkar's reformist side.

Unfortunately, in the current highly vitiated political atmosphere, one has to be critical of Savarkar to gain membership of the country's liberal elite. On the other hand, mere proclamation of one's affection for Savarkar opens the doors of the country's now-privileged Hindutvawadi groups. But, notwithstanding the danger of being labelled "rightist" or being accused of peddling "soft-Hindutva", there is a need to bring out certain positive aspects of Savarkar's other-than-Hindutva ideology.

Not many are aware that traditional Hindutvawadis despised Savarkar for his modern approach to life. He bluntly wrote how "India is 200 years behind Europe" and has to give up its religious discourse if it wants to catch up with the modern world. Unlike conventional Hindu leaders, Savarkar openly embraced an "era of machines" and appealed to others to give up their narrow vision of religion. New-Hindutvawadis will certainly find themselves at odds with Savarkar, who openly asked them to give up vegetarianism. His criticism of those who call cow "gau mata" is fairly known. What is relatively unrevealed is his comparison of the

cow with donkey and pigs. "If Hindu puranas have talked about a cow, they also have talked about pigs in the form of (Lord Vishnu's) Varah Avtaar. Then why not set up pig-protection groups on the lines of gau rakshaks," he asks in one of his essays. He bravely ridiculed the idea of 33 crore gods living in a cow. Some of his criticism of Hindu traditions is so harsh and direct that it can be found "unprintable". In another essay, he came down heavily on the Hindu caste system and questioned "upper caste" Hindus who won't mind consuming cow-urine and cow-dung but at the same time refuse to accept a glass of water from the hands of the supremely intellectual Ambedkar. Savarkar even questioned Hindu gods. He also led an agitation demanding untouchables' entry into Hindu temples.

Much of this, unfortunately, has been forgotten in a country witnessing a Hindu resurgence. Isn't it ironic that the political party that likes to portray itself as "Hindutvawadi" is trying to appropriate Savarkar at a time when the country is witnessing growing incidences of mob lynching over protecting the cow? For the BJP, Savarkar is a mere Hindutva icon who can help garner (or polarise?) more votes and whose call for scientific temper can easily be ignored. By its politically opportune approach to Savarkar, the BJP may get few more votes, but it will further narrow the intellectual middle path. Neither "Hindutvawadi nor anti-Hindu" approach will take us anywhere.

The writer is editor, Loksatta

OCTOBER 20, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

BAHUGUNA RESIGNS

HN BAHUGUNA has resigned from office at the prime minister's asking. Charan Singh's letter demanding the resignation of the finance minister reached his residence at 4.35 pm and Bahuguna wrote his resignation by hand before sending it to the PM within 10 minutes. Bahuguna was, however, surprised at Singh's action. Bahuguna's exit from the government may affect the fortunes of the Banarasi Das Government in UP. The support of the 28-member CFD group to the government is crucial.

FLEEING POONCH

FEAR-STRICKEN PEOPLE FROM occupied Poonch area are trying to cross over to the

Indian side, according to official sources. However, the Indian Border Security Force manning the Actual Line of Control is not allowing them to sneak in. Over 400 people have been seen coming near the Pakistan side of the border in Poonch. Youths are reportedly taking out anti-martial law processions in various parts of occupied Kashmir, but troops have chased them away.

TN COPS STRIKE

WHILE CLAIMING A general improvement in the situation resulting from the four-day-old strike by the constabulary in Tamil Nadu, the state director-general of police, E L Stracey, charged that some public figures were urging the men of his force to continue

their agitation. He said "appropriate action" was being taken against the persons concerned under Section 3 of the Incitement of Disaffection Act. He, however, declined to identify them. Asked whether any political party was involved, he said the public figures concerned did not belong to any particular party. Stracey reported a "steady and welcome change in the attitude of the striking policemen". He said: "While quite a number of them are returning to duty, some others are expressing themselves openly against the strike."

The above was published in the October 20, 1979 issue. There was no edition on October 21 on account of Diwali.

THE IDEAS PAGE

11



C R Sasikumar

Tap dancing lessons

There are many issues between the India and US that will require some deft diplomatic manoeuvring from External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar



BHASKAR CHAKRAVORTI

"I am reasonably convinced of the powers of my persuasion." — External Affairs Minister, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.

THE MINISTER WAS speaking to an audience at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, in Washington, on India's decision to purchase the S-400 air defence missile system from Russia, and his efforts to avoid getting hit with American penalties. Ordinarily, countries doing business with Russia run the risk of sanctions from US Congress under the 2017 Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA).

Methinks, the honourable minister claims too much credit. An essential attribute of any good diplomat is self-confidence. While I hold Jaishankar in high regard — and yes, yes, I know he has sold his soul trying to justify the Article 370 abrogation, but putting lipstick on a pig is his day job — somehow I am not as persuaded as he is about his powers of persuasion. The truth of the matter is that there is a loophole in CAATSA: The US president can waive the sanctions if it is in the national security interests of the US and the president can determine that the errant country is otherwise cooperating with the US on matters critical to US interests.

Now, this is where Jaishankar caught a break. The US president himself is possibly the biggest threat to US security interests. In addition, he seems to have a fascination with Russia and deep fondness for its leader. America is gearing up for an upcoming election — and given that Donald Trump was only too happy to accept help from the Russians in winning the last election — it may not be entirely coincidental that he is not too keen on stymieing one of Russia's most important arms deals. After all, Russia continues to be a lynchpin in the misinformation campaigns that will inundate the US in coming months. In other words, minister Jaishankar,

with all due respect, should cede all credit directly to the US president. Jaishankar's powers of persuasion, while amazing in other circumstances, may not be the pivotal force here. Dealing with Russia was a reasonable bet for India to take — and, for now, the gamble has paid off even at the price of American democracy being undermined.

Now that I have got that off my chest, here are some substantive issue areas where it would be appropriate for Jaishankar to be putting his plenipotentiary powers of persuasion to the test.

To get things rolling, let's talk trade. Earlier in the year, after India imposed higher tariffs on some US goods, Washington withdrew a key trade privilege for India. Trump complains that India's taxes on imports are too high. He has described India as the "king of tariffs". The reality is that, for a change, he is right. India's average tariff rate in 2018 was 17.1 per cent. The tariffs on Harley-Davidsons — a product that Trump is particularly fussed about — used to be 100 per cent. And let's not even mention American walnuts — with a whopping 120 per cent tariff. In comparison, the US, Japan and the EU had average tariff rates between 3.4 per cent and 5.2 per cent. India's rates are high even in comparison with other emerging market nations, Brazil, China and South Africa, all averaging between 8 per cent and 14 per cent.

In a pre-election season when Trump is motivated to trumpet his toughness on unfair trade relationships, the state of Indo-US trade ties remain particularly vulnerable.

Separately, it seems that the US and China are in talks to resolve their longer and more contentious trade dispute. In the latest round of trade talks, the US said it would suspend a tariff hike on Chinese goods and Trump announced that China had agreed to a "very substantial phase one deal". India, in the meantime, has done little to take advantage of the US-China trade tensions to further its own interests. Nevertheless, here is a persuasive persuasion opportunity for Jaishankar to make up for that lapse. What can he and his team do to help reach a trade truce with Trump that meets India's objectives, make Trump look like a hero to his base and put China on the spot?

Next, let's consider a different thorny issue. This one has to do with the thousands of Indian IT professionals and students who face an uncertain future in the US. The Trump administration has vacillated about its posi-

tion on H1B visas. In June, there were plans to cap the visas and then two weeks later, the officials presiding over it walked away from such plans. However, the administration has consistently presented itself as the keepers of American jobs who seek to limit immigration to the US across the board. Many Indian professionals who have been in the US for years and have made a home in the country live with the uncertainty that they might have to pack up and leave. Can Jaishankar persuade the US authorities to recognise that skilled immigration restrictions may not help Americans get jobs. Instead, such short-sighted measures may drive firms to relocate their operations outside the US causing losses of jobs and revenues overall? A study by Britta Glennon of the Wharton School helps make that point.

To pick a third area, Jaishankar might want to closely monitor the topsy-turvy direction of American politics as it unfolds over the coming year. Given the uncertainties of the impeachment inquiry against Trump that is unfolding and the fiercely divisive elections ahead in 2020, it will be a major feat of tap dancing that will be required to build relationships with the Democrats, from Nancy Pelosi to the candidates lining up to take on Trump. Of course, all this must be done while continuing to extract concessions from Trump in parallel. Cozying up to Trump's sworn enemies, the Democrats, is bound to invite his wrath.

If self-confidence, as I have noted earlier, is an essential attribute of a good diplomat, tap dancing skills are even more essential. I think the best advice to Jaishankar is probably from Trump himself: "Don't be a tough guy. Don't be a fool!" (Yes, he actually wrote that in his letter to Turkey's Recep Erdogan.) Perched in a school that has probably produced more diplomats than any other, I can confidently suggest that this is about the best lesson any diplomat can take away. India's top diplomat, surely, has his work cut out for him and quite a few ways in which he can test his power to persuade. And I am sorry, he doesn't have much time for lessons in tap dancing.

The writer is Dean of Global Business at The Fletcher School at Tufts University, founding executive director of Fletcher's Institute for Business in the Global Context and a non-resident senior fellow of Brookings India

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VIEW FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD



A weekly look at the public conversations shaping ideas beyond borders — in the Subcontinent. Curated by Aakash Joshi

UNDERSTANDING INDIA

HUMRA NIAZI TRIES in an article in *The Express Tribune* on October 20, "to read the Indian mindset" vis a vis Kashmir. Like many other columnists writing in Pakistan's print media, Niazi sees designs of demographic change, even ethnic cleansing, on the part of the Indian state — equated without caveats to the current government — in Jammu and Kashmir. The "adversary" appears to be both India and the "RSS mindset", and the sheer diversity of opinion and debate over Kashmir in this country is given short shrift.

After lamenting the lockdown in the Valley, and the alleged violation of human rights there, Niazi outlines what she believes is the plan of the RSS: "The RSS game could well be 'distraction'. This could be very unwise. The Indian Army Chief, Rawat, recently stated that 500 infiltrators are waiting to infiltrate into India. Pakistan's Foreign Office strongly rejected this fake news."

Then, the article asks, "why is there no such concern reflected about the danger of a nuclear war in this part of the world?" It then seems to talk to the world community of the dangers of an "unstable India": "The present government in India has an extremist mindset — something that should not be a characteristic of a nuclear country."

The article also calls for the international community to take "positive action" against India's "atrocities" in Jammu and Kashmir.

PAKISTAN FOR PEACE

Last week, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan visited Tehran and met with President Hassan Rouhani and Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, before going on to visit Saudi Arabia. *Dawn's* editorial on October 16, taking off from the visit, argues for Pakistan to play a greater role in mediating the conflict between the two West Asian powers. The argument is not so outlandish, given that historically, there was

a time when Pakistan did enjoy a certain clout in the Islamic world as well as the fact that "Pakistan is in a unique position" to act as a bridge between the two countries: Both Shias and Sunnis call the country home and it shares a border with Iran and has close ties to Saudi Arabia.

"On the other hand, should things go awry, Pakistan will be among the first victims of instability. The religious factor means that sectarian passions will be inflamed, while violence in the Gulf, not far from this country's waters, will have a debilitating effect on the national economy, as will the spiralling oil prices," according to the editorial.

ABRAR'S DEATH

The brutal torture and killing of Abrar Fahad, a second-year student at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, by the Chhatra League, the students' wing of the ruling Awami League, has the country

mortified. Abrar was killed allegedly because of a Facebook post in which he criticised the deal between India and Pakistan during Sheikh Hasina's four-day visit last month.

In an article in *The Daily Star*, Sudipta Saha and Yamen Hoque, Bangladeshi scholars in the US, ask questions of the country's polity and society, and are forceful in their arguments: "Over the last few years, Bangladesh has witnessed a number of murders of bloggers, writers and activists. They were specifically targeted because of their progressive, liberal and free-thinking beliefs — beliefs that they were not scared of sharing with others and engaging in the sort of dialogue that a majority of people in Bangladesh are uncomfortable with."

The apathy towards the killing of dissenting, liberal voices bothers the writers: "Let Abrar's death not be in vain, and not just for reforming the role of student politics in our country. Let it also provide light to the dark corners of our mind-set."

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"There are now proposals, backed by the UN, for a global Green New Deal. It would be a good thing all round — for the world economy, for the planet and for their own long-term prospects — if the IMF and World Bank chose to back the idea." — THE GUARDIAN

The spectacle of tragedy

The function of the tragic in art is what it does to, and for, the audience



IN GOOD FAITH
VIJAY TANKHA

GREEK TRAGEDY was a spectacle, performed seasonally in great festivals dedicated to gods, in huge amphitheatres ("spectators-all-around") before thousands of people. Much of the performance, accompanied by music and dance, was sung, making it more like opera than proscaenic theatre today. The action was all in the words. It was truly the media of the millennium, whose life was both precious and brief, and whose death was not, as Nietzsche thought, caused by Socrates, coinciding rather with the demise of the democratic state it spoke to.

By convention, if not fiat, tragedy could only deal with mythical themes (though *The Persians* details the victory at Salamis), the result perhaps of a ban on staging contemporary events, in consequence, it was said, of a performance of Phrynichus' *The Sack of Miletus*, which so moved its audience to tears that the poet was fined, "for reminding them of familiar misfortunes".

Though they dealt with myths or elaborated incidents from the epics, the poets could modify them and even invent alternatives ("Probable impossibilities are preferable to improbable possibilities" advises Aristotle, sagely). Myths in any case were stories which varied with each telling, often serving conflicting aims: The homogeneity and multifarious forms of worship in polytheistic cults made for both competing and complementary narratives.

The remote past really provided a template for articulating present concerns, albeit obliquely. Tragic drama addressed the city through its citizens. Sophocles' *Oedipus* (staged a year after a plague struck Athens in 430 BCE) opens with a crowd petitioning the king because of a miasma afflicting the city. *The Trojan Women*, produced during the ongoing conflict between Athens and Sparta, dwelt on the suffering of women and children, acted out before the ruins of Troy. Jean-Paul Sartre made an adaptation of it during the Algerian war as a lesson for the French.

Tragic drama grappled mainly with moral conflict, articulating the struggle between tradition and new modes of thinking; seeking to confront expediency with justice, revenge with the rule of law; dramatising if not always resolving the collision of rational with irrational forces. Conflict or opposition was the central torque around which both the language and literature of the Greeks was constructed: The lynch pin of their legacy to world thought. Competing voices were a constant on the Attic stage.

Dealing with myths meant having a varied cast of gods, heroes and men. Zeus, a tyrant in *Prometheus Bound* uses, like all tyrants, Force and Violence as his henchmen. Apollo, the god of prophecy, becomes a bolder and liar in *Hippolytus*. Heroes

don't fare any better. Odysseus was regularly cast as an unscrupulous scoundrel, a shifty politician; Hercules, a comic drunk, and so on. The justice and injustice of the gods was both affirmed and denied.

The state and its politics were directly addressed, as in *The Persians* of Aeschylus, where the action takes place before the tomb of Darius, arch enemy of the Greeks. In Euripides' *Helen* (produced in the later half of the 27-year-long Peloponnesian war), the entire Trojan war is shown to have been fought for nothing, since Helen was never taken to Troy, an airy phantom going in her place. Imperial pride and valour were thus emptied of point and purpose; the honour of the thousands killed as shadowy as the simulacra on whose behalf they died. Not surprisingly, Euripides lived out his last years in self-imposed exile, though he was much venerated (some Athenian sailors captured in Sicily were released when they recited verses from his works).

The tragic spectacle, on Aristotle's account, was premised on a flaw (*hamartia*) which reversed the fortunes of a great man. The tragic flaw as it came to be known, insisted on a character trait leading to the downfall of the protagonist. But *hamartia* can also mean a missing of the mark, a mistake in judgement, leading with tragic logic, to suffering or death. Often there was no mistake, just bad luck, the unfolding of events outside human control. Phaedra's illicit desire for Hippolytus was also a conflict between impersonal, cosmic forces. While each strove for mastery, humans suffered, (she hangs herself while he is killed by his father's curse). But ultimately only individuals act, and there are many inhuman acts in these tragedies, done by those in power, tyrants or their clones. Death and misery loom large: Women are sacrificed, children killed, madness and suicide abound, the wicked often prosper while innocents suffer. Suffering is the human condition and the gods alone, if there are any, or an obscure impersonal necessity, drives the destinies of men.

Greek thought privileges purpose. Every artefact has a function or use that explains its nature. The function of the tragic is what it does to the audience. Plato thought tragic poetry exacerbated the emotions it aroused (and so was bad for civic order), Aristotle that it released them (and so was good). Our reactions to violence or sex in the cinema are broadly similar.

But Aristotle also specified the nature of the emotions tragedy relieved us of: Fear and pity. Pity for the fate of the tragic hero, whose very vulnerability is responsible for her undeserved suffering, and fear that such suffering could be one's own. This reversal or metabasis from good to bad fortune is the essence of the tragic condition, which often finds expression in the plays: "Some god destroys you now, exacting in your suffering the cost for having once been happy." (Euripides, *Hecuba*)

This is what universalises the particularities of the tragic plot, it is not something that happens to someone, somewhere, distant in time, but what happens now (so arousing pity). If it can happen here, to anyone, it can happen to you, to me, at anytime, for no reason, other than an inimical god or malign fate, and that is why it arouses fear.

The writer taught philosophy at Delhi University

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RTI'S BANE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Chipping away RTI' (IE, October 18). Downgrading the office of CIC and ICs is bound to have a debilitating effect on RTI. The government shows reluctance in giving information, since that makes it answerable to the people.

Vijai Pant, Hempur

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Chipping away RTI' (IE, October 18). This is not chipping but clipping away RTI. This is part of the government's design to weaken constitutional institutions. The RTI Act, 2005 is one of independent India's most empowering laws. Home Minister Amit Shah is reported to have said there is no need for this Act as his government is very much transparent. This is far from the truth.

HS Upadhyay, Thane

OLD FOLLY

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Singh signals a Cong shift on 370, Savarkar' (IE, October 18). The Congress has yet again fallen into the BJP's trap of shifting the election narrative from the economy to nationalism. Voters are not interested in Congress' views on Article 370, Savarkar and the NRC. They want the government to be questioned on issues concerning their daily lives, the faltering economy and the non-fulfilment of the

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

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

utopia promised in the form of one crore jobs, doubling farmer incomes etc.

SB Bhalerao, Mumbai

SANGRUR EXAMPLE

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Why Sangrur is the best in Punjab for providing public services within set timelines' (IE, Oct 14). The provision of citizen-centric public services is the most important function of a government. Sangrur is an example in this respect. A responsive administration is the key to the success of policy initiatives.

Urvashi Pareek, Ahmedabad

12 THE GOVERNANCE PAGE

DELHI/ EDUCATION REFORMS

Mentor teachers — Delhi govt's secret sauce for education reforms

Inspired by ideas of Nobel winners Banerjee & Duflo, they bring the govt and schools on the same page

MALLICA JOSHI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

"THE BEST way to describe me would be a facilitator or a bridge," says Kadmbari Lohiya who is part of Delhi Government's extensive programme to change how teachers teach and students learn at state-sponsored schools. Lohiya is a mentor teacher, one of 200, who is responsible for six schools. Over the past four and a half years, these teachers have been instrumental in the implementation of the government's most challenging and controversial programme — Chunauti (challenge) — whose name itself signifies the kind of task it was supposed to be.

In 2015, when the Aam Aadmi Party came back to power after a 49-day stint in 2013-14, senior leaders, consultants and officials of the education department, including the deputy chief minister and education minister Manish Sisodia sat down to study a model to improve learning levels among government school children. Nobel laureates Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee along with their team at the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab had been studying the impact of targeted programmes such as NGO Pratham's 'Teaching at the Right Level'. Both met Sisodia and a team of people working in the education department to discuss the implementation of a version of the scheme in Delhi government schools.

What came out from the discussion was the need to tweak the system to Delhi's needs and to roll it out in all schools at once, unlike how previous interventions were implemented in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. While the key feature of the Chunauti programme is to identify those who can read and do mathematics at their grade and those who cannot, Delhi had another need — teachers who can act as a bridge between the government and schools.

In April 2016, Sisodia wrote to teachers, asking them to apply for a programme where they would be innovating while also getting national and international exposure. By May, 200 were picked from 1,100 applicants.

"For the beginning, the government was convinced that Chunauti will be rolled out across all schools. The next question was that of implementation. A decision was made to



Education Minister Manish Sisodia during the unveiling of plan for the 2016-17 academic session Prem Nath Pandey

train teachers from within the existing pool to act as mentors giving academic support. Changes in pedagogy, curriculum and methods had to be made and it was decided that the mentor teacher approach was best," said Jasmine Shah, vice-chairperson, Dialogue and Development Commission.

These teachers were then sent for leadership, innovation, teaching and pedagogy training to several places, including Singapore, Mumbai and Bangalore. Under the programme, a mentor teacher had five to six schools under her supervision. She/he goes to each school once a week to interact with the staff and students. The job is to make sure that the government's directions are being followed and also to bring feedback to the government.

"When Chunauti started, it was an idea at a nascent stage. It grew and evolved with us. We took the government's idea to schools and took their feedback to the government. We work on the happiness curriculum, entrepreneurship curriculum, class observation, teacher development, coordination with principals and with

School Management Committees (SMC)," Lohiya said.

Data suggests that Chunauti led to a considerable improvement in learning and numeracy. In 2018, for classes VI to IX, 48% children were reading at their level. This rose to 63% after the intervention. In mathematics, 56% students were solving problems at their grade level. This rose to 73%.

Three years down the line, mentor teachers are now involved in the implementation of other programmes at schools including the Happiness and Entrepreneurship curricula at schools. They are also involved in the day-to-day functioning of schools such as SMC meetings.

Lohiya recalls how she realised several children were missing school during the festive season. "We wanted those in classes X and XII to show up for sure... We called a meeting of the SMC and asked the members, who were parents and from the community to reach out to kids and ensure they are in school. As soon as members from the community got involved, we saw a jump in attendance figures," she says

EXPLAINED

A solution from within

THE IDEA to select a teacher from amid the pool was to build confidence and use existing motivated and passionate manpower that already knows the shortcomings of the system. Since mentor teachers are peers to the other teaching staff in schools, they are believed to understand specific implementation challenges better and are expected to bring back honest feedback from schools they supervise.

'What makes PMJAY stand out is its focus on the vulnerable, not just the poor'

DAYS AFTER the World Health Organization (WHO) country strategy for India till 2023 was released, WHO India representative DR HANK BEKEDAM spoke to ABANTIKA GHOSH on why Ayushman Bharat is different from the other health schemes and why he is very excited about India.



THE POLICY INTERVIEW
Dr HANK BEKEDAM
WHO India representative

Compared to the past, what is India doing differently under Ayushman Bharat?

At any given point 60 million Indians are impoverished because of health expenses. That is why when late finance minister Arun Jaitley announced Ayushman Bharat (AB) on February 1, 2018, I saw that there is a clear point moving beyond only talking about increasing (health budget) and getting health also on the political agenda. I think AB has been very important. You saw the PM's involvement very early on in AB, Mission Indradhanush and neglected tropical diseases. We do see that if the PM starts supporting it then the PMO is following up... when we go to districts and states sometimes the immunisation officer is complaining about how many calls he gets on following up on immunisation.

Is the involvement of the PM what makes AB different?

That and also the fact that it is focussing on the poor and the vulnerable. That conception of looking at the vulnerable is very important, the real difference between PMJAY and RSBY. The latter was looking only at the poor but this one is looking at the vulnerable too. Every country needs the health care of the poor and vulnerable to be subsidised and it has been done quite well in PMJAY.

Your recently released country strategy for India talks about Universal Health Coverage. There are not enough doctors for even the 500 million we are targeting under AB, how do we bridge the manpower gap required for 1.3 billion?

Last week you heard the PM talk about how AB will generate 1.2 million jobs. We strongly endorse that and think if you give it a little more time there may be even more jobs. It is true that when you talk about human resource there is the issue of training etc but I believe that if the PM is saying, it is a good start. I was very impressed that it came up and I have seen states like Uttar Pradesh do some honest analysis on HR. Every state needs to do that. The infrastructure you see is the states' responsibility, not the Union's.

We have targetted to end TB by 2025, five years ahead of global goal but are woefully behind. The annual rate of reduction is just 2% and we need around 10%. What role can health and wellness centres play in that?

HWCs are enormously important for awareness, early detection, and treatment - to tell people to go to the hospital and get investigated. They are also very important to ensure that patients continue the treatment. They are close to the community, I would expect them to know how many are on treatment and follow up. There is also the aspect of data as HWCs are the places where people go first and there will be a patient ID that will then be carried everywhere. There is the National Digital Health Blueprint for data integration and the Integrated Health Information Platform that we have worked with the government very closely on. It is important to integrate information to make sense of it. The digital health blueprint will eventually pave the way for moving towards electronic health records. For EHR we also need to look at confidentiality.

But we do not even have a data privacy law in the country.

The National Health Authority is very much aware of that (privacy concerns) from what I understand from my discussions. This needs to happen and will happen. Also, the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) is linked to the National Information Centre, which has the capacity to protect.

FROM STATES REFORMS TRACKER

UTTAR PRADESH

Illegal extraction of groundwater curbed

LAST WEEK, the Uttar Pradesh Groundwater Management and Regulation Act 2019 came into force. This legislation makes the illegal extraction of groundwater a punishable offence. Beyond the punitive aspects, the new law also makes it mandatory to install a rainwater harvesting system for not just all government offices but also all semi-government, government-funded offices as well as private institutions. "Groundwater Management and Regulation Act has come into force to permanently resolve the receding groundwater crisis. The bill will bring pace to the water conservation policy. The law will also help in reducing the water pollution," said V K Upadhyay, Director, Uttar Pradesh Groundwater Department.

TAMIL NADU

Towards easier industrial clearances

THE STATE government is fast expanding on providing single-window clearances from various departments and ministries to industrial projects. Reportedly, the single-window clearance system is already applicable for 24 services and it will soon be expanded to 54 over the coming six months. The so-called Guidance Bureau has already given clearances for close to 250 project proposals — amounting to a total investment of over Rs 78,000 crore.

PUNJAB

More energy from renewable sources

ACCORDING TO a draft policy prepared by the state government, Punjab will target sourcing 21 per cent of its power requirement from renewable sources of energy by 2030. With the broader rubric of renewable energy, the draft policy targets 3GW of solar projects and 1.5GW of non-solar projects, which will include energy generation from biomass, biomass and bagasse cogeneration, and small hydro projects.

How a pioneering Facial Recognition System and a mobile app are improving policing

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 20

ON OCTOBER 4, Hyderabad Police was able to crack the murder case of an Isro (Indian Space Research Organisation) employee who was found dead in his flat on October 1. A facial recognition software confirmed that a man seen in a CCTV footage was the one wanted by the police.

Earlier, on May 1, senior Telangana Police officers received a message from Bengaluru Police about a Telugu-speaking girl who was found in Mysuru and appeared to have lost her way. Officials at the Rachakonda Police Commissionerate, which has a large jurisdiction on the outskirts of Hyderabad, ran the photo through the Facial Recognition System (FRS). Within a few minutes, the system correctly tracked the girl and she was reunited with her family the very next day.

On February 9, a 14-year-old mentally-challenged boy who went missing from Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh last June was



FRS at work in Rachakonda Express

traced by Telangana Police. The boy's photo had popped up on "Darpan" — another facial recognition app the Telangana Police is developing to deal with missing children cases.

These are just some of the cases that have been solved by the use of a pioneering Facial Recognition System (FRS) application introduced by Telangana Police since August 2018. "It doesn't matter if we don't know an offender's name, we will certainly get him by

his face," says Rachakonda Police Commissioner Mahesh M Bhagwat.

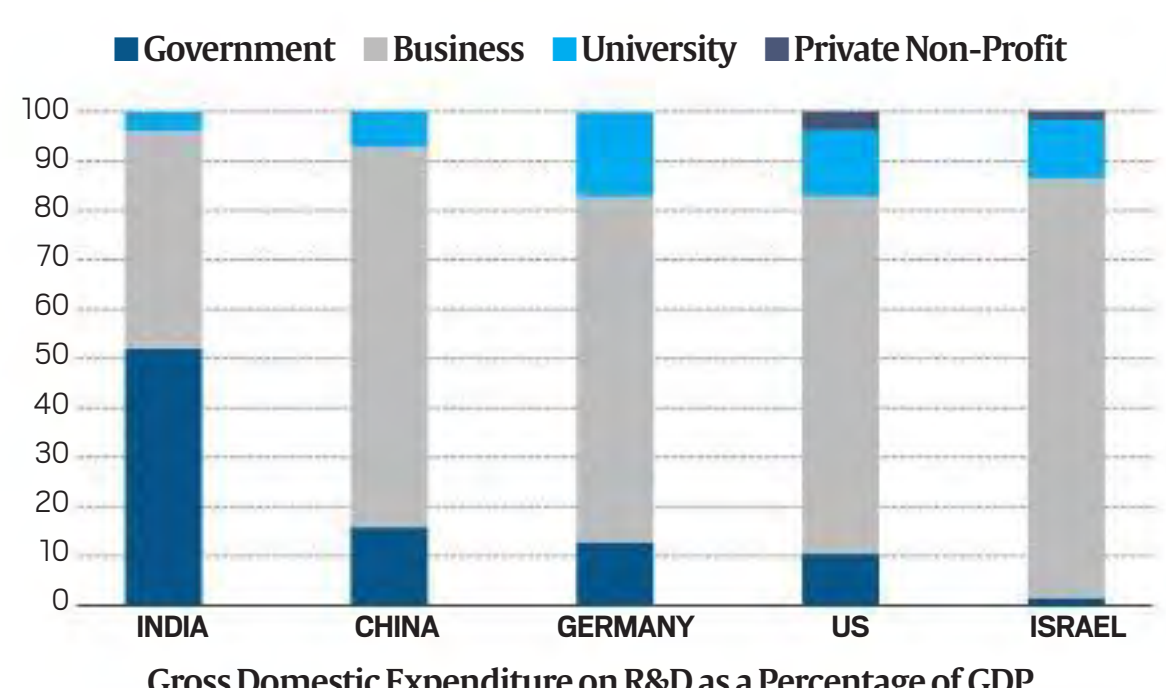
Bhagwat and his team of officers are the force behind FRS. In the last 8 to 10 months, Rachakonda Police has solved over two dozen cases using the FRS, including murder mysteries, missing children, identifying and arresting inter-state dacoits, and serial traffic offenders. Taking a proactive role, the Rachakonda Police used the FRS to access online databases of police records in many states across the country, and the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) of National Crime Records Bureau under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, to solve complex cases.

The FRS was launched by Telangana Police DGP M Mahender Reddy but Rachakonda Police has put it to maximum use.

The FRS gives out a list of possible offenders, in case of a crime, by comparing the suspect's face with lakhs of photographs stored online, and a list of persons with matching facial features in cases of missing persons.

IN NUMBERS

IN STARK CONTRAST TO THE GLOBAL NORM, MOST OF THE R&D EXPENDITURE IN INDIA IS DONE BY THE GOVERNMENT



Source: Niti Aayog

MAHARASHTRA/RURAL ENTERPRISES

In Raigad — women take up poultry farming, stop migration

TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA
RAIGAD, OCTOBER 20

A POULTRY farming programme in rural Raigad for below poverty line women is ensuring a steady income and alternate livelihood source in the paddy-dominated terrain. The region witnesses seasonal migration that has increased due to erratic rainfall pattern over the last few years. While the project was initiated by NGO Childfund India, Raigad district officials are handholding the vaccination of poultry and in providing the list of possible beneficiaries for the programme.

On a hillock in Vinhere village, Shubhangi Rajaram started poultry farming six months ago. She is counting days before her hens will start laying eggs. Having so far sold 40 hens for Rs 10,000, Shubhangi (35) says she earns more than she ever did from domestic work in Mahad, a hilly region in Raigad.

Like Rajaram, 700 women in Mahad are indulging in poultry farming. Each paid Rs 3,000 to get a shed for 100 chicks constructed last year. They underwent a two-day training program under experts. Dilip Khambate,



Shubhangi Rajaram in Vinhere village has sold 40 hens Express

project manager in Raigad, said in Mahad 90 per cent families have at least one member who migrates to Pune or Mumbai for additional income. During monsoons, they re-

turn to Raigad for paddy cultivation, but with scanty rainfall in last three years, the rice cultivation has been badly hit.

Last year, around 2,200 families were sur-

veyed in Mahad and 700 economically poor, migration affected women, several of them widows, were selected to do poultry farming. "We helped them construct a shed and gave them 100 chicks, all 21 days old and fully vaccinated. Thirty kg of poultry feed was given free to start poultry farming," Khambate said.

Raigad's deputy commissioner of animal husbandry department, Dr Subhash Mhaske, said they provided support in vaccination of chicks.

Shubhangi's husband had migrated to Mumbai to work at a press unit. Two years ago, the factory shut. "He was jobless. My income was not enough to feed our two kids," she said. Last June, the landless couple was informed about the poultry project. They borrowed Rs 5,000 and bought a 100 square ft land. Today, Shubhangi does three daily visits to feed the chicks and sweep the shed. Locals from nearby villages come to buy meat at her shed. "I sell a hen for Rs 250," she says, then adds, "Now even my kids eat chicken regularly." She has also started brinjal, ladyfinger and cucumber plantation nearby to grow enough to feed her family.

The chicks take at least 70 days to gain

over a kg weight before they are ready to be sold, and 80 days before they start laying eggs. Dapoli, 40 km away, provides a good market as several tourists have a taste for country chicken.

Poultry farming in this water-scarce region has become a profitable revenue model as these women need only 2-5 litres per day for 100 chicks.

"Poultry farming has been carried in Vidarbha and Marathwada pockets too. In Raigad, we are seeing it as a good income source for women. This will prevent migration," said Mhaske, deputy commissioner of animal husbandry. He added the government has also started similar poultry program in 45 tribal villages with over 840 beneficiaries.

Neelam Makhejani, country director of Childfund, said they plan to scale up to include 5,000 women.

Arvind Sutar, who coordinates with vendors to sell the hen, said there are 44 vendors in the region where chicken at the wholesale rate of Rs 125 per kg can be sold. "The women plan to use self-help groups to sell the hens in neighbouring villages to fetch better prices".



MEANWHILE MEHTA BIDS ADIEU TO ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC

Mumbai-born superstar conductor Zubin Mehta, 83, takes to the Tel Aviv stage on Sunday for his final performance as music director of the Israel Philharmonic, retiring after 50 years with the orchestra. The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra appointed Mehta music advisor in 1969, music director in 1977, and music director for life in 1981.

TOPOF THE WORLD



Soldiers patrol Santiago, Chile, on Sunday. Reuters

CHILE Three dead in protest violence

Santiago: Three people died in a fire in a supermarket being ransacked in the Chilean capital early Sunday, as protests sparked by anger over social and economic conditions rocked one of Latin America's most stable countries. Santiago's Mayor Karla Rubilar told reporters two people burned to death in the blaze and another later died in hospital, after the huge store controlled by US retail chain Walmart was looted. They were the first deaths in two days of violent unrest in which protesters have set buses on fire, burned metro stations and clashed with riot police in the city of seven million — despite a curfew imposed overnight until 7 am Sunday.

UAE World's oldest pearl found in Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi: An 8,000-year-old pearl that archaeologists say is the world's oldest will be displayed in Abu Dhabi, according to authorities who said Sunday it is proof the objects have been traded since Neolithic times. The natural pearl was found in the floor of a room discovered during excavations at Marawah Island, off the capital of the United Arab Emirates, which revealed the earliest architecture found in the country. The excavation of the Marawah site has also yielded ceramics, beads made from shell and stone, and flint arrowheads.

MYANMAR Meth worth \$20 mn found floating in sea

Yangon: Sacks of crystal meth scooped from the sea by Myanmar fishermen who mistook it for a deodorant substance had a street value of \$20 million, an official said on Sunday, in a country believed to be the world's largest methamphetamine producer. The accidental drug haul off Myanmar's coastal Aeyarwady region occurred when fishermen spotted a total of 23 sacks floating in the Andaman Sea on Wednesday. Each one contained plastic-wrapped bags labelled as Chinese green tea.

Pentagon chief in Afghanistan as US looks to kickstart Taliban talks

Says number of troops can be brought down to 8,600 from 14,000; US seeks 'political agreement'

IDREES ALI
KABUL, OCTOBER 20

US DEFENCE Secretary Mark Esper arrived in Afghanistan on Sunday in a bid to bring talks with the Taliban back on track after President Donald Trump abruptly broke off negotiations last month seeking to end the United States' longest war. Esper's trip to Kabul comes amid questions about the United States' commitments to allies after a sudden withdrawal of US troops from northeastern Syria and Trump's long-time desire to get out of foreign engagements. "The aim is to still get a peace agreement at some point, a political agreement. That is the best way forward," Esper told reporters travelling with him to Afghanistan. He is due to meet President Ashraf Ghani and US troops while in Afghanistan. "I hope we can move forward



US Defence Secretary Mark Esper is greeted by US military personnel upon arriving in Kabul on Sunday. AP

and come up with a political agreement that meets our ends and meets the goals we want to achieve," Esper said, adding that talks were in the State Department's domain. He added that the United States could go down to about 8,600 troops, from the current 14,000, without affecting

The United States says it has increased the pace of operations against militants in Afghanistan since Trump walked away from talks with the Taliban. "US policy in Afghanistan is so confused right now because on the one hand we're hearing the messaging from Washington and particularly Trump about our endless wars, that it could be time to leave sooner or later," said Michael Kugelman, senior associate for South Asia at the Wilson Center think-tank. "On the other hand, you have US military forces stepping up their pressure on the Taliban in more intense ways than ever before," Kugelman said.

A Taliban delegation met US special representative for Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad for more than an hour in Pakistan this month, though officials said it did not represent a resumption of formal negotiations. REUTERS

EU calls for truce in Afghanistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KABUL, OCTOBER 20

EUROPEAN UNION officials called Sunday for a ceasefire in Afghanistan, saying the breakdown in talks between the US and the Taliban presented an opportunity to push anew for a truce. Roland Kobia, the EU special envoy for Afghanistan, said the talks' collapse provided a chance to push for a ceasefire which would, in turn, prove a big enough change in Afghanistan for Trump to consider resuming negotiations. "It's the right moment and the right opportunity to maybe go one step beyond a simple reduction in violence and explore ways in which a ceasefire... will take place," Kobia told journalists in Kabul.

Johnson asks EU for a Brexit delay that he doesn't want

Writes one letter seeking extension, another saying he doesn't want it

MIKE CORDER & GREGORY KATZ
LONDON, OCTOBER 20

BRITISH PRIME Minister Boris Johnson pressed ahead Sunday with plans to try to win parliamentary backing for his new Brexit deal even as the European Union began considering his grudging request to extend the looming Brexit deadline. As the dust settled on a day of high drama in Parliament, the next steps in Britain's divisive, tortuous Brexit saga became clear. Monday will feature more legal action, more arm-twisting, cajoling and veiled threats by Johnson and his ministers and more amendments designed by lawmakers to stymie Johnson's plan to have Britain leave the 28-nation bloc on October 31.

In the midst of all this, EU leaders and officials across the Channel were pondering whether to grant the British leader a Brexit extension that he does not even want. As required by law, Johnson sent a letter — which he left unsigned — to the EU at the last possible moment late Saturday seeking a delay to Britain's impending October 31 departure. But he followed it with a signed letter indicating that he does not favour another Brexit extension. "My view, and the government's position, (is) that a further extension would damage the interests of the UK and our EU partners, and the relationship between us," Johnson wrote to European Council President Donald Tusk. Johnson has long declared that he plans to take the UK out of the EU on October 31 with or without a divorce deal, and his minister in charge of Brexit again emphasised that stance. "We are going to leave by October 31st," Michael Gove told Sky News on Sunday. "We have the means and



Parliament has forced Boris Johnson to ask for a Brexit delay if the deal is not okayed by MPs before Oct 31

EXPLAINED E

Second letter may send Johnson back to the courts

JUST WEEKS after a court ruled that Johnson's long suspension of Parliament just before the Brexit deadline was unlawful, another case related to the issue is likely to end up in court. While the British PM complied with Parliament's order to seek a Brexit delay, the fact that he wrote another letter to the EU suggesting that such an extension must not be granted is being seen among Opposition leaders as a violation of the law. Johnson is also facing contempt of court allegations over the letter as the Opposition says he had promised a Scottish court he would not try to sabotage the request for an extension.

the ability to do so." The EU's chief Brexit negotiator, Michel Barnier, said Tusk would consult with other leaders "in the next days" about Johnson's request. AP



HK DESCENDS INTO CHAOS AGAIN

Protesters set a barricade on fire in Hong Kong on Sunday. The city's streets descended into chaotic scenes following an unauthorised pro-democracy rally Sunday as protesters set up roadblocks and torched businesses and police responded with teargas and water cannon. Reuters

Rohingya refugees agree to move to Bangladesh island, officials say

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
COX'S BAZAR, OCTOBER 20

THOUSANDS OF Rohingya living in Bangladesh refugee camps have agreed to move to an island in the Bay of Bengal, officials said Sunday, despite fears the site is prone to flooding. Dhaka has long wanted to move 100,000 refugees to the muddy silt islet, saying it would take pressure off the overcrowded border camps where almost a million Rohingya live.

Some 740,000 Rohingya fled Myanmar in August 2017 in the face of a military crackdown, joining 200,000 refugees already in makeshift tent settlements at Cox's Bazar. Bangladesh's refugee commissioner, Mahbub Alam, said officials overseeing the relocation would be posted to Bhashan



Thousands of Rohingya have taken asylum in Bangladesh after they fled Myanmar in the face of a military crackdown. Reuters

Char island in the next few days. "Approximately 6,000-7,000 refugees have already expressed their willingness to be relocated to Bhashan Char," Alam said from Cox's Bazar, adding that "the number is rising." He did not say when the refugees would be moved, but a senior Navy officer involved in building facilities on the island said it could start by December, with some 500 refugees sent daily. Bangladesh has been planning since last year to relocate Rohingya to the desolate flood-prone site, which is an hour by boat from the mainland.

US troops leaving Syria to go to Iraq

Clashes erupt amid efforts for Kurdish withdrawal from Syrian border town

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KABUL, AKCAKALE, OCTOBER 20

US DEFENCE Secretary Mark Esper says that under current plans all US troops leaving Syria will go to western Iraq and the American military will continue to conduct operations against the Islamic State group to prevent its resurgence.

Esper, who arrived in the Afghan capital on Sunday, did not rule out the idea that US forces would conduct counterterrorism missions from Iraq into Syria. But he told reporters travelling with him that those details will be worked out over time. His comments were the first to specifically lay out where American troops will go as they leave Syria and what the counter-IS fight could look like. Esper, who flew overnight to Afghanistan, said he has spoken to his Iraqi counterpart about the plan to shift the more than 700 troops leaving Syria into western Iraq. The developments made clear that one of US President Donald Trump's rationales for withdrawing troops from Syria was not going to come to pass any time soon. "It's time to bring our soldiers back home," Trump said Wednesday. But they are not coming home.

Meanwhile, Kurdish-led fighters and Turkish-backed forces clashed sporadically Sunday in northeastern Syria amid efforts to work out a Kurdish evacuation from a besieged border town, the first



TURKEY'S SYRIA OFFENSIVE

pull-back under the terms of a US-brokered ceasefire. Turkey said one of its soldiers was killed in the day's violence. The planned evacuation of Kurdish fighters and civilians from the town of Ras al-Ayn would open the way to a pull-out of the fighters from a broader swathe of territory along the border, a senior official in the Kurdish-led forces told the Associated Press. The official, Redur Khalil, said Saturday evening that the evacuation could take place Sunday if there were no new problems. Both sides accuse each other of repeatedly violating the three-day old ceasefire. Turkey's Defence Ministry said the soldier was killed in a Kurdish attack with anti-tank weapons and small arms fire near the border town of Tal Abyad. That brought the Turkish military's death toll to seven soldiers since it launched its offensive against Kurdish-led fighters in northeast Syria on October 9.

Trump drops plan to host G-7 at his Florida golf resort

ZEKE MILLER & JILL COLVIN
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 20

RESPONDING TO stinging criticism, US President Donald Trump has abruptly reversed his plan to hold the next Group of Seven world leaders' meeting at his Doral, Florida, golf resort next year.

Trump announced a rare backtrack Saturday night after facing accusations that he was using the presidency to enrich himself by hosting the international summit at a private resort owned by his family. "Based on both Media & Democrat Crazy and Irrational Hostility, we will no longer consider Trump National Doral, Miami, as the Host Site for the G-7 in 2020," Trump tweeted. He said his administration "will begin the search for another site, including the possibility of Camp David, immediately".

The striking reversal raises further doubts about the position of the President's acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, who held a press conference Thursday announcing the choice of Doral for the summit. He insisted his staff had concluded it was "far and away the best physical facility." Mulvaney said the White House reached that determination after visiting 10 sites across the country. Trump had been the first administration official to publicly



Based on both Media & Democrat Crazy and Irrational Hostility, we will no longer consider Trump National Doral, Miami, as the Host Site for the G-7 in 2020 (sic). — DONALD TRUMP US PRESIDENT

float the selection of his property to host the summit when in August he mentioned it was on the shortlist and praised its facilities and proximity to Miami's international airport. His comments, more than a month before the official announcement, drew instant criticism from good governance groups and Democrats, who said it raised concerns that Trump was using the White House to boost his personal finances. The criticism did not die down, even as Trump insisted he would host the summit at cost, though he refused to disclose financial details. AP

INDIGENOUS WORK IS ALL THE RAGE IN THE CANADIAN ART WORLD, BUT THE LIVES OF THE INUIT ARE STILL FULL OF STRUGGLE

Drawn from poverty: Art was supposed to save Canada's Inuit, it hasn't

CATHERINE PORTER
CAPE DORSET, OCTOBER 20

HOURS BEFORE flying off to her debut show in Toronto, Oloosie Saila, a rising star in the Canadian art world, was hiding in her grandmother's room on the frozen edge of the Arctic Ocean, cowering in fear.

Between her and the future stood the man in the next room, a relative who was drunk and raging — again. She perched on the bed, terrified he would burst in. Then, she packed in a frenzy. She threw the hand-sewn

outfit she had chosen for the opening into a plastic garbage bag, pulled her two young sons out of bed, grabbed her art supplies and fled into the frigid night. Four days and 1,425 miles found Saila at the Feheley Fine Arts gallery in Toronto, where the crowd sipped wine and gushed over her "bold use" of colour and negative space. "It's an incredible way of depicting the landscape," said Stefan Hancherow, the associate art curator for the country's biggest bank. "The paper becomes a stand-in for minimalism but it's maximal in that it's

depicting snow and ice." He asked Saila, who is 28, what had given her the idea. "I just did it myself," she replied. Except for grade school, she has never taken an art class. It is a golden moment for the indigenous people of Canada. At least, in theory. The country is going through a period of atonement for its history of racism. While much of the world has turned inward, becoming more xenophobic, Canada has been consumed with making amends. Public meetings across the country routinely start with an ac-



Hunters returning to Cape Dorset, an Inuit town in northern Canada famed for its art. NYT

knowledge that they are standing on traditional indigenous lands. In history classes,

Canada's young learn about their government's systematic attempts to erase indigenous cul-

tures. Buildings have been renamed, street signs changed and in one city, a statue of the country's first prime minister removed. Canadians call this "reconciliation," and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who faces a reelection vote on Monday, has made it central to his government and image. In Oloosie Saila, many might see the embodiment of these aspirations: an accomplished artist being feted for her depictions of the Inuit landscape in brilliant pinks and oranges — a young indigenous woman who is making it. But the world she returned to after the opening,

the hamlet of Cape Dorset, is plagued by poverty, alcoholism and domestic abuse. The possibility of brutality is never far away. The relative raging in Saila's house on the eve of her trip has assuaged her repeatedly, and has gone to jail for it. "I'm not afraid of him when he's sober," she said. Cape Dorset — a community of about 1,400 on a bay cradled by low-lying, bald mountains — is synonymous in Canadian minds with art. Local artists churn out works that decorate the walls of corporate headquarters and the homes of the well-off. Cape Dorset

prints are featured on Canadian stamps and currency. Its sculptures are the standard gift of Canadian diplomats. If any town could slip the bonds of poverty that have defined indigenous life in Canada for so long, it should be Cape Dorset. Instead, it reflects the vast disconnect between the country's aspirations and the grim reality on the ground. Almost 90% of its residents live in public housing. Suicide is rife: The stony graveyard is dotted with crosses marking young people. More than half the residents rely on public assistance. NYT

14 ECONOMY

MARKET WATCH

FPIs POUR IN ₹5K CR IN OCTOBER SO FAR

New Delhi: Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have infused a net sum of Rs 5,072 crore into the capital markets in October so far. In the preceding month, FPIs invested a net of Rs 6,557.8 crore in the domestic capital markets (both equity and debt). **PTI**

BRIEFLY

SBI to conduct e-auction of 11 accounts

New Delhi: State Bank of India (SBI) will conduct an e-auction of 11 bad loan accounts on November 7 to recover dues of Rs 466.49 crore. In terms of the bank's revised policy on sale of financial assets, in line with the regulatory guidelines, the bank will place 11 accounts for sale to ARCs/banks/NBFCs and FIs, SBI said in an auction notice. The bank said the financial assets were showcased on October 12 and the e-auction will take place on November 7.

AAI planning to monetise 759 acres of land

New Delhi: The Airports Authority of India (AAI) is planning to monetise 759 acres of land near eight major airports so that private companies are able to establish warehouses, hotels or restaurants, and the money generated is utilised to develop airport infrastructure, a senior official said. The AAI, which works under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, owns and manages 129 airports across the country. **PTI**

NETWORK HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

IRDAI-NHA committee proposes grading, common hospital registry

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

THE JOINT working group of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI) and the National Health Authority (NHA) has proposed a unique common hospital registry, empanelment process, grading of hospitals and package cost harmonisation to promote the standardisation and effective utilisation of health care infrastructure under the insurance programme. At present, health care schemes and private insurance have individual hospital empanelment process, which replicates various activities and contributes to inefficiency and duplication of processes. "It is recommended to have common empanelment portal which can be utilised by all the schemes/insurance companies with standardised empanelment criteria will be hugely beneficial with special focus on standard safety and quality parameters," said the Report of Network Hospital Management, prepared by the IRDAI-NHA joint working group. The group also recommended that a standard grading system for hospitals, based on the quality pa-

EXPLAINED Boost to health cover penetration in the country

AS THE growing health insurance segment is fragmented, the insurance regulator is pushing for harmonisation and standardisation of the processes to make it easier and cheaper for customers. Uniform costing, grading of hospitals and registry will make the government's mega health insurance programme a big success across the country. The IRDAI-NHA group proposals will boost health cover penetration in a big way.

rameters should be prepared, and same grading can be used by PM-JAY (Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana) and the private insurance market. "An exercise should be done to agree on these common grading parameters in discussion with National Accreditation Board of Health also," the sub-committee of the group said. The committee also recommended a single unique hospital registration process and repository, ideally ROHINI (Registry of hospitals in network of insurance), instead of having several lists. "This list will be beneficial as

a central health facility repository/registration number can be used by various schemes and insurance service providers for identification of the health facilities in geographical areas," it said. ROHINI is one of the most comprehensive hospital database registries available, with 33,000 unique hospitals from the private industry. During FY17-18, insurance companies collected Rs 37,029 crore as health insurance premium, registering growth of 21.8 per cent over the previous financial year. The share of group health insurance was the highest

at 48 per cent, followed by individual business (41 per cent) and the government business (11 per cent). According to the committee, as majority of private hospitals are already registered and part of the ROHINI database, it is important to bring public hospitals under the ROHINI database to meet the goal of a common hospital registry in the country. Various government-sponsored health insurance schemes (GSHIS) have different nomenclature of procedures across specialties, which create duplication, confusion and restrict interoperability. Also, this is the major hurdle for implementing the standard disease coding across schemes. "IRDAI and GSHIS, led by PMJAY, can set up a committee for development of uniform nomenclature for specialties and packages," it said. It said some packages/procedures based on the treatment protocol can be identified and separated for the dynamic nomenclature. Costing of packages across schemes is a major challenge and private health care providers were always bringing this issue to the attention of the insurance regulators and the industry. The working group has recommended that to arrive at a uniform package cost

under all schemes, a comprehensive gradation and incentive mechanism can be established after taking into account cost variations due to geography and quality of care. The IRDAI-NHA group has recommended that the private insurance industry should also adopt the uniform cost of packages. However, IRDAI can come up with the guidelines on inclusion of additional/variable cost for implants and category of wards. Private insurance can design the products as per the uniform package cost and the additional cost of implant and ward type. There are multiple hospital database registries in the country and potentially risk duplication of efforts on collection and managing hospital data. As per IRDAI Annual Report 2017-18, the insurance sector has covered 48 crore number of lives under health insurance, of which 36 crore people are covered under various government schemes. Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana has developed a rigorous empanelment process and uses Hospital Empanelment Management solution for end-to-end empanelment. AB PMJAY has around 15,680 unique hospitals.

SAYS AI SHOULD WORK WITH HUMAN INTENTIONS

Tech a bridge, not divider; focus on upgrading skills: PM



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, flanked by Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata (right) and Chairman N Chandrasekaran, launches the book 'Bridgital Nation', in New Delhi, on Sunday. **PTI**

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

STATING THAT efforts to demonomise technology are being made in India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday that a bridge should be built between artificial intelligence and human intentions. He stressed on the need to understand that technology is a bridge and not a divider, and indicated that the focus should be on upgrading the skills as per the new demands. He was speaking at the unveiling of the book "Bridgital Nation", written by Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran and Roopa Purushothaman, Tata Group's chief economist, at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg, New Delhi in the presence of Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata. The PM said that his government is using technology to effectively deliver the benefits of welfare schemes to targeted groups. "In sabhi baaton ke beech yeh bhi sahi hai ki sirf technology samadhan nahi hoti, human intention aur right intention bahut zaroori hai. Yeh baat artificial intelligence par bhi लागू hoti hai. Debate yeh nahi hona chahiye ki artificial intelligence se khatra kya hai? Robot insan se smart kab tak hoga? Balki debate yeh hona chahiye ki artificial intelligence aur human intentions ke beech hum bridge kaise banaye? Apni skills ko nayi demand ke anusar upgrade kaise karein (Amid all these discussions, it is also right that technology is not the only solution. Human intention and right intention is very necessary. This is also applicable for artificial intelligence. The debate should not be on the dangers of artificial intelligence or on when would robots outsmart humans but debate should be on how to build a bridge between artificial intelligence and human intention and how to upgrade our skills according to the new demand)," Modi said. "Let AI (Artificial Intelligence) be just another aid, which is a little more sophisticated," he added.

He also pointed out how technology can help with transparency and targeted delivery of services. "Bharat mein bicholiyon aur dalalon ka kya role tha isse aap bhali bhaanti parichit rahe hain (You know the role of middle men and agents very well)," he said, adding that the deemed rule was that "governments run the country, middle men run the governance" and this, he said, happened because there was a gap between people and processes. Talking about the need to convert challenges posed by technology into opportunities, the PM cited the example of the creation of India Post Payments Bank. He said that the disruption caused by technology to the entire postal organisation was converted into a technology-intensive banking system, benefiting millions through postal bank, which transformed 'daiya into a bank babu'. He also outlined that his government has used technology to remove silos among government departments and build a bridge between supply systems and demand, through innovative ideas like Government e-Marketplace (GeM). He explained how technology was used to create a robust startup system in the country, especially in tier-2 and tier 3-cities, which has helped in the development of an entirely new ecosystem of startups. Modi said that the book, which presents a vision of the future where technology and human beings co-exist in a mutually beneficial ecosystem, will not only inspire the "Aspirational India" but will also provide a new approach to "professional pessimists". The book argues that instead of accepting technology as replacement of human labour, India can use it as an aid to generate more jobs. The cutting edge digital tools can act as a bridge between aspirations and achievements — hence the term 'bridgital'. The event was attended by secretaries of several ministries, industry representatives and diplomats, including the US ambassador and the Chinese envoy.

Forex reserves hit record high on the back of FPI inflows, cheaper crude oil

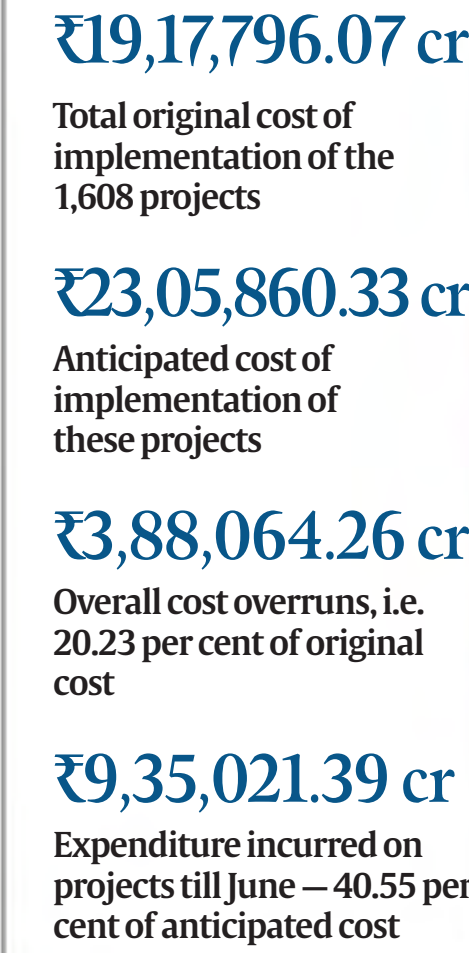
ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

POSITIVE FLOW of funds from foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), along with a decline in forex outgo on account of continued slide in crude oil prices and stable currency, has resulted in a substantial jump in the foreign exchange reserves, which hit an all-time high of \$439.7 billion for the week ended October 11. According to the data released by the RBI, forex reserves have risen over \$11 billion over the last four weeks, from \$428.5 billion in the week ended September 20 to \$439.7 billion on October 11, 2019. The rise has been in line with the slide in crude prices — a 10 per cent fall from \$64.5 per barrel on September 20 to under \$58 per barrel in the first week of October. Even the FPIs have been supportive over the past one month. While they pulled out a net of Rs 8,874 crore between July and August (aggregate of debt and equity markets), over the last month they have invested a net of Rs 15,300 crore (nearly \$2.1 billion). Experts say the Centre's various decisions over the past few weeks have played a significant role in turning investors' mood. The rise in forex reserves, alongside a softening of crude oil prices, comes as a breather for the country's rising external debt, which has risen significantly over the last couple of years — from \$485 billion in June 2017 to \$557 billion in June 2019. Experts say if external debts are higher than the forex reserves, it makes the economy vulnerable to any oil price shocks. However, there is some re-

Week-ended	Forex (\$ bn)
28-Jun	427.67
05-Jul	429.911
12-Jul	428.79
19-Jul	430.376
26-Jul	429.64
02-Aug	428.95
09-Aug	430.57
16-Aug	430.5
23-Aug	429
30-Aug	428.6
06-Sep	429.6
13-Sep	428.96
20-Sep	428.57
27-Sep	433.59
04-Oct	437.8
11-Oct	439.7

'360 infra projects show cost overruns of ₹ 3.88L cr'

As many as 360 infrastructure projects, each worth ₹ 150 crore or more, have shown cost overruns to the tune of over ₹ 3.88 lakh crore owing to delays and other reasons, a report by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation said



- REASONS FOR REPORTING TIME OVERRUNS:
- Delay in land acquisition
 - Forest clearance
 - Supply of equipment
 - Fund constraints
 - Geological surprises
 - Geo-mining conditions
 - Slow progress in civil works
 - Labour shortage
 - Inadequate mobilisation by contractor
 - Maoist problems
 - Court cases

- 360: Projects that reported cost overruns
- 550: Projects that reported time escalation; average time overrun of 39.24 months
- 182: Projects delayed by one to 12 months
- 119: Projects delayed by 13 to 24 months
- 133: Projects delayed by 25 to 60 months

Global risks call for stronger multilateral co-operation: FM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

FINANCE MINISTER Nirmala Sitharaman has said the global economic risks and imbalances reinforce the need to strengthen international co-operation at the multilateral level, besides governmental initiatives. She stated this in her intervention during the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) Plenary Session on Saturday in the ongoing Annual Meetings 2019 of the IMF and World Bank being held in Washington DC, US. At the national level, a calibrated and bal-

anced approach to deploying a mix of fiscal, monetary and structural measures by countries can help achieve their growth potential, a finance ministry statement quoted her as saying. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) should provide solutions that are specific to important growth geographies to help alleviate the current conundrum, Sitharaman added. She also stated that the IMF should evolve a policy framework that would assess the vulnerability of economies to capital flows and that developing stronger surveillance mechanism with sharper diagnostic tools can mitigate or even prevent the adverse effects on fragile economies.

MFs invest ₹9,000 crore into REITs, InvITs in 2019 so far

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

EMERGING INVESTMENT instruments — REITs and InvITs — seem to be finally catching on with investors as mutual funds have invested nearly Rs 9,000 crore in such units in the first nine months of the year. Fund managers have infused Rs 451 crore in real estate investment trusts (REITs) and Rs 8,528 crore in infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs), according to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi). Mutual funds have increased their exposure in these investment avenues over the past

nine months. The investment by fund houses in REITs jumped to a staggering Rs 69 crore in September from a mere Rs 7 crore in January, while the same in InvITs rose to Rs 1,034 crore in September from Rs 611 crore in January. Market experts believe that REITs could be a potential investment option giving good returns as interest of investors in the residential segment is declining due to inability to monetise assets and limited appreciation in property prices. They further said that investment in InvITs may pick up in the coming month as recently the Reserve Bank of India allowed banks to lend to InvITs.

'IMF to examine climate risk to financial markets'

MEGAN DAVIES
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 20

THE INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund is examining the impact of climate on the world's financial markets and whether it is priced into market valuations, the head of the global lender's markets division said on Saturday. "We are doing work on the pricing of climate risks and to what extent it is priced into stock and bond markets," Tobias Adrian, financial counsellor and director of the IMF's monetary and capital markets department, told Reuters. "We are going to look at stock markets country by country, then by sector." The financial cost of climate change was the subject of many discussions at the IMF during its

fall meetings this week. "People are more and more aware of this — there's a certain urge around climate that is new," Adrian said. "It's very hopeful that people focus on it, but the reason they focus is that they're worried. The fact that this really has become a big topic at the IMF speaks for itself." Adrian said that to some economies, climate poses a short-term risk, such as in the Bahamas, which was slammed by Hurricane Dorian in September. However, to most economies, the risks are long term. Some investors have become concerned that climate risks underpriced in residential mortgage-backed securities, or RMBS, which are pools of home loans sold to investors, with exposure to climate hot spots like Texas and Florida. **REUTERS**

ONLY 49 PEOPLE TRAVELLED ON THE BOEING 787-9 TO MINIMISE THE WEIGHT ON BOARD

Longest non-stop passenger flight arrives in Sydney

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SYDNEY, OCTOBER 20

THE LONGEST non-stop passenger flight touched down in Australia Sunday morning after more than 19 hours in the air, a milestone journey from New York that Qantas hopes to parlay into commercial success. Qantas flight QF7879 took 19 hours and 16 minutes to fly direct from New York to Sydney in the first of three "ultra long-haul" journeys planned by the airline this year. The national flag carrier is operating the test flights — which also include one from London to Sydney — as it weighs a rollout of regular services on

marathon routes from the United States and Britain to Australia. Just 49 people travelled on the Boeing 787-9 to minimise the weight on board and give the plane sufficient fuel range to travel more than 16,000 kilometres (9,500 miles) without re-fuelling. Qantas CEO Alan Joyce called it "a really historic moment" for both the airline and world aviation. "This is the first of three test flights that's going to come up with recommendations about how we manage pilot fatigue (and) how we actually manage passenger jetlag," he told reporters after arriving in Sydney. "After 19 hours on this flight, I think we've gotten this right. It feels like we've been on a flight a

FLIGHT TAKES 19 HOURS AND 16 MINUTES

THE QANTAS flight took 19 hours and 16 minutes to fly direct from New York to Sydney in the first of three "ultra long-haul" journeys planned by the airline this year. CEO Alan Joyce called it "a really historic moment" for both the airline and world aviation

lot shorter than that." Qantas partnered with two Australian universities to monitor how jetlag affected the health of passengers and crew members as they crossed multiple time zones.

After boarding the flight, passengers set their watches to Sydney time and were kept awake until night fell in eastern Australia with lighting, exercise, caffeine and a spicy meal.

Six hours later, they were served a high-carbohydrate meal, told to avoid screens, and the lights were dimmed to encourage them to sleep through the night. Professor Marie Carroll, a researcher from Sydney University who conducted the experiment, told AFP that she expected the innovative approach would result in "absolutely minimal" jetlag. "I expect that they will have a normal day today and a normal night's sleep tonight," she said, adding that she felt "amazingly good" considering the flight time. "It's all an experiment to see if airlines can adjust their schedule of food, beverages, exercise and lighting to be in sync with the destination time." The four pilots on board — who rotated between fly-

ing duties — also wore devices that tracked their brain waves and alertness. The Australian and International Pilots Association, which represents Qantas pilots, has raised concerns about whether pilots will get enough quality rest during ultra long-range flights to maintain peak performance. It has called for a "scientific long-term study" into the impacts on crews. The airline says the test journeys are just one facet of the work it is doing to ensure the flights are operated safely. Qantas last year introduced the first direct service from the western Australian city of Perth to London, with the 17-hour journey one of the longest passenger flights in the world.

GEOPOLITICS

Who can trust Trump's America?

Donald Trump's betrayal of the Kurds is a blow to America's credibility



US President Donald Trump with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey in New York in 2017. Last week, Trump revealed a letter he sent to Erdogan in which he urged the Turkish leader to 'work out a good deal'. Reuters

THE PITTHIEST summary of Donald Trump's foreign policy comes from the president himself. Referring to the mayhem he has uncorked in Syria, he tweeted: "I hope they all do great, we are 7,000 miles away!" Mr Trump imagines he can abandon an ally in a dangerous region without serious consequences for the United States. He is wrong. The betrayal of the Kurds will lead friends and foes to doubt Mr Trump's America. That is something both Americans and the world should lament.

His decision to pull out 1,000 American troops has rapidly destroyed the fragile truce in northern Syria. The withdrawal created space for a Turkish assault on the Kurds that has so far cost hundreds of lives; at least 160,000 people have fled their homes. Hordes of Islamic State (is) backers, once guarded by the Kurds, have escaped from internment camps. With nowhere else to turn, the Kurds have sought help from Bashar al-Assad, Syria's blood-drenched despot, an enemy of America.

Mr Trump campaigned on bringing troops home. He has argued that America must rid itself of "endless wars". When he says Russia, Iran and Turkey can deal with the mess in Syria, many of his voters will agree. After almost two decades at war, they have tired of America acting as the world's policeman. Some Democrats

would like to pull troops out of the Middle East, too, including Elizabeth Warren, a leading contender to replace Mr Trump.

However understandable the frustration, the thoughtless abandonment of the region would be self-defeating. It undermines America's credibility around the world, which means that the United States will have to work harder and spend more to get its way on issues that are vital to its people's prosperity and their way of life.

Mr Trump's exit from Syria fails the trust test on many levels. One is seriousness. The president seemingly neglected the briefing papers warning of the dire consequences of a power vacuum created by withdrawing the 1,000-strong tripwire force. The abruptness of the decision took nearly everyone by surprise, including his own officials. The Kurds were startled and appalled. British troops woke up to discover that their American brothers-in-arms were packing up. No one had time to prepare.

The policy also fails on loyalty. Kurdish troops in Syria fought beside American special forces and air power to crush is's "caliphate". Some 11,000 Kurdish fighters lost their lives; five Americans also perished. The superpower had fused its matchless intelligence-gathering with a local ally to drive out the world's worst ter-

rorists at a relatively modest cost in blood and treasure.

Worst of all, the policy fails on strategy. Not just because of the potential revival of is and the filip to Mr Assad. But also because Iran, a bitter foe of America and ally of Mr Assad, will benefit from America's withdrawal. Russians, too, are taking gleeful selfies in abandoned American bases. Vladimir Putin, Mr Assad's backer, is claiming America's mantle as the guarantor of order in the Middle East, a role the Soviet Union lost in the 1970s. In order to extract from Syria a small force that was sustaining few casualties, America has needlessly unleashed a new cross-border conflict, empowered its enemies and betrayed its friends.

Alas, shallowness and impulsiveness have become the hallmarks of Mr Trump's

His decision to pull out 1,000 American troops has rapidly destroyed the fragile truce in northern Syria. The withdrawal created space for a Turkish assault on the Kurds that has so far cost hundreds of lives; at least 160,000 people have fled their homes. Hordes of Islamic State (is) backers, once guarded by the Kurds, have escaped from internment camps. With nowhere else to turn, the Kurds have sought help from Bashar al-Assad

foreign policy. After Iran attacked an American drone, he blocked retaliation at the last minute; after Iran or its proxies attacked Saudi oil facilities last month, he stood back. As if superpower diplomacy was an extension of domestic politics, governed by the same hyperbole and showmanship, he has ditched painstakingly negotiated treaties, noisily launched trade wars and, in places such as Venezuela and North Korea, promised transformations that never seem to bear fruit.

Mr Trump takes momentous decisions on a whim, without pondering the likely fallout or devising a coherent strategy to contain it.

Mr Trump seems to think that he can use America's titanic commercial clout as a substitute for hard power. Economic sanctions have become his answer to every

problem—including that of Turkey's invasion. Yet when vital interests are at stake, states rarely seem to give ground. Just as Russia still occupies Crimea, Nicolás Maduro runs Venezuela and Kim Jong Un has his nukes, so Turkey has vowed to fight on in Syria. As China's economy develops, sanctions may also be a wasting asset. Even today, pressed by America to cut ties with Huawei, a Chinese telecoms giant, many countries are reluctant to comply.

The Syrian debacle shows how all this could harm America. In Europe even before the assault, Turkey was at loggerheads with NATO over its purchase of Russian air-defence missiles. Because the invasion has led to sanctions and arms embargoes against Turkey, the cracks in nato will only deepen.

Mr Putin may be tempted to test America's commitment to defending the Baltic states, tiny nato allies on Russia's border. In Asia the Taliban will redouble their efforts, reasoning that if Mr Trump can dump the Kurds, he can dump Afghanistan, too. China will take note, bide its time and steadily press its territorial claims against its neighbours.

Taiwan, an admirable democracy, has just got a little less secure. Around the world, America's allies—of which it still has more than any nation in history—will have

more reason to arm themselves, possibly fuelling regional arms races. Will South Korea or Saudi Arabia, fearful of being abandoned, be tempted to acquire nuclear weapons to guard themselves from North Korea or Iran?

Taken together, these concerns represent the unravelling of the order that America worked hard to build and sustain in the decades since the second world war, and from which it benefits in countless ways. If it pulled back it would still have to invest in arms and soldiers to protect its people and firms—and without so much support from allies.

More important, distrust, once earned, could not be confined to military affairs. Other countries would be less keen to strike long-term trade deals with America. They would hesitate to join in countering Chinese industrial espionage or rule-breaking that harms the United States.

Most important, America would undermine its own values. Human rights, democracy, dependability and fair dealing, however patchily honoured, are America's most powerful weapon. If China and Russia had their way, might would be right. For the West, that would be a profoundly hostile world.

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GROSS NATIONAL HAPPINESS

Reading between the lines

How to reveal a country's sense, over the years, of its own well-being

DO A country's inhabitants get happier as it gets richer? Most governments seem to believe so, given their relentless focus on increasing GDP year by year. Reliable, long-term evidence linking wealth and happiness is, however, lacking. And measuring well-being is itself fraught with problems, since it often relies on surveys that ask participants to assess their own levels of happiness subjectively.

Daniel Sgroi of the University of Warwick and Eugenio Proto of the University of Glasgow, both in Britain, think, nevertheless, that they have an answer. By examining millions of books and newspaper articles published since 1820 in four countries (America, Britain, Germany and Italy), they have developed what they hope is an objective measure of each place's historical happiness. And their answer is that wealth does bring

happiness, but some other things bring more of it.

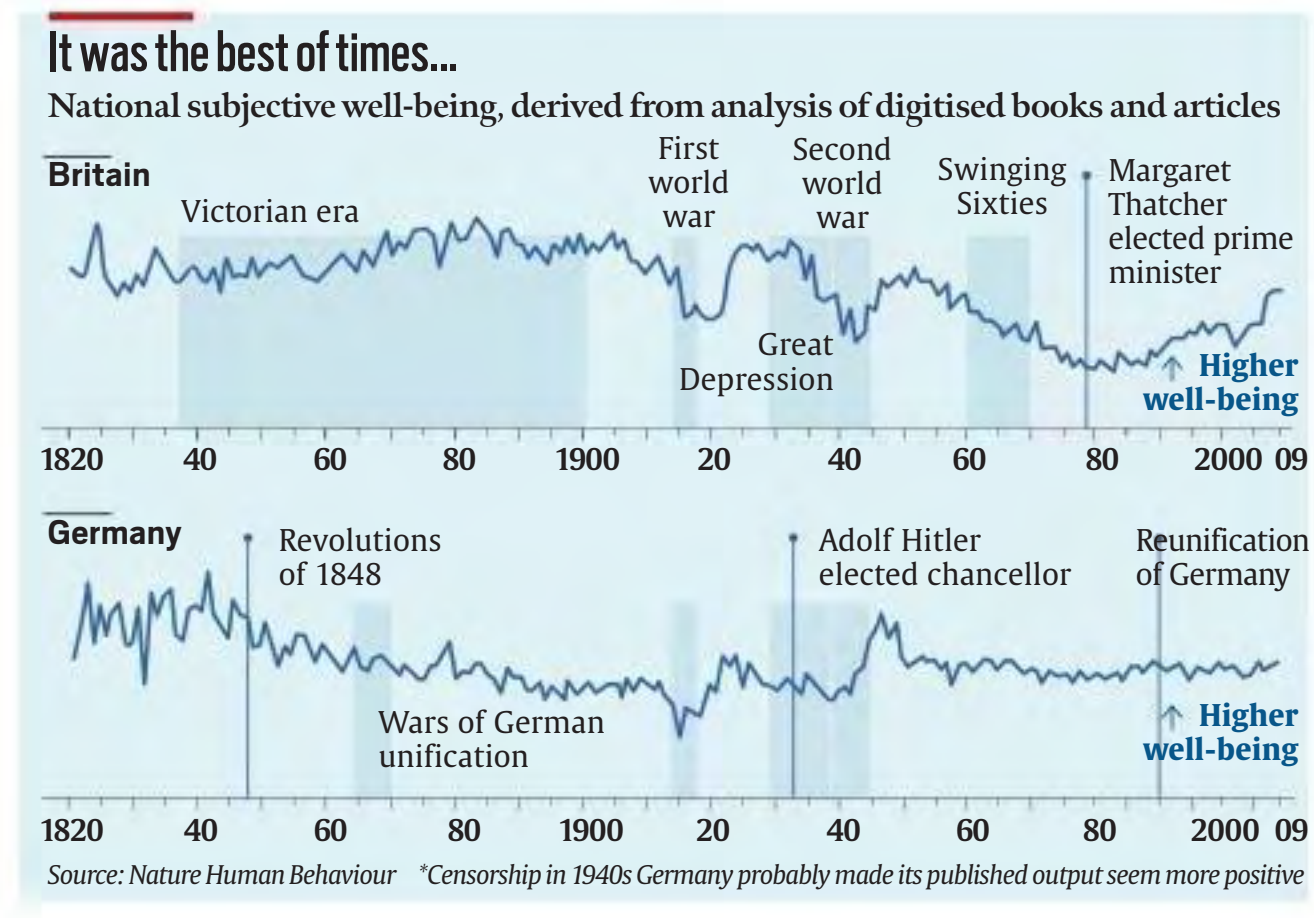
Previous research has shown that people's underlying levels of happiness are reflected in what they say or write. Dr Sgroi and Dr Proto therefore consulted newspaper archives and Google Books, a collection of more than 8m titles that constitute around 6% of all books physically published. They searched these texts for words that had been assigned a psychological "valence"—a value representing how emotionally positive or negative a word is—while controlling for the changing meanings of words such as "gay" and "awful" (which once most commonly meant "to inspire awe"). The result is the National Valence Index, published this week in *Nature Human Behaviour*.

Placed alongside the timeline of history (see chart), the valence indices for the places

under study show how changes in national happiness reflect important events. In Britain, for example, happiness fell sharply during the two world wars. It began to rise again after 1945, peaked in 1950, and then fell gradually, including through the so-called Swinging Sixties, until it reached a nadir around 1980.

America's national happiness, too, fell during the world wars. It also fell in the 1860s, during and after the country's civil war. The lowest point of all came in 1975, at the end of a long decline during the Vietnam war, with the fall of Saigon and America's humiliating defeat.

In Germany and Italy the first world war also caused dips in happiness. By contrast, during the second world war these countries both got happier as the war continued. Initially, that might be put down to their



early successes, but this can hardly explain German happiness when the Red Army was at the gates of Berlin. The researchers hypothesise that what is being measured here is the result of propaganda and censorship, rather than honest opinion. But they cannot prove this. Earlier in Italian history, though,

there was a clear and explicable crash in happiness in 1848, with the failure of revolutions intended to unite into a single nation what were then half a dozen disparate states. Surprisingly, however, successful unification in the 1860s also saw a fall in happiness.

As to wealth, the steady progress of the Victorian period matched a steady increase in British happiness, as did the economic boom of the 1920s, which also lifted American spirits. Both countries' spirits fell again in the Great Depression that followed the stockmarket crash of 1929. After the lows of the 1970s, however, happiness in both has been on the rise ever since.

Overall, then, Dr Sgroi and Dr Proto found that happiness does vary with GDP. But the effect of health and life expectancy, which does not have the episodic quality of booms, busts and armed conflict, is larger, even when the tendency of wealth to improve health is taken into account. A one-year increase in longevity, for example, has the same effect on national happiness as a 4.3% increase in GDP. And, as the grand historical sweep suggests, it is warfare that causes the biggest drops in happiness. On average it takes a 30% increase in GDP to raise happiness by the amount that a year of war causes it to fall. The upshot appears to be that, while increasing national income is important to happiness, it is not as important as ensuring the population is healthy and avoiding conflict.

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CROSSWORD 3942



- ACROSS**
- 1 Inside information of mean quality (3-4)
 - 5 A lot of money for a piano (5)
 - 8 Shut up home in the immediate vicinity (5,8)
 - 9 Ten dollars for a bird (5)
 - 10 Learns a new way to produce a magazine (7)
 - 11 Last, like a dead saint? (6)
 - 12 One is not keen to show it (6)
 - 15 Wind resulting from unsettled weather (7)
 - 17 Force out an obsolete law (5)
 - 19 Coming back into office, check your bank account perhaps (13)
 - 20 Artist when old retires South (5)
 - 21 Ring-fighter turns to drama (7)
- Down**
- 1 Cruel perhaps and often filthy (5)
 - 2 Inattention may result in her going to law (4-9)
 - 3 They make a start - to get at the drink? (7)
 - 4 Does a nut go into this? Yes (6)
 - 5 They're invisible, but easily picked up (5)
 - 6 One way to arrive at a conclusion? (1,5,2,2,3)
 - 7 Number 1 spread out for show (7)
 - 11 Let down by Lee, word broken (7)
 - 13 Excuse for a foreword maybe (7)
 - 14 Still good advice to the excited (6)
 - 16 Essays in examinations (5)
 - 18 Express disapproval or instruct (5)

Solutions Crossword 3941: Across: 1 Trick, 8 Salad oil, 9 Wild, 10 Work over, 11 Plums, 12 Era, 16 Cretan, 17 Wonder, 18 Ace, 23 First, 24 Larboard, 25 Rainy, 26 Possible, 27 Heels. Down: 2 Rallery, 3 Calamity, 4 Labour, 5 Backs, 6 Solve, 7 Flare, 12 Ena, 13 Ave, 14 Intimate, 15 Seasonal, 19 Circle, 20 Slips, 21 Gross, 22 Colin.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given clue.

TXEER ERRUDD
HMIST EERYBH

Answer: A man is great by deeds, not by birth. - Chanakya (5...5)

SUDOKU 4006

Difficulty Level 2s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4005

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

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI, IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CD-III, L.M. BUND OFFICE COMPLEX, SHASTRI NAGAR, DELHI-110031

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No. III, I&FC, Delhi invites on behalf of the President of India, online tender for the following works.

1. NIT No: EE/CD-III/NIT/26/2019-20 HOA : MLALAD FUND Name of work :- Improvement of side drains and street pavement in Harijan Basti School Block shakarpur unauthorised colony Regn No. 191 in Laxmi Nagar Assembly Constituency, AC-58. Estimated Cost: Rs. 10,60,620/- Earnest Money: Rs. 21,212/- Period of completion: 60 Days; Last date & time of submission of tender : upto 3:00 p.m on 25.10.2019. (Tender I.D 2019_IFC_182191_1).

1. NIT No: EE/CD-III/NIT/27/2019-20 HOA : MLALAD FUND Name of work :- Improvement of streets pavement of Gali No. 1 of S-Block Pandav Nagar unauthorised colony Regn. No. 75 in Laxmi Nagar Assembly Constituency AC-58, Estimated Cost: Rs. 5,41,382/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 10,828/- Period of completion : 60 Days; Last date & time of submission of tender : upto 3:00 p.m on 25.10.2019. (Tender I.D 2019_IFC_182192_1).

1. NIT No: EE/CD-III/NIT/28/2019-20 HOA : MLALAD FUND Name of work :- Improvement of side drains and street pavement in Shakarpur School Block in AC-58, Laxmi Nagar Assembly Constituency (Regd.No.824). Estimated Cost: Rs. 25,24,409/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 50,488/- Period of completion : 90 Days; Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 3:00 p.m on 25.10.2019. (Tender I.D 2019_IFC_182193_1).

1. NIT No: EE/CD-III/NIT/29/2019-20 HOA : TYADB FUND Name of work :- Providing and fixing 15 Nos. Children Play Equipment in Ward No. 19E and 20E of Vishwas Nagar Constituency AC-59 under TYADB Fund. Estimated Cost: Rs. 79,51,651/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 1,59,033/- Period of completion : 90 Days; Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 3:00 p.m on 25.10.2019. (Tender I.D 2019_IFC_182194_1).

Other details can be seen at website <http://delhigovt.nic.in/tender>

Executive Engineer, CD-III
DIP/Shabdath/0874/19-20

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Technical Services Division
North Site, Trombay, Mumbai-85

Notice Inviting e-Tenders

The Chief Engineer, Technical Services Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, North Site, BARC, Trombay, Mumbai - 400 085, on behalf of the President of India invites online item rate tenders on two bid system for following work :-

NIT No. BARC/TSD/34/2019-20, Name of work - Providing CCTV surveillance system at New BARC Hospital building, Anushaktinagar Mumbai 400 094.; **Estimated cost** - ₹1,20,00,000/-; **Earnest Money** - ₹2,40,000/-; **Period of completion** - 12 months; **Last date and time of submission of bid** - 20.11.2019 (23:59 Hrs.).

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the Website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE or www.barc.gov.in

Changes if any, in the above scheduled date etc. will be notified only on the website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE

Contact for assistance / clarifications 24x7 @ 9969395522 Shri Rudresh, e-mail: rudresh.tenderwizard@gmail.com

Chief Engineer

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

ए.एस.एल.आर. लीजिंग हेतु निविदा आमंत्रण

NIT	Train No.	From	To	Running day per week	Scale	Available Compartment (4 Ton Space)	FSLR/A	FSLR/B	FSLR/A
70	11089	BGKT	Pune	Tue	R	17742	17742	17742	
71	12462	Jodhpur	Delhi	Daily	R	10711			
72	14813	Jodhpur	Bhopal	Daily	R	16466	16466	16466	
73	14864	Jodhpur	Varanasi (via SLN)	Tu/Fr/Su	R	18821	18821	18821	
74	14854	Jodhpur	Varanasi (via FD)	M/Th/Sa	R	19548	19548	19548	
75	14866	Jodhpur	Varanasi (via RBL)	Wed	R	19231	19231	19231	
76	14888	Barmer	Kalka	Daily	R	18130	18130	18130	
77	15623	BGKT	Kamakhya	Tue	R	22298			
78	16507	Jodhpur	Bangalore	Thu/Sat	R	29708	29708		
79	16533	BGKT	KSR Bengaluru	Wed	R	30693	30693		
80	20814	Jodhpur	Pun	Sat	R	32814	32814	32614	
81	22481	Jodhpur	Delhi Sarai Rohla	Daily	R	10888	10888	10888	
82	22664	Jodhpur	Chennai Egmore	Mon	R	32180	32180	Leased	
83	24958	Barmer	Hardwar	Daily	R	18821	18821	18821	
84	54704	Jodhpur	Bhatnagar	Daily	R	10536	10536	10536	
85	54803	Jodhpur	Ahmedabad	Daily	R	8555	8555	8555	
86	14660	Jaisalmer	Delhi	Daily	P	10235	10235	10235	
87	14662	Barmer	Delhi	Daily	R	14216	14216		
88	14703	Jaisalmer	Lalgarh	Daily	R	6727	6727	6727	
89	22422	BGKT	Delhi Sarai Rohla	Daily	R	10888	10888	10888	
90	14816	BGKT	Tambaram	Wed	R+25%	33656			
91	19044	BGKT	Bandra Terminus	Fri	R+25%	15826			
92	14801	Jodhpur	Indore	Daily	P	8376			
93	15013	Jaisalmer	Kathgodam	Daily	P	13563	13563	13563	
94	16863	BGKT	Mannargudi	Thu	P	24087	24087	24087	
95	18244	BGKT	Bitaspur	Thu/Sat	P	17665			
96	22966	BGKT	Bandra Terminus	Sat	P	10485			
97	12464	Jodhpur	Delhi Sarai Rohla	Daily	S	3571	3571	3571	
98	12467	Jaisalmer	Jaipur	Daily	S	4040	4040	4040	
99	14803	BGKT	Ahmedabad	Fri	S	2938	2938	2938	
100	18574	BGKT	Vishakhapatnam	Sat	S	9743	9743	9743	
101	19056	Jodhpur	Balsad	Wed	S	4286			
102	22483	Jodhpur	Gandhidham	Tu/Fr/Su	S	3282	3282	3282	
103	22932	Jaisalmer	Bandra Terminus	Sat	S	6649			
104	54810	Jodhpur	Rewari	Daily	S	3243	3243	3243	

Earnest Money - Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs. One Lakh) per 4 Tonne SLD
* टेंडर / ए.एस.एल.आर. / ए.एस.एल.आर.की एम.एन.आर.को के लिए कृपया वल्लखिया मेम्बरशिप पर अपलोड किया गया टेंडरकोमें देखें।

1. निविदा फॉर्म खरीदने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय दिनांक 21.11.2019 को 15:00 बजे तक
2. निविदा फॉर्म स्वीकार करने की तिथि एवं समय दिनांक 21.11.2019 को 15:00 बजे तक
3. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय दिनांक 21.11.2019 को 15:00 बजे तक
4. वेबसाइट जहाँ से निविदा के संबंध में पुरी जानकारी प्राप्त की जा सकती है www.iregp.gov.in

Please join us on [f](https://www.facebook.com/NWRRailways) [E](https://www.linkedin.com/company/nwr-railways) [NWRRailways](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNWRRailways) 1056-PA/19

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER Batch No: 05/19 dated: 18.10.2019
E-Tender Notice for supply of materials- "participation in through" web portal of IREPS-www.ireps.gov.in offers are invited for supply of the following materials: The closing time for all tenders is at 14.00 hr.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Amount of EMD (Rs.)	Closing on
01	11197160	Inhibited mineral insulating oil	49995 Liter	70340/-	11.11.19
02	11197131	Internal Combustion EngineCrankcase oil	26227 Liter	46420/-	11.11.19
03	04190377A	Brake Cylinder with inbuilt slack adjuster	62 Nos.	49480/-	11.11.19
04	04195014B	Casnut-22 HS cast steel bogies	264 Set	1262920/-	11.11.19
05	09195008A	Towing equipment	1 Set	0	11.11.19
06	03190960A	M/Kit for various pneumatic	44 Set	181080/-	11.11.19
07	03191164A	Set of Thyristor and Diode	12 Nos	17300/-	11.11.19
08	03194086	Printed circuit BOARD	18 Nos.	27610/-	11.11.19
09	03193770B	Connecting Rod and Crank Shaft.	37 Nos.	51120/-	11.11.19
10	03187319A	Bearing for Tractor Motor	126 Nos.	46090/-	11.11.19
11	03191159C	MVB Redundant Multi Bus	6 Nos.	11730/-	11.11.19
12	03193675	Catenary Voltmeter range	39 Nos.	0	11.11.19
13	03183852	FL lamp for Drivers cab	50 Nos.	0	11.11.19
14	06181520	LED based flashing tail lamp	2034 Nos.	110410/-	11.11.19
15	06180001	Battery Lead Acid 110 V,40AH-LM	31 Set	63330/-	11.11.19
16	06180002	Battery Lead Acid 110 V,200AH-LM.	11 Set	70410/-	11.11.19
17	11197166	Transformer Oil for 3 phase	8534 Liter	16470/-	11.11.19

Participants are required to submit their offer only on-line through the web portal of IREPS- www.ireps.gov.in before the closing date and time. Other details regarding Consignee and detailed description of stores are available in tender document in tender notice on the above portal.

PR/1474/HQ/STORE/T/19-20/120 Principal Chief Material Manager, East Central Railway, Hajipur

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT TRICHY (H) NABARD AND RURAL ROADS, CIRCLE

TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.21/2019-20/ SDO /Dated:18.10.2019
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu percentage tender will be received by the Superintendent Engineer (H) NABARD and Rural Roads, Circle Trichy for Package No.12 to 18 under Upgradation of Panchayat / Panchayat union roads for (Additional list -Phase-II-2018-19 and 2019-20) works in respect of Thanjavur (H) NABARD and Rural Roads Division upto 14.00 hours on 29.11.2019 through online only.

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 29.10.2019 onwards in the Government website <http://tntenders.gov.in> If any changes / corrections etc to the tender, it will be published on the above website (s) only.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (H), NABARD AND RURAL ROADS CIRCLE, TRICHY

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT TRICHY (H) NABARD AND RURAL ROADS, CIRCLE

TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.19/2019-20/ SDO /Dated:16.10.2019
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu percentage tender will be received by the Superintendent Engineer (H) NABARD and Rural Roads, Circle Trichy for Package No.1 to 3 under Upgradation of Panchayat / Panchayat union roads for (Additional list -Phase-II-2018-19 and 2019-20) works in respect of Madurai (H) NABARD and Rural Roads Division upto 14.00 hours on 26.11.2019 through online only.

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 25.10.2019 onwards in the Government website <http://tntenders.gov.in> If any changes / corrections etc to the tender, it will be published on the above website (s) only.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (H), NABARD AND RURAL ROADS CIRCLE, TRICHY

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT TRICHY (H) NABARD AND RURAL ROADS, CIRCLE

TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.20/2019-20/ SDO /Dated:17.10.2019
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu percentage tender will be received by the Superintendent Engineer (H) NABARD and Rural Roads, Circle Trichy for Package No.4 to 11 under Upgradation of Panchayat / Panchayat union roads for (Additional list -Phase-II-2018-19 and 2019-20) works in respect of Trichy (H) NABARD and Rural Roads Division upto 14.00 hours on 28.11.2019 through online only.

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 28.10.2019 onwards in the Government website <http://tntenders.gov.in> If any changes / corrections etc to the tender, it will be published on the above website (s) only.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (H), NABARD AND RURAL ROADS CIRCLE, TRICHY

DAY TODAY BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
You've been through a demanding phase, and you may imagine that certain cares now lie in the past. However, before you are finally free, you will have to face up to old troubles one more time, so take heart and be bold. One thing in your favour is that your level of sheer determination makes it virtually impossible for them to get the better of you.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
The whole point about your current stars is revealed by Mercury's odd behaviour: other people, mainly close partners, will be acting erratically and will change their minds without warning. You must cultivate tolerance and flexibility – and keep the peace.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
You should be on top form today, now that lunar influences are batting on your team, so to speak. Allow a new enthusiasm free rein this morning but get down to serious business around mid-afternoon. That's the time when you'll be ready to talk about your next step.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You're now in a charming phase. Surprised? You may not be, but some of your associates certainly will be. Yet the dominant planet in your life is no longer abrasive Mars but gentle Venus. That's why it's time for friendly co-operation rather than fierce confrontation.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You thought you had made your mind up, but what takes place today will make you think again, probably regarding joint financial commitments. An extravagant offer, on the other hand, will provide a valuable boost to your morale and set you up for the future.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
Jupiter is fighting a celestial battle with Saturn, but Venus is about to mediate between these two warring forces. The benefits will arrive very soon when a close ally, perhaps a woman, intercedes with someone who has been trying to hold you back.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
Why don't you spare a little time for dealing with travel plans. Holiday arrangements may be finalised and all overseas contacts should be assiduously cultivated; you could well be taking a journey for business rather than just pleasure. Also, keep an eye open for legal complications this afternoon.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
You are far too bright to be taken in by people who are telling you what you can or can't do at home or in your private life. If you know what's best, you will form alliances with partners who will back you to the hilt: there's no point in hanging around with people who don't care.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
Sometimes good fortune comes in strange forms, and you should be content if the day brings more than your fair share of responsibilities. The more you accomplish over the next forty-eight hours, the better able you will be to appreciate social developments after then.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
Those revolutionary and inspired planets, Uranus and Neptune, are behaving like a couple of synchronised swimmers, ducking and diving through your chart. Behind every apparently trivial event this week will lie a deeper purpose as your destiny unfolds.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
Your innate resistance to change is strong and growing stronger. There is nothing wrong with this. In fact, if romance, pleasure or self-indulgence are among your goals, you may do very well indeed. Only in the most practical of family matters may flexibility be necessary.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
The key to a successful life is good communication. This morning you may be obliged to exaggerate a little, but this afternoon you should stick to the facts. Watch for similar inconsistencies in partners' words for, surprisingly, they may not actually mean what they say.

For All Advertisement Booking
Call : 0120-6651214

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
Department of Tourism
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT PROGRAM FOR TOURISM
PIU - Project Management Unit, Department of Tourism, Chennai-600 002.
INVITATION FOR BID (National Competitive Bidding)
Notice Inviting Reference No: 945/LOT 3/PMU/ADB/TECH/2017 dated: 14.10.2019
: 945/LOT 4/PMU/ADB/TECH/2017 dated: 14.10.2019
Sealed Tenders are invited for the following works in Single-Stage - Two-Envelope system conforming to ADB Standard Bid Document Guidelines and as per the details given below.
NIT Date: 21st October 2019

S. No.	Package No	Description	Last date for Submission of Bid	Pre-bid Meeting
1	DIPT/TN/T4/NCB/14-LOT-3/ 2017	Media Advertisement -Travel & In-flight Magazines (Design, Publication and Marketing of Tourism Promotion Materials)	21 st November 2019	30 th October, 2019
2	DIPT/TN/T4/NCB/14-LOT-4/ 2017	Airport Display Advertisement (Design, Publication and Marketing of Tourism Promotion Materials)	08.11.2019, 04.00 P.M.	

For detailed tender document and qualifying requirement & clarification etc, please visit our websites www.tamilnadutourism.org and www.tenders.tn.gov.in. Any further Clarification/Corrigendum/Amendment or Extension shall be notified on the above websites only. Bidders should regularly visit the websites to keep themselves updated.
Telephone: 044-25333859 Project Director/ Director of Tourism Chennai -600 002
DIPR/3683/TENDER/2019 IDIPT-TN, Chennai



HIS MASTER'S VOICE

The biggest-ever Leonardo Da Vinci exhibit is all set to open at The Louvre. The exhibition commemorates 500 years of his death, and will showcase nine out of his 15 paintings, including *La Belle Ferronnière* (pictured) and *Saint John the Baptist*.



A game forms the centrepiece of the film *Tujhya Aaila*; Sujay Dahake (below)

Not All Games and Fun

National Award-winning Marathi filmmaker Sujay Dahake's *Tujhya Aaila*, selected for IFFI's Indian Panorama, explores the inherent violence in verbal abuse

DIPTI NAGPAUL

A COUPLE of years ago, after the release of his third film *Phuntroo*, Marathi filmmaker Sujay Dahake realised that unlike his contemporaries, he had not developed a bond with members of the cast or crew of any of the films he had made. Some probing revealed that some of his colleagues would take offence to his verbal abuse on the sets. He was surprised because to him, his liberal use of adjectives was momentary — so that work gets done on the sets — a practice he picked up while working on his first film, the acclaimed, National Award-winning *Shala* (2013). "I was too young then. No one on the sets took me seriously until the day I started flinging abuses at them. It then became my way of working. But little did I know that my actions pained them, that they took it all back with them," he recounts.

While he instantly replaced the use of abuses with clever sarcasm to get his point across, Dahake could not simply ignore the fact that verbal abuse has the power to hurt. The incident compelled him to revisit his own childhood, and those memories led him to make his next, titled *Tujhya Aaila* (Up Your Mother's). The Marathi language film has been selected to premiere at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI)'s Indian Panorama section, which will be held in November.

The story revolves around a 12-year-old urban boy who joins a school in rural Maharashtra after his family moves to a village following his father's transfer. Unacquainted with the rural ways, the boy is in for a shock when he is exposed to the culture of verbal abuse prevalent among his fellow-students. And while he works hard to adapt and blend in, the events around him make him question the very practice of verbal abuse that exists in society.

"I was in Class 4 when my parents decided to send me to a boarding school near Kolhapur. Since I had until then been brought up in Pune, the shift was drastic. My schoolmates may have been well off but they came from a rural, vernacular background and verbal abuse was a part of



Verbal abuse is anarchy by children against the so-called discipline being imposed on them. What they do not realise is how it has an ability to affect both the one abusing and also the one being abused

SUJAY DAHAKE

their nomenclature," says the 33-year-old filmmaker. The most common pastime, in fact, was a game that required each participating boy to come up with an innovative adjective. "It had to be crude, inventive and almost always had the mother or sister at its core. The game also came with its own set of rules — we were not allowed to get personal and we could not evoke the names of gods. Whoever flinched at its crudeness was the one ousted of

the game."

This game forms the centrepiece of *Tujhya Aaila* and is also where it derives its title. And during his own years at the school, Dahake's priority remained to fit in, his key character, Avinash, sets out on a journey to trace the roots of verbal abuse, why does it offend and how women came to unwittingly be at the centre of it.

Shot in Phaltan near Pune, the film has nearly 40 children as part of the cast, most of who were selected through auditions and workshops. However, since they were mostly from the set-up that the film explores, the use of foul language did not become a deterrent while shooting, Dahake explains.

There is also an underlying layer of violence that runs throughout. The film looks at bullying, competition among the boys, sexuality, discrimination based on caste and religion, and the latter is borrowed from Dahake's later years in an RSS-run school. "By the time I reached Class 8, my parents felt I had had enough of the boarding school and rural life. So they brought me back to Pune and admitted me to a school run by the RSS. At the time, it felt normal but when I look back at those years, I see how violence was being instilled in us."

Dahake says that their history book depicted Shivaji tearing through the stomach of Afzal Khan. "And when our teachers would narrate the story, they would refer to the Mughals as *dadhivale*. The choice of words was violent too, so many of us would believe that the *dadhivalas* are meant to be eliminated. In fact, we would follow in the steps of our teachers and refer to our Muslim classmates by generic names like Changez Khan. It became the norm," he explains.

Although Dahake was concerned about censorship while making *Tujhya Aaila* and submitting it for IFFI, he was relieved to find out that the jury understood the spirit of the film. "At the heart of it, the film is a coming-of-age story of the boy, much like my debut *Shala*. Verbal abuse is anarchy by children against the so-called discipline being imposed on them. What they do not realise, much like I did not until recently, is how it has an ability to affect both the one abusing and also the one being abused."

'Silence renders the weapons of opponents useless'

Author Perumal Murugan spoke on silence as a tool, TM Krishna, and his role as a teacher, at *The Indian Express's* inaugural readers' club session

TANUSHREE GHOSH

SILENCE IS very important to a writer," said author Perumal Murugan at the inaugural session of *The Indian Express* readers' club at the Oxford Bookstore in New Delhi. "Writers at the Express", an intimate gathering to be held alternately in Delhi and Mumbai, uses a book or an author as the focus of a conversation between writers and readers.

Tamil writer and public intellectual Murugan, whose twin novels *Trial by Silence* and *Lonely Harvest* are making appearances in most award longlists in the subcontinent, was in conversation with *The Indian Express* Senior Associate Editor Amrith Lal, and was translated from Tamil into English by Senior Sub-editor Ram Sarangan.

Murugan, 53, had gone into self-imposed exile in 2015 following protests demanding the withdrawal and burning of his 2010 novel *Madhorubhagan (One Part Woman)* for being critical of the Kongu Vellala Gounder community, and declared his death as an author. In 2017, the Madras High Court judgement, which freed Murugan, stated: "Let the author be resurrected to what he is best at. Write."

Gandhian concepts of silence and distancing came to the writer's rescue in disengaging from the mobs. "Many forms of protest like carrying black flags or undertaking a hunger strike originated from Gandhian principles," he said.

"Silence," Murugan added, "in a literary



Tamil author Perumal Murugan
Tashi Tobgyal

work, helps readers to participate in the narrative... Some things should be omitted, some said in a veiled fashion, while others should be implied." On its role outside of literary works, he said, "Silence renders the

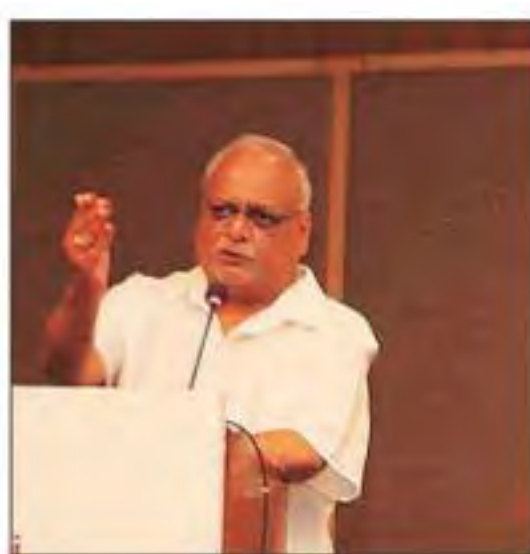


weapons of opponents useless... Had I said anything during the controversy around *Madhorubhagan*, it would have been like adding oil to a raging inferno."

Another form of a "bloodless protest" are his collaborations with Carnatic singer TM Krishna to challenge social hierarchies in what is a very insular space. The first from his family and village to go to college, Murugan chose to write about the lives of marginalised people, among other things. In one such *keerthanai* (devotional song) he wrote on manual scavengers, Murugan asked Krishna to substitute a socially acceptable term for excrement, *malam*, with the coarser pee. "When people are still forced to lift and carry excrement by hand, why hesitate so much over the use of a word?" Krishna had asked.

The professor at the Government Arts' College, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu, takes great pride in "showing students the opportunities they have, and about lifting their perspectives above what their social realities would allow". He also holds monthly gatherings — *koodu* (nest) — on his house terrace for students to "explore things otherwise difficult to accomplish within the confines, and censorship, of a government college."

SNAPSHOT



MV Shreyams Kumar, Joint Managing Director, Mathrubhumi

Fresh Laurels

IN A move that will be welcomed by Indian writers and publishers, the media and publishing house Mathrubhumi has announced a new literary award. The Mathrubhumi Book of the Year 2020 award will be presented at the third edition of the Mathrubhumi International Festival of Letters (MB-IFL), which will be held in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, from January 30 to February 2, 2020. The award includes a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh. It is being presented besides the already existing Mathrubhumi Katha Puruskaram, which is presented for Malayalam short stories and includes a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh. The new award is open to Indian fiction writers in English who have been published in the country. Books written in other languages will be considered if they have been translated into English. The announcement was made on October 17 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. MV Shreyams Kumar, Joint Managing Director of Mathrubhumi, and patron of MBIFIL said, "We are inspired to honour and celebrate brilliant works, and encourage the publishers to look for the best writing by Indian authors."

WEEK AHEAD



Force of Truth

ATTEND GANDHI 150, an international seminar on Satyagraha in the 21st Century. The two-day seminar is being organised in collaboration with Council for Social Development. Speakers include activist Medha Patkar (pictured), who will speak on 'Satyagraha in Contemporary India'. Bharatanatyam dancer Geeta Chandran will present a composition. October 22-24, India International Centre, 10 am onwards.



Call to Arms

WATCH THE Arabic film *The Warrior: Ahmed Badawi*, screened by the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt, to commemorate the Egyptian leader. The film is a biopic of Field Marshal Ahmed Badawi, who took over the Ministry of Defence in 1980 in Egypt and was martyred in 1981, remembered for leading the Third Army during the famous siege. On October 21, India Habitat Centre, 7 pm.



Lit and How

GET READY for the festival of lights, by shopping at the ongoing Crafts Mela at the Dastkar Nature Bazaar. Get phulwari embroidered everyday home accessories, block printed linens, cane and bamboo furniture etc. There is also gourd carving, and thatera — craft of making copper and brass vessels. At Nature Bazaar, Andheria Mor. Till October 23, 11am-7 pm.



Paint Away

COME HELP paint your city/locality red. With the Ajmal Khan Street Art Festival you can paint a 25 metre by 2 metre wide road, in abstract geometrical patterns. The best ones will be published on the North Delhi Municipal Corporation website, and they may be executed permanently. At the Ajmal Khan pedestrian street, Karol Bagh. 6.30 am onwards, October 21.

ON THE LOOSE

Dude Food

Cooking may be the new marker of masculinity



LEHER KALA

NOBEL PRIZE winner Abhijit Banerjee's accomplishments aren't limited merely to Economics. According to his brother he's also an "astonishingly good cook" who can effortlessly conjure up a four-course meal, as good as anything by the participants on

Master Chef. No doubt Nobel laureates are exceptional creatures. Banerjee must be applying the same scholarly discipline to his dishes as he does to his research on poverty alleviation. As much as he deserves accolades for winning the most prestigious award the modern world has ever known, Banerjee must also be feted for being among the rarest of the male species; willingly poring over a hot stove, a place where few (Indian) men dare to go.

This incredible combination of an erudite husband who's a skilled gourmand — Banerjee's wife has completely lucked out. Though, hypothetically, if such an option existed (alas, one can always dream) that you had to choose either quality in a spouse, I'd go for culinary genius over

renowned economist, any day. There was a forward floating around recently on WhatsApp that went: "Who knew the hardest part of being an adult would be figuring out what to cook every night for the rest of your life, till you die?" Profound, indeed. A man willing to shoulder this burden is to be treasured (and guarded) because he is sure to be in high demand. Even if you like to cook it becomes a daunting chore when you have to do it everyday. Like many other types of household drudgery, homework, for instance, largely falls on the women.

It's a fact that married men of a previous generation in India wouldn't be able to

A man willing to shoulder the burden (of putting a meal on the table) is to be treasured (and guarded) because he is sure to be in high demand. Even if you like to cook it becomes a daunting chore when you have to do it everyday

boil water if they had to; however, that didn't stop them from being vociferous food critics with strong opinions. They were spoilt rotten by doting mothers, all of whom, somehow, managed to be excellent cooks. This has (mercifully) changed forever. Modern moms have careers, they don't have the time or inclination to lovingly prepare their childrens favourite delicacies. To be fair though, marital relationships function on a division of labour. Perhaps the fact that men weren't pressured to enter the kitchen harks back to the image of man as hunter — as the saying goes — bringing home the bacon. Though we routinely see male celebrity chefs on TV shows and

plenty of male contestants in cooking contests, this hasn't really translated into the average Indian man contributing to the kitchen in any substantial way.

Most of the men I know who cook are enthusiastic weekend chefs, shopping and prepping with gusto (usually, the whole exercise costs more than eating out). It's treated like a leisure activity, a good way, I suppose, of approaching a painful but necessary task. But frankly, any dolt can follow those foolproof YouTube recipes and come up with something new and interesting, once in a while. A good cook is somebody who can make an ordinary dal taste good; with whatever's lying around in the fridge.

There used to be a show on Star TV where the celebrity chef and TV host Martin Yan encouraged men with the tag line "If Yan can cook so can you." Cooking at home shouldn't be masculine or feminine, it's an essential skill, though for some of us females, a torturous one as well.

I hail from a long line of indifferent

cooks and it took me a while to understand that average tasting food makes most people very unhappy. I often find myself yearning for the India of old, where if we complained about dinner, we were sternly told how grateful we should be, considering how many children slept hungry. That logic doesn't work with kids these days who kick up a huge fuss because as parents we made the mistake of introducing them to so many cuisines, their standards have become impossibly high.

Since domestic responsibility includes producing halfway edible, healthy dishes and preferably some variety, it's not surprising to read that a big reason marriages in the West split up is because one person is not doing their share of housework. Because one of the answers to the very cliched question, what do women want, often is, somebody else to take over the kitchen.

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Mike Hussey has been drafted in by Australia to help mentor the side during their upcoming Twenty20 series against Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

Unchained melody

Rohit's first Test double ton was a purists' delight and puts the hosts in an all-too-familiar commanding position

SCORECARD >> India vs South Africa

3rd Test | Ranchi | Toss: India

INDIA 497/9 D IN 116.3 OV
(OVERNIGHT) 224/3 IN 58 OV

M Agarwal	c Elgar b Rabada	10	(19b, 2x4)
R Sharma	c Ngidi b Rabada	212	(255b, 28x4, 6x6)
C Pujara	lbw b Rabada	0	(9b)
V Kohli	lbw b Nortje	12	(22b, 2x4)
A Rahane	c Klaasen b Linde	115	(192b, 17x4, 1x6)
R Jadeja	c Klaasen b Linde	51	(119b, 4x4)
W Saha	b Linde	24	(42b, 3x4)
R Ashwin	st Klaasen b Piedt	14	(16b, 1x4)
U Yadav	c Klaasen b Linde	31	(10b, 5x6)
S Nadeem	not out	1	(5b)
M Shami	not out	10	(11b, 1x6)

■ Extras: (b 10, lb 6, nb 1) 17
■ Fall of wickets: 1-12 (Mayank Agarwal, 4.6 ov), 2-16 (Cheteshwar Pujara, 8.3 ov), 3-39 (Virat Kohli, 15.3 ov), 4-306 (Ajinkya Rahane, 75.3 ov), 5-370 (Rohit Sharma, 88.1 ov), 6-417 (Wriddhiman Saha, 103.3 ov), 7-450 (Ravindra Jadeja, 111.4 ov), 8-464 (Ravichandran Ashwin, 112.5 ov), 9-482 (Umesh Yadav, 113.6 ov)

■ Bowling:	
K Rabada	23-7-85-3
L Ngidi	20-5-83-0
A Nortje	24.3-5-79-1
G Linde	31-2-133-4
D Piedt	18-3-101-1

SOUTH AFRICA 9/2 IN 5 OV

D Elgar	c Saha b Shami	0	(2b)
Q de Kock	c Saha b Yadav	4	(6b, 1x4)
Z Hamza	not out	0	(14b)
F du Plessis	not out	1	(8b)

■ Extras: (b 4)
■ Fall of wickets: 1-4 (Dean Elgar, 0.2 ov), 2-8 (Quinton de Kock, 1.6 ov)

■ Bowling:	
M Shami	1-1-0-1
U Yadav	1-0-4-1
S Nadeem	2-2-0-0
R Jadeja	1-0-1-0



PULLING AWAY: Rohit Sharma completed his maiden double century with an effortless pull off pacer Lungi Ngidi. PTI

Rohit's batting, when he is on song, is addictive. His artistry makes even a layman fall in love with the game. 'Hit Man' is not a proper sobriquet for him, for he never attacks the ball violently.

Overwhelming applause

Rohit started cautiously post lunch, playing a maiden over against Ngidi. But when the latter dropped one short in his next over, Rohit sent it over the deep midwicket boundary to reach his double hundred. He celebrated the feat with another pull off Ngidi, sending the ball into the grass banks. Then, he attempted a hook against Rabada but couldn't clear fine leg. Rabada pumped his fist but stopped to offer his hand to the Indian opener. Every South African player walked up to Rohit to congratulate. By his own admission, it was also his most challenging yet in Test cricket. "I haven't played much. I have played only 30 Tests. In terms of what was thrown at me, I would definitely say it was probably the most challenging one," Rohit said. Batting wasn't easy in the first session on Saturday. The cloud cover was helping the new ball bend. Rabada, at times, was making it talk. Rohit weathered the storm and came through in flying colours. Rohit also knew how important it was for him to become successful as a Test opener. Failure could have taken his long-form career to a crossroads. "Kaafi kuch hone wala tha (a lot could have happened)," he admitted. Rohit, though, will have to get over his overseas blues. He will have to take this form to New Zealand, when India go there for a two-Test series early next year. He has shown great character, lowered his backlift and made mental adjustments to become an opener in the long form. And he is having a dream series at home. At the same time, there's a reason why Rohit has played only 30 Tests so far since mak-

Temperament & toughness: How Rohit became a thoroughbred opener

EXPRESS NEW SERVICE

FOUR INNINGS, three hundreds and 529 runs, not since Virender Sehwag has an opener made so head-turning an impact as Rohit Sharma in a single series. So much so that he makes one wonder why it took so long for the strategists to stumble on this idea. Be what it may, Rohit is hurriedly covering the lost years in Test cricket, and remarkably, he has seamlessly blended his ODI game into the longest version. The fundamentals behind his Test transformation:

Risk-free gains

Irrespective of the format, Rohit has eschewed risk from his game, selectively eliminating shots that tended to bring his downfall. Like the flick. Once his staple, as with most subcontinental batsman, he barely flicks now, unless it's middle-and-legish. Even if it's so, he looks to either glance it fine or drive it straight, thus reducing the risk of having to bring the bat around his front pad, making his play across. As glaringly, he no longer reaches out for drives, rather punches, slaps or leaves, depending on the length. This series, he has adeptly left deliveries, a streak of abstinence reminiscent of Murali Vijay in his prime. It was his supposed vulnerability — the tendency to poke or stab or hang

his bat, away from the body — which Kagiso Rabada and Vernon Philander preyed on. It had been a successful ploy in his more restless days, but Test opener Rohit is foolproof to such fleeting intemperance.

Wary start, steady middle game

A batsman who likes to impose himself, Rohit is exceedingly watchful at the start. There is hardly a stroke of imprudence or a betrayal of haste, crease-occupation being his sole prerogative. That he still manages to score runs at a brisker tempo than most others is a testament to his batting pedigree.

Such is his range that even if he's not fully aggressive, he still kicks along at a decent strike rate, which means the bowlers have no scope to err. And once he gets a start, negotiates that early uncertain phase, Rohit becomes unstoppable, shifting gears and riding along at the same pace. His 529 runs in the series have come at a stunning strike rate of 77.45, which in turn affords Virat Kohli the luxury to press for victories, as it was in the Vizag Test, where the pace at which he scored his second-innings century gave the skipper sufficient cushion to set a lofty target and at the same time, give the bowlers enough overs to dismiss South Africa.

Start-stop, not any longer

In 47 innings before this series, Rohit had just three hundreds. In four innings alone in the series, he has piled three, snapping his dubious habit of frittering away starts. Part of it has to do with the promotion. Batting at number five or lower, Rohit struggled to juggle with the multiple roles the spot entailed, whereas opening the innings gave him more clarity regarding his role. He didn't have to worry about batting with the lower order, farming the strike, pacing his innings and such intricacies. He's now a liberated man, can bat freely, and once the clarity was in place, he could construct his innings in a more conventional way.

Ruthless to spinners

Keshav Maharaj and Dane Piedt might be inferior to Nathan Lyon and Steve O'Keefe, who shared 19 wickets apiece on their 2017 tour t, but Rohit ensured that they didn't pick any confidence whatsoever. He literally snubbed them, treating them like Sunday afternoon club-like spinners. Apart from the two instances Maharaj dismissed him — both after he had completed his hundred — he has been remorseless in denting their morale. He's a spinner's nightmare. A bit of flight, he's there dancing down the track and smoking them over the ropes. Any width, he's in position to cut, length, he'll slog-sweep, full, he'll sweep, in a variety of versions from the paddle to the reverse.



Umesh Yadav had his share of fun at the expense of South Africa. PTI

99.8 Rohit Sharma's average at home. He bettered Donald Bradman's 99.22. He has racked up 1298 runs in 18 innings with six centuries and five 50s. He also struck the most sixes (19) in a Test series, surpassing Shimron Hetmyer (15).

Perfect team man, Rahane gets overdue spotlight

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
RANCHI, OCTOBER 20

IN APRIL this year, Ajinkya Rahane joined Hampshire in the County Championship. The MSK Prasad-led selection committee didn't pick him for the World Cup and the Mumbai batsman decided to take a punt on English first-class cricket.

Both Cheteshwar Pujara and Ishant Sharma, and also Ravi Ashwin, benefitted from their county stints. Rahane, on his return from England, spoke about how his time with Hampshire helped him reconstruct his game — keeping things simple, reading the line and playing late. He looked a different player in the first Test in the West Indies. The apparent fear of failure, which made his footwork iffy, was gone. He once again started to bat with intent. In that game at North Sound, Rahane made 81 and 102. He scored 64 not out in the second innings of the second Test in Kingston. The century at North Sound was his first in Test cricket in two years. Now he has two hundreds in consecutive series, his 115 against South Africa on Sunday being the latest.

He now has 11 Test centuries and this was one of his better knocks. At 39/3 on the first day, his positivity right from the outset helped India wrest the initiative. In tough conditions and against Kagiso Rabada's top-class fast bowling, even Rohit Sharma was struggling initially. Rahane decided to take the attack to the opposition. His first 40 runs came off just 43 deliveries. The momentum started to swing. His attacking intent eventually trickled down to Rohit, who gradually became the senior partner in a 267-run fourth wicket stand. Rahane is a better player when the team is

under the pump. In the first innings at North Sound, he held the innings together and took the total towards respectability from 25/3. Here also, India were in strife on the first morning. At 300/3 for example, Rahane somehow finds it difficult to hit his straps.

"The top order was in very good form, which was very good for the Indian team. He (Rahane) still contributed to the team, although he didn't get hundreds. And No. 5 is basically such a tricky slot, because sometimes you go (to bat) after 50-60 overs. The ball is so soft then, it's not easy to go and time the ball. His (Rahane) game is timing-based. He needs that pace and hardness of the ball. His mindset is exactly the same, but at 39/3 the ball was hard. So he got value for his shots," former India middle-order batsman Pravin Amre, who has been Rahane's personal coach for the last couple of years, told *The Indian Express*.

"Everything became smooth after that hundred in the West Indies. That was a really, really crucial hundred of his career," he added.

Awry footwork

Amre admitted that Rahane's footwork had gone a bit awry because he was looking over his shoulder. "He is human. When your place in the squad is on your head (uncertain), you will be a totally different player. He was dropped from the team in South Africa. It's a

different ball game. We worked on his footwork and bat speed," Amre explained.

Coming back to the game, the two players from the Mumbai maidans all but took the game away from the Saffers and Rohit was the first to admit Rahane's impact. "Once we went there after lunch (on the first day), it was Ajinkya who started taking that momentum. If I'm not wrong, he was batting on 40 off 43 balls just around the first drinks break after lunch, which means he capitalised on the loose balls.

"The rotation of strike was happening every now and then. We did that pretty well, particularly Ajinkya. He came out and started playing shots. From there, he never looked back. Our partnership after that kept growing," Rohit said after the day's play on Sunday.

On the second morning, resuming at 83, Rahane played a gorgeous cover drive against Anrich Nortje in the second over of the day. An extra-cover drive against Rabada that took him into the nineties was even better. Even on 96, he didn't hesitate to play a square cut, when Lungi Ngidi offered width outside off-stump. A single off Nortje took him to his first hundred in India since 2016.

The perfect team man, Rahane never complained. He rather enjoyed his team-mates' successes. "Time has come now that people will enjoy his success," Amre said.



Rahane scored his first century at home in three years.

Longer IPL, fewer day games mooted for next season

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

THE NEXT IPL season is likely to be bit longer as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is mulling the option of more night games. BCCI is working on a plan where each team only plays one day game in the entire IPL season and fewer double-headers on weekends. With the IPL having a full 60 day-window, a proposed schedule will be placed before the new IPL Governing Council in the coming days.

The IPL is likely to start on April 1 and could end by May 30.

Sources informed that BCCI, along with

the broadcasters, have come up with several options and a new schedule to cash in on the two-month window. The franchises will be informed about these plans when the IPL GC meets the owners in the coming months.

The BCCI is also keen to have a 7 pm start for all matches and will discuss this with the franchises. Mumbai Indians, in the past, have expressed their disagreement with early starts and argued that Mumbai crowds come to watch matches post office hours.

Though BCCI didn't change timings for league matches, it did so for the play-offs last season. In 2017, former India captain and commentator Sunil Gavaskar had expressed his preference for games not finishing too late and the view was also backed by former



With the IPL having a 60 day-window, a proposed schedule will be placed soon.

IPL chairman Rajeev Shukla.

One of the games in Bangalore had finished at 1:27 am.

It is learnt that during informal discussions with franchises, many teams were in favour of early starts, especially for fans who face difficulties travelling back home after games. Many centres don't have any public transport available post night IPL games.

"There is a plan in place of playing more games at night. If it is passed, each team will have to play only one game in the afternoon. Teams who play in the north face heat waves and conditions get more difficult. There is a plan of using all 60 days instead of wrapping up the IPL in 45 days. The IPL GC has to approve it," source informed.

However, there is no clarity over whether the new BCCI regime will maintain the 15-day gap between the end of IPL and the India's next international assignment, as the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators had done during its time in charge.

Meanwhile, the BCCI has approached Cricket Club of India (CCI) with an offer to host the IPL opening ceremony.

It is likely that the opening ceremony will not be held on the same day as the first match. The CoA initially organised opening ceremonies at all IPL centres, but last year decided not to do so and the money thus saved was earmarked for families of CRPF personnel killed in the Pulwama terror attack.

BRIEFLY

Boxers impress at World Military Games

Wuhan: Indian boxers Duryodhan Singh Negi and Jaideep advanced to the pre-quarterfinals of their respective weight categories in the 7th CISM World Military Games here on Sunday. Negi (69kg), a former national champion, beat Hikal Mohamed of Egypt 5-0 in his round of 32 bout while Jaideep (75kg) also won by an identical margin against Nabah Ahmad of Qatar. On Saturday, World Championships silver medalist Amit Panghal won his opening bout in the men's flyweight (52kg) category as the boxers gave India a good start in the Games. India is being represented by 54 athletes in nine sports — archery, boxing, diving, modern pentathlon, shooting, track and field, gymnastics and tennis — in the Games. India won six medals in the 2015 edition which was held in South Korea.

China in line to host 2021 Club World Cup

Beijing: China is in line to be selected as host of the first expanded 24-team Club World Cup in 2021. People with knowledge of the situation tell The Associated Press that China is the only host for the tournament that is due to be considered by the FIFA Council for ratification at a meeting on Thursday in Shanghai. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the details remain confidential ahead of the meeting. The selection of the host is featured in the agenda, which was seen by the Associated Press. The final two editions of the annual seven-team Club World Cup are being held this December and in December 2020 in Qatar. From 2021, the Club World Cup becomes a 24-team competition held every four years. There will be eight European teams, the past four winners of the Champions League and Europa League, according to another person with knowledge of the plans. But the person said there could be a cap on how many teams come from one country.

Shubhankar finish tied 40th, Chawrasia 43rd

Paris: Shubhankar Sharma carded an unimpressive 73 on the final day to finish tied 40th at the Open de France Golf Championship where compatriot SSP Chawrasia wasted three good days to end tied 48th. Chawrasia wasted a good start have a double bogey and a bogey in his final few holes to have a below-par round of 76 on the final day, slipping to 48th position. Nicolas Colsaerts (72) held on to seal a gripping one-shot victory over Denmark's Joachim B Hansen (68) claiming his first European Tour title in seven years at the Le Golf National course. Sharma had a double bogey on his card for the fourth straight and overall he had four doubles and a quadruple. Chawrasia had two double on the last day.

Kuhoo-Dhruv win mixed doubles title

New Delhi: Kuhoo Garg and Dhruv Rawat put up a brilliant effort to win the mixed doubles title at the Egypt International 2019 in Cairo Sunday. The unseeded Garg and Rawat held their nerves for a tight 21-16, 22-20 victory over the third seeds Utkarsh Arora and Karishma Wadkar in an all-Indian final. Garg and Rawat showed excellent understanding as they had accounted for the second seeds Ahmed Salah and Hadia Hosny 21-16 21-15 of Egypt in the second round and followed it up with a comeback 16-21 16-21-9 win over fourth seeds Kocella Mammeri and Linda Mazri of Algeria in the semi-finals. **PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**

VIJAY HAZARE QFS

Rahul powers Karnataka to semis, Shikhar flops as Delhi bow out

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 20

KL RAHUL continued his good form as his stroke-filled 90 guided Karnataka to the semi-finals even as another out-of-favour opener Shikhar Dhawan's failure proved costly with Delhi exiting from another quarter-finals of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Sunday. While Karnataka cruised to an eight-wicket victory over Puducherry in one of the quarter-finals, Delhi lost by six wickets to Gujarat via VJD Method in another last eight clash.

Put into bat, Puducherry crawled to 207 for 9 with Vikneshwaran MM Marimuthu top scoring with an unbeaten 58. The Karnataka bowlers led by the vastly experienced Abhimanyu Mithun (2-35) ran through the Pondicherry top and middle order before Mariumuthu and Sagar Trivedi (54) tried to rally their innings. Pondicherry were reeling at 41 for 6 at one stage before Mariumuthu and Trivedi pulled them out of trouble and gave the score some semblance of respectability. The Karnataka bowlers kept striking at regular intervals to ensure that their opponents were restricted to a sub-par total. Leg-spinner Pravin Dube (3-44) and seamer Vasuki Koushik (2-33) also shared the spoils.

The chase was a walk in the park as Rahul and fellow opener Devdutt Padikkal (50) added 98 for the opening stand. Rahul's innings had eight fours and a six and he faced 112 balls. Once Padikkal, however one down Rohan Kadam played the perfect second fiddle to Rahul, who was all guns blazing.

In the second quarterfinal, Gujarat defeated Delhi by 6 wickets via the VJD method.

Put into bat, Gujarat dismissed Delhi for 223 in 49 overs as no Delhi batsman barring skipper Dhruv Shorey (91) showed any fight. India player Shikhar Dhawan's horrendous form continued as he fell for a zero. IPL specialist Nitish Rana (33) and young Himmat Singh (26) failed to convert their starts. For Gujarat, pacers Chintan Gaja (3-27) and left arm Arzan Nagaswalla (3-75) were among the wickets. While chasing, skipper Parthiv Patel (76) and his opening partner Priyank Panchal (80) put on 150 runs for the first wicket to take game away from Delhi. Delhi did try to make a comeback but it was too little too late as Gujarat overhauled the target in the 37th over.

BRIEF SCORES: Pondicherry 207/9 (VM Mariumuthu 58 not out, Sagar Trivedi 54; Pravin Kumar Dube 3-44) lost to Karnataka 213/2 (K L Rahul 90, Devdutt Padikkal 50; Sagar Udeshi 2-47) by 8 wickets; Delhi 223 all out (Dhruv Shorey 91, Nitish Rana 33; Chintan Gaja 3-27) lost to Gujarat 225/4 (Priyank Panchal 80, Parthiv Patel 76; Simarjeet Singh 2-54) by six wickets via VJD method.

Foreign feet at the forefront

New ISL season gets underway, but local players need to wait to make a meaningful impact



Nigerian striker Bartholomew Ogbeche scores the winning goal for Kerala Blasters in the ISL opener against ATK on Sunday. Kerala won 2-1. ISL

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
OCTOBER 20

LEITIR MHIC an Bhaird, a classic Gaelic village with a typical tongue-twisting name, is a tiny dot on the Irish map. Roughly a thousand people live in this picturesque place, which has one convenience shop, a petrol station, three pubs, and a Gaelic football team, Na Rossa.

Like most children who grew up there, Carl McHugh ended up playing for Rossa as well. Unlike many, however, he ended up making a career in football, the version that the majority of the world plays. After representing Ireland's youth national teams, McHugh made a name playing for Bradford City and Plymouth in England, followed by another successful stint in the Scottish Premiership with Motherwell, whom he even captained.

His unexpected journey has now brought him to India. The 26-year-old made his debut for Kolkata side ATK against Kerala Blasters in the opening match of the new Indian Super League season in Kochi on Sunday. And he made an instant impact.

The season was just six minutes old when the centre-back pushed forward and executed a brilliant first-time volley with his left foot from an Agustin Garcia Iniguez cross to beat former Real Kashmir goalkeeper Bilal Khan.

With that goal, McHugh continued the tradition of foreign players scoring the opening goal in the ISL. But it was not enough for ATK to begin their campaign with a win. Kerala

Ghana star Gyan to make debut

ASAMOA H GYAN has more than 100 international appearances to his name. But 2010 World Cup quarterfinal against Uruguay has been his definitive moment, when Luis Suarez 'saved' his shot on that would've taken Ghana to the semifinal. On Monday, Gyan will most likely make his ISL debut, with the 33-year-old signing for NorthEast United. Gyan is a valuable addition to a NorthEast side that has lost several key players in the off-season. They kickstart their season against defending champions Bengaluru FC, who boast of five India internationals in their ranks, captain Sunil Chhetri. (Bengaluru FC vs NorthEast United, Live on Star Sports Network, 7.30pm)

Blasters rode on Nigerian Bartholomew Ogbeche's twin strikes, in the 30th and 45th minutes to pocket three points with a 2-1 win.

Local players

The victory was witnessed by 36,298 loud fans, most of them donning Kerala's yellow jersey. What lacked, though, was a local flavour in

Kerala's line-up. There were three players from Kerala in India's starting line-up against Bangladesh in the World Cup qualifier last week. On Sunday, there was just one Keralaite in the first 11 of the Kerala Blasters — midfielder Prasanth Karuthadathkuni (Kolkata had four Bengal players in their 11).

The drying talent pool in the region that has produced the likes of IM Vijayan and Jo Paul Ancheri is often lamented. But unless local players get a chance to play for their local team, it will be tough for them to climb the ladder.

A classic example is Michael Soosairaj. Had it not been for Chennai City, the midfielder might have been lost somewhere in the local leagues. Chennai's emergence as an I-League force gave Soosairaj a platform, and he utilised this opportunity to find himself knocking on the India door.

It was, however, baffling to see Soosairaj, who has played in midfield throughout his career, play as a wing-back. Jayesh Rane was another player who played out of his regular position. They both looked out of their depth at times, and whether ATK coach Antonio Habas continues to persist with this strategy remains to be seen.

Foreign hand

It is likely Habas will since that's what generally happens to Indian players unless they are a rare talent. As is the case with Indian clubs, foreign players occupy all important positions — centre-backs, central midfielders and strikers — for both teams. In footballing

jargon, it's called the spine of the team.

Indians were played in wider roles, where it is tough to have a direct impact on the game. The lack of experience of playing in these positions in the league is seen when they turn up for the national team.

One understand a club coach's predicament — in a result-oriented ecosystem, they will fill crucial positions with influential players and this trend is likely to continue for the rest of the season. Perhaps this will be a good time to have a re-look at the policy to have five foreign players starting a game, and reduce the number to give Indian players more opportunities because the young crop has shown some promise.

Waiting in the wings

One such example is Kerala's Jeakson Singh. The scorer of India's only goal at the 2017 under-17 World Cup made his ISL debut on Sunday. He, too, was not played in his regular position — he was operating as a withdrawn midfielder rather than a central defender, which he normally is.

He had a mixed outing, showing strength and courage to get into 50-50 challenges and not being afraid of getting on the ball, but the free-kick he conceded after a foul on Rane led to ATK's only goal of the match.

Three other players from the under-17 World Cup squad, Rahul KP (Kerala) and ATK's Dheeraj Singh and Komal Thatal, were named in the squad but did not manage playing time.

RUGBY WORLD CUP

Boks to the Future: Japan's fairytale ends

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
OCTOBER 20

SOUTH AFRICA trampled all over the Brave Blossoms at home ending Japan's stunning unbeaten run at the Rugby World Cup in the quarterfinals with a 26-3 win.

This is the first time since 2007 that Japan were not allowed to score a single try in a Cup game. The Boks were worked to the limits in the first half where they were run ragged, holding onto a measly 5-3 lead. But Japan was clinically dismantled using the Boks traditional strengths — aggressive defence, set-piece power and muscular mauling. Ghosts of the Brighton Miracle were finally buried as South Africa put paid to any hopes of a repeat of Japan's 2015 World Cup win against the same opponents and brought to an end a fairytale four weeks for the hosts.

The Springboks will now play Wales in the semi-final on Sunday, 27 October, with the winner facing England or New Zealand in the final.

Wales reversed its 2011 loss to France with a dramatic payback: like the Dragons in 2011, the French were reduced to 14 men. And finally to cap a thrilling win, France were pipped by 1 point; losing 20-19 in the dying minutes after being 13-19 down. Wales were

nursing a 1-point loss since 2011.

Escaping with the skin of their teeth, now Wales will hope to beat the Boks in semis. SA looked harried in the first half and unstoppable in the second.

While flyhalf Faf de Klerk buzzed like a bee in offense and even defense in the Springboks win, the day belonged to left winger Makazole Mapimpi. The highlights of his day — that brought succour to the Boks.

Two Tries

Mapimpi with his brace today now has 13 tries in 12 Tests. "It was all too easy as the wing handed off normally-robust Yu Tamura and cantered in at the corner," Independent wrote. While de Klerk scored the second, the third from Mapimpi buried the Japanese.

"It came from that man Pollard sneaking off on a half-break of his own. He found full-back Willie le Roux with a pass and the full-back shoveled it on to Mapimpi. The winger did what he has done consistently in green and got the score in the corner."

Statement tries

Stuff.co.nz writes: "But for all their pill, the Japanese struggled mightily to make inroads into the South African defence, cut down time and again behind the advantage line and playing all their rugby laterally, with-

out finding the holes.

And there were signs that the South African set piece was getting on top, though Japan did produce one mighty scrum to shove the Boks off their own ball and win a penalty for their only points of the half.

It had looked ominous for the home side, in front of their big home crowd, early on when South African wing Makazole Mapimpi slipped through two ineffective tackles on the left to open the scoring after just three minutes."

It was Mapimpi who cleaved Japan open. He had tough competition in opposite number Kotaro Matsushima but he more than coped with it. The 29-year-old completely overpowered Yu Tamura for his first try and outran Matsushima for his second.

The man who had been at the centre of a needless controversy where it was alleged he was not included in was post Test celebration against Italy (he flatly denied that's what had happened), was front and centre of the quarters triumph.

Everyone is watching us now

Despite seeing his team well beaten by South Africa in their Rugby World Cup quarter-final on Sunday, Japan coach Jamie Joseph was full of praise for his players and hoped they would be remembered as a source of

inspiration throughout the country.

Sunday's clash in Tokyo was Japan's first-ever World Cup knockout match and expectations of an upset were high following four wins from four in the pool stage, achieved with a brand of attacking, rapid rugby that electrified their fans. Over 50 million people watched their final pool match against Scotland and even more are expected to have tuned in on Sunday.

Although disappointed by the 26-3 defeat, Joseph had only words of praise for his bruised but courageous players.

"I am going to celebrate the efforts and achievements of this team. There has been a lot of work from a lot of people, and it has been relentless," said Joseph, who took over as head coach in 2016. "All the credit to the team effort, because that is who we are, that is how we operate and... you can't acknowledge one person because it has been a real effort and having the country behind us has added to that."

South Africa, who take on Wales in the semi-finals, were simply too experienced and powerful for the Brave Blossoms on Sunday, with their suffocating defence stifling Japan's free-flowing game.

However, it was his team's relentless effort in the final stages, despite knowing they were going out of the World Cup, that most pleased Joseph. **REUTERS**



South African wing Makazole Mapimpi slipped through two ineffective tackles on the left to open the scoring. Reuters

Murray: From brink of retirement to first ATP title since 2017

AP/REUTERS
OCTOBER 20

ANDY MURRAY has won his first ATP tour final since having hip surgery in January for an injury that left him contemplating retirement at one point.

Murray rallied to beat fellow three-time Grand Slam champion Stan Wawrinka 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the European Open final on Sunday.

"This is one of the biggest wins that I've had after everything so I'm very proud," Murray said in an on-court interview broadcast by Amazon Prime.

It was the 32-year-old Murray's first ATP tour final since March 2017.

After undergoing hip resurfacing surgery, the British player returned to the court in June playing doubles — including at Wimbledon — before moving back to singles in August.

The 34-year-old Wawrinka was looking for his first ATP title since the 2017 Geneva Open.

The crucial break of serve in the first set came in the second game, with Murray saving two break points but not a third, and his Swiss opponent served it out 6-3.

Murray looked in deep trouble when Wawrinka broke again in the third game of the second set, and the Scot had to save more break points to avoid losing a fourth game in a row.

But, having dug in, he got his reward as Wawrinka's serve went off the boil and his level dipped, with Murray breaking back to 3-3.

Wawrinka had two more chances at 4-4 but again Murray fought off the danger and it was Murray who then took his first set point to clinch it 6-4 and level the match.

Wawrinka stepped up again early in the third set and was twice a break ahead but once more Murray dug in, hitting back immediately both times.

Murray saved two more break points at 4-4 to leave Wawrinka serving to stay in the match. When Wawrinka blazed a forehand well off target on Murray's first match point, it was the former top-ranked Murray celebrating a remarkable comeback.

Shapovalov wins first ATP title

Canada's Denis Shapovalov captured his maiden ATP Tour title at the Stockholm Open on Sunday, easing past Filip Krajinovic 6-4 6-4 in the final.

Despite two victories over top-10 opponents in his career, a first trophy had proved elusive for the 20-year-old but Shapovalov was not to be denied by his Serbian opponent who was on a similar quest.

Shapovalov triumphed in style, sending down 16 aces and losing two points on his first serve while saving the only breakpoint he faced in the one-sided, 84-minute contest.

The world number 34 follows in the footsteps of Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas, who lifted the Stockholm trophy for his first tour-level title as a 20-year-old last year.

Tsitsipas was Shapovalov's second top-10 victim, at the Miami Open earlier this year, following a stunning three-sets victory over Rafa Nadal at the Rogers Cup two years ago to announce himself on the big stage.

Shapovalov will look to carry his good form into the 21-and-under Next Gen ATP Finals starting on Nov. 5 in Milan.

Ostapenko wins in Luxembourg

Former French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko proved too strong for defending champion Julia Goerges in the Luxembourg Open final as she cruised past the German 6-4 6-1 on Sunday.

The 22-year-old Latvian, who captured her first Grand Slam title at Roland Garros in 2017, won the third WTA crown of her career with a solid display in her second final of the year.

Just when she looked like she was shedding the inconsistency that has dogged her game in recent months, Ostapenko was beaten by 15-year-old Coco Gauff of the United States in the Linz Open final last week. But the Luxembourg wild card was in no

COMEBACK

2017

JUNE 9: Murray loses French Open semifinal to Stan Wawrinka after a long-standing hip issue flares up.

JULY 12: A limping Murray fails to defend Wimbledon title with a quarter-final defeat.

AUGUST 26: After pulling out of two Masters events and losing his world No 1 ranking, Murray withdraws from the US Open.

2018

JAN 2: Murray's second attempt at a comeback fails after he pull out on the eve of his first match at Brisbane Open. Six days later, he announces he has undergone a hip surgery.

MAY 8: Murray fails to make a return at a Glasgow Challenger after a setback in recovery.

JUNE 19: After 342 days away from court, Murray loses a first-round match at Fever-Tree Championships.

JULY 1: He withdraws from Wimbledon with a "heavy heart" after saying his right hip was still not ready. He loses in the second round of the US Open.

2019

JAN 11: A week after a second-round loss at Brisbane international, Murray breaks down in tears and reveals plans to end career at Wimbledon. He suffers a five-set defeat in the Australian Open first round and looks set to retire.

JAN 29: He confirms he has undergone hip resurfacing surgery, hoping it will be the "end of his pain".

JUNE 3: Announces plans to return by competing in doubles at the Queen's Club. "Pain-free for a few months now", Murray wins Queen's doubles with Feliciano Lopez.

JULY 10: Murray competes in the men's and mixed doubles at Wimbledon, partnering Serena Williams for the latter.

AUGUST 18: Murray returns to singles action at Winston-Salem Open, losing in the first round. He later returns to Challenger tour for the first time since 2005.

OCT 20: After competing at Zhuhai, China and Shanghai Opens, Murray wins his first ATP title since 2017 in Antwerp.

mood to let another opportunity slip by in her final tournament of the year, sealing the decider on the back of her superb serve.

"Of course it's great to finish the season with winning a title, especially in the last tournament," said Ostapenko, who fired six aces and won 83% of points off her first serve.

"I enjoyed this week so much. I think I played really well today. I just like to finish the year this way. Especially after making the final last week. I was much more confident in coming to this tournament."

Moscow title for Bencic, Rublev

Switzerland's Belinda Bencic recovered from a set down to outclass local favourite Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 3-6 6-1 6-1 in the Kremlin Cup final on Sunday to win her second title of the season and fourth overall.

The world number 10 switched gears after losing the opening set, dropping only two of the last 14 games in a stunning show to swat aside the 2014 champion.

"It feels unbelievable right now. I still can't imagine it," said Bencic, who on Saturday became the eighth and final player to qualify for the season-ending WTA Finals in Shenzhen.

"I had no pressure going into this match. We were so happy yesterday, celebrating (Shenzhen). This is the cherry on top."



BRAVEHEART FIGHTS ON

Andy Murray beat fellow three-time Grand Slam champion Stan Wawrinka 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the European Open final on Sunday. AP

United drop points, make one

Touted to lose, Red Devils surprise league leaders Liverpool by holding them to a 1-1 draw

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MANCHESTER, OCTOBER 20

ADAM LALLANA scored his first goal in more than two years to rescue a 1-1 draw for Liverpool at Manchester United on Sunday, preserving the Premier League leader's unbeaten start. Although Liverpool dropped points for the first time since last season in March, Jurgen Klopp's side still went six points clear after nine games.

It's 17 consecutive wins and out in the league for Liverpool but the bigger mission is winning the English title for the first time since 1990. United sits only two points above the drop zone but the heat should ease on Ole Gunnar Solskjaer after avoiding defeat against what is currently the strongest side in England — and managing to take the lead through Marcus Rashford in the first half.

"The result is good," Klopp said after failing to win in the league for the first time since a draw with Everton in March. "It's not what we wanted before the game. But the way it developed I feel we have to be happy. We take the point because for a long time they were 1-0 up.

"We had good moments in the second half but I didn't like the first half, because we gave Manchester United opportunities to do what they wanted."

This was a day when Liverpool struggled to impose itself on a United side low in confidence. But Klopp's second-half changes paid off. Lallana, who replaced Jordan Henderson around the hour, ghosted in at the far post in the 85th minute to meet Andy Robertson's cross with a tap-in for his first goal since May 2017.

Liverpool fans were already in party mood before kickoff at the home of its greatest rival.

They weren't just goading United about "going down." They'd brought balloons in the shape of sixes. Where better to celebrate their sixth European Cup triumph in June than at the club with only three successes?

Especially on a day when some United fans turned on their leadership in a very public way. A banner calling for the departure of executive vice chairman Ed Woodward was flown over Old Trafford before kickoff with fans protesting against the owning Glazer family outside.



Marcus Rashford scored in the 36th minute after turning home a superb low cross from Dan James. Reuters

Mallorca end Madrid's unbeaten Liga run

REUTERS
PALMA, OCTOBER 20

REAL MADRID'S unbeaten start to the La Liga season came to an abrupt and surprising end as Real Mallorca claimed a stunning 1-0 victory at a rocking Son Moix on Saturday to climb out of the relegation zone.

The Balearic Islanders had only managed six goals in their opening eight games of their first season back in the big time, but one was enough to down their illustrious visitors.

It was a cracker too, thrashed home in the seventh minute by Ivorian Lago Junior who with one swing of his right foot wrote his name into Mallorcan sporting folklore alongside tennis great Rafa Nadal who celebrated his wedding earlier. Local boy Nadal is a Real Madrid fan but surely would have raised a glass in honour of Lago Junior and the fighting spirit of a team written off a relegation

fodder before the season.

Real Madrid, 5-0 winners on their most recent trip to the island in 2012, were without several big names including Luka Modric, Gareth Bale, Toni Kroos and Eden Hazard, but could have no complaints as they failed to function.

Defeat cost them the chance of reclaiming top spot from Barcelona who won earlier in the day and they will have to bounce back quickly with a crucial Champions League clash against Galatasaray on Tuesday having picked up only one point in their opening two matches.

A disgruntled Zidane refused to use the absentees as a reason for the loss.

"These players are injured, and we have others who are good too. But they must show that every time they play, that they have the level to play for Madrid. Today we didn't," he said. "We must be more consistent if we are to do anything good this year, have more life

in our play. Today we didn't have that. "Our start to the game was very bad.

"In second half we did not create many clear chances, we lacked a bit of everything today."

Modric and Bale to miss Real's trip to Galatasaray

It was no smash and grab raid by Vicente Moreno's Mallorca who produced a tenacious display full of energy to beat Real for the first time since 2006, sparking wild celebrations. Moreno led Mallorca back to La Liga via the playoffs in June and after an opening day win they have found it tough.

But they backed up their win over Espanyol before the international break with a performance that will fuel belief they can survive. "We have achieved in the two previous years more important things than winning one game," Moreno said. "Three points was vital, regardless of the opponent."

Belihu, Gemechu defend titles at Delhi half marathon

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

DEFENDING CHAMPIONS Andamlak Belihu and Tsehay Gemechu produced their personal best to retain the men's and women's titles respectively at the 15th Airtel Delhi Half Marathon here on Sunday.

Belihu's timing of 59:10 was better than the 59:18 that he had clocked to win the title last year but it was four seconds short of the course record set by Guye Adola (59:06) in 2014. Gemechu, on the other hand, smashed the course record by producing a personal best of 66:00.

Belihu finished ahead of compatriot Solomon Berihu, who came up with a time of 59:17 on debut, while Kenya's Kibiwott Kandie signed off third with a timing of 59:33. Belihu and Berihu had a thrilling head-to-head battle over the final few kilometres.

At 18km, Belihu looked in trouble for several minutes but recovered his poise and reeled

in his rival with little more than a kilometre remaining before pulling away for victory.

"At about 18km I started to suffer some back pain, that possibly cost me the course record. I'm a bit disappointed that I missed out on the course record again but I got a personal best so I cannot complain too much," said Belihu.

"This race has put the frustration of finishing fifth at the world championships (in the 10,000m in Doha two weeks ago) behind me," added the 20-year-old, who wants to come back in 2020 to attack the course record and try to become the first to win a hattrick of ADHM title.

Ethiopia also dominated the women's race with their long-distance runners grabbing the top three spots at the prestigious IAAF Gold Label Race here.

The 21-year-old Gemechu not only pocketed a cheque of USD 27,000 for the top position but also grabbed a course record bonus of \$10,000.

Yelamzerf Yehualaw (66:01) finished just

Belihu's timing of 59:10 was better than the 59:18 that he had clocked to win the title last year but it was four seconds short of the course record set by Guye Adola (59:06) in 2014.

one second behind Gemechu for the second place, while Zeineba Yimer clocked 66:57 to take the third spot, the same position as she had finished in 2018.

Gemechu, who had scored a personal best of 66:50 to set a course record last year, said: "I broke the course record and I am happy that I could achieve it. I was tired after Doha. But I wanted to come here and fight for the course record. I knew I was mentally strong."

It was a thrilling head-to-head duel over the final five kilometres between Gemechu and Yehualaw that kept the crowd excited.

A large pack went through 5km in 15:43 before a sharp increase in pace by the male pacemakers brought the leading group of six past 10km in 31:22, indicating that the course record was very much under threat.

One-by-one runners became detached until only Gemechu and Yehualaw remained as they went through 15km in 47:05.

Coming into the final kilometre, Yehualaw — who won the African Games half marathon title in August — edged in front and briefly looked like she was going to cause an upset. But with the finish line approaching Gemechu managed to get past her rival to become just the second woman to defend in Delhi.

Among Indian men, Srinu Bugatha claimed the first position with a timing of 1:43:33, while Suresh Patel and Harshad Mhatre bagged the second and third place with timings of 1:04:57 and 1:05:12 respectively.

Among the Indian women, L Suriya came up at the top with a timing of 1:12:49, while Parul Chaudhary and Chinta Yadav clocked 1:13:55 and 1:15:28 to finish second and third.

'Racially abused and spat at', players walk off in FA Cup tie

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON, OCTOBER 20

AN FA Cup qualifying match between Haringey Borough and Yeovil Town was abandoned after allegations that players were racially abused and spat on.

The players of seventh-tier outfit Haringey walked off the field on Saturday with about 25 minutes to go, shortly after Yeovil had scored a penalty.

The incident during the match in the fourth qualifying round came just five days after England players endured racist abuse during their Euro 2020 qualifier against Bulgaria in Sofia.

Haringey manager Tom Loizou said defender Coby Rowe suffered racial abuse while Cameroonian goalkeeper Douglas Pajetat was also spat at, prompting him to take his players off the pitch.

"Early into the second half, we got a corner and a couple of the players said to me there was monkey chants," Loizou told Sky News.

"We got over that, we carried on playing. They got a penalty and my goalkeeper was spat at and had missiles thrown at him.

"The referee halted the game briefly, they scored the penalty, one of players went to pick the ball out of the back of the net and Coby Rowe was racially abused."

Loizou said he had to take his players off. "I looked at a couple of our players' faces and I was distraught myself, just to see their faces. I gave it a couple of minutes and I went on the pitch and pulled my players off," he said.

"There was no way that two or three of those players could have continued playing. What they heard was disgusting, they looked frightened.

"I can't sit down and watch young players being abused by a minority."