

# THE ASIAN AGE

NEW DELHI MONDAY 21 OCTOBER 2019

TABLOID

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Victoria Beckham recreates her signature leg pose



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Rahul criticises Piyush, calls him a 'bigot' over Abhijit Banerjee remark

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**WINDOWS**



Rohit Sharma celebrates after scoring a double century during the second day of last Test between India and South Africa in Ranchi on Sunday.

Report on Page 14 — PTI

**8,000-yr-old pearl, the world's oldest, 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 on 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 UAE, which revealed the earliest architecture found in the country. — AFP

Full report on Page 11

**UP murder: Yogi promises all help**

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath on Sunday met here at his official residence the family members of slain Hindutva leader Kamlesh Tiwari and sought to assure them of all help and justice but failed to win the trust of the killed man's mother. — PTI

Full report on Page 3

**Zubin Mehta leaves Israel Philharmonic**

Jerusalem: 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. — AFP

Full report on Page 11

**COUNTERPOINT**



Why can't the EC change the poll timing... evening 6 pm to till the wee hours!

**WEATHER**

Max: 32°C  
Min: 19°C  
RH: 35%  
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Sunny

**ASTROGUIDE**

**Vikari:** Dakshinayana  
**Tithi:** Ashwayuja Bahula Saptami till 6.43 am, Ashtami till 5.24 am (Tuesday)  
**Star:** Punarvasu till 5.27 pm  
**Variyam:** 5.37 am to 7.12 am, 1.09 am to 2.41 am (Tuesday)  
**Durmuhurtam:** 12.24 pm to 1.10 pm, 2.42 pm to 3.28 pm  
**Rahukalam:** 7.30 am to 9 am  
**SUNSET TODAY 5.46 PM**  
**SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.25 AM**  
**MOONRISE TOMORROW 11.47 PM**  
**MOONSET TODAY 1.02 AM**

**6 Pak soldiers, many terrorists killed ■ 2 jawans, civilian die**  
**Army hits back across LoC, destroys 4 terror launchpads**

PAWAN BALI  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

In a major counter-attack, the Indian Army early on Sunday morning killed at least six Pakistani soldiers and destroyed four terror launchpads along the Line of Control opposite the Tangdhar sector with heavy targeted artillery shelling. This was in retaliation for the Pakistan Army's truce violation on Saturday night to push terrorists into India, in which two Indian soldiers and one civilian had died in the Tangdhar sector of Kupwara district in the Kashmir Valley. "According to reports which we have received, there has been heavy damage to the Pakistan Army and the terrorists who were in these terror camps. At least six to 10 Pakistani soldiers died and a similar number of terrorists were also killed," said Army Chief Gen. Bipin Rawat. He said unconfirmed reports suggest that the terrorists' casualties were much higher. "There is a kind of radio silence on the other side of the country."



Houses and property damaged due to firing and shelling by Pakistan Army in Gundi Shath village in J&K

**We have been able to destroy 4-5 terrorist camps. Each such camp has around 10-15 terrorists in them.**  
— Gen. Bipin Rawat  
Army Chief

and we are not even able to pick up any mobile communications from across," said the Army Chief. He said at least three terrorist camps were completely destroyed and a fourth terrorist camp was also

heavily damaged. "It was decided that we target terror camps across. We had the coordinates of these camps," said Gen. Rawat. He said in the past one month, there were repeated attempts from different sectors to infiltrate terrorists. "We have been able to destroy 4-5 terrorist camps. Each such camp has around 10-15 terrorists in them. It is difficult right now to give exact figures of how many terrorists have been killed," said a senior Army officer. He said the number of Pakistani soldiers who have been injured is much higher. However,

Pakistan Army spokesperson Maj. Gen. Asif Ghafoor in a statement said only one Pakistani soldier was killed and two soldiers were injured in the Indian Army firing. The Indian Army, in a statement, said its artillery hit terror launchpads, Pakistan Army posts and Pakistani gun positions along LoC in the Tangdhar sector. One civilian, Mohd Sadeeq, 55, was killed in Gundi Shath village in Tangdhar in the Pakistan Army firing. Also, three civilians from the same village were injured — Mohd Maqbool, 70, Mohd Shafi, 50, and Yusuf Hamid, 22. "Last night Pak Army initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation to assist infiltration by terrorists into Indian territories," said a senior Army officer. He said that the Indian Army retains the right to respond at a time and place of its choosing in case the Pakistan Army continues to assist terror activities across the Indian border. Defence minister Rajnath Singh also spoke to Gen. Rawat over the situation.

**J&K: Has the trust of 70 yrs gone?**

ANAND K. SAHAY  
SRINAGAR/BARAMULLA/  
SHOPIAN, OCT. 20

Perhaps the only set of people in the Valley can be summed up by a disgusted journalist in the north Kashmir town of Baramulla: "We are back at 1947". (Identities have been kept secret to avoid dire consequences.) And now they are asking whether the choice that they had made in 1947 needs to be revisited. "It has been an illusion," they say.

Otherwise, the reaction in the Valley can be summed up by a disgusted journalist in the north Kashmir town of Baramulla: "We are back at 1947". (Identities have been kept secret to avoid dire consequences.) And now they are asking whether the choice that they had made in 1947 needs to be revisited. "It has been an illusion," they say.

With Sheikh Abdullah marshalling popular opinion, in 1947 Kashmiris put their faith in secular India rather than Islamic Pakistan, although the latter continued to attract the allegiance of a small section since then. With the revocation of Article 370, this section has now come alive. The speech of Pakistan PM Imran Khan at the UN General Assembly last

month elicits nothing but praise. A young woman lawyer said: "The Pakistan PM spoke about the crisis that hit us after August 5 — the jailing of thousands, the communications blackout. He is the only one who spoke about us. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on the other hand, spoke about 'shauchalya' (toilets) at the UN! He could have talked about peace, but didn't." A north Kashmir

**Rail Board to be trimmed, 25% officers to be shifted**

New Delhi, Oct. 20: The Railways has decided to prune the Railway Board by 25 per cent, cutting down its strength from 200 to 150 by transferring director-level officials and above to zonal railways in a long pending move to enhance efficiency, sources said on Sunday. The plan was first mooted in 2000 by the Atal Behari Vajpayee government, which recommended right sizing of the apex decision making body of the national transporter. "Currently, there are 200 officials in the board. It will be reduced to 150 with 50 officers of director and above level being transferred to the zonal railways. This was long overdue as it was felt that too many people were doing similar jobs and senior officials were needed in zones to increase efficiency," said a source. The plan would be implemented shortly, he said. The move was part of railway minister Piyush Goyal's 100-day agenda and a top priority for present Railway Board chairman V.K. Yadav. Restructuring of the Railway Board was also recommended by the Bibek Debroy Committee on Railways in 2015. — PTI



A mountaineering team of 2nd Mahar Regiment of the Indian Army poses for a photograph with the tricolour after scaling Mount Trimukhi peak, situated at an altitude of 6422m, in Uttarkashi. — PTI

**India halts registrations, no Kartarpur pact yet**

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20  
In the absence of any agreement signed between India and Pakistan on the Kartarpur Corridor, the Indian government postponed the registration process of pilgrims for Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur, which was due to begin on Sunday. However, with Pakistan adamant on charging a \$20 fee from pilgrims visiting Kartarpur Sahib via the corridor, the Indian side is not keen to hurry in signing the pact. India

and Pakistan were to sign the pact on Saturday, that did not happen. It is learnt that the Indian officials who are part of the negotiations are continuing to engage with the Pakistanis to convince them to remove the \$20 fee. Sources close to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh made it clear there was no question of Dr Singh attending the Kartarpur Corridor inauguration in Pakistan. Sources said he will go as part of a jatha as a normal pilgrim. — More on Page 4

**Haryana, Maha to vote today; BJP hopes high**

Bypolls to 51 Assembly seats to be held across nation

Mumbai/Chandigarh, Oct. 20: Polling will be held on Monday to elect Maharashtra and Haryana assemblies with the BJP and its allies seeking to retain power in the two states on the back of the recent Lok Sabha polls victory, while the opposition is hoping to turn the tide by taking advantage of any anti-incumbency. Bypolls will also be held to 51 Assembly seats and two Lok Sabha constituencies spread across 18 states. In Maharashtra, where the "Mahayuti" alliance of BJP, Shiv Sena and smaller parties is against the "Maha-agadhi" led by the Congress and the NCP, a total of 8,98,39,600 people, including 4,28,43,635 women, are eligible to vote. As many as 3,237 candidates, including 235 women, are contesting in 288 seats and 96,661 polling booths are in place with 6.5 lakh staff for the voting exercise. The ruling BJP is locked in a contest with the Opposition Congress and the fledgling JJP for the



Polls officials collect EVMs and other election materials at a distribution centre in Hisar on Sunday, the eve of the Haryana Assembly polls. — PTI

**PAGE 3**  
Rapid change in favour of Cong, will form next govt in Haryana: Selja

90 Assembly seats in Haryana which has over 1.83 crore voters, including 85 lakh women and 252 transgenders, while 19,578 polling stations have been set up. Polling will be held from 7 am to 6 pm. Tight security arrangements have

been made with deployment of more than three lakh personnel from state police and central forces in Maharashtra, while over 75,000 security personnel have been mobilised in Haryana. Counting of votes will be on October 24. The high-voltage electioneering by the BJP saw participation of a galaxy of leaders led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Cabinet colleagues Amit Shah and

**1 dies, tension in Dibrugarh**  
**Mobs attack Hindi speakers in Assam, many houses burnt**

MANOJ ANAND  
GUWAHATI, OCT. 20

In what has created tension and panic among Hindi-speaking people in Upper Assam's Dibrugarh district, a mob of more than 100 people belonging to Takam Mising Porin Kebang (TMPK), a local organisation, attacked a village of milkmen and set their houses on fire. In the attack, one person was killed while six others have been critically injured. More than 20 people who are suspected to have fled to nearby forest areas to escape the assault, are still missing. The mob, armed with sticks and sharp weapons, set more than 20 houses on fire. While senior district and police officers could not be contacted, the local police said the incident took place at Charkholia Ramsing Sapori village on Saturday. Saying that the villagers were served extortion notices to pay amounts ranging from

**The villagers were served extortion notices to pay amounts ranging from ₹20K to ₹50K by Takam Mising Porin Kebang, a local organisation**

₹20,000 to ₹50,000 by TMPK, security sources said the attack took place as the villagers, who mostly earn a living selling milk, said they were unable to pay the extortion money. The police said one Murli Yadav, who was critically injured, was shifted to the Assam Medical College and Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. Six others are reported to have been treated in different private hospitals, the sources said, pointing out that tension was escalating in the area for a few weeks. The villagers had informed the police and submitted the demand notices issued on the letterhead

**EC to probe video 'threat' in Karnal by BJP nominee**

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

The Election Commission on Sunday named former deputy election commissioner Vinod Zutshi as special observer for the Assembly polls in Assam, in Karnal district of Haryana after a video went viral in the social media. The BJP candidate in Assam, who is seen in the video threatening voters that they will know easily who had voted for them and who has not through EVMs. "For a mistake of five seconds you will suffer for five years. We will come to know who voted for whom. Nobody should be in any kind of illusion. We deliberately do not say this, but if someone asks then I can also tell you who voted where because Modi and Manohar Lal Khattar have very sharp eyes. Wherever you may vote, it will register with flower (lotus, the BJP symbol). Whichever button you may press, the vote will go only to the BJP. We have fitted a chip in the electronic voting machines," said Mr Bakshish Singh Virk, the outgoing BJP MLA and the party's candidate from Assam. The EC has not made it clear whether it has issued any notice to Mr Virk for making such threats to voters and claims against the sanctity of EVMs. However, it said Mr Zutshi was appointed to keep an eye against harassment of voters and to ensure there was no fear over voting. "Mr Zutshi has been requested to proceed immediately to the constituency to take necessary corrective

**London insists UK leaving EU on Oct. 31, despite delay plea**

London, Oct. 20: A defiant British government doubled down on Sunday, insisting it would leave the European Union in 11 days' time despite parliament forcing a reluctant prime minister to request another delay. In a day of high drama on Saturday, MPs in the House of Commons passed up the chance to decide on the revised withdrawal agreement that Prime Minister Boris Johnson had negotiated with the European Union. That defeat leaves Mr Johnson under mounting pressure to find a way out of paralysing impasse on when and how Britain

**Late Saturday, UK PM Boris Johnson reluctantly sent European Council chief Donald Tusk a letter legally imposed on him by Parliament requesting an extension, but refused to sign it**

would leave the EU bloc after Britons narrowly voted to exit in a 2016 referendum. Late Saturday, Mr Johnson reluctantly sent European Council president Donald Tusk a letter legally imposed on him by Parliament requesting an

extension, but refused to sign it. The Conservative leader sent a second, signed letter insisting he was not seeking an extension to the Brexit deadline, which has already been postponed twice, warning that "a further extension would damage the interests of the UK and our EU partners". Having failed to back a divorce deal, which Mr Johnson had secured on Thursday, they triggered a law requiring him to write to EU leaders asking to delay Brexit, to avoid the risk that Britain crashes out in less than a fortnight's time. — AFP

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# 'FUTURE TENSE, IT WILL BE WAR OF TECHNOLOGIES NEXT'



Prabha Rao, fmr. Addl. Sec. Cabinet Secretariat, Gol

## Economic growth will meet security concerns

Ease of doing business, stresses Niti Aayog Chairman, Amitabh Kant, is vital here in India. The nation, he says, is home to the largest population of youth, a factor we could use to our advantage. India also needs to be a more vital cog in the global supply chain. "Over the last five years, India has achieved several of these goals. The nation has opened up vast sectors, FDI has grown significantly and new technology has entered the fray. India will grow on the back of this."

India is the only country with over a billion biometrics, accounts and mobiles, making the nation a powerhouse of data. "Every digitised financial transaction can be tracked with ease and GST has given this another boost."

All this has resulted in an ecosystem where the private sector can innovate. "There are 30,000 startups in India that span various sectors, from nutrition and health to education."

In December, the United Nations Climate Change Conference will meet for the 25th time. "We have been talking about climate change, the science has confirmed it and now we're seeing manifestations on the ground. But are we any closer to a solution," said Suresh Prabhu, India's Sherpa to the G20. "Do we have what it takes to deal with the emerging challenges?" Representing nearly 80 percent of the world's GDP, the G20 could be pivotal in tackling issues that dog the world as a whole, from terrorism to climate change.



Gopal Hosur and Suresh Prabhu at the conclave in Bengaluru

**DARSHANA RAMDEV**  
BENGALURU, OCT. 20

The turn of the 21st century has brought with it a new range of challenges and security concerns, many of which have not been imagined throughout the history of intelligence and defence. For once, the world has seen the rise of a new brand of leadership, dramatically different from the democrats and dictators who led nations through the 1900s.

The 21st century has seen the rise of radical Islamic terrorism and the advent of cyber security threats. Former National Security Adviser, M.K. Narayanan, who delivered the keynote address at the start of the three-day Synergia Conclave, apologized, at the outset, for turning into a "prophet of doom," for the world is changing in ways that hadn't so far been imagined, making the future that much harder to predict. The Conclave, which took place on October 17, 18 and 19 here in Bengaluru, was arguably the foremost platform of its sort in the country, with an unparalleled gathering of intelligence, security and defence experts from around the world.

The "premature death" of liberalism and communism, says Narayanan, who has also served as the head of the Intelligence Bureau, beginning in the 1960s, has given rise to "leaders who practice a kind of personalised authoritarianism." Hitherto unforeseen innovations, in the hands of unpredictable leaders makes forecasting the future "rather difficult," he says. "Ideas and ideologies seem to be given short shrift and the vacuum is rapidly being filled by nationalism. How will this impact the future? That's purely a matter of conjecture but what is certain is that the future is likely to be startlingly different from the past."

Military strength and economic power are no longer the sole factors that dictate leadership, as IT, biotechnology, nanotechnology and cyber take on increasingly important roles, even as the threats of military conflict and nuclear war grow more unlikely, Narayanan says.

### Space Wars



Former National Security Adviser, M.K. Narayanan and Niti Aayog Amitabh Kant at a conclave in Bengaluru

Military conflict might seem unlikely but that's no cause for complacency. "Space wars," says Narayanan, "have come to replace nuclear proliferation. Both China and India have joined the fray with gusto, rapidly expanding their capabilities in outer space and testing Anti SAT weapons. "Countries are capable of building satellites with lasers that can jam enemy signals and Russia is known to be experimenting with proximity operations, connected to an orbital weapons programme. The weaponisation of outer space is a now a reality."

### Terror

"Existing threats from previous centuries, like terrorism, are likely to continue," says Narayanan. "They will be clothed in new garb and asymmetric threats are said to grow. Non-state



actors will play a major role in these." Islamic terrorism, he says, is also unlikely to be halted any time soon. But the worst is yet to come."

### Cyber Age

The leaps and bounds in technology should have made the world a better place. Instead, they have given rise to a hybrid system of warfare and security threats, "where the lines between the physical, digital and biological realms are being physically blurred." Technology, like big data, modern analytics, machine learning and quantum computing can do immense damage in the hands of an opponent, "one unrestrained by any notions of law or morality."

The monetary value of data, he points out, has surpassed that of fossil fuels and much of this data is "what we voluntarily share, including on

our innermost thoughts, desires and fears." Big data, he explains, is both an enemy and a friend. "The internet, once seen as a great liberator, now precipitates cyber criminality, and has become a surveillance engine that induces users to trade privacy for entertainment and distraction."

Cyber attacks have grown more sophisticated too, targeting both operational and informational infrastructure.

### Artificial Intelligence

"AI has the potential to solve the problem but it doesn't provide an all encompassing solution." Badly designed AI, believes Narayanan, can cause more harm than anything else. "Decision makers don't possess adequate knowledge of AI processes, as attackers tunnel effortlessly through digital networks, penetrating our defenses."

AI-enabled warfare, he says, will be a game-changer and "an extremely dangerous cyber arms race is already on the anvil."

### Quantum Computing

"The rise of quantum computers could be even more radical." Existing cryptographic algorithms can be broken in realistic time periods. These computers will also be able to produce "hyper realistic images," making veracity a scarce resource. "Passwords are easier to crack, even biometric devices that use fingerprints, facial recognition or retinal signatures can be bypassed."

Artificial Intelligence algorithms are dangerous also because they are opaque and as they learn on their own, "learning from bad data could wreak havoc."

Where, then does that leave the future of security? "The existential challenge," says Narayanan, "that the data age poses to society will be a matter of utmost concern as the century progresses. There is a need to innovate faster, fuse traditional human skills with technological innovations with a mindset that enables diversity and empowers the people."

## China talks up tech prowess, takes a swipe at US on trade

**Wuzhen (China), Oct. 20:** China on Sunday said it aims to become a "great power" in the online world and took a swipe at Washington on trade, kicking off its annual conference promoting the Communist Party's controlled and censored version of the Internet.

US-China rivalry is increasingly playing out in the digital sphere, as Beijing pursues dominance in next-generation technology while Washington takes measures to cripple Chinese tech firms like Huawei.

China heavily monitors and censors its Internet, with US titans Facebook, Twitter and Google all hidden behind a so-called "Great Firewall" that also blocks politically sensitive content.

At the yearly World Internet Conference, held in the picturesque ancient canal town of Wuzhen since 2014, Chinese officials talked up the country's tech prowess.

"We have become a cyberspace power of 800 million netizens," the head of the Communist Party's propaganda department, Huang Kunming, said in a keynote address.

Huang added that in the future, China "will unceasingly expand the fruits of Internet development and forge ahead from a cyberspace 'big power' to a cyberspace 'great power'".

The propaganda chief also denounced "cyber-hegemony and bullying" by other countries — using language typically reserved for the United States — which he said were behind confrontation in the high-tech world.

The US is threatening crippling sanctions on Huawei, which is expected to be a leading player in the advent of ultra-fast 5G communications that will make many



A young woman walks next to a screen during the 6th World Internet Conference in Wuzhen town in the city of Tongxiang in Zhejiang province on Sunday. — AFP

new technologies possible.

"Some countries have placed restrictions on and suppressed other countries and companies, escalating uncertainty and even antagonism in cyberspace," Huang said, without naming the United States directly.

The US commerce department also earlier this month said it will blacklist 28 Chinese entities it says are implicated in rights violations and abuses in China's Xinjiang region, where an estimated one million mostly Muslim minorities are held in internment camps.

President Xi Jinping has previously sketched out plans for China to gain dominance — with heavy assistance from the government — in key future technologies by 2025, a strategy that has caused US alarm.

The conference has faced foreign criticism as an attempt to white-

wash the Communist Party's cyberspace controls in the name of "Internet sovereignty" rather than viewing the web as an open global resource.

In the past, the event has drawn leading US tech CEOs such as Apple's Tim Cook and Google's Sundar Pichai.

But with the US-China tensions simmering, this year's conference lacks any high-profile US figures.

Silicon Valley has also been embroiled in recent efforts by Beijing to step up pressure on foreign companies deemed to be in support of Hong Kong's pro-democracy movement.

Earlier this month Apple removed an app criticised by mainland China for allowing Hong Kong protesters to track police, a move which sparked fierce criticism and accusations of bowing to China. — AFP

## Trump great at a party... but unfit to be Prez: Uzi



Former National Security Adviser Shivshankar Menon (centre) with former advisor to Israeli PM Netanyahu and Krishnan Srinivasan former foreign secretary

**DARSHANA RAMDEV**

"If it wasn't sad, it would be funny." Complex problems, unprecedented leaps in science and technology that have redefined the security landscape, blurring geographical boundaries, revolutionising access to data and surveillance, could prove either a boon or a destructive force unparalleled in the history of mankind. "It all boils down to intent," says

Israeli strategist Uzi Arad, former National Security Adviser to the government of Israel, foreign policy advisor to PM of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, has served in Mossad for over two decades. Once a loyal supporter of Netanyahu, Arad has more recently emerged as one of his harshest critics. Advancements that could make or break the world are now in the hands of "charismatic leaders who use authoritarian methods and populist measures" to secure their own power.

"Problems are becoming bigger and more complicated, but the performance of the leaders who are supposed to address them has declined," said Arad. Populism has found immense support across the world but the advent of charismatic leaders - and their followers - has also led to the politicisation of certain administrative systems. "The politicisation of government procedures has placed greater reliance," says Arad, "On political positioning and posturing, at the expense of professionalism and empirical approaches. This is evident in the way governments are now staffed, in the West, primarily." The approach to certain matters, he says, "could be defined as sheer negligence."

Looking through the internet, he says, he finds "the one that has been on the rise is a sense of good humour. I'm choosing this because it was in the news - we have all seen a copy of the letter written by President Trump to Turkish President Erdogan. Such a letter, remarked one user on social media, I have never seen in my life! This is one of a kind!"

Arad has "met Donald Trump once, at a dinner," he says. "He was great fun, because I never expected him to run for office! Talking over drinks, he was great fun." Years later, when Donald Trump became a contender, Arad decided to watch one of his debates. "I turned to my friends and said - totally unqualified!" Arad, despite his years in government, never fathomed that Donald Trump, "great fun" though he was, stood a chance of being elected. "Clearly, I was wrong. So much for me."

How, then, did "a person with such deficiencies," as Arad describes the President of the United States, win such overwhelming favour with the American electorate? It was the rise of another phenomenon - social media. "The direct impact those technologies made was

instantaneous and stronger than anything in the past." Leaders have become more powerful in terms of effect, but many of them display personalities that are described as "flawed," Arad remarks.

### Erdogan, Putin and Assad

"This is a crisis of the weak." Erdogan, "clearly a flawed character, tends to resort to force. Also a character," remarks Arad. Erdogan, like other nationalist leaders who have taken the world by storm, displays certain character traits which don't necessarily make him a good leader, but which strike a chord with the public. "His temperament, however, is very much a factor in the game."

As for Assad, Arad provides a rather clipped summary: "He is a certifiable psychopath." Anyone who can order the use of chemical weapons on his own people, he says, "is a psychopath!" Syria has witnessed one of the most brutal civil wars in history. In Israel, where Syria's proclivity for chemical weapons has been closely observed for some time, experts would ponder what use would be found for them. A weapon of last resort, perhaps, if the ruling regime faced certain defeat? Or an opening strike in a war context, perhaps to disrupt Israeli mobilisation? "Never did we imagine them being used on their own people!"

Putin, Arad says, with an imperceptible sigh, "is consistent. Thank God for that!" Again, he is a leader prone to violence. Here, decisions are dictated by temperament and political concerns, but never the good of the state. "The prevalence of such leaders in the world poses a serious problem."

### Role of intelligence

How does intelligence respond in such circumstances? Will they be run by people who wish to speak truth to power? "No. They will be politicised, because that is what these leaders do," says Arad. "Look at the way the American President is leading the war against his own intelligence agencies! Never before have we seen this!"

Where does this all lead? The world is witnessed continual, accelerated change, making the future very hard to predict. But the real complicating factor, says Arad, "is the relationship between the followers and the leader. Another factor is foreign interference in the electoral processes. Election processes are being abused."

## FLY & FORGET: INDIA AIMS AT SMARTER UAVs

**AKSHEEV THAKUR**  
BENGALURU, OCT. 20

The recent drone attack on oil facilities in Saudi Arabia has put the spotlight on this new form of warfare and now it appears that India too is working on unmanned drones going on autonomous missions inside enemy territory.

Speakers at a session on 'Future of combat-innocuous drones and lethal standoff weapons' revealed the country's progress on using drones for combat during a three-day conference by the Synergia Foundation in the city on Saturday.



Rafale RB002

The audience learnt that the country has the capability of sending its Indian Air Force (IAF)

fighters accompanied by unmanned wingman flying in formation to destroy enemy targets.

Speaking of the solar powered high altitude pseudo satellite (HAPS) UAV, developed by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), squadron leader, Sameer Joshi, CEO, New Space Research, said, "HAPS fly at 20 plus kilometers in the stratosphere. They are a game changer. They can be used in Humanitarian Assistance Disaster Relief (HADR) operations as well."

The unmanned wingman developed by HAL with medium and small scale industries (MSME) playing their part, is connected to a fighter aircraft and is assigned spe-

cific tasks by the pilots through the data link.

"We have demonstrated this to the Indian Air Force (IAF) at Pokhran. An unmanned wingman flies in a formation and is controlled by a fighter aircraft. It has capabilities similar to a fighter aircraft but is smaller. It flies upto the border and a fighter stays behind by about 50 to 100 kms on whatever mission he is on," said group captain H.V. Thakur, experimental test pilot at the HAL, explaining that the drone has the advantage of flying deep inside enemy territory without the risk of losing a pilot.



### Unsafe UP

Akhilesh asks UP CM Yogi to meet kin of those killed due to 'bad law and order situation' in UP.

## 'Rajapaksa return will curb radicalisation'

NEENA GOPAL  
BENGALURU, OCT. 20

In a marked break from the China-leaning politics of the past which gave Beijing primacy in the island nation, former Sri Lankan defence chief Gotabhaya Rajapaksa, widely seen as the front-runner in the upcoming presidential polls this November, has told advisers that he will pursue a foreign policy that maintains "equidistance" from India and China.

Speaking on the sidelines of the Synergia Conclave 2019, that concluded on Saturday, terror expert, Prof. Rohan Gunaratna, said that the younger Rajapaksa's call

to "seek neutral status" and craft an "equidistant foreign policy" unlike when his older brother Mahinda Rajapakse was president and had all but ceded a string of ports in Colombo and his hometown of Hambantota to the Chinese, "this will be a significant departure from the foreign policy of the earlier Rajapaksa regime."

Amid unconfirmed reports that Gotabhaya, the architect of the May 2009 obliteration of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), had already reached out to the Narendra Modi government, with assurances that he would not play Beijing off against Delhi, Prof. Gunaratna, professor



of security studies at Singapore's Nanyang University, said that the secret tip-off from India's Research & Analysis Wing (R&AW) days before the Easter attacks may have been the turning point.

"There was a time when India armed, trained and financed the Tamil Tigers. But that time is over. Today, India has provided high-quality intelligence. This intelligence demonstrates that India is willing to cooperate and collaborate with Sri Lanka and other countries in the region to fight the global expansion of the Islamic State," he said.

— ROHAN GUNARATNA

"The vilayats have been declared in Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and SL. IS and Al Qaeda have a significant presence in Bangladesh. The Jamaat Mujahideen Bangladesh faction that became Islamic State in the Maldives too. This region is a very significant territory for IS to take root and grow," Prof. Gunaratna said, his remarks pointing to the growing alarm within the Sinhala community of the new threat to peace posed by the Muslim minority, post the Easter bomb attacks last April that claimed the lives of 254 people, mainly Christians.

As polls grow close, many believe the previous Maitripala Sirisena-Ranil Wickremesinghe government's complacency to the growing home-grown terror threat, fanned by Islamic State had all but given the election on a platter to the Rajapaksa challenger. "Since 42 Sri Lankans travelled in January 2015, from Sri Lanka to Syria and Iraq, the threat was known to Sri Lankan intelligence and security services," Prof Gunaratna said. A Rajapaksa return will see a government that works "very closely with the Muslim community, strengthen relationships with them and protect them from becoming radicalised," he said. Religious leaders and educators must come together to address the challenge.

Addressing a gathering at his official residence at the launch of a book, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said "major effort is being made to demonise technology. Attempts are being made to create an atmosphere of fear by demonising technology, the Prime Minister on Sunday cautioned against such efforts. Addressing a gathering at his official residence at the launch of a book, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said "major effort is being made to demonise technology. Attempts are being made to create an atmosphere of fear".

### PM: Attempts being made to demonise technology

Specially in the context of India, technology is being presented as a challenge to the country's demographic dividend, the prime minister was quoted as saying by agencies. He said the debate should not be on the dangers of artificial intelligence or when will robots outsmart humans. "But the debate should be on how to create a bridge between artificial intelligence and human intentions." The Prime Minister stressed on the need to understand that technology is a bridge and not a divider. "Technology builds bridge between aspirations and achievement, demand and delivery, government and governance in order to achieve sabka saath, sabka vikas," he said. — PTI

## 'BJP did not raise key issues of state' Selja confident Cong will form next govt in Haryana

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

A day before Haryana goes to Assembly polls, state Congress unit chief Kumari Selja said that there has been rapid change on the ground in favour of the party and the will form the next government in the state.



Kumari Selja

Addressing a press conference she said, "Haryana's people have seen through their (BJP's) game of diverting attention. They talked about Article 370, National Register of Citizens (NRC). But as of today, the BJP has not been able to change the narrative according to its own will. They tried but there are so many issues in Haryana. We raised those issues and people have responded to that."

Earlier, too, the Congress had alleged that the BJP has only one point agenda to talk about the abrogation of Article 370 and Pakistan. Kumari Selja further added "Be it the PM (Narendra Modi) or other top BJP leaders or the Haryana CM, they did not talk about even one issue of Haryana because they know that they are on the back foot. The people of Haryana said that first, you should give your report and then ask for votes. They could not give a report and tried to divert attention continuously." Top BJP leaders, including party chief Amit Shah, have raised the issue in their poll speeches and hit out at the opposition over it. Interestingly the Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi challenged the Congress to clear its stand on Article 370 whether they want to bring it back. Asked if the Congress has been successful in countering the BJP's nationalism pitch in the assembly polls campaign and the raising of Article 370, Selja said there is nothing nationalistic about it and it was a "political issue" as far as the BJP is concerned. The Congress supported the abrogation of Article 370 in parliament but had its reservation on the way it was done. The ninety member Haryana assembly goes to polls on October 21st.

SHRIRAM BHARATIYA KALA KENDRA

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Veteran Communist leader and former Kerala chief minister V.S. Achuthanandan being offered a piece of cake by his wife Vasumathy on his 96th birthday at their residence in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday. — PTI

### UP failed to control crime, says Priyanka

New Delhi, Oct. 20:

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Sunday slammed the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh over the state's law and order situation, alleging that it had failed to rein in crime.

The Congress general secretary also shared a snapshot of news headlines of major crime incidents in the state. Among the headlines was a reference to the killing of Hindu Samaj Party chief Kamlesh Tiwari.

The collage of news headlines had the caption, "Har din apraadh ke naam, bhajpa sarkaar puri nakaam (everyday criminal incidents, BJP government a complete failure)". The Congress on Saturday had hit out at the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh over the law and order situation in the state, alleging "jungle raj" was prevailing there. — PTI

### 'Cops forced us to meet him' Yogi meets kin of Hindutva leader, mom dissatisfied

Lucknow, Oct. 20:

Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday met at his official residence the family members of slain Hindutva leader Kamlesh Tiwari and sought to assure them of all help and justice but failed to win the trust of the killed man's mother.

Despite sounding satisfied with the chief minister's assurances immediately after meeting him, Tiwari's distraught mother Kusum later said she was not satisfied and vowed to "take up the sword" herself, if she did not get the justice.

She also blamed the police for forcing the family to venture out of their house to meet the chief minister, despite customs forbidding a family to get out of the house during the mourning period. "It was at his (CM)



Yogi Adityanath

direction that police-men forced us to meet him. So we were compelled to come (to Lucknow)," she said. "Had I been satisfied (with the chief minister's assurance), my blood would not have boiled," she told media-persons later when asked if she was satisfied with the meeting. "If we do not get justice, I myself will take up the sword," Kusum distraught mother Kusum Tiwari told reporters some time after meeting Adityanath. — PTI

### FIR AGAINST BJP LEADER OVER SPEECH

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
PATNA, OCT. 20

An FIR has been registered against BJP state president Sanjay Jaiswal for allegedly violating the model code of conduct while addressing businessmen in Kishanganj ahead of by-elections which are scheduled to be held on October 21.

Officials said that the case was lodged following a written complaint by the Kishanganj Sadar

circle officer on Saturday evening. The complaint was lodged on the basis of a video which showed Mr. Jaiswal urging local businessmen and party workers to shut their offices and pay a sum of ₹500 to each of their staff on the day of the elections.

Sweetie Singh, the party's candidate from Kishanganj assembly, seat was also seen sitting on the dais while he gave the controversial speech.

Sources said that Mr. Jaiswal allegedly made the remarks during a meeting of the local businessmen held on Thursday at the residence of one of the party workers. "We have registered an FIR after the video surfaced on Saturday. Further action against all those who violated the model code of conduct can be initiated only after the investigation in the case", Sadar SDM Shahnawaz Ahmed Niyazi said.

### MUNDE IN SOUP FOR REMARKS ON COUSIN SISTER

Beed: An FIR has been lodged against NCP leader Dhananjay Munde for allegedly making obscene comments against his estranged cousin and Maharashtra minister Pankaja Munde at an election rally, a police official said on Sunday. The NCP leader, however, said the clip was edited and fake, and his remarks were "distorted" to project him as a "villain" by his rivals to win elections. A video purportedly showing the NCP leader making the remarks against the minister went viral on social media, following which a BJP functionary from Parli in Beed district filed a police complaint against him on Saturday, he said. Both the cousins are locked in a battle from Parli segment for Monday's state Assembly polls. Pankaja Munde, the sitting BJP MLA from Parli, is the daughter of late party veteran Gopinath Munde. "Acting on the co-plaint filed by Parli BJP president Jugal Kishor Lohiya, the FIR was lodged late Saturday night against Dhananjay Munde under Indian Penal Code Sections 500 (defamation), 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult modesty of a woman) and 294 (obscene act in public place)," Parli police station in-charge Purushottam Chobe told PTI. Lohiya in his complaint said the NCP leader allegedly made the obscene remarks against the BJP minister at a public meeting. — PTI

## Goyal a bigot blinded by hatred, says Rahul

New Delhi, Oct. 20: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday hit out at Union minister Piyush Goyal for his remarks that Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee is "Left-leaning", saying "these bigots are blinded by hatred" and have no idea what a professional is.



Rahul Gandhi

Mr Goyal, at a media briefing in Pune, had described Banerjee as a "Left-leaning" person. The Nobel laureate on Saturday told a TV channel that the commerce minister is "questioning my professionalism".

"Dear Mr Banerjee, These bigots are blinded by hatred and have no idea what a professional is. You cannot explain it to them, even if you tried for a decade," Mr



Piyush Goyal

Gandhi said in a tweet tagging the media report on Banerjee's response to Goyal's comments on him. "Please be certain that millions of Indians are

proud of your work," the former Congress president said. Mr Goyal on Friday had also said Banerjee's suggestion of a minimum income scheme was rejected by Indian voters and there was no need to "accept what he thinks". On Saturday, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra had also hit out at BJP leader Piyush Goyal for his remarks and said the government's job is not to run a "comedy circus", but improve the "collapsing" economy. — PTI

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21<sup>st</sup> October, 2019

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50 YEARS AGO IN

DECCAN Chronicle

India may export aluminium during Fourth Plan period

Hyderabad: Effective exploitation of copper and lead at Agnigundala in Guntur district is expected to commence in 1971.

This was stated here today by the Union Minister of State for Mines and Metals, Mr. R. Jagannatha Rao, while speaking to newsmen.

In the Agnigundala area exploration work has been completed. Samples of deposits in this area would be sent for examination shortly, the Union Minister said.

Mr Jagannatha Rao disclosed that the Centre has approved a Rs 5.66-crore scheme to set up a plant at Bondalamattu, in Agnigundala area.

Open mind

Asked whether a corporation would be set up to exploit copper deposits at Agnigundala, the Union Minister pointed out that it depends upon the quantity of ore. He said, he had an open mind on this question.

Mr Jagannatha Rao explained that the country was at present self-sufficient in aluminium. We might be in a position to export this non-ferrous metal during the Fourth Plan period.

The Union Minister was of the view that India might be able to meet more than 50 per cent of its demand for other non-ferrous metals, like copper, lead and zinc by the end of the Fifth Plan period.

ODDLY ENOUGH

Bosnia's lady in red readies for afterlife

Breze: Zorica Rebernik has spent her life in red and plans to stay that way — even after she dies.

After four decades dressing in the color from head to toe, the 67-year-old Bosnian has had tombstones made for herself and husband Zoran — whom she married wearing a red gown — from a special red granite imported from India. The retired schoolteacher lives in a red house, where she and Zoran eat from red plates, drink from red glasses and sleep in red bedding. Even her hair is dyed red. — Reuters

# Dear Rahul, stop moaning, spell an alternate vision or risk irrelevance



Surendra Kumar

focus

■ The Opposition lies in total disarray. There are too many leaders squabbling among themselves, no strong and coherent counternarrative and a demoralised cadre. With several Congress leaders facing court cases, BJP zealots are gleefully projecting it as a party of crooks. The Congress desperately needs to reinvent itself.

In the last scene of Raj Kapoor's much acclaimed film noir, *Jagte Raho*, after the harrowing ordeal of the whole night, when a thirsty Raj is eventually able to quench his thirst with water being poured down in to his hands by an ethereally angelic Nargis, a bhajan plays in the background — *Jago mohan pyare jago, nagar sab kaliyan jaagi nagar, nagar...* It conveys one of the most sublime messages of hope, optimism and new beginnings.

A couple of years back, when the iconic Rafa Nadal lost to Novak Djokovic for the eighth time in a row, a perplexed journalist asked him: "Rafa, what's going on?" Ever sporting Rafa gave a disarmingly honest answer: "My game is not hurting him! Even my best isn't good enough to beat him! I have to reinvent and reset my game, bring in that Extra something to get the better of him." There is a lesson for Rahul Gandhi if he has a sportsman's instinct like Nadal.

During the parliamentary elections in 2019, Rahul campaigned vigorously, attacked Narendra Modi relentlessly blaming him for whatever was going wrong in the country. Alas, the results gave Mr Modi a thumping majority. Like Nadal, Rahul should have realised that his best wasn't good enough to beat the former *chaiwala* and fierce *swayamsevak* of the RSS who blunted all the accusations hurled at him with an unending list of decisions taken by him to better the lives of millions of Indians and make India a secure and stronger nation. Many of the failures of Mr Modi mentioned by Rahul might not have been totally untrue but the Indian electorate thought that in spite of everything which his detractors had been saying against him, it was bet-



Rahul Gandhi's latest diatribe against Mr Modi seemed tired and ineffectual

ter to give Mr Modi a second chance than to give a first chance to a totally untried Rahul Gandhi. After all, in all the opinion polls on who was most suited to lead the country, Mr Modi always registered a lead of over 24 points over Rahul Gandhi. If in the sycophantic circles of his advisers, anyone has the courage to be forthright with Rahul Gandhi, he/she should tell him that it's time for him to reinvent himself and reset his strategy to counter the Modi government with something "Extra" rather than go on repeating the same accusations against the sitting PM that public has heard an umpteen number of times and dismissed with a shrug. Without a brutally frank and honest introspection, the Congress Party stands no chance to ever return to power again. Everybody thinks it's counterproductive to go on attacking the PM; Rahul Gandhi should listen to such voices.

While commenting on the downturn in the Indian economy, the former PM, Dr Manmohan

Singh, had reportedly said, "Before one can fix the economy, one needs a correct diagnosis of its ailments and their causes." If one were to replace the word, "economy" with "INC", it would apply equally aptly. The manner in which the oldest political party of India has been operating in the five months since suffering its most humiliating defeat in recent times shows that it has been unable to diagnose correctly its malady. The most earthshaking development that has taken place in the Indian National Congress in the last four-five months has been that its young and purportedly combative president has resigned (veteran leader and former external affairs minister Salman Khurshid put it pithily: "Our leader left us") and none outside the Gandhi Nehru family has emerged as his successor; so his mother has assumed responsibilities as an interim president!

Rahul Gandhi's speeches last week still focussed on the Rafale deal, farmer suicides, agrarian distress, joblessness, corrup-

tion and so on. It shows that he has neither learnt anything nor forgotten anything! His recent jibe — *Bechendra Modi* — accusing Mr Modi of selling off the public sector undertakings and giving them to his friends reflects the same problem — he has no idea how much damage Mani Shankar Aiyar's derogatory remarks — *chaiwala* and *neech* — had caused the Congress Party!

The INC is slowly and surely slipping into coma. When in deep coma, the patient is actually unconscious; totally unaware of what's going around him/her. But when slipping into coma, one regains spells of consciousness, can recognise faces and sounds but can't connect them, can't figure out what is happening and why. The current state of the Congress is quite akin to this state. Bereft of the glue of power and a charismatic leader who could attract the electorate by addressing their concerns and articulating a persuasive and convincing vision, different from that of the present dispensa-

tion, and without an inspired and energised cadre that has fire within to fight in spite of setbacks of the recent past, the Congress is likely to meet the same fate in coming state Assembly elections as it did in the parliamentary election in May this year.

In politics, perceptions matter more than the reality. On the eve of the 2014 elections, the UPA-2 government was perceived as reeking with corruption and one deserving to be shown the door. In May 2019, Mr Modi's persona and articulation of what he had done in five years and his tantalising vision of a "New India" obliterated Rahul's long list of complaints against the NDA. His repeated accusations of corruption in the Rafale deal and *chowkidar chor hai* slogan didn't stick. Nationalistic fervour generated by the Balakot air strikes and solidification of Hindu votes also helped.

Now, armed with the record of 100 days of Modi 2.0 — triple talaq bill, abrogation of the Article 370 and bifurcation of Jammu

● Rahul Gandhi's speeches last week still focussed on the Rafale deal, farmer suicides, agrarian distress, joblessness, corruption and so on. It shows that he has learnt nothing.

and Kashmir Union territory and the buzz created around the idea of a five trillion dollar economy, lowering of corporate tax and Howdy Modi!, the Modi government is perceived as strong, robust and nationalist, capable of taking tough decisions and ready to protect India against external threats. In state elections, state leaders do matter but Mr Modi matters the most!

In contrast, the Opposition lies in total disarray. There are too many leaders squabbling among themselves, no strong and coherent counternarrative and a demoralised cadre. With several Congress leaders facing court cases, BJP zealots are gleefully projecting it as a party of crooks.

Only Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal is smart amid this crisis. With very few cards in his hand, he has put aside, at least for the present, his diatribe against the lieutenant governor and the Centre and unleashed a blitzkrieg of media splashes of his government's achievements. Besides parading AAP supporters on TV screens claiming to have received zero electricity bills and benefited from mohalla clinics and government schools, his campaigns — Dengue Per Baar, Har Keemat Per Jaan Bachani Hai to save road accident victims and attempts at pollution reduction through the odd-even scheme — resonate with a large number of people. With full page advertisements in national dailies, he has become the most visible face in the National Capital Region after Mr Modi. Rahul can learn a few tricks from Mr Kejriwal. In fact, there may be wisdom latent in the idea of joining hands with him.

The writer is a retired Indian diplomat

# RSS is strong since its worldview resonates with all



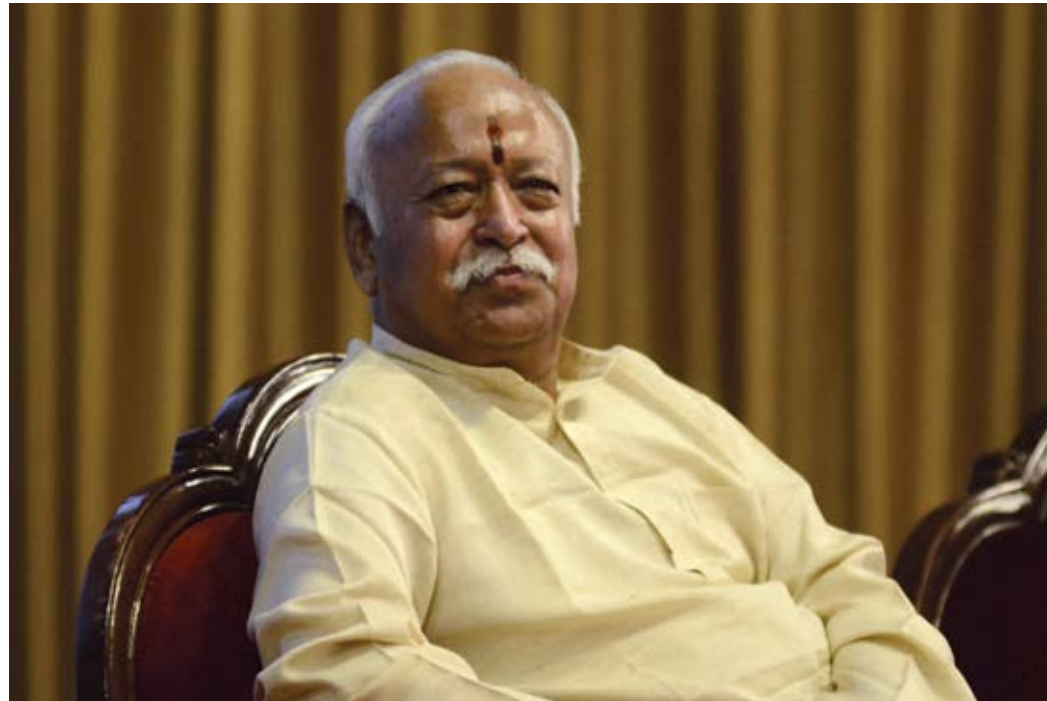
G.V. Anshuman Rao

meanwhile

■ The RSS had started its journey in the form of a small seed 94 years ago to become a huge banyan tree in contemporary times. Despite this fact, there are misunderstandings about this organisation persisting in the intelligentsia. In this context, Bhagwat's speech is like an authentic document.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has become the largest volunteering organisation of world due to consistency dedication of its workers. Millions of *swayamsevaks*, prepared by its mother organisation over 94 years, have installed and developed more than 50 sister organisations. Despite this prolific achievement, the RSS has been undergoing a litmus test. After a long legal battle, the organisation has successfully isolated itself from the allegation of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination, but is still struggling to free itself from the public perception of being anti-Muslim. The Vijayadashami speech of *sarsanghchalak* Dr Mohan Bhagwat or his latest discourse with the intellectuals in Odisha clearly indicates that there is no concrete reason appears that declares the Sangh as anti-Muslim or a rigid organisation. This organisation seems to an alternative to the Congress party, the one led by Mahatma Gandhi. In that time, the Congress was trying to eradicate social evils like illiteracy and untouchability and the RSS and its sister organisations has been doing the same exercise.

There is a misconception about the Sangh that it is restricted to a particular tradition and bound with rigidity. This notion has been also clarified in the speech of Dr



Bhagwat. He concluded his speech with the song: *Yug parivartan ki bela mein ham sab milkar sath chale desh dharm ki raksha ke hit, sahte sab aghat chale...* which means: "In the time of changing era we should move together and to protect our country and dharma we should move tolerating all assaults." It clarifies many things. The Sangh is ready to accept all type of changes according to the changing era. It is ready for the changes according to the times and need except its basic idea and core values.

Second RSS chief Madhav Sadashiv Golwalkar alias Shri Guruji, who had contributed a lot in the expansion and strengthening of the organisation, has written in his book

Bunch of Thoughts, about the dialogue between him and our first Prime Minister Pt Jawaharlal Nehru. During their conversations, Nehru asked him that why they keep on repeating the Hindi-Hindu line every time. He also told that by doing this the RSS had confined itself inside a boundary wall and stopped the fresh air of world from coming inside. At this, Golwalkar replied that we should welcome the winds coming from all sides and corners. We should come in contact of all type of ideologies being implemented in different parts of world and we should also try to understand them and examine them subtly to accept the suitable parts of each. But this doesn't mean that by doing this we

should destroy our own house and get buried under the demolished roof. Dr Bhagwat also very aptly once again clarified that the RSS is ready for positive changes and that we should accept a form of education system that is able to introduce our generation to our mother tongue, dress, culture and provide a time-relevant, logical, righteous and gentle view towards the world and duty-bound knowledge.

The RSS chief clearly asserted on the questions regarding the word, Hindu, the dilemma is driven by fictional propaganda prevalent since the British rule period and there is a class of society even today which does not accept this word in its true essence and use the word Indian

instead. Some people use the word "Indic" for the civilisations based on Indian culture and temperament. The Sangh also accepts these synonyms. One is not isolated only because of a different word, community, worship style, food habit and traditions. All are one in the eyes of the RSS. Our benevolent nature is the national temperament that is Hindutva. These words, asserted by Dr Mohan Bhagwat, clarify the modus operandi of this huge organisation. This organisation keeps expanding despite protest. As the RSS says, the reason behind it is that there is no difference between what it is saying and what it is doing. People continue to join this organisation and whoever comes once remains forever. Critics ignore this facet of the Sangh. But the fact is that its dedicated volunteers are the core strength of this organisation.

Politics, education, agriculture, industry, dharma, culture, literature, history, journalism, trade unions, medicine, services and research are many areas where these volunteers are working. The BJP one of its sister organisations, is ruling the country on the basis of its firm determination. The RSS had started its journey in the form of a small seed 94 years ago to become a huge banyan tree in contemporary times, which has spread itself across the country over the years. Despite this fact, there are many misunderstandings about this organisation persisting among intellectuals. In this context, Bhagwat's speech is like an authentic doc-

ument to understand the contemporary situation, working culture, modus operandi and temperament of the RSS.

There is a trend of verbal attacks on the RSS regarding the word lynching. Bhagwat discussed this issue in length and said that violence created by an attack of one community on another is not one-sided. According to him, reports suggest an unfortunate blame game happening over these kind of incidents. Some incidents had been intentionally orchestrated and projected in a twisted manner. Bhagwat points to the theory that ever since 2014 after the formation of Narendra Modi government, the word, lynching, has come to light in the discourse of mob violence. The RSS chief also tried to convey that "lynching" does not assimilate in the culture of India as it originates in the Western society. But this word was intentionally popularised in India after 2014. So RSS believes that the word lynching identifies the violent nature of a society, unlike the reality of Indian society. De-associating the RSS from mob violence, Bhagwat clearly said that it never supports the people involved in such incidents and has always condemned such incidents. As the debate on lynching continues to be in the political arena inspired by various reasons, the RSS chief has clearly tried his best to give the discourse a new dimension.

The writer is a political analyst and a former chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Electronics Development Corporation

Education, agriculture, culture, literature, journalism, trade unions and research are some of the RSS' activities

When pure performance is the criteria, I've noticed women naturally excel

I can, therefore I am

**THE ASIAN AGE**

21 OCTOBER 2019

**Politics whiff to Hindu leader's murder probe**

Those responsible for the murder of Kamlesh Tiwari, who headed a minor Hindu Mahasabha offshoot, at his residence-cum-office in Lucknow on Friday, must be caught at the earliest after careful investigation and put on trial. But due diligence hasn't been the strong suit of the UP police for a long time. Under chief minister Yogi Adityanath, one of whose first acts as CM of the nation's most populous state in early 2017, was to have all criminal cases against himself dropped, the idea of justice and of dependable police work, an important aspect of judicial administration, have become conspicuous by their absence. The law and order machinery has been both politicised and communalised.

In the present case, the police acted swiftly, booking culprits from not only UP but also Gujarat, with tracking of suspects also being done in Nagpur in Maharashtra. This is possibly because those booked are from the Muslim community.

This would be in keeping with the record of the Adityanath administration whether we document the fake encounters, the so-called "love jihad" cases that were overly communalised and shown to be fabricated, or of the innocent medical professional Dr Kafeel, who appears to have been framed on account of his faith.

The poorer communities among Hindus have also been at the receiving end, as in a high profile case in Mirzapur showed recently, where upper caste men attacked a dalit village and the CM and the police gave no succour to the latter, choosing instead to attack political opponents for highlighting the government's proclivity for one-sided actions.

In the matter of the murder of Kamlesh Tiwari, members of the Muslim community may indeed have committed the crime. The deceased appears to have been a religious fanatic and had bad-mouthed the Prophet Muhammad in 2015, and distributed pamphlets carrying that dubious message, in the process attracting the ire of most of Muslim society. To track Muslim suspects may, therefore, be legitimate if there is the smallest suspicion. But the UP police and the CM himself have gone to the media in a way that suggests they have solved the case, and some Muslim youth are at the centre of it.

This single-track approach is apt to raise doubts in light of the assertion by the mother of the deceased that a UP BJP leader should be investigated over her son's killing.

Her contention is that there was a dispute between this politico and her son over temple land in a village. It is surprising that the police has not commented on this matter, though the UP police chief himself has chosen to make statements in this case, rather than leave it to the spokesman. This too suggests his readiness to remain in tandem with the CM's thinking in the case, rather than direct his force to investigate the matter in a fair and impartial manner.

**Smooth Brexit is in peril**

In thwarting a Brexit vote, British MPs were seeking additional insurance against an abrupt October 31 exit from the European Union that would hurt Britain. Prime Minister Boris Johnson retaliated in a truculent way as he usually does by sending an unsigned letter to the EU on the need to postpone Britain's exit. "I am Boris, trust me," he may say, and have the last laugh as Parliament may vote positively later this week on the new divorce deal he brought back from Brussels. The deal may not be the best, and even signals a betrayal of what the PM promised over the backstop and Northern Ireland. Brexit may be too complicated now for anyone in Britain to be satisfied, including those who voted for it in the referendum. But is Boris the only one knows how to get it done?

The PM's attitude, his brazen defiance of the British system's norms and culture — of an unwritten Constitution, but bound by traditions going back to the Magna Carta — and his devil-may-care approach to Brexit by October 31 should make the democratic world sit up. The PM has mocked parliamentary colleagues, sacked some of his own Tories and is cocking a snook at MPs by, quite preposterously, sending an unsigned letter among three to the EU. He is defying the Supreme Court that felt compelled to rule his proroguing of Parliament invalid. In short, Boris is showing all signs of "strongmanship", which is a term in the making for the present era, dominated by the likes of Donald Trump, Xi Jinping, Vladimir Putin, Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Jair Bolsonaro. A proclivity to believe they're always right and that they needn't consult anyone on their decisions is a credo of this club.

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T. VENKATRAM REDDY  
Editor in Chief

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Anita Katyal  
**Political Gup-Shup**

**Rejig buzz starts guessing game; Priyanka's team attracts envy**

Though the Narendra Modi government was sworn in only five months ago, there is already talk in the corridors of power that the Prime Minister may go in for a Cabinet expansion/reshuffle in the near future. In fact, insiders in the Bharatiya Janata Party say it could even happen before the winter session of Parliament slated to commence in the third week of November. There are many ministers who are holding more than one portfolio and the proposed exercise is meant to lighten their burden. The new inductions will most likely be of a minister of state rank. Sulking allies like the Janata Dal (United) may also be accommodated. Anil Baluni, who heads the BJP's media department, is being mentioned as a strong contender for a ministerial post. Baluni is learned to have befriended Modi and BJP president Amit Shah when he was attached to Sunder Singh Bhandari during the latter's tenure as Gujarat governor. Suresh Prabhu was excluded in

the first round but the possibility of his induction cannot be ruled out. There is also a strong buzz that Mr Modi could bring in a domain expert in the agriculture or finance sectors as he did by appointing former foreign secretary S. Jaishankar as the external affairs minister. There is no certainty in this regard but several names are being bandied around. The guessing game is on.

It is only a by-election to an Assembly seat but the October 21 poll for the Jhabua constituency in Madhya Pradesh but it has become a prestige battle for both the ruling Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party. The BJP is obviously keen to retain the seat as a victory will not only improve the party's tally of MLAs but also embolden it further to topple the Congress government which has a wafer-thin majority in the Assembly. On the other hand, chief minister Kamal Nath and senior Congress leader Digvijaya Singh are putting their best foot forward in this election. For them,

this bypoll is not just about consolidating Kamal Nath's position as chief minister but it also has a bearing on the internal dynamics in the Congress Party's Madhya Pradesh unit. Nath and Singh, who have joined forces to sideline former minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, are working overtime for the victory of their loyalist, Kantilal Bhuria, as it would then strengthen their campaign for the appointment of the tribal leader as president of Madhya Pradesh Congress. It is no secret that Scindia has also been lobbying for this post in an effort to retain his hold in state politics which has been weakening since his defeat in the Lok Sabha election. Only time will tell if Scindia will succeed in outsmarting his senior colleagues.

As was to be expected, a new announcement of a new team of the Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee has led to rumblings in the party with the senior leaders complaining that it is packed with outsiders and juniors. In an attempt to placate

the dissenters, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's loyalists have made it known that the new members are on what is being described as probation for three months. According to them, the fresh incumbents have been told by the Congress general secretary's office that their work will be monitored closely and that they will be shown the door if they fail to deliver. For instance, the absence of the members from a party meeting or their failure to hold regular programmes in their areas will not be taken lightly. This has, to some extent, reassured the veterans who find themselves marginalised in the new set-up. A senior leader from Uttar Pradesh was recently heard exulting that the tenure of the fresh entrants will not last long. "Wait and see... most of the newcomers will not survive the test. We should be prepared for further changes in a couple of months," he added happily.

The Congress is currently abuzz with stories about a showdown between party

chief Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi a few weeks ago. Apparently, Sonia Gandhi wanted to appoint senior leader Sushil Kumar Shinde as party general secretary in charge of organisation in place of K.C. Venugopal who is a Rahul Gandhi favourite. The Nehru-Gandhi scion did not take kindly to this suggestion though Sonia Gandhi made a strong case for Shinde's rehabilitation in the party by citing his years of experience and the fact that it would send out a positive signal before the Maharashtra Assembly polls. Rahul Gandhi, it is said, remained unmoved and argued that younger leaders should not be cast aside merely to accommodate seniors. Rahul Gandhi won this round but the episode only shows that there is no end to the tussle between the old guard or Sonia loyalists and Rahul Gandhi's supporters.

The writer is a Delhi-based journalist



**Humiliation for Cong writ large in this ballot**



Sanjay Kumar

The people of Maharashtra and Haryana would cast their vote to elect a new state government today. This would be the second time within a span of six months that they would be exercising their franchise, the first being the 2019 Lok Sabha elections held in the month of May earlier this year.

Past electoral trends suggest if the Assembly elections are held shortly after the Lok Sabha elections, as is the case with Maharashtra and Haryana, there is a great possibility of voters electing the same party they had voted in during the preceding ballot. In eight of ten such instances, they voted for the same party. The Delhi and Bihar Assembly elections of 2015 and Odisha in 2019 were among the few exceptions.

Theoretically, therefore, there are possibilities of both kinds. In today's Assembly elections, voters could exercise an electoral choice different from how they had voted during the 2019 Lok Sabha polls or they could go the way they did a few months back. The mood on the ground in both states suggests the verdict would be in conformity with the broadly established pattern. For, there is hardly any likelihood of any of these states bucking the trend. The BJP seems to be on a very strong wicket and the inability of the Opposition to put its house in order has played its part.

While the popular vote share of political parties remains the most important indicator of the mood of the voters, the movement of leaders

from one party to another (defection) is another sign of which way the wind is blowing. During the last couple of months in Haryana and Maharashtra, there was movement of 43 political leaders from one party to another. Of these, there were 19 leaders of the Congress Party (nine in Haryana, 10 in Maharashtra) who left their parent party to join other parties, mainly the BJP. The BJP itself did not suffer on this account but welcomed 31 leaders during the last few months.

There was also an exodus from the NCP; as the count suggests, 11 NCP leaders left the party of whom five joined the Shiv Sena and six switched over to the BJP. Charanjeet Singh Rori is the only leader to have joined the Congress, leaving his parent party, the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) in Haryana. These defections do suggest that the Congress, which began on a weak wicket when elections were announced, kept slipping and instead of consolidating its position seems to have lost more ground to the BJP during the last two-three weeks of the election campaign.

Even if we treat these defections as politics of opportunism and believe that this does not depict the right picture, the past performances of the political parties also favour the BJP. During the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP registered a stunning victory in both Maharashtra and Haryana. The BJP in alliance with Shiv Sena polled more than 51 per cent votes and won 41 Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra. In Haryana, it polled 58 per cent votes and won all

the 10 Lok Sabha seats. If seen in terms of Assembly segments in Maharashtra, the BJP-Shiv Sena combine led in 225 of the 288 Assembly constituencies, while in Haryana it led in 79 Assembly seats, the Congress being virtually decimated - it led only in 22 Assembly seats in Maharashtra, while its alliance partner NCP led in 23 Assembly seats. The story of the Congress in Haryana remained the same, with the party leading only in 10 Assembly seats in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

The ground reports suggest though some sections of the population share some concerns about growing unemployment, rural distress and the agricultural crisis, the popular mood has not changed significantly. The issues of national identity, national pride and the abrogation of Article 370 by the Narendra Modi government have overshadowed local issues. These are likely to loom large on the minds of the voters when they cast their vote today. There were concerns about unemployment, joblessness, farmer distress and rural distress even during the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, but the national issue of that moment — the Pulwama terror attack and the Balakot air strikes — overshadowed them. While these issues were often referred to as the "real issues of livelihood" during campaigns, a sizeable section voted on the "national issue". What have also strengthened

**Though some sections of the population share some concerns about growing unemployment, rural distress and the agricultural crisis, the mood has not changed significantly**

The writer is a professor and currently director of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies. The views expressed are personal.

**LETTERS**

**YES, MINISTER**

Thanks to a Union minister, we have at last got enlightened about the "fact" that there is no need for us to give credence to what Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee thinks because the people of India have already rejected Nyay — the poverty alleviation scheme promised by the Congress. So at last we have come to know that the 2019 Lok Sabha election was nothing but a referendum on Nyay! And just because the Congress got vanquished in the polls, we can confidently conclude how bankrupt the economic thought of Mr Banerjee is! Also, how ignorant is the Swedish Academy for giving a coveted international prize to this "worthless" economist, honouring his obsolete "Left" ideology. Of course, to ensure the economic growth of all, we must all sell pakodas.

Kajal Chatterjee  
Kolkata

**TASK CUT OUT**

INDIA RANKS 102 in the 2019 Global Hunger Index, behind China (25), Sri Lanka (66), Myanmar (69), Nepal (73), Bangladesh (88) and Pakistan (94). Hunger is stunting our future citizens. Instead of engaging in name-changing and statue-building games, shouldn't the government focus on improving food distribution and taking care of the farmer?

Sujit De  
Kolkata

**NEW BCCI ERA**

SOURAV GANGULY, a thoroughbred cricketer, becoming the BCCI head is a good augury. In spite of the Supreme Court's directive to make its balancesheet and accounts public, that has not been done. The BCCI is a very vindictive body. It exacts vendetta on cricketers who don't dance to its tune. It is fervently hoped things will change for the better.

Shanmugam  
Pune

₹500 for the best letter of the week goes to Srishti Mathur (October 15).  
Email: letters@asianage.com



A person who supplements a vegetarian diet with fish

A car equipped with an extremely powerful stereo system being played with the volume and bass levels turned up

THE ASIAN AGE

MONDAY | 21 OCTOBER 2019 | NEW DELHI

# Threat to turn off water to Pakistan is unworkable



Mohan Guruswamy

**A**fter the Uri terrorist attack, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said: "Blood and water cannot flow together." By implication, he was suggesting that India could retaliate by turning off the spigot of the three western rivers of the Indus basin that flow unhindered into Pakistan and sustain most of its agriculture. Now, possibly having realised that the western river waters can't be stopped, Mr Modi, while campaigning in Haryana, raised the question of the water of the eastern rivers flowing into Pakistan. The truth is that the flow of blood can be stopped, but water will continue to flow.

The Indus river system has a total drainage area of over 11,165,000 sq. km. Its estimated annual flow stands at around 207 km<sup>3</sup>, making it the 21st largest river in the world in terms of annual flow. It is also Pakistan's sole means of sustenance. The British had con-

structed a complex canal system to irrigate the Punjab region of Pakistan. Partition left a large part of this infrastructure in Pakistan, but the headwork dams remained in India, fuelling much insecurity among the Punjabi landowning elite in that country. The World Bank brokered the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) between India and Pakistan after many years of intense negotiations to allocate the waters of the Indus river basin. Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and President Ayub Khan signed the treaty in Karachi on September 19, 1960.

Under the IWT, control over the three "eastern" rivers — the Beas, Ravi and Sutlej — was given to India, while control over the three "western" rivers — the Indus, Chenab and Jhelum — to Pakistan. Since Pakistan's three rivers flow through India first, the treaty allowed India to use them for irrigation, transport and power generation, while laying down precise regulations for Indian building pro-

jects along the way. Since the ratification of the treaty in 1960, India and Pakistan have fought three wars, but the flow of water as per the treaty was not hampered even for a single day.

The three eastern rivers allocated to India by the IWT are the Beas, Ravi and Sutlej. These waters sustain agriculture in Punjab and to some extent Haryana, and are substantially used. What enters Pakistan is usually just enough to keep the stream flushed. But nevertheless, Pakistan has from time to time blamed India for its floods, saying these are caused by the sudden and deliberate release of storage gates. Despite this, the IWT worked exceedingly well for both countries, and both are loathe disturbing it. Even when India and Pakistan went to war in 1965, 1971 and over Kargil in 1999, the waters flowed without interruption. The fact is that the IWT works because it suits both countries by making a virtue of their geography.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi rode to power promising to deter Pakistani-origin terrorism in India by threatening retribution, and is now hard pressed to deliver. The terrorist attacks continue, even without Article 370. Mr Modi is discovering that there is a wide, yawning gap between promise and reality. The Modi govern-

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi rode to power promising to deter Pakistani-origin terrorism in India by threatening retribution, and is now hard pressed to deliver. The terrorist attacks continue, even without Article 370.**

ment is flailing for options, short of the use of the military option. After the Uri incident, Mr Modi threatened to withdraw from the IWT. Nothing happened. Instead, Pulwama happened. Even the raid on Balakot has not had quite the effect on Pakistan as most of his followers claim it did.

Now campaigning in Haryana, Mr Modi has once again begun to somewhat obliquely raise the issue of the Indus waters. He now tells Haryana's farmers we are giving away much of the Ravi, Sutlej and Beas waters to Pakistan. This is just not true. Out of 33 million acre-feet (MAF) that is by right India's, only about two MAF utilisable from the Ravi and Beas flows into Pakistan. Yet Mr Modi threatens Pakistan, saying: "The water which belongs to India was allowed to flow to Pakistan for 70 years... This will not happen now. We will

divert the water which belongs to India, it will be given to the farmers of Haryana, and water should be given to the farmers of Rajasthan." But the main reason why Haryana, Rajasthan and even Delhi are being denied the Indus basin waters is because Punjab refuses to permit the completion of the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal (SYL) from just below the Nangal Dam to join the Yamuna canal near Karnal in Haryana.

Of the three western rivers "given" to Pakistan, the Indus, which debouches from Indian territory near Kargil, then flows entirely in Pakistan-controlled territory. The Jhelum originates near Verinag near Anantnag and meanders for over 200 km in the Kashmir Valley before it enters Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. After flowing through Srinagar, it fills up the Wular Lake and then traverses past Baramulla and Uri. The hydel projects constructed on it supply most of the electricity to the Valley.

The Chenab, also known as the Chandrabhaga, originates in Lahaul Spiti in Himachal Pradesh and flows through the Jammu region into the plains of Pakistan's Punjab. The catchment area of the Chenab is elongated and narrow. The catchment area of the Chenab is mostly in India. But the Chenab runs through deep val-

leys and the river drops by as much as 24 meters per km, imposing physical constraints and huge economic costs on harnessing it.

Besides, as Dr Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, head of earth sciences at the geology and geophysics department of the University of Kashmir, recently put it: "Let us assume we stop the water supply for the sake of argument. Where would the water go? We do not have the infrastructure to store this water. We have not built dams in J&K where we can store the water. And being a mountainous state, unlike Tamil Nadu or Karnataka, you cannot move the water to another state. So, you cannot stop the water technically."

But even if it can be done, climate change is upon us with severe implicit consequences for Pakistan. The Indus river basin is fed mostly by melting glaciers, unlike the Ganga and the Brahmaputra basins, which are fed mostly by the monsoons. Since climate change is now affecting the Himalayan glaciers, the water patterns in the Indus river basin are already showing changes. This is why Pakistan constantly keeps up a drumbeat of false charges about the non-adherence to the IWT by India.

Widely referenced estimates indicate a troubling long-term

trend for the flow of the Indus river basin. River water provides 80 per cent of all irrigation water for Pakistan's critical agriculture sector. These water sources are already near their limits, with most water diverted to northern Pakistan's agricultural regions at the expense of the south. In fact, so much water is diverted from the Indus before it reaches the ocean that seawater has invaded the river channel miles inland.

Based on current projections, the Indus river system is expected to fall below 2000 flow levels between 2030 and 2050. The drop-off is estimated to be most serious between 2030 and 2040, with a new equilibrium flow of 20 per cent below that of 2000, reached after 2060.

Not only is Pakistan running out of water, it seems to be soon running out of time as well. As its founding father-poet Allama Iqbal wrote: "Watan Ki Fikar Kar Nadan! Musibat Ane Wali Hai/Teri Barbadiyon Ke Mashware Hain Asmaan Mein. (Think of the homeland, O ignorant one! Hard times are coming/Conspiracies for your destruction are afoot in the heavens.)"

*The writer, a policy analyst studying economic and security issues, held senior positions in government and industry. He also specialises in the Chinese economy.*

## US act of treachery shouldn't surprise Kurds, given the past



Irfan Husain

**F**ans of the iconic 'Peanuts' cartoon strip will recall how time after time, Lucy persuades the hapless Charlie Brown to kick the football she is steadying with a finger.

When Charlie Brown asks for an assurance, he receives a promise that she won't pull the ball away this time. He then comes running in, and of course, Lucy pulls the ball away at the last instant, leaving Charlie sprawling on his back. It never changes, and yet he never loses his innocence, just as Lucy never loses her mean streak.

This is what has been happening to the Kurds over hundreds of years. According to an old Kurdish saying, the mountains are the Kurds' only friends. Although they are the world's largest ethnic group without a state, they have been used and abused time and again by cynical regional powers, as well as by global powers. Today, there are anywhere between 20 million and 40m Kurds, depending on whose figures you trust. At 15m, they constitute around 18 per cent of the Turkish population. There are also about 8m in Iran; 2m in Syria, and 5m in Iraq. Sadly, they have been unable to unite and present a joint front.

For decades, it was a crime to broadcast in Kurdish in Turkey, or use other expressions of identity like singing or publishing works written in Kurdish. This pushed the Kurds into demanding greater autonomy, and when the Turkish state responded with violence, the conflict escalated into a full-blown civil war. Spearheading this fight was the PKK, or the Kurdish Workers' Party, a secular, left-wing group that espoused independence.

To his credit, Erdogan, the Turkish president, lifted the ban on many of the draconian bans on the display of Kurdish identity. Schools can now teach in Kurdish, and Kurds can take part in elections. However, this thaw ended when terrorist attacks in Turkey took scores of lives. Although the PKK denied responsibility, Erdogan unleashed a fierce anti-Kurd campaign in south-eastern Turkey that has levelled entire city blocks and killed thousands.

The YPG, or Peoples' Protection Units, is a Syrian group close to the PKK's ideology. Women have fought shoulder to shoulder with men in the war against the militant Islamic State (IS) group, and

have won the admiration of many around the world for their courage and skill.

For the Americans, the YPG were a godsend, as no other regional force was willing to take on the bloodthirsty jihadists of the IS. Writing a cheque in Riyadh is one thing; risking life and limb in the desert quite another. In any case, the fighting capabilities of the Saudi army have been thoroughly exposed in the war against the Houthis in Yemen.

Nor did the Americans wish to send more troops to Syria and risk vote-losing casualties. But with American air and artillery support, the YPG defeated the IS in a series of bloody battles. Trump could thus declare victory, and pull out the small number of troops who served as a trip-wire to prevent Turkish attacks on the Kurds. But after they had served American interests, Trump has abruptly stabbed his Kurdish allies in the back, continuing a long and dishonourable tradition.

Over the last century, America has betrayed the Kurds exactly eight times, so Trump's latest (and ninth) act of treachery should not surprise us, or the Kurds. When the Ottoman Empire collapsed after its defeat in the First World War, Kurds who had lived for centuries under Istanbul's yoke thought their time had come. But despite earlier promises, they were betrayed by the Americans, and denied statehood under the Treaty of Lausanne of 1923 that redrew regional maps to reflect the carve-up of the Ottoman Empire.

After the Second World War, the Americans armed the Kurds to bleed the government of Abdul Karim Kassem. However, when the (initially) pro-West Saddam Hussein staged a coup, arms to the Kurds were abruptly halted. The next chapter in betrayal came when the Iraqi Kurds were armed by Nixon against Saddam at the behest of the Shah of Iran, but were abandoned to the tender mercies of the murderous Iraqi dictator following the revolution in Iran. When he was asked to explain this act of treachery, Kissinger cynically replied: "One should not confuse covert acts with missionary work." When Saddam used poison gas to massacre thousands of Kurds, an American reporter handed in a story about the incident, his editor asked: "Who will care?"

When the elder Bush halted the American advance during the first Gulf War, he encouraged Iraqis to fight Saddam. But when the Shias in the south and the Kurds in the north did rise up, they were butchered by the dictator without the Americans lifting a finger to help.

The litany of betrayal goes on.

*By arrangement with Dawn*

## On feasting and fasting: Eating with awareness



Amrit Sadhana

through the mouth, but it is also a deeply sensuous way of relating to a sort of life energy called food. You may not have thought about it but you enjoy food through all your senses. One-fourth of the food is eaten through the eyes, the other one-fourth is enjoyed through the smell, and the remaining is relished through the taste. There is a sort of meditation in tantra which says, "While tasting, the food becomes the taste". Do not just go on swallowing things. Taste them unhurriedly and become the taste. When you feel sweetness, become that sweetness. And then it can be felt all over the body — not just in the mouth, not just on the tongue — it can be felt all over the body, spreading its ripples!

With no taste, your senses will be deadened. They will become less and less perceptive. And with less sensitivity, you will not be able to feel your body, your feelings. The food reaches



every cell, at different levels of your being and creates life. Without sensitivity, you will remain in your head and will be disconnected from your body. Tantra says, do not create any division within yourself. It is beautiful to taste; it is beautiful to be sensitive. And if you are more sensitive you will be more alive, and if you are more alive, then more life will enter your inner being.

So, what you eat is important enough but how you eat it is equally important. Dieticians can give you a very healthy diet but you are the one who is going to absorb it and assimilate it all over the body. It is your body that is going to digest and send it to every cell and build up your sensitivity.

This is why Osho says: I don't teach you dieting; I teach you only awareness. Eat with full awareness, eat meditatively, and then you will never

eat more, and you will never eat less. More is as bad as less. Too much eating is bad, just like too much fasting; these are extremes. Nature wants you to be balanced, to be in a sort of equilibrium, to be in the middle, neither less nor more. Don't go to the extreme.

To go to the extreme is to be neurotic. There are two types of neurotics about food: those who go on eating, not listening to the body — the body goes on crying and screaming, "Stop!" and they go on eating. These are neurotic people. Then there is the other variety: the body goes on screaming, "I am hungry!" and they are on a fast. A religious person is one who is balanced: in whatsoever he is doing, he is always in the middle. He never goes to the extreme because all extremes will create tensions, anxieties.

*Amrit Sadhana is editor of Osho Times International. She facilitates meditation workshops based on Osho insights around the country and abroad.*





## Popular President

Joko Widodo is sworn in as Indonesian President for a 2nd term in office in Jakarta



Pakistan will achieve all FATF targets on time

— Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Pakistan foreign minister

### BRIEF

## Qantas completes longest flight

Sydney: Australia's Qantas on Sunday completed the first non-stop commercial flight from New York to Sydney, which was used to run a series of tests to assess the effects of ultra long-haul flights on crew fatigue and passenger jetlag. The Boeing 787 Dreamliner touched down in Sydney after a flight of 19 hours and 16 minutes, the world's longest. Qantas said tests ranged from monitoring pilot brain waves, melatonin levels and alertness to exercise classes for passengers. A total of 49 people were on board, in order to minimize weight. "Overall, we're really happy with how the flight went and it's great to have some of the data we need to help assess turning this into a regular service," said Capt. Sean Golding, who led the four pilots.



## Trudeau could lose Canada polls

Toronto: Polls show Trudeau could lose to his Conservative Party rival in national elections on Monday or fail to win a majority of seats in Parliament and have to rely on an opposition party to remain in power. Not since 1935 has a first-term Canadian prime minister with a parliamentary majority lost a bid for re-election. A combination of scandal and high expectations has damaged his prospects. Trudeau's opponent, Andrew Scheer, is a career politician described by those in his own party as bland, a possible antidote for those tired of Trudeau's flash. Scheer, 40, is promising to scrap the national carbon tax and cut government spending, including foreign aid, by 25 per cent.

## HILLARY DRAWS FLAK FOR JIBE AT TULSI

Washington, Oct. 20: Hillary Clinton has gone crazy, US President Donald Trump has said as he slammed the former secretary of state for calling Democratic presidential aspirant Tulsi Gabbard and former Green Party candidate Jill Stein as Russian assets. During a podcast interview, Clinton said Russia had groomed Stein to be a spoiler third-party candidate in 2016 and implied that the Kremlin is doing the same with Gabbard in order to take votes away from the 2020 Democratic ticket and secure Trump's reelection. "Hillary's gone Crazy! Trump said in a tweet on Saturday night. "So now Crooked Hillary is at it again! She is calling Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard 'a Russian favorite', and Jill Stein 'a Russian asset'. As you may have heard, I was called a big Russia lover also (actually, I do like Russian people. I like all people!)," he said. Gabbard, 38, the first Hindu member of the US Congress, declared her presidential bid last year. She is a favourite among Indian-Americans. Gabbard, a fourth-term Democratic Congresswoman from Hawaii, fired back at Clinton. "Great! Thank you @HillaryClinton. You, the queen of warmongers, embodiment of corruption, and personification of the rot that has sickened the Democratic Party for so long, have finally come out from behind the curtain."

## Turkish Prez mulls resettlement of 2 million refugees Syria govt forces must leave border areas, says Erdogan

Istanbul, Oct. 20: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan wants Syrian government forces to move out of areas near the Turkish border so he can resettle up to 2 million refugees there, his spokesman told The Associated Press on Saturday.

The request will top Erdogan's talks next week with Syria's ally, Russian President Vladimir Putin. Arrangements along the Syrian-Turkish border were thrown into disarray after the US pulled its troops out of the area, opening the door to Turkey's invasion aiming to drive out Kurdish-led fighters it considers terrorists.

Abandoned by their American allies, the Kurds, with Russia's mediation, invited Damascus to send troops into northeastern Syria as protection from Turkish forces. That has complicated Turkey's plan to create a "safe zone" along the border, where it can resettle Syrian refugees now in Turkey.

Erdogan's spokesman, Ibrahim Kalin, said Ankara does not want either Syrian forces or Kurdish fighters in the border area because

## US troops leave Syria, to fight IS from Western Iraq

Washington, Oct. 20: Defense Secretary Mark Esper says that under the current plan all US troops leaving Syria will go to western Iraq and the military will continue to conduct operations against the Islamic State group to prevent its resurgence.



Mark Esper

Esper did not rule out the idea that US forces would conduct counterterrorism missions from Iraq into Syria. But he said 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 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 President Donald Trump's rationales for withdrawing troops from Syria was not going to come to pass any time

refugees would not go back to areas under their control. Turkey has said it wants to oversee that area. "This is one of the topics that we will discuss with

the Russians, because, again, we are not going to force any refugees to go to anywhere they don't want to go," he said. "We want to create conditions that will

soon. "It's time to bring our soldiers back home," he said. But they are not coming home.

As Esper left Washington, US troops were continuing to pull out of northern Syria after Turkey's invasion into the border region. Sporadic clashes continued between Turkish-backed fighters and the US-allied Syrian Kurdish forces despite a five-day cease-fire deal between US and Turkish leaders.

Trump ordered the bulk of the approximately 1,000 US troops in Syria to withdraw after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan made it clear in a phone call that his forces were about to invade Syria. — AP

be suitable for them to return where they will feel safe." Turkey has taken in about 3.6 million Syrians fleeing the conflict in their homeland. — AP

## Boris sends unsigned letter for Brexit delay

London, Oct. 20: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson reluctantly wrote to Brussels late Saturday asking for a Brexit extension after MPs voted to force him into seeking a delay beyond October 31.



REGRETTABLY, Parliament missed the opportunity to inject momentum into the ratification process

BORIS JOHNSON, British Prime Minister

But Johnson, who has pinned his premiership on getting Britain out of the European Union on time, refused to sign the letter he sent to European Council President Donald Tusk.

The Conservative leader also sent a second signed letter insisting he was not seeking an extension to the Brexit deadline, which has already been postponed twice.

In a day of high drama in the House of Commons, MPs declined to give their backing to the revised withdrawal agreement Johnson struck with the EU this week until the legislation needed to ratify it has passed.

Having failed to back a divorce deal, they triggered a law requiring Johnson to write to EU leaders by the end of the day asking to delay Brexit, to avoid the risk that Britain crashes out in less than a fortnight.

Johnson sent a photocopy of the letter that was contained in the law

## EU CONSIDERING JOHNSON'S RELUCTANT PLEA

London, Oct. 20: EU leaders were on Sunday considering a request by Prime Minister Boris Johnson to delay Britain's departure from the bloc, which he was forced to make after MPs refused to back his Brexit deal.

Tusk said he would begin consulting EU leaders "on how to react" — a process one diplomat said could take a few days. Johnson has already spoken to the leaders of France, Germany and the Netherlands to press his case — and Paris warned that a Brexit delay was "in nobody's interest".

Johnson's government is seeking a new vote on its deal on Monday, although this may fall foul of parliamentary procedure.

If it introduces the treaty implementation bill on Monday, however, MPs could be called to vote as early as Tuesday. Johnson wrote to Tusk that he was "confident" he could get it through before the of the month. — AFP

## G7 SUMMIT NOT AT MY RESORT, SAYS TRUMP

Washington, Oct. 20: US President Donald Trump said the next G7 summit will not be at one of his own Florida golf clubs, reversing a decision that had sparked corruption accusations.

Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney had revealed the venue for the summit, causing a firestorm among Trump's Democratic opponents in Congress, who called the move "among the most brazen examples yet of the president's corruption."

"Based on both Media & Democrat Crazed and Irrational Hostility, we will no longer consider Trump National Doral, Miami, as the Host Site for the G-7 in 2020," he tweeted. "We will begin the search for another site, including the possibility of Camp David, immediately." Mulvaney had said in his announcement that the south Florida venue was "the best place" among a dozen US locations considered for the June 10-12 gathering next year.

Critics, including ethic campaigners, said holding the event at Doral would violate both the foreign and domestic emoluments clauses that are designed to shield a US leader from outside influence.

"He is exploiting his office and making official US government decisions for his personal financial gain," Jerry Nadler, the chairman of the powerful House Judiciary Committee, said. Even before the Doral announcement, lawmakers were probing Trump's suggestion at the G7 in France that the next one could be at one of his resorts. — AFP

## Protesters vent fury amid vandalism



BARCELONA

HONG KONG



1. Chile: A burnt metro station and train after protests in Santiago over hike in price of metro tickets. — AFP
2. Barcelona: Protesters stage a street protest in Barcelona, after nearly 200 people were hurt in another night of violent clashes in Catalonia. — AFP
3. Hong Kong: Protesters attack a man who was trying to stop them for vandalizing near the Tsim She Tsui police station during a rally on Sunday. — AP

## DESPERATE | MOVE Rights groups have warned the island might not be able to withstand violent storms

# Rohingya agree to move to Bangla flood-prone region

Cox's Bazar, Oct. 20: Thousands of Rohingya living in Bangladesh refugee camps have agreed to move to an island in the Bay of Bengal, officials said on Sunday, despite fears the site is prone to flooding.

Dhaka has long wanted to move 1,00,000 refugees to the muddy silt islet, saying it would take pressure off the overcrowded border camps where almost a million Rohingya live.

Some 7,40,000 Rohingya fled Myanmar in August 2017 in the face of a mili-

tary crackdown, joining 2,00,000 refugees already in makeshift tent settlements at Cox's Bazar.

Bangladesh's refugee commissioner, Mahub Alam, said officials overseeing the relocation would be posted to Bhashan 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 told AFP 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 had been planning since last year to relocate Rohingya to the desolate flood-prone site, which is an hour by boat from the mainland.

Rights groups have warned the island, which emerged from the sea only about two decades ago, might not be able to withstand violent storms during the annual monsoon season. In the past half a century, powerful cyclones have killed hundreds of thou-

sands of people in the Meghna river estuary where the island is located.

Rohingya leaders would be taken to Bhashan Char to view the facilities and living conditions, Alam said.

Safety facilities built on the island include a nine-foot high embankment along its perimeter to keep out tidal surges during cyclones, and a warehouse to store months-worth of rations, he added.

Rohingya father-of-four Nur Hossain, 50, said he

and his family agreed to relocate to Bhashan Char after they were shown video footage of the shelters.

"I have agreed to go. The camp here (at Leda) is very overcrowded. There are food and housing problems," the 50-year-old told AFP.

There was no immediate comment from the UN, although Bangladeshi officials said they expect a delegation would visit the island in the next few weeks. — AFP





# Brokers BYTES

## Shree Cement's sale volumes rise by 1.5%

Shree Cement's Q2FY20 results surprised positively as it reported EBITDA of ₹840 crore, much better than broking house's estimate of ₹720 crore. Operating profit margins stood at 30.1 per cent compared to its estimate of 25.6 per cent. Subsidy income was ₹39 crore as against ₹45 crore each in Q2FY19/Q1FY20. Key positive surprises: a) Realisation decline of 1.1 per cent quarter-on-quarter; and freight costs down ₹90/tonne qoq and ₹76 a tonne yoy (adjusted for rebate from railways in Q2FY19). The key negative surprise was a 66 per cent yoy drop in power segment EBITDA. Cement sales volumes were up 1.5 per cent yoy in Q2FY20. The broking house believes that sales volumes would have dropped four per cent and 20 per cent yoy in North and East regions. Valuation at 15.6x FY21E EV/EBITDA appears rich. The board has approved the fundraising of up to ₹30bn through the issuance of equity shares. The broking house maintains Hold and underweight position.

Broking firm: Emkay  
Rating: Hold  
Closing price: ₹18,661.20

## Wipro sees weakness in capital markets

Wipro's revenue grew 3.8 per cent year-on-year on constant currency basis as against the broking house's estimate of 4.1 per cent in Q2FY20. IT Services' EBIT margin expanded 3.1 per cent yoy to 18.1 per cent, while profit after tax rose 12 per cent yoy to ₹2560 crore — a 14.4 per cent beat, mainly led by a lower-than-expected ETR. Sequentially, revenue was up 1.1 per cent constant currency, while the margin contracted 0.3 per cent led by lower utilisation and the two-month impact of wage hike. After remaining in double digit for around two years, Wipro's BFSI revenue growth decelerated sharply to 5.9 per cent YoY CC owing to the completion of some large programmes and the weakness in capital markets (in the US and Europe). Macro uncertainty translated into cautious commentary on this vertical. Revenue from the top client declined 11.8 per cent YoY, led by the non-renewal of projects and the delay in ramp-ups. There are no meaningful revisions to the company's margin estimates. Maintain neutral.

Broking firm: Motilal Oswal  
Rating: Neutral  
Closing price: ₹248.80

## Siyaram Silks may see higher profit growth

For Q1FY2020, Siyaram Silk Mills (SSML) posted subdued results, which were below our expectations on both top-line and bottom-line fronts. Revenue grew one per cent yoy. On the margin front, it reported operating margin improvement by 1.09 per cent yoy (positive impact mainly due to change in account policy as per Ind AS-116). On the bottom-line front, SSML reported profit after tax growth of one per cent yoy to ₹10cr due to subdued top-line growth. Going forward, the broking house expects SSML to report net sales CAGR of nine per cent to ₹2,173 crore and adjusted net profit CAGR of 13 per cent to ₹130 crore over FY2019-21E on the back of market leadership in blended fabrics, strong brand building, wide distribution channel and strong presence in tier-2 and tier-3 cities coupled with emphasis on latest designs and affordable pricing points. The broking house maintains buy rating.

Broking firm: Angel Broking  
Rating: Buy  
Closing price: ₹224.35

# Buying A Car?

## Should You Take A Personal Loan Or A Car Loan?

Money talk  
Adhil Shetty

While the auto industry is going through a slowdown, there are plenty of good deals available, and this is a good time to secure your set of dream wheels with deep discounts and premium add-ons. In recent years, Indians have shown they're no longer content with small hatchbacks, a departure from car ownership being the domain of the Indian elite. They have indicated a preference for bigger, faster cars, for which they will happily take bigger loans. As per BankBazaar data, in 2018, the average ticket size for car loans was ₹5.72 lakh in metros and ₹5.21 lakh in non-metros. This brings us to the subject at hand: when it comes to car finance, is it better to take a car loan or a personal loan?

### LOOK AT THE INTEREST

To cut a long story short, the interest rates on both forms of loans matter a lot. A car loan is a secured loan, which normally extracts a lower interest rate in comparison to an unsecured loan, which is what a personal loan is. A quick scan of car loans from banks reveals the interest rates to be in the range of 9-15 per cent per annum. However, personal loans start from around 11 per cent, going to 25 per cent and beyond. How much does this impact you? Let's say you borrow ₹5 lakh for five years. At 10 per cent, your EMI is ₹10,624 and your total interest is ₹1.37 lakh. But at 15 per cent, your EMI is ₹11,895 and your total interest is ₹2.13 lakh. A car is ultimately a depreciating asset, so you should minimise your spends on it. So a higher interest on your loan leads to a higher cost of ownership. But there's more you need to consider.

### LONGER TENURE MEANS LOWER EMIs

The size of one's EMIs is often a major consideration in how much one borrows. Car loan tenures can extend up to seven years in most cases. A typical personal loan will extend up to five. There are exceptions in both loan categories where some bank will provide tenures longer than the norm. However, broadly speaking, your total interest will be likely higher on a personal loan despite a smaller tenure. Let's say you borrowed ₹5 lakh. With a 10 per cent car loan and a seven-year tenure, your EMI is ₹8,301 and interest ₹1.97 lakh. With a 15 per cent personal loan and five-year tenure, your EMI is ₹11,895 and interest ₹2.13 lakh. The actual math will vary from one lender to another, and from one loan product to another, and so you must make these calculations before deciding between the two options.

### CAR LOANS MEAN RESTRICTED BORROWING

Banks will not fund 100 per cent of your car purchase cost. They'll only cover a part of it. Most banks will finance up to 100 per cent of the car's showroom price, which leaves you to bridge the gap to the on-road price, which includes registration, taxation, insurance etc. If you have the margin money and would prefer a low rate of interest, you should go for a car loan. But if you are short of cash and if the loan-to-value ratio is proving to be a problem, go for a personal loan, which is an open-ended credit and can be used for any purpose you deem fit even a car purchase. With a personal loan, you can borrow the amount you're eligible for.

### NO HYPOTHECATION WITH PERSONAL LOAN

A car loan can be taken only to fund the purchase of a car and related expenses. When you take a car loan, your car is hypothecated to the lender. Till your car loan is paid off, the lender owns the car as collateral for the debt. If you defaulted on your loan, the car can be repossessed to recover your dues. But once you have paid the loan in full, your lender will remove the lien. Getting the lien removed will involve managing paperwork between your bank and the local RTO. On the other hand, when you take a personal loan, the lender isn't concerned with the end use of the money. You could use it to buy a car, take a holiday, refurbish your home, fund your wedding, or do anything else you need to do. Therefore, with a personal loan, your car is not hypothecated to the lender and hence cannot be repossessed.

### YOUR CREDIT SCORE MATTERS

With any kind of borrowing, your credit score matters. With a good credit score (ideally, 750 or more), you have better chances of bagging a low-cost loan with minimum hassles, especially if you're a salaried person. However, with a lower credit score, the personal loan may become your only loan option, and the price you pay for this is a higher interest rate. In summary, a car loan with lower interest rates and longer tenures can be your go-to option. However, personal loans allow you to borrow bigger without the hassles of the loan-to-value ratio or hypothecation of your property, but at a higher interest rate. The choice is yours.

The writer is CEO, BankBazaar.com

## HOME LOANS RATES

| EMI data table for top 10 banks by market capitalisation |                                 |               |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Lender's Name  | Floating Rate (%) based on MCLR | EMI (In ₹)    |
| HDFC Bank  | 8.35-9.25                       | 25,751-27,476 |
| Kotak Bank   | 8.95*                           | 26,895        |
| ICICI Bank   | 8.65-9.25                       | 26,320-27,476 |
| Axis Bank  | 8.85-9.3                        | 26,703-27,573 |
| SBI  | 8.2-8.55                        | 25,468-26,130 |
| Bank Of Baroda   | 8.1-9.1                         | 25,280-27,185 |
| Punjab National Bank                                     | 7.95-8.45                       | 25,000-25,940 |
| Bank Of India  | 8.45-8.75                       | 25,940-26,511 |
| Federal Bank   | 8.55-8.65                       | 26,130-26,320 |
| Canara Bank  | 8.3-10.3                        | 25,656-29,549 |

Rates are based on the floating rates system. Interest rate may be subject to revision after a specified tenure. The EMI range is indicative and calculated on the basis of interest rate range as provided in the table.  
— Data Compiled By: BankBazaar.com

Tax matters  
Kamal Rathi

## No 80c sops for grandkids

I purchased a house by taking a loan from a bank in July 2019. However, I will receive the possession of the house at around October 2020? I want to know whether the interest benefit will be available to me for the Assessment Year 2020-21 (FY 2019-20).

NAVEEN GARG  
Via email

A) You will not be entitled to claim interest on housing loan for the Assessment Year 2020-21 (FY 2019-20). As per explanations to provision of Section 24(b) of the Income-Tax Act, "Where the property has been acquired or constructed with borrowed capital, interest, if any, payable on such capital for the period prior to previous year in which the property has been acquired or constructed, as reduced by any part thereof allowed as a deduction under any other provision of this Act, shall be deducted under this clause in five equal annual installments, commencing from the previous year in which the house was acquired or constructed and each of the four immediately succeeding previous years." So the interest pertaining to AY 2020-21 (FY2019-20) shall be deductible in five equal installments beginning with AY 2021-22 (FY 2020-21).

I took voluntary retirement and invested my benefits of ₹12 lakh in a joint account, with my wife being the other account holder. An interest of ₹35,920 on investments is credited to my wife's savings bank account. Her total income is ₹1,78,500. My wife is not an income-tax assessee as her total income is less than the taxable limit as per income-tax rules. As such Form 15H was submitted to the bank asking it not to deduct TDS. I am an income-tax assessee. So, I wanted to know if the interest earned on investments should be shown as a separate income earned by my wife or should it be added to my income. Kindly clarify.

YASH MISHRA  
Via email

A) As per the provisions of Section 64(1)(iv), in computing the total income of any individual, there shall be included all such income arising directly or indirectly to the spouse "where an asset is transferred to the spouse by that individual otherwise than for adequate consideration or in connection with an agreement to live apart, the income arising from such asset". Hence, the interest earned on investments made out of the amounts contributed by you shall form part of your income.

I am a senior citizen. I wanted to buy insurance on the life of my grandson, aged 25 years, for ₹45 lakh. Will I get the deduction benefit under Section 80C for the contribution made towards premium of LIC of my grandson?

JEEVAN SINGH  
Via email

A) Under Section 80C, following sums paid or deposited by an individual/ a Hindu undivided family, at any time during the previous year, qualifies for deduction:  
■ Any amount paid by an individual, on his/her life or on life of his/her spouse or, on life of any child; and  
■ By a Hindu undivided family, on life of any member of the family.  
Therefore, you will not be eligible to claim the deduction under section 80C for life insurance premium paid for your grandson.

(The writer is a Hyderabad-based chartered accountant. He can be reached at info@rathindmalanis.com)



# Gloom won't stop India's growth; Don't exit SIP

Invest talk  
R. Balakrishnan

There are reports that the SIP volumes are dropping. This means people are suddenly not buying equities when the prices have fallen. Does it mean that they think the asset class will no longer give them long term returns? For a moment, let us think that equity as an asset class is dead. It is like saying that all businesses are doomed to closure, that we have stopped earning or spending (or will be in that state soon). We are forecasting that our economy will not grow any more.

If this were to happen, the only thing that would perhaps have some value would be that useless metal named 'gold'. Prices of gold will be driven by fear and panic when other asset classes have given up. Eventually, it would become a bubble and then blow out. This is because, the gold we consume comes from overseas. And we need hard currency to pay for it. If the economy is in shambles, imagine where the rupee would be? Step back a little and see what you are doing to your investments. You are going by the outcome of

some market conditions that are possibly new to you. We go through this phase of boom, doom and gloom every few years. What I can say is that if I take a ten-year time frame, not more than three will be 'terrible' years. Does not mean that the other seven are great years? But I would think that there are generally more ups than downs in an investment journey. Also, we have not yet reached that bubble status which Japan was in 1989 or so. The Nikkei Index of 225 Japanese stocks (something like our BSE Sensex) touched a high of near 38916 and then went all the way back to 7,000 odd in 2008 and is now hovering around sub 23,000 levels. Look at that index and long term investing theories go out of the window. This level

of excess in the market and then a sluggish economy (with probably among the highest per capita GDP in the world) has not been seen elsewhere. I do not think we are in that space. India is still a hungry nation. We are hungry for growth, hungry to have more of everything. All this means that our per capita GDP is still a long way from being at a stage where growth is an issue. Yes, we have income disparities, but it does not mean that our economy will stop growing. The mistake people make is to start their SIPs at the top of a bull run and then shut it when the markets are at their gloomy worst. What it means is that you are condemned to not getting the best out of your investments. You are missing on opportunities

to keep adding to your portfolio at lower prices. If you bought a stock at ₹500 and the price has fallen to ₹300, with no fundamental change except a cyclical downturn or some issue impacting earnings for a short time, should you be buying more or selling? What will happen is that you will start a fresh SIP once things become very bright and the markets rally a lot from here. Once again, you will find the top. Choosing a fund house and choosing a product is what you should think about. And today, if you understand the risk in the product, you have the option to invest online, directly. A direct investment can make a small difference of anything up to one per cent per annum. The one per cent difference can

make a small difference every year, and at the end of 10 years, it can be a reasonable sum. In a ₹5,000 per month SIP, over 10 years, the maturity amount can differ by around ₹60,000 to ₹70,000 if there is a one per cent annualised difference. Yes, there will be starting times or measuring periods that will either show great returns or very poor returns. This is not easy to forecast. If we have the courage to start our SIP and keep it going in 'gloomy' periods, the results will show for itself when the market turns around. What one can do is to throw in additional amounts (in addition to our SIP) when the markets are gloomy. Treat it like some expenditure and buy some more units when things are looking bleak. This will help you

also to take off some money (without breaking your SIPs) off the table when things look very expensive and the whole world is chasing stocks. It is like a trade you have made. Your SIP continues and you made some good money on the side. It can take one to three years to take this gain. Not that you should, but in case you feel worried, this is one way to take some cash off the table and put it back when gloom sets in again. Investing is a lifetime habit. You do not want to quit good habits. In my next piece, let me talk about 'selling' or getting out of the market. (The writer is a veteran investment adviser. He can be reached at balakrishnan@gmail.com)



## The belief

J.J. Abrams believes *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* will satisfy audience and will give a meaningful ending to all 9 films made in the franchise created by George Lucas



I think that the kids are priority and everything that we do revolves around them

— Victoria Beckham, Businesswoman

## IN BRIEF

### 'I stay curious about world & my talent'

London: Bruce Springsteen says he is happy that at the age of 70 his artistic instincts are still working. The singer said he has learned to "appreciate the vitality" of his creative life, and believes that in past five years he has produced some of the best work of his career. "To be doing, where I'm at now because people do lose their mojo, they lose interest or you never know when you're gonna write well again. You know it's a mystery, but I stay very curious about the world and I'm curious about my own talent..." — PTI

### Meghan's lawyers slam publisher

Washington: Days after Meghan Markle's estranged father Thomas, released her private letter, the legal team of the Duchess of Sussex has criticised the publisher for printing a "private and confidential" letter. Markle's lawyers also claim that the newspaper "chose to deliberately omit or suppress" parts of the letter, which "intentionally distorted or manipulated" its meaning, according to legal documents obtained by the UK's Press Association, as cited by *ANI News*. — ANI



### Michael Giacchino boards *The Batman*

Los Angeles: Oscar-winning composer Michael Giacchino has come on board to lend his music to the much-anticipated *The Batman* movie. During an event at London's Royal Albert Hall, where Giacchino and fellow composer David Arnold were having a friendly competition, director of *The Batman*, Matt Reeves made a surprise appearance and shared the news with the audience. According to the *Hollywood Reporter*, the filmmaker came on stage and got down on one knee in a mock proposal, asking Giacchino to join the Warner Bros project. The film is set for a June 2021 release. — PTI

### I HATE POLITICS, SAYS ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGG

London: Veteran action star Arnold Schwarzenegger says he is averse to politics and the reason he joined it was to help others. During an appearance at the *Graham Norton Show*, the *Terminator* star, who served as the governor of California from 2003 to 2011, said that he never viewed himself as a politician. "I hate politics. Even when I was governor I never considered myself a politician. I was a public servant who created policies to make things better for people," the 72-year-old actor said. The actor, however, said he feels sad that he cannot run for the post of the President of the United States due to his Austrian background. "Of course. It would have been great to jump in and run. It's the only thing I can't do in America. Everything else I've done is because it is in America, it's the land of opportunity," Schwarzenegger said. The veteran actor is currently promoting his upcoming feature *Dark Fate*. — PTI



Arnold Schwarzenegger

# 8,000-yr-old pearl found in Abu Dhabi is world's oldest

It will be shown for the 1st time in an exhibition opening on Oct. 30

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 layers from which the pearl came have been carbon dated to 5800-5600 BC, during the Neolithic period," Abu Dhabi's department of culture and tourism said.

"The discovery of the oldest pearl in the world in Abu Dhabi makes it clear that so much of our recent economic and cultural history has deep roots that stretch back to the dawn of prehistory," said its chairman Mohamed Al-Muabararak.

The excavation of the Marawah site, which is

made up of numerous collapsed Neolithic stone structures, has also yielded ceramics, beads made from shell and stone, and flint arrowheads.

The "Abu Dhabi Pearl" will be shown for the first time in the exhibition "10,000 years of Luxury" which is opening on October 30 at the Louvre Abu Dhabi — the outpost of the famous Paris museum. Emirati experts

believe that the pearls were traded with Mesopotamia — ancient Iraq — in exchange for ceramics and other goods. They were also likely worn as jewellery.

"The Venetian jewel merchant Gasparo Balbi, who travelled through the region, mentions the islands off the coast of Abu Dhabi as a source of pearls in the 16th century," the culture depart-

ment said. The pearl industry once underpinned the economy of the United Arab Emirates, but the trade collapsed in the 1930s with the advent of Japanese cultured pearls, and as conflicts rocked global economies. Instead, the Gulf nations turned to the oil industry which dominates their economies to this day.

— AFP



## Europe's 'most wanted' female criminals revealed

London: The most wanted female criminals in Europe include a human trafficker who helped lure a young girl to England and the killer of a British businessman.

Euro-pol, the EU's law enforcement agency, released the list of women fugitives as part of its new campaign "Crime has no gender". Its website displays 21 suspects with their faces obscured by a mask that gradually falls away to reveal their identity. Eighteen are women.

Among those featured are 56-year-old Hilde Van Acker, who remains on the run after being convicted of the murder of British businessman Marcus John Mitchell in Belgium in 1996.

Another is Czech national Iveta Tancosova, 52, who is wanted over the trafficking of a young girl who was beaten, locked in a room and forced to work as a prostitute in the UK. The victim, who had been lured to England with the promise of nursing work,

was later sold to Tancosova's relatives in Ireland. Euro-pol said the aim of the campaign was to attract as many visitors to its website as possible to increase the chance of fugitives being arrested. "The female fugitives featured on Europe's Most Wanted website prove that women are equally as capable of committing serious crimes as men," the agency said in a statement, the *Independent* reported.

"In recent decades, the number of women engaged in criminal activity has increased, although at a slower pace than men.

"The criminals of both genders in this new campaign are all wanted for grave offences like murder, drug trafficking, fraud, theft and trafficking in human beings."

The three men on the list include James Kelly, a 57-year-old Irishman who is wanted by the UK for drug trafficking. — Agencies

## Madrid taken over by hundreds of sheep for annual festival

London: Madrid's streets were left badly congested on Sunday, as more than 2,000 sheep passed through its bustling city centre for an annual event, the BBC reported.

The Spanish capital sits on an ancient migration route where shepherds would move their livestock south for the winter. The event is known as Fiesta de la Trashumancia (transhumance festival) and is promoted by local tourist authorities.

The festival started in 1994 and is designed to pay

homage to the area's rural heritage. It exploits a medieval rule which allows shepherds the right to cut through the city with their animals.

Every year, a nominal fee is paid in exchange for the safe passage of the animals, in a ceremony between the mayor and the chief herdsman at the city hall. It honours a 1418 agreement with the city's council where the price of 50 maravedis al millar (50 coins per thousand heads of livestock) was set for the animal traffic. — Agencies

## Rome pressed to ban tourist carriages after horse collapses

London: Lucrative bottle-celle business goes on despite pledges by succession of mayors Italian leaders have been urged to stop "the unjustified exploitation of animals" after a horse collapsed as it pulled tourists through the narrow streets of Rome, the *Guardian* reported.

The horse fell on the Via dei Condotti, a busy shopping street in the city centre, on 17 October after slipping on a manhole cover. The driver of the carriage allegedly ignored pleas from onlookers to have the horse checked by a veterinarian, choosing instead to continue the tour towards the nearby Spanish Steps once the

animal was back on its feet. "Subjecting animals to inhumane labour in the name of an anachronistic tradition is animal abuse," Rinaldo Sidoli, a spokesman for the animal and environmental activist group, Alleanza Popolare Ecologista, said. "Horses in Rome are forced, against their will, to tow extremely heavy loads (the carriage alone weighs 800kg) on slippery

pavements and amid noisy traffic. We ask the mayor, Virginia Raggi, to stop this unjustified exploitation of animals." ENPA, the national agency for animal protection, said that other horses had fallen on the same manhole. "To make this story even more disturbing is the behaviour of the driver," the agency added. "It was as if nothing had happened, and so the true health of the horse remains a mystery." Rome's horse-drawn carriages is a lucrative business, with tour operators charging as much as ₹27,780.37 for horses to cart four people around key monuments for 2 hours. — Agencies



Detox performs during RuPaul's Drag Race: Werq The World 2019 in New York on Saturday. — AFP



Michelle Dockery on the red carpet for *Downton Abbey* at the Rome Film Fest on Saturday. — AP  
Stephanie Corneliussen (left) and Natalie Portman at Dance Project Gala in Los Angeles on Saturday. — AFP, AP



Bebe Rexha (left) performs with a guitarist as she opens for Jonas Brothers during a stop of the group's Happiness Begins Tour at MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas. — AFP

## Walnuts a day can keep diseases at bay

Tiburon, US: A handful of walnuts a day can keep many diseases at bay.

As per different studies and human trials done in 11 countries by over 55 universities, walnut diet can ensure adequate fiber, protein intake as it contains vitamins and minerals, including, unsaturated fat, magnesium, phosphorus and Omega-3 alpha-linolenic acid (ALA).

Eating at least four walnuts a day will help in curing many diseases, including cancer, obesity, diabetes as well as in maintaining body weight, cognitive, reproductive health and many other lifestyle problems, according to studies.

"Walnuts are the powerhouse of nutrients for optimum health. Out of nine tree nuts, they are

they only nuts that contain a significant amount of plant-based Omega-3 alpha-linolenic acid, which are essential fatty acids required by the body," California Walnut Commission Health Research director Carol Berg Sloan said.

"People in India, which has huge vegetarian population, are lacking in Omega-3 and protein. So, if they consume a handful of walnuts every day or else incorporate walnuts in their meals then it is a very healthy idea," she said.

All nuts should be incorporated in daily meals as they are rich in source of monounsaturated fatty acids and walnuts in addition also contain high amounts of Omega-3 fatty acid, making it heart healthy. — PTI



Lupita Nyong'o

## Lupita reveals she had prayed for lighter skin as a child

London: Actor Lupita Nyong'o has warned of the dangers of colourism, revealing she longed for lighter skin when she was younger.

"I had a sister who was lighter-skinned, and people would coo over her in ways they wouldn't at me, so I definitely internalised that," the *Black Panther* star told the *Sunday Times Style*.

Nyong'o went on to recall being mocked for the colour of her skin as a child, the *Independent* reported.

"In school I experienced some teasing and, of course, on TV you're seeing light skin and it's all over the magazines, so all those things subconsciously programme you to think that light is right," she said. "I definitely wished for lighter skin. I tried what I could to make it so — prayer and stuff like that."

The *12 Years a Slave* actor added that the lack of representation in fairytales, such as Cinderella and Rapunzel, affected her when she was growing up.

"You know, they were all white characters. I would read those over and over again, but I didn't see myself in those books," she said. "Subconsciously, there is that conditioning. It is only with hindsight that she has realised how problematic some of the children's books she read were in terms of their presentation of race, she added.

"When there were characters that were supposed to look like me, it was Enid Blyton and it was the golliwogs," she said, referencing the once popular toys that featured in the children's books which are now widely seen as representing negative racial stereotypes.

"I actually didn't know they were a representation of me," she added. — Agencies



A woman lights up colourful clay lamps in preparation to celebrate Diwali at the old Drive-Inn in Durban, South Africa on Saturday. — AFP



Diane Warren (left) and Linda Thompson at the Last Chance for Animals' 35th anniversary gala in Beverly Hills, California, on Saturday. — AFP

## Researchers unravel chemical makeup and origin of dunes in Saturn's moon Titan

Los Angeles: Scientists have found the chemical composition of organic dust dunes present on Saturn's moon Titan, an advance that sheds more light on the mechanism by which carbon-based structures form in extreme cold environments in space.

The researchers examined remote sensing data from NASA's Cassini-Huygens mission to Titan — the only body in our solar system, besides the Earth, with a solid surface, lakes, and a thick atmosphere with a pressure of about 1.5 atmosphere at surface level.

The images from the mission exposed the existence of vast longitudinal dunes on Titan's surface across



The study is vital not only to understand Titan's chemical evolution, but also to grasp how similar the chemistries on Titan and on the Earth might have been before life emerged on our planet 3.5m years ago

its equatorial deserts reaching heights of up to 100 meters, the study, published in the journal *Science Advances*, noted. Earlier imaging studies revealed that Titan's dunes contained dark organic chemicals, compared to the dunes on the Earth that are made of silicates or a large class of other minerals. The researchers exposed

acetylene ice — a chemical that is used on Earth in welding torches and exists at Titan's cold equatorial regions — to radiation similar to high-energy galactic cosmic rays.

They subjected the acetylene ice to a chemical reaction process that formed more complex organic molecules like benzene and naphthalene. These chemical processes,

es, the researchers said, also happen in the interstellar medium — the space between stars — on hydrocarbon rich layers of interstellar nanoparticles.

"Titan's dunes represent the dominating surface sink of carbon in Titan's organic chemistry," said Matthew Applanalp, co-author of the study from UH. Applanalp said that unravelling the origin and chemical pathways behind the dune material was vital not only to understand Titan's chemical evolution, but also to grasp how similar the chemistries on Titan and on the Earth might have been before life emerged on our planet 3.5 million years ago. — PTI

दिल्ली सरकार

आप की सरकार

फ़रिश्ते बनिये

YOU TAKE ROAD ACCIDENT  
VICTIMS TO THE HOSPITAL,  
WE PAY FOR THE TREATMENT



फ़रिश्ते  
दिल्ली के  
आगे आयेंगे जान बचायेंगे

DELHI GOVERNMENT BEARS COMPLETE EXPENSES FOR TREATMENT OF ROAD ACCIDENT VICTIMS

UNDER THE DELHI GOVERNMENT'S FARISHTEY INITIATIVE:

- As soon as an accident takes place, take the victim to the nearest hospital, irrespective of the cost of treatment. The chances of a victim's survival increases manifold if they are taken to the hospital at the earliest.
- Delhi Government will bear the complete expenses of the victim's treatment, since every life is precious
- Victims of any road accident that happens within the boundaries of Delhi will be eligible for this scheme
- The person who takes a victim to hospital will be rewarded and felicitated with a Farishtey Certificate.
- Road accident victims will be admitted for treatment in any hospital without any questioning.

“I salute you - *Dilli ke Farishtey*”

- Arvind Kejriwal  
Chief Minister, Delhi





SPORT | Cricket

'Ganguly can turn the face of Indian cricket'

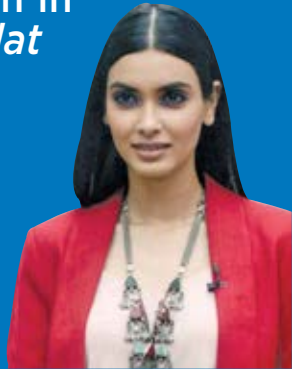
14



SPORT | Football

Rooney falls in Major League Soccer farewell

16



GUIDE TO FORTUNE

Tick the answer and check them below.

1 Which among the following countries gifted the Statue of Liberty to the US in 1886?

- Brazil
- France
- England

2 The Anatomy Lesson of Dr Nicolaes Tulp, an oil painting, is the work of which painter?

- Rembrandt van Rijn
- Johannes Vermeer
- Paulus Potter

3 Which of the following continents has the highest number of countries in the world?

- Asia
- Europe
- Africa

SHORT TAKES

Arms supplier held with 2 accomplices

New Delhi: The Delhi police has arrested a 42-year-old arms supplier and his two associates and recovered 21 country-made pistols and 70 live cartridges from them. The police further claimed to bust an arms manufacturing unit in Sambhal area of UP. The accused was identified as Beer Pal Yadav (42), a native of Sambhal, and he was arrested from Ghazipur area in Delhi and 20 country-made pistols with 50 cartridges were recovered from his possession. He was taken to Sambhal where, at his instance, Kuldeep Kumar (45) was arrested and 15 live cartridges were recovered from him. The arms manufacturing unit which was running in his fields was also busted. Further, Manoj Kumar was nabbed from Aligarh and a country-made pistol and 5 live cartridges were recovered from him.

₹99L gold seized at IGI Airport, 4 held

New Delhi: Four persons were arrested at the IGI Airport for smuggling gold worth over ₹99 lakh in three separate incidents, a Customs official said on Sunday. In the first incident, two residents of Kashmir, who arrived at Terminal-3 of the IGI Airport on Thursday from Dubai, were intercepted by the Customs officials. Five silver-coated gold bangles weighing 1.275 kg were recovered from them. In the second incident, a person was arrested at terminal 1D on Tuesday for allegedly possessing two cut pieces of gold bars weighing 1 kg worth over ₹34 lakh. In the third incident, a man was arrested at terminal 1D for allegedly possessing five gold bars of foreign origin weighing 582 grams worth over ₹20 lakh.

Fake notes found at Metro station

New Delhi: Fake Indian currency notes of the face value of ₹4.64 lakh have been found in a bag at a Delhi Metro station by CISF personnel, officials said on Sunday. They said an unclaimed bag containing the notes was recovered on Saturday evening at the Kashmere Gate station when CISF personnel were carrying out routine anti-sabotage checks at the public transport facility. The bag was recovered from near Gate No 8 of the station. The fake currency was in the denomination of ₹500, they said. The bag has been handed over to the police for further probe, officials said.

Mother found hanging at home in Pitampura  
DU professor's body found on Sarai Rohilla rail tracks

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

The severed body of a 27-year-old Delhi University professor was found on the railway tracks in Sarai Rohilla while his mother was found hanging from a ceiling fan with her mouth stuffed with cloth at their flat in Pitampura.

Allen Stanley (27), who hailed from Kottayam in Kerala, was found dead on the tracks at the Sarai Rohilla railway station on Saturday. Earlier that day, his mother Lissy (55) was found hanging at their flat in Ashiana Apartment, the police said on Sunday. Stanley was a guest professor at St Stephen's College, where he taught Philosophy and was also pursuing PhD from another institute.

The police suspect that Stanley committed suicide



Allen Stanley

The mother-son duo was undergoing depression because of an abetment-to-suicide case pending against them in Kerala and both were on anticipatory bail. A few days ago, Stanley had shared about it with his friends.

after killing his mother. However, no suicide note was recovered from Stanley's body though a note written in Malayalam was found at the flat. The police said it is probing all angles.

The police has registered a murder case under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at the Rani Bagh police station after it found his mother

dead inside the flat. The mother-son duo was undergoing depression because of an abetment-to-suicide case pending against them in Kerala and both were on anticipatory bail. A few days ago, Stanley had shared about it with his friends who tried to convince him to not take any extreme step, a police officer said. Stanley was living in

Delhi for five years and his mother came to stay with him seven months ago.

Witnesses said Stanley had suicidal tendencies and that he had told them five days ago that he tried to force his mother to commit suicide, which she refused.

"We learnt about the tragic news this morning. We are in shock. I had interacted with him when we were speaking to the teachers in the lead up to Delhi University Teachers' Association polls. We do not know what prompted him to take such a step. He was teaching Philosophy at the college," said Professor Nandita Narain, who was Stanley's colleague at St Stephen's College.

The bodies have been sent for post-mortem, the police said.



Participants at Delhi Half-Marathon at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi on Sunday. Some participants display placards with message against 'single-use' plastic. Specially-abled participants at the event. — BIPLAB BANERJEE

Woman killed as truck hits scooter

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

A 35-year-old woman was killed while her family had a narrow escape after their vehicle was hit allegedly by a speeding truck in Northwest Delhi's Bhalswa Dairy, the police said on Sunday.

The woman has been identified as Rangeela Devi from Rajeev Nagar in Bhalswa Dairy, it said. On Saturday, at around 4.55 pm, the police received information regarding an accident near Gurudwara Road in Bhalswa Dairy, the police said.

According to the police, 38-year-old Arjesh

Kumar, along with his wife and two children, was returning home on his scooter when their vehicle was hit by a truck.

Mr Kumar and his children had a narrow escape but his wife lost her life, a police official said.

Based on her husband's complaint, a case has been registered against the driver under Sections 279 (rash driving) and 304A (causing death by negligence) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the official added.

The truck driver, identified as Anujpal (25), was arrested in connection with the accident, the police said.

Beggar held for Goa woman's gangrape, accomplice on run

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

The Delhi police has arrested a beggar for allegedly gangraping a woman from Goa along with his associate in Indraprastha Park near Sarai Kale Khan, said the police, adding that his associate is still at large.

The accused was identified as Abdul Khalid, a native of Rai Bareilly in UP who has been living in Delhi for a long time. His associate Munna is absconding. Abdul, along with Munna, used to beg and indulge in ragpicking.

DCP (Southeast) Chinmoy Biswal said that in September, the victim, who is a native of Goa,

came to Sarai Kale Khan. She decided to stay at the bus stand for a whole night as she did not have any shelter in Delhi. At about midnight, while she was sleeping at the Indraprastha Park bus stand, two men approached her and forcibly committed the offence.

During investigation, the victim's torn clothes, slippers, and one gamchha was also recovered from the spot. Further, more than 4,000 vagabonds were verified to establish the identity of the accused.

On Wednesday, following a tip-off, Khalid was apprehended from Sarai Kale Khan area. During interrogation, he confessed that he, along with Munna, committed the crime in an inebriated state. He also disclosed that the gamchha, which was recovered from the spot, belongs to him.

The accused was produced before the court, said the police, adding that raids are being conducted to nab Munna.

Wife, paramour arrested for murder of man

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

A 30-year-old domestic help and her lover allegedly hatched a conspiracy to kill her husband and portray his death as an accident as they considered him an obstacle in their relationship, the police said on Sunday.

Anita and Arjun Mandal (38) were arrested in connection with the killing, they said. The body of Dayaram (42), with grievous injuries on his head and other body parts, was found lying in the shaft of a lift in an under-construction building in Central Delhi's East Patel Nagar on October 17, the police said.

A case was registered and a probe was initiated, the police said. The identity of the man was confirmed by his wife and other relatives.

During investigation, suspicion grew on Dayaram's wife as she attempted to mislead the police and was quite evasive during the interrogation.

During call detail record (CDR) analysis of mobile phones of Dayaram and his wife, one mobile number was found to be the common link, said DCP (Central) Mandeep Singh Randhawa. However, Anita and

It was revealed that Anita was in an extra-marital affair with Arjun Mandal for the last three years. Both were planning to eliminate her husband Dayaram for the past few months.

Arjun confessed to their crime after they were confronted with evidences and CDRs.

It was revealed that Anita was in an extra-marital affair with Arjun for the last three years. Both were planning to eliminate Dayaram for the past few months.

To execute their plan, Arjun called Dayaram at the Patel Nagar Metro station at the instance of Anita. He offered him drinks. Subsequently, they purchased whiskey, chicken, and glasses.

Following which, Arjun took him to the terrace of an under-construction building in East Patel Nagar at about 7 pm, where they had some drinks.

After spending almost an hour on the rooftop, he pushed Dayaram from the stairs down the shaft of an open lift. The deceased succumbed to his injuries due to fall from a height of almost 45 feet, the DCP said.

25 gamblers held; ₹1.8L, 26 mobiles recovered

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

The Delhi police on Sunday claimed to have arrested 25 gamblers and recovered over ₹1.8 lakh from their possession.

DCP (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said that following a tip-off on Saturday, the vigilance cell conducted a raid at Madangir and Ambedkar Nagar areas and arrested 25 gamblers.

Three packets of playing cards, 26 mobile phones and cash ₹1,88,710 were recovered from their possession.

A case under Delhi Gambling Act was registered at PS Ambedkar Nagar and further investigation is underway.

Meanwhile, the highway patrol staff of PS Sangam Vihar arrested a 27-year-old robber and apprehended four juveniles for allegedly robbing a person at knife-point in Sangam Vihar area on Saturday.

From their possession, robbed cash ₹1500, knife used in commission of crime and two motorcycles were recovered, said DCP (South) Atul Kumar Thakur.

The victim reported that on Saturday at around 1.15 am when he was returning home two persons came on a motorcycle and robbed him on knife point.

Metro services hit due to technical glitches

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

Delhi Metro commuters travelling on the Violet Line faced hardship on Sunday morning as service on the corridor were affected due to some technical issues. Violet Line connects Kashmere Gate station in Delhi to Raja Nahar Singh station in Faridabad.

"Service between Badarpur Border and Kashmere Gate stations have been affected due to some technical issues. We are looking into it," a senior official said. The

DMRC also tweeted to alert passengers about the delay, many of whom got down at various stations and took other modes of travel.

"The train was stopping for longer duration at each station and at Lajpat Nagar station, the train just halted far too long. Many commuters alighted and took an autorickshaw to continue their journey. I also did the same to reach my workplace. But since it was morning, even autos were hard to come by," said Divya Sharma, a commuter.



Minority affairs minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi and BJP MP Vijay Goel take part in a bicycle rally to protest against Delhi government's odd-even scheme in New Delhi on Sunday. — PTI

Man held for forging, owning 2 cars with same number plates

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

In separate incidents, the PCR unit of Delhi police arrested a snatcher and a person for forging the number plate and owning two vehicles with same number.

DCP (PCR) Sharat K. Sinha said that on Saturday night the staff of West Zone responded to an information regarding two Hyndai i-20 cars having same registration number plate, make and colour.

A person namely Parminder Singh, who claimed to be the owner of



Parminder Singh with his two cars of same number

both the cars, failed to explain as how he has similar numbered cars in his possession and was nabbed.

Further in Seemapuri area, the MPV staff apprehended a snatcher after hearing the hue and cry of the victim. The snatcher was identified as Arif and the snatched phone was recovered from his possession, the DCP said.

Ayurvedic antibiotic to fight fever, cold: AIIMS research

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 20

In an attempt to put a check on the practice of uncontrolled use of allopathic antibiotics, researchers have found an Ayurvedic alternative to antibiotics that can be used to treat bacterial and fungal infections.

According to a study conducted by the AIIMS Bhopal, it has been found that Ayurvedic antibiotics are proving a great substitute to modern medicine. "An Ayurvedic antibiotic drug, Fifatrol, is proving effective in curing major

bacterial infections as the herbal medicine has the efficacy to control infections caused by the staphylococcus species of bacteria," said Sarman Singh, the director of AIIMS Bhopal.

In its research, the AIIMS Bhopal has found that the herbal drug is extremely powerful in fighting against bacteria of the staphylococcus species that causes fever, cold and cough, Still's disease, etc.

Besides this, the drug was also found suitable in controlling the spread of infectious diseases caused due to echolalia, pneumo-

nia, Klebsiella aerogenes, etc.

Highlighting the research, Mr Singh said, "As per trend, Ayurvedic medicines generally increase immunity. But Fifatrol has shown very promising results against bacteria. We are doing further research to arrive at the final result."

Mr Singh, who is also the head of the research team, further said: "Staphylococcus bacterium is responsible for skin, respiratory, and stomach infections. In people who have weak immune system."

- Africa
- Rembrandt van Rijn
- France



## Mentor

Former middle-order batsman Mike Hussey has been drafted in by Australian coach Justin Langer to help mentor the side during their upcoming Twenty20 series against Sri Lanka and Pakistan

# Double Don

## Rohit slams maiden double ton, surpasses legendary Bradman for the highest batting average on home soil



Rohit Sharma celebrates after scoring a double century during the second day of third and final Test against South Africa in Ranchi. — AP

## Rohit closes in on an astonishing average of 100

Ranchi, Oct 20: Indian opener Rohit Sharma on Sunday surpassed legendary Sir Don Bradman recording the highest batting average in Test cricket on home soil among those, who have played at least 10 innings.

Rohit, who hit 212 in India's first innings in the third and final Test against South Africa, now has an average of 99.84 in 18 innings, which is highest by any player (with minimum 10 innings) in the longest format at home. Rohit has so far scored 1298 runs in the 18 completed innings. The record was previously held by Bradman, who had an average of 98.22 across 50 innings at home. — PTI

## Umesh breaks Kiwi Fleming's 15-year-old record

Ranchi, Oct 20: Umesh Yadav on Sunday surpassed former New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming's record of the highest strike rate in an innings in Test cricket.

He achieved the feat on Day Two of the third Test match between India and South Africa. The cricketer broke the 15-year-old record previously held by Fleming.

The Kiwi skipper had smashed 31 runs in 11 balls against South Africa in 2004. The left-handed batsman had a strike rate of 281.81 in that particular innings. — Agencies

### BEST AVERAGES AT HOME (MIN 10 INNINGS)

| Batsman               | I  | Runs | AVG   | 100 |
|-----------------------|----|------|-------|-----|
| Rohit Sharma (India)  | 18 | 1298 | 99.84 | 6   |
| Don Bradman (Aus)     | 50 | 4322 | 98.22 | 18  |
| Adam Voges (Aus)      | 12 | 690  | 86.25 | 3   |
| Douglas Jardine (Eng) | 10 | 490  | 81.66 | 1   |
| George Headley (WI)   | 18 | 1241 | 77.56 | 5   |

### HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORE BY AN INDIAN AGAINST SA

| Score | Batsman         | Venue   | Season  | Result |
|-------|-----------------|---------|---------|--------|
| 319   | Virender Sehwag | Chennai | 2007-08 | Drawn  |
| 254*  | Virat Kohli     | Pune    | 2019-20 | Won    |
| 215   | Mayank Agarwal  | Vizag   | 2019-20 | Won    |
| 212   | Rohit Sharma    | Ranchi  | 2019-20 | waited |
| 176   | Rohit Sharma    | Vizag   | 2019-20 | Won    |

Stats: Pervaz Qaiser

### SCORECARD

**India (1st Innings):** Mayank Agarwal c Elgar b Rabada 10, Rohit Sharma c Lungi Ngidi b Rabada 212, Cheteshwar Pujara lbw b Rabada 0, Virat Kohli lbw b Nortje 12, Ajinkya Rahane c Klaasen b George Linde 115, Ravindra Jadeja c Klaasen b George Linde 51, Wriddhiman Saha b George Linde 24, Ravichandran Ashwin st Klaasen b D Piedt 14, Umesh

### SECOND DAY OF THE THIRD AND FINAL TEST

Yadav c Klaasen b George Linde 31, Shahbaz Nadeem (not out) 1, Mohammed Shami (not out) 10. Extras (b-10, lb-6, nb-1) 17. Total for nine wickets in 116.3 overs (497 decl).  
**FoW:** 1-12, 2-16, 3-39, 4-306, 5-370, 6-417, 7-450, 8-464, 9-482.  
**Bowling:** Rabada 23-7-85-3, Ngidi 20-5-83-0, Nortje 24.3-5-79-1, Linde 31-2-133-4, Piedt

18-3-101-1.  
**South Africa (1st Innings):** Dean Elgar c Saha b Shami 0, Quinton de Kock c Saha b Umesh 4, Zubayr Hamza (batting) 0, Faf du Plessis (batting) 1. Extras (b-4) 4. Total (for two wickets in five overs) 9.  
**FoW:** 1-4, 2-8.  
**Bowling:** Shami 1-1-0-1, Umesh 1-0-4-1, Nadeem 2-2-0-0, Jadeja 10-0-1-0.

## Make the best of opportunities: Rohit

Ranchi, Oct. 20: Rohit Sharma always knew that he had to make best use of the opportunities in his new role as a Test opener or else "a lot could have happened" as far as his stint in the longest format is concerned.

Rohit has had scores of 176, 127 in his first Test as an opener against South Africa and now has hit his maiden double hundred to emulate Sachin Tendulkar and Virender Sehwag as players to score 200 across two formats.

"Kafi kuch hone wala tha naahin toh kaafi kuch aap likh dete mere barein mein (A lot could have happened had I not performed and you guys (media) would have written a lot about me," a satis-

the communication between me and my team management was happening for a long time about opening the batting. So mentally, I was ready for it. — ROHIT SHARMA

fied Sharma said at the day end press conference. "So it was about making most of the opportunities I got. I knew I had to make full use of it, otherwise media would have written against me. Now I know everyone will write good things about me," he added.

Rohit has amassed 529 runs from four innings thus becoming the only fifth Indian opener to score 500-plus runs in a Test series. "It was a good opportunity for me to open the batting. As I said during the Vizag Test, the

communication between me and my team management was happening for a long time about opening the batting. So mentally, I was ready for it. I knew it could come at anytime."

"Speaking of this particular knock, I would say it was most challenging. I have not played much. I played only 30 Tests. In terms of what was thrown at me, I would definitely say it was probably the most challenging one," the talented Mumbaier said.

While he has had a blockbuster start to his career as a Test opener, Rohit

himself acknowledged that he has a long way to go. "In Tests, it has its challenges. Having played only three Tests as an opener, I know I have long way to go. I am not reading too much into these three Tests. Of course, I will take a lot of positives."

Talking about the challenge of opening the batting, he said, "Opening the batting is a different challenge to batting at Nos 6-7. It's just about how you prepare yourself, what you talk to yourself in your mind about what do you want to go out there and achieve."

"Playing the first ball of the match, compared to facing a delivery after 30-40 overs is a different ball game altogether." — PTI



Sarfaraz is not a selfish captain. He did not deserve this treatment.

— Rashid Latif, former Pak skipper defends Sarfaraz who has been sacked as captain from all three formats of the game

## SHORT TAKES



George Linde

## Lessons learnt for debutant Linde

Ranchi: South Africa spinner George Linde on Sunday said he learnt lessons during India's 497 for nine declared as he claimed four wickets on debut in the third Test. Linde returned figures of 4-133 with his left-arm spin, providing some support to paceman Kagiso Rabada who had put the hosts in early trouble at 39 for three on day one. "I didn't expect to play Test cricket. So when I got the call-up I was quite nervous but luckily I had a few days to just settle," the Cape Town-born Linde told reporters.

"Today few lessons learnt, especially at the end. But I will take four wickets on a debut."

Linde got Rahane caught behind in the morning session and then hurt the middle order with the wickets of Wriddhiman Saha, for 24, and Ravindra Jadeja, for 51. "Obviously consistency is very important (in India)," said Linde. "We got it wrong on the leg side yesterday, today I was lot better, bit more on the off side." Linde nearly got Sharma on 28 but Zubayr Hamza dropped a tough chance at forward short-leg and the bowler was not complaining. "Those catches, they stick or they don't. So unfortunately it wasn't our way, it was Rohit's," said Linde. — AFP

## State units to get funds post Oct. 23

New Delhi: There is some good news waiting for the Lodha compliant state units of the BCCI, as they will start getting their allocated annual grants once Sourav Ganguly-led new committee takes charge after the Annual General Meeting on October 23. With the full members of the BCCI used to getting an annual grant of Rs 35 crore, the member units have more than Rs 100 crore in arrears over three years as there was no disbursements happening till they amended their constitution as per Lodha recommendations. "The Annual Accounts for multiple financial years will be passed at the AGM and once it is done, the decks will be cleared for all the compliant state units to get their allocated funds. However as per the Supreme Court order, only the compliant state associations will get the funds," a senior BCCI official privy to the development said on conditions of anonymity. — PTI

## Rahul 90 powers K'taka into semis

Bengaluru, Oct 20: Opener 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 the Gujarat via VJD Method in another last eight clash. Put into bat, Puducherry crawled to 207 for 9 with Vikneshwaran MM Mariumuthu top scoring with an unbeaten 58.

The Karnataka bowlers led by the vastly experienced Abhimanyu Mithun (2-35) ran through the Puducherry top and middle order before Mariumuthu and Sagar Trivedi (54) tried to rally their innings.

Pudicherry were reeling at 41 for 6 at one stage

### VIJAY HAZARE TROPHY



KL Rahul

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. — PTI

**Brief scores:** Pondicherry 207/9 (VM Mariumuthu 58 not out, Sagar Trivedi 54; Pravin Kumar Dubey 3-44) lost to Karnataka 213/2 (KL Rahul 90, Devdutt Padikkal 50; Sagar Udeshi 2-47). Delhi 223 (Dhruv Shorey 91; Chintan Gaja 3-27) lost to Gujarat 225/4 (Priyank Panchal 80, Parthiv Patel 76; Simarjeet Singh 2-54).



## Hemant Kenkre Silly Point

The coming week will see the AGM of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). With office bearers already 'elected' the impact will soon be seen on the functioning of the august body and on Indian cricket. Last week saw deals being done between groups and caucuses that sprung up new names which will lead the future of the game in our country.

The best news was the decision to get Sourav Ganguly to wear the hat of the President. When Dada, as he fondly known, dons the mantle of the head of the richest, private sporting body in India and probably the world, it will be the best Diwali gift his legion of fans, including yours truly, will get. Knowing Ganguly, for the next 10 months we

will see the future direction that BCCI will be heading in.

Ganguly becomes the second Indian Test captain who will occupy the highest administrative position in Indian cricket. Story has it that Dada was nicknamed 'Maharaj' by his parents who must have seen the royal demeanour in him while rocking his cradle. The first Test skipper who became the BCCI President was also a Maharaj: Pusapati Vijaya Rama Gajapathi Raju, the Maharajkumar of Vizianagaram, known as Vizzy.

Vizzy would rather be known as the one who got cricketers like Sir John Berry (Jack) Hobbs, Herbert Sutcliffe and Learie Constantine to India rather than the cricket he

played. Vizzy skippered India in three Test matches on the 1936 tour of England, which is best remembered for the exploits of Vijay Merchant, Syed Mushtaq Ali and Mohammed Nissar.

If the first, Vizzy, was a Maharaja by birthright, the second, Dada, was crowned by the masses for his attitude, demeanour and leadership qualities.

I first saw Ganguly then he was part of the CCI Presidents XI that played against my office team, Tata Sports Club (TSC). His teammates included Mohammed Azharuddin (India captain then), Sachin Tendulkar among others. While the rest of his team capitulated against us, the southpaw played a gem of an innings which was good enough for TSC make him an offer which he accepted.



Sourav Ganguly

Those pre-professional days saw him play in the dusty maidens of Bombay (Mumbai) with Dilip Vengsarkar, Ravi Shastri, Kiran More, Lalchand Rajput and Raju Kulkarni as colleagues. The discipline, approach and disposi-

tion of Bombay cricket of the early 90s must certainly have steered the Kolkata lad who went on to take Indian cricket to a higher level. Watching him rise from strength to strength, after he made a dream debut against England at Lord's in 1996, showed that he had worked very hard to shut the doubting Thomases.

The situation in which Ganguly is today, is similar to the time he took over the Indian captaincy from Tendulkar in February 2000. The match fixing scan-

dal had rocked Indian cricket and the morale of the team and their followers was at an all time low. Beating South Africa in his debut One Day International (ODI) series as captain was a huge morale booster for minds that were badly bruised. We saw a captain who moved away from the tried and tested and infused a new spirit in a team that was mentally wounded.

Today, after all the twists and turns that Indian cricket has taken from an administrative viewpoint, ever since the Supreme Court entered the boardroom of the BCCI, the faith in the organisation needs to be restored. That would be Ganguly's first task on hand and his track record shows that he would tame this challenge just the way he did when he took guard as captain. There are three main issues that would need his immediate attention apart from restoring BCCI's credibility.

Age fudging is the first issue that needs his consideration. This silent menace has plagued Indian cricket for decades. Having come up through the ranks, Ganguly will know how this can be a threat to the progress of talent. Relations with the International Cricket Council in terms of getting money and Future Tours Programme is the second and the dreaded Conflict of Interest cause is the third. One feels secure that the new president-designate has zeroed in on the last two issues during his interactions with the media over the last week.

If anyone deserves credit for India's rise as a cricketing superpower on the field of play, the first name would be Ganguly's. Getting in fresh talent, nurturing them to be world beaters and bringing back a sense of belief in the team, was his big contribution to Indian cricket. Now, once again, he has the opportunity to make a bigger contribution by turning the face of Indian cricket towards the Sun as President, just the way he did when he captained India and sowed the seeds for the future. — PTI





### Injury scare

Joao Felix suffers a bad twist during Atletico Madrid's Spanish League game against Valencia

### JOHOR | CUP

## Indian colts go down fighting

Johor Bahru (Malaysia), Oct. 20: The Indian junior men's hockey team lost to Great Britain 1-2 in the final of the 9th Sultan of Johor Cup here on Saturday.

Right from the hooter it was India forcing the pace, and put Great Britain on the back foot. They were forcing the attacks, creating more circle penetrations but their finishing was letting them down.

The first real opportunity fell to Maninder Singh, who dribbled past three Great Britain players to singlehandedly fashion a shooting chance, which flew just over the crossbar.

Soon enough though James Mazarelo was called into action in Great Britain's goal, first saving a sharp chance off Sudeep before parrying three consecutive penalty corners, to ensure his team went into the break level.

India upped the ante in the second quarter, and this time it was Oliver Payne in goal who was holding the score level.

In the fourth quarter, Great Britain won their first penalty corner of the game. Despite the initial save on the line by Sanjay, the ricochet fell to Stuart Rushmere who slotted home first time to draw his team level.

Then, a ricochet fell to Rushmere, who slotted home to give Great Britain the win and the title.

—PTI

● India grabbed the lead through Gursahibjit Singh in the 49th minute.  
● Stuart Rushmere scored a brace to help England win.



Amit Panghal

## Panghal off the blocks in Wuhan

Wuhan, Oct. 20: 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 7th CISM World Military Games here on Saturday.

Panghal beat Douglas Andrade of Brazil, while Chirag (56kg) defeated Zambia's Katanga Christopher 5-0.

In the men's light fly category (49kg), Deepak defeated Iran's Abasadeh Ali while Satish Kumar also won his super heavyweight category (+91kg) bout against Brazil's Nascimento Cosme 3-2.

—PTI

# City shatter Crystal

## Jesus, Silva net goals as Manchester win three crucial points at Palace

London, Oct. 20: Manchester City brushed aside in-form Crystal Palace 2-0 on Saturday to narrow the gap to Premier League leaders Liverpool to five points.

The defending champions travelled to London with questions over their ability to sustain a title challenge after two defeats in four league games but produced some incisive football without applying their usual killer touch in the game.

Pep Guardiola's team were quickly into their stride against Roy Hodgson's men, dominating possession and forcing Palace onto the back foot but they did not break the deadlock until shortly before half-time.

City were rewarded for their dominance in the 39th minute when Bernardo Silva whipped in a left-footed cross. Gabriel Jesus shaped to head the ball but it came off his shoulder and crept into the net off the far post past a rooted Wayne Hennessey.

They doubled their lead just two minutes later following a speedy counter-attack.

When the ball came to Raheem Sterling he produced a delightful chip from just inside the area into the path of David Silva, who watched it drop over his left shoulder before guiding it into the net.

### GUARDIOLA CALLS FOR KILLER INSTINCT

Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola called on his side to be more clinical after they brushed aside in-form Crystal Palace 2-0 on Saturday to narrow the gap to Premier League leaders Liverpool to five points.

City had 21 shots but Palace goalkeeper Wayne Hennessey kept his side in the game and the visitors had their own 'keeper, Ederson, to thank for a couple of outstanding saves at the other end.

"We played good, created a lot of chances. They are always so strong for the second ball. Unfortunately, we could not convert the chances we had but it was an important three points after the international break," said City boss Guardiola.

"Hopefully we can start from here and continue our good performance," Manchester city coach added.

—AFP



They are always so strong for the second ball. Unfortunately, we could not convert the chances we had but it was an important three points after the international break.

—PEP GUARDIOLA  
Manchester City manager



Manchester City's Gabriel Jesus (centre) vies for the ball with James McArthur (left) as Jeffrey Schlupp (right) of Crystal Palace looks on during their English Premier League match at Selhurst Park, south London, on Saturday. City won 2-0.

—AFP

## Ronaldo on target for Juventus

Milan, Oct. 20: Cristiano Ronaldo and Miralem Pjanic sealed a 2-1 win for Juventus over Bologna to consolidate top spot in Serie A.

Ronaldo was presented with a special jersey before kick-off to mark his 700th career goal scored playing for Portugal during the week.

The 34-year-old hit his 701st after 19 minutes, with Pjanic adding a second eight minutes after the break following a blunder by Brazilian defender Danilo, who had earlier pulled Bologna level.

The defending champions are now four points clear of second-placed Inter Milan.

Atalanta stay third after throwing away a three-goal lead to draw 3-3 with Lazio, with fourth-placed Napoli closing the gap to just one point after Arkadiusz Milik's double saw off Verona.

Bologna coach Sinisa Mihajlovic returned to the bench in Turin after his second course of chemotherapy as he battles cancer.

And the visitors were given reason to hope of snatching a rare point against the Turin giants when Danilo responded to Ronaldo's opener with a 29th-minute volley.

But Pjanic sealed victory with his third goal in four games in the 54th minute amid chaos in front of the Bologna goal.

—AFP



Cristiano Ronaldo of Juventus holds a jersey bearing his name with the number 700, after being honoured for having scored 700 goals so far in his career, prior to their Italian league football match against Bologna on Saturday at the Juventus stadium in Turin.

—AFP

## Madrid take a Real tumble

Madrid, Oct. 20: Trouble returned to Real Madrid after they endured their first La Liga defeat of the season at newly-promoted Real Mallorca.

Zinedine Zidane, David Beckham and Robinho were in the last Real Madrid team to lose a league game at San Moix in 2006 and 13 years later, Mallorca repeated the trick thanks to a scintillating strike by Junior Lago in the first half.

Alvaro Odriozola allowed Lago too much room to cut inside and was then sent off late on, even if Madrid's attempts at a comeback looked doomed well before they were reduced to 10 as they lost 0-1.

The defeat halts the resurgence of Zidane's side just as Barcelona's appears to be gathering pace, a 3-0 win away at Eibar giving the Catalans their fifth consecutive victory in all competitions. Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Antoine Griezmann scored the goals.

In between, Atletico Madrid were pegged back by Valencia as a brilliant Dani Parejo free-kick earned the visitors a hard-

### SPANISH | LEAGUE

earned 1-1 draw at the Wanda Metropolitano.

It means Barca will finish the weekend top of the table for the first time this season as the defending champions continue to leave their stumbling start further behind them.

For Real, five games unbeaten and three of them victories had not erased the doubts, but at least seemed to offer evidence Zidane's team were turning a corner.

But Mallorca, who climb to 14th, deserved their triumph in what is their first season back in the top flight since relegation ended 15 consecutive years there in 2014.

Lago collected the ball on the left in the seventh minute, drove at the retreating Odriozola before cutting inside and unleashing a shot.

Madrid lacked purpose and cutting edge, with their hopes all but dashed when Odriozola capped a miserable night by flying in late on Lago in the 74th minute and collecting a second yellow card.

—AFP

### SHORT TAKES

## Ogbeche diffuses ATK with a brace

Kochi: Two-time champions ATK scored their 100th goal in the Hero Indian Super League but that wasn't enough to provide them with any joy in the opening match of the sixth edition at the Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium in Kochi on Sunday.

Carl McHugh had put ATK ahead with an absolute stunner in only the sixth minute of the game but the hosts, egged on by a vociferous crowd, hit back with two goals from new signing Bartholomew Ogbeche in the first half itself for a 2-1 victory.

The result sees Kerala get the better of ATK in their ISL opener once again, having recorded a 2-0 win last season in Kolkata. The game got off to an electrifying start with the visitors stunning the packed crowd early in the game. ATK capitalised on a free-kick given for a foul on Jayesh Rane by Jaekson Singh. The set-piece into the box was cushioned back for McHugh by Agustin Garcia Iniguez at the far post.

—Agencies

## Bengaluru take on North East United

Bengaluru: Boasting of five India internationals in their ranks, including talismanic captain Sunil Chhetri, a formidable Bengaluru F.C. will begin their quest for title defence when they take on NorthEast United in their opening Indian Super League match here on Monday.

The Bengaluru-based side have been synonymous with consistency in India domestic football history. After three years of success in the I-League, they joined ISL in 2017 and made an instant impact. Bengaluru suffered a heart-breaking loss in the final to Chennaiyin FC at home.

The next season (2018), Bengaluru had Roca's protege Carles Cuadrat under whom they defeated F.C. Goa to clinch their maiden ISL title.

With a clutch of new signings and retention of key players, particularly domestic, Bengaluru look set to dominate again this season. They roped in India midfielder Ashique Kuruniyan this season. —PTI

## SANDHU GOES PAST RASHID, TAKES CROWN

Chandigarh: Chandigarh's Ajeetesh Sandhu piped Delhi's Rashid Khan for the title in a photo-finish on the final day of the Jeev Milkha Singh Invitational Presented golf tournament here on Sunday.

Ajeetesh, playing at his home course, made a spectacular comeback in regulation play before coming through in a marathon playoff that lasted four extra holes at the Chandigarh Golf Club.

It was a classical contest for the ages that saw Sandhu collect the winning cheque worth Rs. 24,24,750 that catapulted him from 48th to second position in the TATA Steel PGTI Order of Merit.

Rashid extended his lead to over Rs 34 lakhs in the PGTI's money list despite his heart-breaking loss. Khan's PGTI earnings for 2019 now stand at a whopping Rs. 61,21,653.

Ajeetesh (66-69-67-66) and Rashid (71-64-67-66), the joint leaders after round three, headed for the playoff on Sunday after ending up with identical totals of 20-under-268 in regulation play.

It turned out to be the lowest winning score at the Chandigarh Golf Club, improving on Rahil Gangjee's 13-under-275 at the PGTI Players Championship in 2013. Karandeep Kochhar of Chandigarh took third place at 17-under-271 after a flawless 68 in round four. Abhijit Singh Chadha, another local lad, matched the course record of eight-under-64. —PTI



Players of Bengal Warriors celebrate after defeating Delhi Dabang in the Pro-Kabaddi league final in Ahmedabad on Saturday. Bengal beat Delhi 39-34. —PTI

## Warriors get the swag off Dabang

Ahmedabad, Oct. 20: A clinical Bengal Warriors on Saturday clinched their maiden Pro Kabaddi League title by defeating Dabang Delhi 39-34 in a pulsating summit clash here.

Naveen Kumar was brilliant once again with 18 raid points for Delhi but uncharacteristic errors cost their title hopes in front of a packed audience, including Sports Minister Kiren Rijju, at the EKA Arena by TransStadia.

The Warriors did not have the services of star raider and captain Maninder Singh but got support with his presence as assistant coach of the team in the final match of Season Seven. The pressure of the final

● Despite missing their captain Maninder Singh in the title round, Bengal pulled off an emphatic 39-34 win over Delhi, winning their maiden Pro Kabaddi League title.

got to the Warriors in the early minutes as Delhi stormed to a 6-0 lead. Naveen Kumar certainly looked charged up for the event while Delhi's cover combination of Anil Kumar and Vishal Mane also seemed keen to stop any raider coming their way.

The Delhi side clinched their All-Out in the 8th minute to open a four-point lead but the Warriors were a different side after the restart. Stand-in captain Mohammad Nabibakhsh

picked up his game, clinching valuable raid points, as the Warriors quickly reduced Delhi's lead.

Delhi's Iranian player Meraj Sheykh impressed as a substitute, picking up two raid points in pressure situations, but the Warriors secured their first All-Out with under four minutes remaining for the break.

The closely-contested first-half ended with the scores levelled at 17-17.

The Warriors maintained that momentum in the second half as they

quickly got into the lead. Suresh Hegde once again sizzled for the Warriors with some mature raiding, often getting the better of Ravinder Pahal in Delhi's left corner.

Perhaps the smartest move from the Warriors' camp was to deploy the experienced Jeeva Kumar in a shifting cover role, depending on the raider's strong foot.

The decision helped as the Warriors clinched another All-Out in the 8th minute of the half to open up a 4-point lead.

Delhi's Naveen Kumar clinched his Super 10 in the 10th minute (21st consecutive) but his side struggled to get a stranglehold of the Warriors.

—PTI