

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WHY INDIA LAGS IN FIGHTING HUNGER

BY HARSH MANDER
PAGE 10

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

A cartoon by Unny depicting a man in a suit with a speech bubble that says "Turn to National Opposition, Rawar jab why compete with the Sena here?".

MAHARASHTRA GOVT FORMATION

Sena drives a hard bargain, tells BJP: Rotate CM post, give it to us in writing

Both sides call on Governor separately, formal talks after BJP elects its leader

SHUBHANGI KHAPRE & VISHWAS WAGHMODE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 28

MAHARASHTRA CHIEF Minister Devendra Fadnis and senior Shiv Sena leader and Minister for Transport Diwakar Raote Monday called on Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari separately to apprise him of the po-

litical developments in the state. With Sena stuck on its demand for a 50:50 power sharing formula and the Chief Minister's post, the alliance partners are yet to formally stake claim to form the government. In the 288-strong Legislative Assembly, results for which were declared on October 24, BJP won 105 seats and its ally Shiv Sena 56. Addressing the media after



Fadnis with Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, Monday. PTI

meeting the Governor, Raote said, "The Shiv Sena will not accept anything less than the 50:50 formula — this includes a two-and-a-half year tenure through rotation for the post of CM. It wants everything in writing from the BJP." The BJP, on its part, is willing to offer the post of Deputy Chief Minister and the Revenue portfolio, an important ministry that handles all land-related issues in the state. It has been four days since the results, but the pre-poll alliance

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At the site where Baghdadi was killed near the village of Barisha, in Idlib province, Syria, Sunday. AP

Day after Baghdadi death, his likely successor killed in American airstrike

BEN HUBBARD & KARAM SHOUMALI
BEIRUT, OCTOBER 28

A DAY after an American raid killed Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, a separate attack killed the man who was considered his likely successor, according to the leader of a Syrian Kurdish militia and a Syrian activist.

The spokesman, known by his nom de guerre Abu Hassan al-Muhajir, was being smuggled across northern Syria in the back of an oil tanker truck when it was hit by what witnesses said they believed to be an American airstrike, according to Hussein Nasser, an activist who said he had spoken to people at the scene.

Mazlum Abdi, the head of a Kurdish-led militia that fought the Islamic State with the United States, wrote on Twitter that Muhajir had been killed Sunday in an operation coordinated between his forces and the United States. American officials could not immediately confirm reports that Muhajir had been killed.

The spokesman issued his last statement in March, calling for retaliation for the killing of 50 Muslims in New Zealand by a white supremacist.

Little is known about him, including his real name and

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EXPLAINED

Big boost in war against terror

THE KILLING of Baghdadi, and his likely successor, is a major boost for Donald Trump, whose pullback of US troops from north-east Syria raised a storm of criticism. It also comes as a relief for anti-terror operations globally — in India, the IS has not emerged as a key threat. Apart from large-scale attacks, Baghdadi's leadership supported "lone wolf" acts of violence that made it harder for law enforcement to prevent.

Education policy dilutes assurance on RTE up to Class 12

RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

THE HRD Ministry has tweaked the draft National Education Policy (NEP) to dilute the provision on extending the Right to Education (RTE) Act up to Class 12 and also include three years of early childhood education.

The final policy document states that the RTE Act "will be considered for extension" — as opposed to the draft, which assured extension.

The draft NEP was submitted by a group of experts, led by former ISRO chief K Kasturirangan, to the HRD Ministry in June, and uploaded online for public feedback. The government received 2 lakh suggestions and is set to seek the Cabinet's approval for the final 50-page policy.

The final NEP has also tweaked the suggestion in the draft policy on starting a National Tutors Programme (NTP) and Remedial Instructional Aides Programme (RIAP). Both were meant to strengthen basic reading and mathematics skills.

Under NTP, the best performers in each school would have been roped in for up to five hours a week as tutors during school hours for fellow students who need help. RIAP was a 10-year project to draw instructors — especially women — from local communities to help students who have fallen behind and bring them back into the fold.

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EU MPs head to J&K today, angry Oppn tells Govt you didn't allow us

At lunch hosted by NSA, leaders of PDP, Cong & BJP meet lawmakers

SHUBHAJIT ROY, MANOJ CG & BASHAARAT MASOOD
NEW DELHI, SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 28

WEEKS AFTER a US Congressman was denied permission by the government to visit Jammu and Kashmir, a delegation of 27 members of the European Parliament is set to visit the state Tuesday.

Members of European Parliament (MEPs) met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at his residence Monday, and were briefed separately by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.

The Prime Minister, while welcoming the delegation to India, "expressed the hope that they have a fruitful visit to various parts of the country, including to Jammu and Kashmir," a statement by the Prime Minister's Office said.

"Their visit to Jammu and Kashmir should give the delegation a better understanding of the cultural and religious diversity of

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi with a delegation of EU MPs in New Delhi, Monday. Reuters

Brexit to anti-immigrants to Crimea: 22 of 27 lawmakers represent Europe's Right

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

OF THE 27 members of the European Parliament visiting India, at least 22 belong to right-wing or far-right parties in UK, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia. They are broadly anti-immigration in Italy, in favour of Brexit in the UK, and against migration and belong to Marine Le Pen's party

in France, and the far-right and anti-establishment Alternative für Deutschland in Germany.

These include:

■ A lawmaker from Poland who was sacked from the EU Vice-President's post for making a slur with Nazi connotations.

■ A lawmaker from France who had accompanied Russian officials and had supported the Russian annexation of Crimea. He was also accused of turning a blind eye to human rights viola-

tions in Azerbaijan, and was perceived as an apologist for the ruling Aliyev regime.

■ A lawmaker from Poland who tweeted with the hashtag "#WhyNotSvastika" — a reference to the Nazi-associated swastika symbol — joining a protest against Soviet-themed merchandise available on Amazon.

■ Another lawmaker who, in a tweet, wondered "why there

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Another truck driver killed, grenade attack leaves 19 injured

BASHAARAT MASOOD & ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 28

IN THE fourth such attack in south Kashmir over the last three weeks, suspected militants shot dead a trucker Monday evening after he had parked his apple-laden vehicle on a road in Anantnag district. In a separate incident, at least 19 civilians were injured after militants hurled a grenade in Sopore town in north Kashmir Monday afternoon.

Security officials said the suspected militants shot the trucker, identified as Narayan Dutta, near Kanelwan village on the Bijbehara-Pahalgam road. Dutta was critically injured and rushed to the Sub District Hospital in Bijbehara, where he was declared brought dead.

Unlike the previous victims, who were not J&K residents, Dutta hails from the Katra region of Jammu. "Terrorists fired on a civilian in Bijbehara area of Anantnag. Information is preliminary in nature. Further details shall follow," J&K Police tweeted Monday night.

Five persons, including three truckers, a fruit trader and a labourer, had earlier been killed in similar attacks this month in south Kashmir.

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THE GOVERNANCE PAGE



HOW KOLKATA MADE ITS ROADS SAFER
PAGE 9

Uttarakhand rules make it tough to get forest tag, greens raise red flag

LALMANI VERMA
DEHRADUN, OCTOBER 28

THE UTTARAKHAND government is all set to notify rules that will result in tighter norms for classifying land as deemed forest. However, environmentalists fear that such a move will mean vast swathes of land will not come under the protection of the Forest Conservation Act.

According to the new rules, cleared by the State Cabinet, land cannot be defined as forest if it isn't spread across a minimum of 10 hectares with a minimum canopy density of 60 per cent and doesn't have 75 per cent native trees.

Only if these parameters are met will prohibitions laid down for forest areas under the Forest



Echo from Mumbai: During the Aarey protest. File

Conservation Act be applicable in those areas. Incidentally, the recent agitation in Mumbai by residents of Aarey Colony, which isn't classified as a forest, was to prevent the felling of trees to build a Metro car shed.

"These parameters will have impact on areas notified in rev-

enue records as forest, jungle, jungle jhadi, ban, bani and other private owned area having plantation cover. It will not affect government land notified as forest in any central or state Acts," said a top official in the Forest department.

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WORLD



EU NATIONS AGREE TO DELAY BREXIT UNTIL JANUARY 31
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CITY



POLLUTION LOWER THAN LAST DIWALI, BUT AIR STILL POOR
PAGE 4

In Andhra, shortage of sand stalls construction, 3 suicides in a month

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 28

THE DELAYED rollout of a new sand-mining policy by the YSRCP government has led to nearly 30 lakh workers in the construction industry losing out on employment over the last 4-5 months with an acute shortage of sand stalling most building activity.

The crisis was brought into sharp focus Monday when a video surfaced of a plumber, moments before he committed suicide. Police said the video was shot by Polepalli Venkatesh, who used to work at building sites and hanged himself at his home in Guntur's Gorantla village on October 2.

In the video, which was found on Venkatesh's phone Sunday by his wife who submitted it to po-



Plumber recorded a video before suicide

lice, he said he was unable to find work for the last 3-4 months and was set in severe financial difficulty. "I am totally ashamed of myself because I am unable to take care of my family due to financial problems... for several months, there is no work, there is no income. My financial condition is very precar-

ious," he said in the video.

This is the third suicide this month in the YSRCP-ruled state that the victims' families are blaming on loss of livelihood due to sand shortage.

On October 25, C Nagabrahmaji, a 34-year-old mason of Sangam Jagarlamudi village in Guntur, hanged himself at his home. On the same day, P Venkat Rao, a construction worker, hanged himself in Guntur town citing financial difficulty due to lack of work.

Immediately after coming to power in May 2019, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy cancelled the sand policy of the previous TDP government while accusing it of aiding the sand mafia. However, his government did not announce a new policy

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PAGE 1 ANCHOR

CRAJA MOHAN

"AMERICAN LOBBY!" was Professor Stephen Philip Cohen's exclamation when I ran into him at the India International Centre in Delhi in the autumn of 2005 just a few weeks after India and the United States unveiled their civil nuclear initiative. His finger was pointed at me. His tone was one of mock accusation but his eyes were twinkling.

Steve, who passed away Sunday at age 83, was remarkable on the utterly surprising support he found in a significant section of the Indian strategic

He got strategic elite in DC and Delhi to understand each other

community for improved relations with the United States, especially from those, including me, who were locked with him in fierce arguments about nuclear issues in the past. After all, the historic nuclear accord radically changed the Indian discourse on the United States.

For Steve and a whole generation of American scholars of India, the idea that Delhi and Washington could be friends, let alone partners, was an incredible one. What is taken for granted today was an impossible proposition less than two decades ago. Steve, an expert on South Asia, and his cohort saw

ties between India and the United States deteriorate rapidly from the late 1960s and hit a nadir in the 1970s. And the brief efforts to revive them by Indira Gandhi, and later by Rajiv Gandhi in the 1980s, seemed impossible to sustain.

Amid India's intellectual xenophobia of those years, any American scholar like Steve was suspected to be a "CIA Agent". For the American academics wanting to engage Delhi, "anti-Americanism" appeared to be part of the Indian elite's DNA. Worse still, that generation's pessimism about India's long-term prospects became stronger



STEPHEN P COHEN
1936-2019

than ever before.

As official India turned hostile to American academics and denied them visas since the 1970s, China was embracing America. Within a few years, the once flourishing India studies departments in US universities began to fold and Chinese studies began to gain rapid traction. Steve held his faith during the hard "India winter" that gripped American academia.

Steve's small centre at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, became the oasis for strategic studies on India and South Asia. Steve turned out a steady trickle of South Asian

scholarship and among his students were Sumit Ganguly and Kanti Bajpai, now established academics in their own right. Beyond his enclave in Illinois, Steve was ready to assist and advise anyone, anywhere, interested in studying India and South Asia.

When the Institute of South Asian Studies, which I now head, was set in up in the National University of Singapore a decade-and-a-half ago, Prof Stephen Cohen was among the first it turned to. After he moved to Brookings Institution in Washington DC, his office and home were open to all comers

from the Subcontinent. At lunch on Tuesday afternoons, he would hold court at the Brookings Canteen, ready to entertain scholars from and on South Asia.

Through his long academic career, Steve struggled to disabuse Indians of their many conspiracy theories about American policy-making. He referred to his brief stint in the US State Department to argue that it was chaos and ignorance rather than a grand design that often drove US policies towards India. Steve also strove to help American officials and scholars to look

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WEB EXCLUSIVE

VIDEO OF THE DAY

DAY AFTER DIWALI: AIR QUALITY

Air quality across north India remained in "poor" category

TRIPURASUNDARI TEMPLE PRIESTS BELIEVE DIWALI WITHOUT SLAUGHTER IS 'INCOMPLETE'

As Tripura observed its first ritual slaughter-free Diwali on Sunday, priests and devotees at Tripurasundari Temple, considered one of the holiest Hindu shrines in the country, say they are concerned about the fallout since this would make the rituals incomplete. Earlier this month, a High Court order had banned animal sacrifice in state's temples

FULL COVERAGE

MAHARASHTRA GOVT FORMATION

BJP can set fire to Mantralaya but not go back on its deal: Shiv Sena

EXPRESS AUDIO

How the BJP-Shiv Sena tussle for power may play out

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Reporters dissect how the power play in the state may play out, how the Sena's politics will evolve with Aaditya Thackeray, and why BJP and Sena continue to be allies

FROM PAGE ONE

Education policy

The final NEP has endorsed only one-on-one peer tutoring. "Peer tutoring can be taken up as a voluntary and joyful activity for fellow students under supervision of trained teachers and by taking due care of safety aspects... it will be made far easier for the local community and beyond — to participate in this large-scale mission of the schooling system," the final NEP states.

The draft had proposed a new three-tier institutional system for higher education under which, by 2030, all institutions will either become research universities or teaching universities or colleges running undergraduate programmes.

In the final NEP, the categorisation of institutions under a hierarchical structure has been given up. In its place, classification based on the main purpose of the institution — research or teaching — has been retained.

Lastly, the government has also removed the strict deadline prescribed by the Kasturirangan Committee to phase out the system of affiliated colleges. The draft suggested that, by 2032, all colleges affiliated currently must develop into autonomous degree granting colleges or merge completely with the university that they are affiliated to, or develop into a university themselves. The final document only speaks of "gradually phasing out the system of affiliated colleges".

of the region," the PMO statement said.

Sources in the European Union mission in New Delhi said the MEPs are not an official delegation of the EU, but are travelling in their private capacity.

Opposition parties slammed the government for letting European Parliament members visit Kashmir while not permitting Indian Opposition leaders move out of Srinagar airport.

Congress leader Anand Sharma, also chairman of the Standing Committee on Home Ministry, told *The Indian Express*: "This is the ultimate disrespect to Indian Parliament and breach of our privileges. When we, as an all-party delegation, leaders of the Opposition parties and MPs, went to Srinagar... we were detained at the airport itself and never allowed to even step out or meet any Kashmiri. Our privileges were violated. And until this day, the government has not briefed Parliament. Even the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs has not been briefed till date... But the government prefers briefing EU MPs. This stand is self-defeating and contradicts our consistent position that J&K is India's internal matter."

Following their interaction with the Prime Minister, Bill Newton Dunn, MEP from the UK, told *The Indian Express* that the delegation decided to visit New Delhi since there are "good relations between the EU and India", and also to "try to understand the situation in J&K".

"We had an excellent and cordial meeting with the Prime Minister. We are from different European countries and different political parties," Dunn said. "He (Modi) talked to us about the achievements since 2014 and his ambitious plans for the future, including Indian problems, and also climate change and pollution."

"We did not discuss Kashmir with him, but afterwards had a 30-minute briefing about Kashmir with questions with his Security Advisor, which was valuable and interesting," Dunn, from the Liberal Democrats in the UK, said.

The visit, he said, was organised by the International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies in New Delhi.

The website of the institute describes it as an international or-

ganisation, founded on September 19, 1980. "It was established to project and highlight the convictions of the peoples of the non-aligned world. IINS has provided a platform to voice the viewpoint of billions of people of the third world," it said. There are no details of its office-bearers or leadership on the website.

The visit comes weeks after a key US Senator from the Democratic Party, Chris Van Hollen, was denied permission to visit Kashmir. At the US Congressional hearing last week, US Assistant Secretary of State Alice G Wells had said US diplomats were also denied permission to travel to J&K.

Last month, the European Parliament had discussed the situation in J&K, where the EU had expressed concern about the situation on the ground in J&K and "restrictions on fundamental freedoms". External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had visited Finland, the current EU chair.

On Monday, Anand Sharma, critical of the government's decision to let MEPs visit Kashmir while denying permission earlier to an all-party delegation which wanted to interact with people in the Valley, said the Opposition will raise the issue in Parliament when it reopens in November for the winter session.

Congress leader and Rajya Sabha MP Jairam Ramesh tweeted: "When Indian political leaders have been prevented from meeting the people of J&K, what possessed the great chest-beating champion of nationalism to allow European politicians to visit J&K. This is an outright insult to India's own Parliament and our democracy!"

CPM's Sitaram Yechury too attacked the government. "Why were Indian political party leaders and MPs repeatedly prevented from exiting Srinagar airport? I was allowed to enter Srinagar only when the Supreme Court permitted over my habeas corpus petition. Even today, Indian MPs are not allowed while Modi welcomes MEPs!" he tweeted.

CPI's D Raja attacked the government saying it itself is internationalising the Kashmir issue and asked "what kind of policy is this government pursuing".

"In the morning, it was said it was an unofficial visit. Now Prime Minister Narendra Modi has met the delegation. He has expressed happiness that the delegation can go and see the diversity of J&K. It means the government itself is facilitating the visit of the European Union delegation. This has raised several questions," Raja said.

Meanwhile, a group of Kashmiri politicians, businessmen and civil society members met the MEPs at a lunch hosted by NSA Doval in New Delhi. In the group were PDP's Muzaffar Hussain Beig, former Congress legislator Usman Majeed and BJP's Khalid Jehangir.

"We have to tell the story of our pain," Beig told *The Indian Express*. "I was not representing PDP (there). I was invited in individual capacity."

Majeed said: "We discussed the current situation in Kashmir and nothing else. We told them why people are angry. We told them everything. They will see it themselves tomorrow." He too said he was there as "an individual" and not as a Congress leader.

Jehangir said they discussed the Kashmir situation but he would reveal it to the media only on November 8. He said he met the delegation as a "Kashmiri" and not as a member of the party.

Businessman Sandeep Chattoo, who is also co-owner of the Real Kashmir Football Club, said they discussed their club with the delegation. "No question was asked about the Kashmir situation. It was a kind of a get-together," he said

Sena tells BJP: Rotate CM post

partners continue to be engaged in the war of nerves, reaching out to independents and rebels to further consolidate their strength.

In fact, Sena leaders openly stated the party was open to other options including forming the government with the help of Congress and NCP. The Congress fared better in the polls with 44 seats, and Sharad Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party bounced back with 54 seats compared with 41 in 2014. Together, the Congress-NCP alliance have 98 MLAs.

Technically, the combined tally of Sena and Congress-NCP adds up to 154, significantly above the half-way mark of 144. But both the Congress and the NCP leadership have so far stayed away from any such speculation. NCP senior leader and former

Union Minister Praful Patel said, "We are not going to stake any claim for government formation. We want to play the role of effective opposition." Congress state President Balasaheb Thorat too said, "The people have given us a mandate to play the role of the Opposition."

A senior BJP functionary involved in government formation negotiations said, "Chief Minister Fadnavis and Shiv Sena President Uddhav Thackeray have mutually agreed to form the government. Both acknowledge the mandate is for a saffron alliance in the state."

In the 2019 Assembly elections, while BJP's strike rate has been much better than Sena's in absolute numbers, BJP has lost more seats than Sena. BJP's tally reduced from 122 in 2014 to 105 (loss of 17 seats) and Sena's di-

minished from 63 to 56 (loss of seven seats). This has added some heft to the Sena's part in the alliance.

BJP understands the "pressure tactics" of Sena, the functionary said. "This is not new in a coalition," he said. The real hurdle is, however, in working out the modalities of power sharing. The two parties are likely to commence formal dialogue once the BJP state legislature party meeting is over on October 30, when the 105 newly-elected MLAs are expected to elect Fadnavis as the party leader. "This will pave the way for negotiations," the functionary said.

Shiv Sena leader and MP Sanjay Raut said, "A Shiv Sena CM is our priority. BJP agreed for a Sena CM for two-and-a-half years. It was announced publicly. We want the BJP, which is

going to construct a Ram temple, to speak the truth."

The Sena also continued to attack the BJP-led government at the Centre, through its mouth-piece Saamana. "The markets have lost its shine as the sales have dropped by 30-40% due to the slowdown. After demonetisation and GST, the economic slowdown is getting worse. Industries are in danger, factories are shutting down. It has led to joblessness," said the editorial.

The Saamna editorial said the government was forced to draw Rs 1.75 lakh crores from RBI reserves, which are maintained for war-like situations. "The domestic market is silent, but the coffers of foreign companies are filled with our country's money through online shopping... *Itna sannata kyun hai bhai?*" it asked.

Development.

Under the system, consumers have to register online to place their orders and produce the receipts at the nearest stockyard within three days. They also need to use their own vehicles to transport the sand.

According to officials, the government has sold 4,84,553 metric tonnes of sand since the new policy was announced.

Strategic elites

beyond the arrogant prickliness that greeted US visitors to Delhi. Getting the strategic elites in Washington and Delhi to understand each other was probably one of Steve's many contributions to India-US relations.

Although commercial relations between India and the US began to improve in the 1990s, the differences over Kashmir, Pakistan, and nuclear non-proliferation became ever more intense. Steve was caught right in the middle of those unending arguments. Yet, by the dawn of the 21st century, Steve became a little more hopeful of India's prospects as he reviewed the early results from India's economic reform. His influential book *India: An Emerging Power* made a strong case for Washington recasting its policies to accommodate the new India.

Like most of his generation, Steve was surprised that the administration of George W Bush would take his advice on dealing with India with such enthusiasm. As Bush discarded America's past activism on Kashmir, found a way to resolve the nuclear dispute with Delhi, and put India at the centre of America's Asian strategy, Steve and his cohort were unconvinced.

They were skeptical that a "non-aligned" India might ever partner America. Steve was surprised to see an Indian Prime Minister (Manmohan Singh) would tell an American President (George W Bush) that the Indian people "loved him". Notwithstanding his doubts about the unfolding transformation, Steve had willily-nilly spawned a new academic industry on a "rising India" and the "natural alliance" with the United States.

If Steve saw India-US ties soar high in the final years of his life, he was deeply disappointed by the steady downturn in India's relations with Pakistan. Steve, who had once dismissed India-Pakistan wars as "communal riots with tanks", had never thought the two nations might be trapped in an all-consuming hostility.

The title of one of his last books, *Shooting for a Century: The India-Pakistan Conundrum*, was a reflection on a prolonged conflict between India and Pakistan that Steve worried could become a "Hundred Year War" — he had earlier authored *The Idea of Pakistan*. As a student of both India and Pakistan, he easily saw the many common interests between the two nations but was saddened by their failure to bridge the differences.

As the Subcontinent moves out of the margins of global politics in the coming decades, Steve will be remembered for long as the one-man institution that helped sustained international interest in India and South Asia at a difficult juncture in the region's political evolution.

Although Delhi might be transcending many of Steve's framing devices, his large body of work is likely to remain the best place to start for those interested in India's strategic policies.

(The writer is director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, and contributing editor on international affairs for *The Indian Express*)

FULL REPORTS ON
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Brexit

are so many Jews among abortionists despite the Holocaust", sparking outrage.

Some of these MEPs are:

- Ryszard Czarnecki: In February 2018, the European Parliament dismissed him as one of its vice presidents for a Nazi slur against a politician. European Parliament lawmakers voted 447-196 in favour of dismissing Czarnecki, an MEP for Poland's nationalist-conservative Law and Justice (PiS) party. Czarnecki had used a derogatory term for Roza Thun, a rival parliamentarian from Poland's liberal-conservative Civic Platform party, after Thun told a German broadcaster that the ruling PiS party was moving the country towards a "dictatorship." It was the first time that the EU's legislature ever used its powers to dismiss a senior office holder.
- Thierry Mariani: In July 2015, Mariani, accompanied by Russian officials, made a trip to the Crimean peninsula which was annexed by Russia in 2014. In interviews and meetings, he expressed support for the annexation. "We welcome the courage of the Crimean Parliament because it was able to make this decision despite the difficult situation and a great risk of escalation". In 2016, he brought non-binding resolutions to the National Assembly and Senate calling on the European Union to lift economic sanctions against Russia and support all Russian annexations. As a member of the French delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Mariani was accused of turning a blind eye to rights violations in Azerbaijan.
- Kosma Zlotowski: In November 2018, Zlotowski tweeted using the hashtag #WhyNotSvastika, a reference to the Nazi-associated swastika symbol, as he reacted publicly to the online campaign by Lithuania's social media users that Amazon should withdraw its Soviet-themed merchandise. He said he hoped Amazon would take the latest appeal seriously. "The USSR was a totalitarian and criminal state. A company like Amazon must know that," he said.
- Bogdan Rzonca: In October 2017, Rzonca said on Twitter he wondered "why there are so many Jews among abortionists despite the Holocaust." This was seen by Poland's Jewish community as one of the incidents of "rising anti-Semitism" and they wrote to the Polish President. The letter was a rare voicing of concern which came nearly two years after the election of Rzonca's party, Law and Justice, a deeply conservative, nationalistic and anti-mi-

grant party that is backed by some groups with anti-Semitic views.

- Joanna Kopcinska: In January 2018, as Polish government spokeswoman, she defended the Polish lawmakers' move that would make it illegal to suggest Poland bore any responsibility for crimes against humanity committed by Nazi Germany on its soil. This was protested by Israel's PM Benjamin Netanyahu who instructed his ambassador to meet Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki to express opposition to the Bill which would make using phrases like "Polish death camps" punishable by up to three years in prison. Widely seen as white-washing history, Kopcinska wrote on Twitter that the legislation aimed "to show the truth about the terrible crimes committed on Poles, Jews, and other nations that were in the 20th century victims of brutal totalitarian regimes — German Nazi regime and Soviet communism."
- The MEPs are:
 - France: Mariani, Julie Lechanteur, Maxette Pirbakas, Virginie Joron, France Jamet and Nicolas Bay are from Marine Le Pen's party National Rally (French: Rassemblement national).
 - UK: Nathan Gill, David Richard Bull, Alexandra Philips and James Wells from the Brexit Party, and Bill Newton Dunn from Liberal Democrats.
 - Germany: Bernhard Zimmnick and Lars Partik Berg from Alternative für Deutschland.
 - Italy: Gianna Gancia, Silvia Sardone and Fulvio Martusciello, all from different shades of right wing parties which are against immigrants, and Giuseppe Ferrandino (Democratic Party).
 - Poland: Kosma Zlotowski, Bogdan Rzonca, Elzbieta Rafalska, Joana Kopcinska, Grzegorz Tobiszowski and Ryszard Czarnecki from the centre-right Justice and Law Party.
 - Others: Tom Vandendriessche from a far-right group in Belgium; Tomas Zdechobsky from Czech Republic, Hermann Tertsch from Spain and Peter Pollak from Slovakia.

The composition of the delegation prompted CPM's Sitaram Yechury to take to Twitter: "This unofficial group is overwhelmingly pro from ultra-right wing pro-fascist parties having relations with BJP. This explains why our MPs aren't allowed but Modi welcomes them. 3 ex-CMs and 1000s others are jailed & this group of MEPs is preferred over Indian political parties?"

itants shot dead Rajasthan resident Sharief Khan, a truck driver, in Sindhur Shirmaal village of Shopian. On October 16, suspected militants shot dead a labourer from Chhattisgarh in Pulwama. On the same day, militants fired on two fruit traders from Punjab in Shopian, killing one and injuring another.

On October 24, suspected militants fired at truckers in Trenz village of south Kashmir killing two and injuring one.

The grenade attack, meanwhile, was the second such incident in Kashmir since Saturday evening. Health officials said six of the 19 injured had to be moved to Srinagar for specialised treatment. On Saturday evening, militants hurled a grenade on a CRPF deployment in Srinagar's Karan Nagar area, leaving six personnel injured.

Uttarakhand

"When areas were notified as forests several decades ago, conditions like patch area and canopy density were not there. Also, any area recorded by revenue staff as forest by including words meaning forest in vernacular language such as forest, jungle, jungle jhadi, ban, bani, be-naap land, civil soyam land, etc., in any of the Government records of the state ipso facto was forest irrespective of size and number of standing trees," the official said.

Forest Minister Harak Singh Rawat was not available for comment. The impetus for framing the new rules finds its root in a 1996 judgment of the Supreme Court directing the states to constitute expert committees to identify all "forests", irrespective of whether they are notified, recognized or classified under any law, and irrespective of land ownership. To comply with the order, states formed "expert committees". Many states developed their respective criteria for considering "deemed forest".

The Uttarakhand government formulated the parameters and sent them to the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on June 14 in compliance with directions from the Supreme Court in a case — Birendra Singh versus MoEF and Climate Change & Others. The ministry later clarified that the state doesn't need a go-ahead from the Centre as a one-size-fits-all definition was not suitable.

The state has reported a recorded forest area of 38,000 sq km, which is 71 per cent of its geographical area, according to the Forest Survey of India.

Environmentalist Vimal Bhai of Matu Jan Sangathan said these parameters with "compact patch" and percentage of canopy density were "steps to finish forest cover". "This will create challenges for existence of flora and fauna of Uttarakhand. These pa-

rameters will be used for industrial and political beneficiaries," Bhai said.

In a letter sent to Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar, Peter Smetacek, founder of Butterfly Research Centre in Bhimtal, said: "...the meaning of forest cannot be restricted as is being proposed by the Uttarakhand Forest Department since the same would open up forested areas to unhindered commercial exploitation thereby laying havoc across the state with fragile Himalayan ecosystems..."

Principal Secretary, Forest, Anand Bardhan, said the parameters have been set following the directives of the Environment Ministry. "The only difference after this notification will be that any area, which does not fulfill these parameters, will not come in the definition of forests and Forest Conservation Act will not be applicable there. And hence, no clearance will be required to hold any construction activity there," Bardhan said.

Sand shortage

till September 5, leading to a huge gap in demand and supply.

By the time the policy was announced, floods in the Godavari and Krishna rivers, which have the biggest sand reaches, aggravated the situation. As part of its new policy, the government has rolled out a number of measures but they have not had any significant impact on the industry so far.

Opposition parties, TDP, BJP and Jana Sena Party, have called for the Centre to intervene and the state government to compensate those who have no jobs.

On Sunday, Jana Sena Party chief K Pawan Kalyan appealed to the Centre to look into the issue, Jana Sena has also called for a 'Chalo Visakhapatnam' march on November 3 in which its leaders will hold a protest demanding that the government make arrangements to procure sand and make it available at affordable rates.

The TDP has appealed to the government to pay Rs 10,000 per month to construction workers until they are able to find work. On Monday, BJP's state chief Kanna Lakshminarayana slammed the government for not doing enough to resolve the crisis.

The state government, meanwhile, has procured and stockpiled sand at godowns in district headquarters and mandals but is unable to meet the demand. Going by its new policy, the government has opened 114 stockyards and is selling sand through the Sand Sale Management and Monitoring System, said P Ramachandra Reddy, Minister for Mines, Panchayati Raj and Rural

Grenade attack

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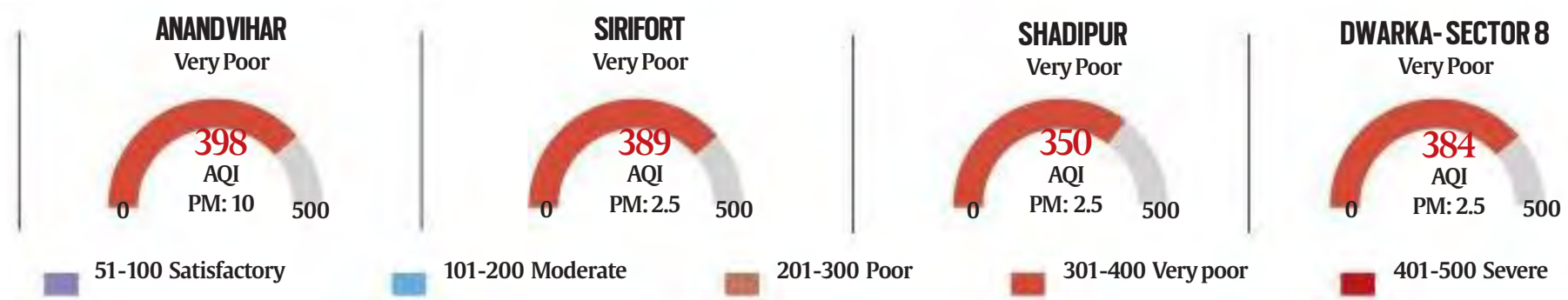
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AM THE ELDER SON OF DELHI FAMILY, SAYS KEJRIWAL

13,000 marshals on buses as free rides for women take off

ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

THE DELHI transport department is set to deploy 13,000 bus marshals to ensure the safety of women inside cluster buses and those run by Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) Tuesday — the day free bus rides for women are supposed to start in the capital.

The initiative was launched by CM Arvind Kejriwal who, at an enrollment and gender sensitisation event at Thyagraj Sports Complex Monday, said: "Agar zaroorat padegi, agar kisi mahila ke saath koi kuch kare, gadbad hai, toh phir chorma mat, usko phir-jo kama pade kar dena (If need be, if you come across anyone harassing a female passenger, then don't spare them, do whatever you think is right)."

The bus marshals include civil defense volunteers, home guards and ex-servicemen. Around 3,400 marshals are already present in buses, but the plan is to have at least one at all times in each bus, as the new scheme rolls out. Both men and women will be part of the initiative, and will be paid Rs 682 per day.

There are 3,781 DTC and 1,808 cluster buses in the capital.

The Delhi government has set aside Rs 140 crore to implement the free bus rides for women scheme in the ongoing fiscal. Under it, the government will extend a reimbursement of Rs 10 per free commute by women, who will be handed pink tickets.

The government estimates that around 33% of the total bus ridership on a given day are made up of women. And of the 13,000 marshals, 10% are women.

Calling himself the "elder son" of Delhi, Kejriwal said it was his



Newly inducted bus marshals at Thyagraj Sports Complex, Monday. Praveen Khanna

responsibility to take care of Delhi's women, who "often don't find themselves safe in public spaces." "We, the people of Delhi, are like a big family. I am like the elder son of this family and it is my responsibility to take care of the needs of my family members. The thought about the safety of our sisters and mothers bothers me. Today, I am giving you (marshals) the responsibility to keep them safe," Kejriwal said.

The Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi prepared the training module of the marshals, Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot said.

Neha, a Delhi civil-defense marshal assigned the Dilshad Garden route, said, "What I've seen is that women are not as open as men, and hesitate to say they are facing trouble. I have also experienced that men intrude into your space purposely on the

bus." Kalpana, posted on the same route, added, "Some women get off at an earlier stop, when they are harassed."

Working eight-hour shifts, the marshals will keep an eye out for harassment of women and intervene. If matters get out of hand, they will dial police. NGOs Manas and Jagori worked with the marshals to train them on gender sensitisation. Jayashree, who works with Jagori, said, "We are working to change the mindset. A standard operating procedure has been issued, in which we prioritise helping women and aim for a non-vigilante mode of justice. We will also explain the laws and IPC sections to the marshals."

More women travel by buses than any other form of public transport, Jayashree said.

At Monday's event, a street play demonstrated the forms of

harassment women face on buses, from unwelcome physical contact to passing comments.

Mohammad Aftab, a newly inducted marshal, said: "Once I saw a man harassing a college-goer. I went and stood between them. The feeling of relief and safety she felt was rewarding."

Israil, another recruit, said, "Sometimes drunkards start passing inappropriate comments. Our job is to either remove them or, if things go bad, call the police."

The amendment to the DTC (Free and Concessional Passes) Regulation, 1985, was approved late Monday and subsequently an order was issued. Last week, the Principal Secretary (Law) wrote to Gahlot, pointing out that the L-G's sanction was needed before amending the regulations. However, the government discarded the opinion.

Buried by boyfriend after failed abortion, woman's body exhumed from graveyard

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, OCTOBER 28

GURGAON POLICE Monday exhumed the body of a 22-year-old woman who had disappeared from home last week, and was found to have been buried in a graveyard in Delhi by a 24-year-old man after she died while undergoing an abortion. Police said

the man has since been arrested, and claimed the two had been in a relationship for several months.

According to police, they received information about the woman from her parents, three days after she went missing from home on October 22. Her parents had alleged that she had been abducted by Shahrukh, who worked in a company close to the one where she was employed.

"Since Shahrukh had been mentioned by name, he was picked up on Sunday and questioned regarding her disappearance. It was during questioning that he revealed he had been in a relationship with her for several months and they had recently found out that she was three months pregnant," said Subhash Boken, PRO of Gurgaon Police. "They had gone to Delhi on

October 21 to schedule an abortion the following day. They then came home and returned to Delhi on October 22. However, she died during the procedure, and Shahrukh buried her at a graveyard in Delhi the following day, without informing her family. He had told doctors at the hospital that she was his wife, and made the same claim at the graveyard," he said.

Three held for posing as cops, duping French man

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

A 45-YEAR-OLD French national was allegedly cheated of 47,000 Euros by three men posing as police officers in Karol Bagh. The incident comes days after three men allegedly cheated an employee of a grain businessman of Rs 1.10 crore from Karol Bagh, by posing as Income Tax and Crime Branch officials.

Police said Yousef came to Delhi last week to purchase bridal dresses. "The incident took place

Sunday evening when he was returning to his hotel on Channa Market Road. He was stopped by three men, who came in a car posing as officers. They said that they wanted to frisk Yousef for drugs," said Mandeep Singh Randhawa, DCP (Central).

During "frisking", they checked Yousef's passport, took 47,000 Euros from his purses and fled the spot. "Footage from CCTV cameras installed in the area is being examined to identify the accused. Yousef hails from Morocco and holds French citizenship," an officer said.

Couple dead as scooter hits truck at Nehru Place flyover

New Delhi: A young couple died after their vehicle was involved in a crash with a truck at Nehru Place flyover Sunday. Police said the incident took place around 6 am, when the victims were going to a temple on their scooter. Police said a case of rash driving was registered against unknown persons.

Police said the exact sequence of events is still being probed. Chinmoy Biswal, DCP (South East), said, "We received a call at 6.19 am Sunday. Officers found the couple lying near a

damaged scooter with severe head injuries. The truck driver had fled with his vehicle. The victims were rushed to AIIMS Trauma Centre, where they were declared dead on arrival."

Hailing from Haryana's Palwal, Tarun Bharadwaj (27), an employee with Niti Ayog, shifted to the capital with his wife Riya Sharma (20) this year. The couple lived with their family in South Delhi's Chirag area.

Police said a post-mortem was conducted Monday. ENS

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Prof. Abdul Gani
Director, Research & Development

(Order 5, Rule 1 & 5 C.P.C.)
IN THE COURT OF THE CIVIL JUDGE AT DIBRUGARH, ASSAM
Money Suit No. 7/ 2018 Date : 22.10.2019

Brahmaputra Crackers Polymer Limited Plaintiff
- Vs -
Aurobindo Chaudhari Memorial Great Indian Dream Foundation Defendant

To
Aurobindo Chaudhari Memorial Great Indian Dream Foundation
Represented by its President
Registered Office situated at IIPM Campus,
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WHEREAS the Plaintiff above named instituted a suit against you for final disposal of the suit. You are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or by a lawyer duly instructed and able to answer all material question relating to the suit or who shall accompany by at most person able to answer all such question on 5.11.2019 at 10 A.M. to answer the claim. Further you are hereby to file on the date a written statement of your defense and to produce on the said day all relevant documents in your possession or power upon which you base your defense or claim for set-off or counter claim, and where you rely in any other documents whether in your possession or power as evidence in support of your defense or claim, for set-off or counter claim you shall enter such documents in a list to be annexed to the written statements.

Take notice that on default of your appearance on the day before mentioned the suit will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this court today.

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CIVIL JUDGE
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DP/9174/19

NOVEMBER 8, 2018, 9:16 AM



Outside Akshardham Temple, a day after Diwali in 2018 and 2019. DPCC has said there was a reduction in pollution as compared to last year. Abhinav Saha

OCTOBER 28, 2019, 9:57 AM



DAY AFTER DIWALI, AIR QUALITY DIPS IN THE CAPITAL

Pollution lower than last year, but little reason to cheer

Firecrackers heard across city despite ban, expect poor air for 2-3 days

SHIVAMPATEL
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

BURNING OF firecrackers on Diwali coupled with pollutants from farm fires in neighbouring states led to the air quality deteriorating in the capital, though pollution levels remained lower than the last three years.

Data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) shows the average air quality index (AQI) of the city on Monday was 368 — in the 'very poor' category — less than 390 recorded a day after Diwali last year. In 2017, the figure was 403, in the 'severe' category, and in 2016 it was 445.

However, the central government's System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR) said the city's air quality was 'severe' on Monday, with 506 AQI overall as of 7 pm.

According to SAFAR, the average 24-hour concentration of particulate matter of 2.5 micrometres (PM2.5) was above the CPCB's prescribed 'severe' standard of 250 micrograms per cubic meter air.

According to SAFAR, this was noted across its nine monitoring stations as well as many stations of the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC).

The DPCC, on the other hand, said there was a reduction in pollution and a drop of around 30% in concentration of PM2.5, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide.

"The reduction in air pollution indicators has been recorded even though, as per the latest satellite imagery, fires on farm lands in Punjab and Haryana are at peak and even more in number in comparison to the same period last year," DPCC said, adding that less concentration of pollutants show that fewer firecrackers were burned this year.

A DPCC official said action is being taken to control local sources of air pollution and that they have been largely brought under control. This includes stopping use of diesel generator sets, mechanised sweeping of roads, and shifting industries to piped natural gas. "The factors deteriorating the air quality are external," the official said.

On Monday, the city skies were overcast with smog. A sci-

DIP IN OTHER POLLUTANTS TOO

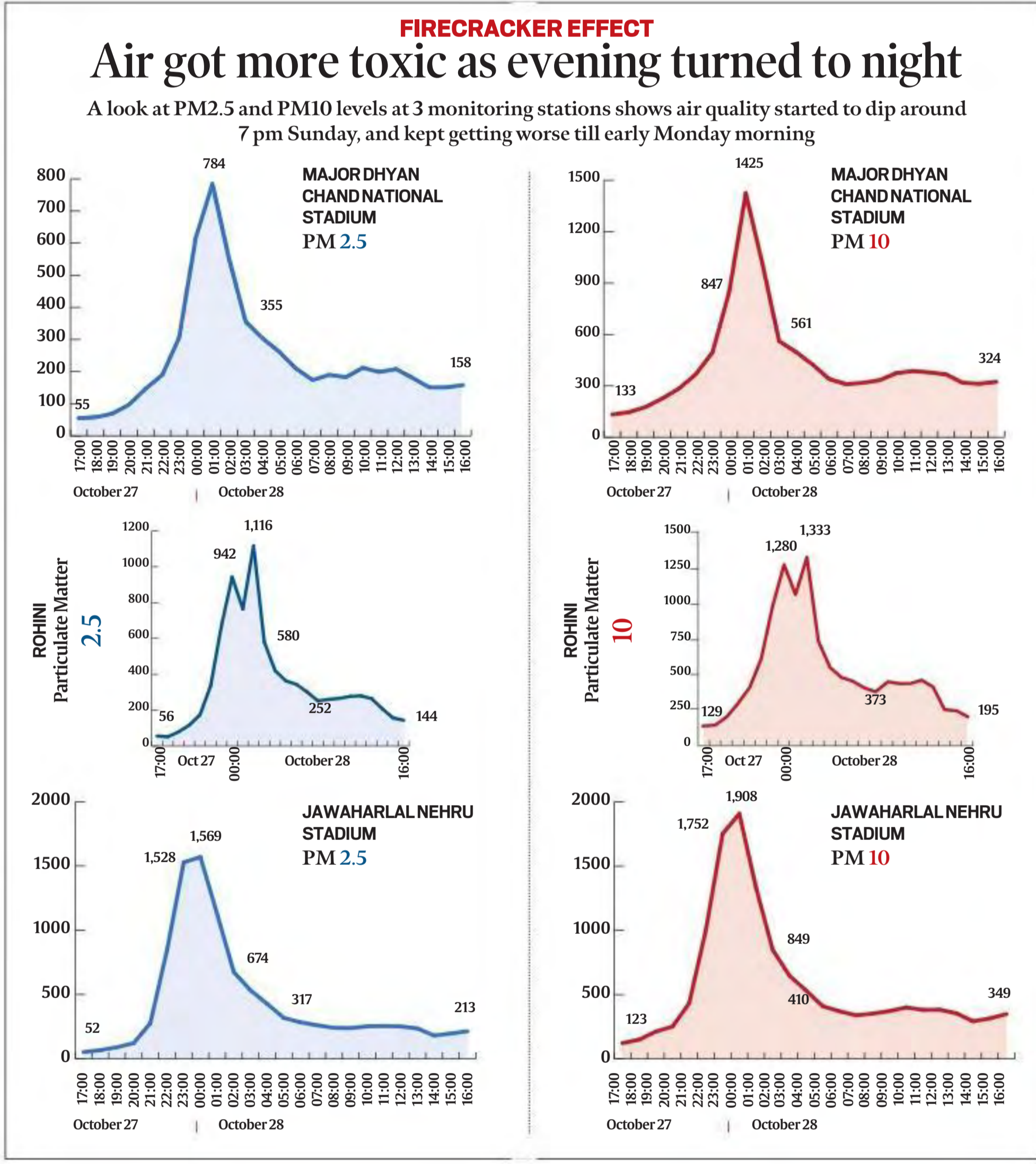
Reduction in the concentration of pollutants was recorded at a majority of DPCC monitoring stations this Diwali as compared to last year. A 24-hour average since 6 am Sunday showed levels of carbon monoxide (CO) and sulphur dioxide (SO2) were under the prescribed standard of 04 mg/m3 and 80 µg/m3 across all 24 DPCC monitoring stations. The highest SO2 concentration was in Jahangirpuri at 41.48 µg/m3, followed by Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range (34.16 µg/m3) and Wazirpur (33.43 µg/m3). CO was found to be highest in Vivek Vihar at 2.75 mg/m3, followed by Patparganj (2.12 mg/m3) and Jahangirpuri (2.11 mg/m3).

entist from the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said the sky one kilometre above the ground was clear and that there were no clouds over Delhi. "What you could see was concentration of pollutants from stubble burning, bursting of firecrackers and other local sources. This is likely to stay this way over the next two to three days," the scientist said.

Unfavourable west-north-westerly wind direction is bringing external pollutants to Delhi and light wind speed of around 7-8 km/hour being recorded at present is not enough to disperse pollutants that are accumulated in the air, the IMD scientist said.

Data from the CPCB shows there have been over 12,000 farm fire instances in Punjab and more than 3,700 in Haryana between September 23 and October 27. "We are seeking a report from the two states on the high number of farm fires recorded this year," a CPCB official said. According to SAFAR, PM2.5 contribution from farm fires was 15% on Monday.

At Salwan Public School, the



BJP leaders burnt crackers, asked people to do the same: AAP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28



AAP chief Kejriwal, party MP Sanjay Singh attacked BJP

ALLEGING THAT BJP leaders burned fireworks in the city on Diwali, AAP MP Sanjay Singh said it shows the party's "poor mindset".

Speaking at the party office, he alleged BJP leaders also asked people to burn firecrackers. "This action reflects the poor mentality of the BJP. I want to ask their leaders that if pollution level in Delhi increases, will their children and families not be harmed?... They are violating norms and promoting the burning of firecrackers," he said.

Sale and use of traditional fireworks is banned in the city. Green crackers are allowed but are available only as sparklers and anar.

In a video shared on Twitter by BJP MP and Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari, he can be seen celebrating Diwali with residents of unauthorised colonies. "Green crackers are available in the market. Instead of telling people to stop burning crackers, use of green crackers should be promoted. Why go after crackers," Tiwari told reporters.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said fewer firecrackers were burned on Diwali this year as compared to the last few years. "The people of Delhi have worked really hard to reduce pollution in Delhi... BJP should not mock the people Delhi," he said, adding that most

firecrackers were burned in NCR towns such as Ghaziabad, Noida and Gurgaon.

Air quality index in these towns was in the 'very poor' category Monday, higher than Delhi's AQI and close to the 'severe' category, as per data from the Central Pollution Control Board. Ghaziabad's AQI was 396, Gurgaon's 372 and Noida's 392.

Leader of Opposition in Delhi assembly Vijender Gupta said Delhi government was trying to distract people. "Controlling pollution needs work all through the year. The AAP has not done that and now to distract people from its own failures, it is making such comments," he said.

AAP rebel Kapil Mishra, who has now joined BJP, meanwhile waded into a controversy after he tweeted a photograph of men wearing skull caps and women wearing burkas, along with young children, and said that if the intention was to reduce pollution, these are the "patakhas" that need to be reduced, and not Diwali crackers. The tweet was later removed by Twitter after several people reported it.

No Children's Day if you burst crackers, school kids told

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

TELLING CHILDREN that Children's Day celebrations are conditional on them not bursting crackers, lining corridors with air-purifying plants, keeping masks handy in the medical room — schools are taking a number of precautions in the wake of pollution levels increasing in the city.

At Salwan Public School, the

administration decided to take a firm hand in the matter. Before Diwali, local policemen were brought in to talk to students about not bursting crackers. They were also told their Children's Day celebrations next month will be scrapped if they burst crackers in school or at home.

"This year, we have made it clear this (not bursting crackers) is a joint responsibility. We also told them to intervene if their neighbours burst crackers," said prin-

icipal Indu Khetarpal.

Students at Bal Bharti Public School, Dwarka, were engaged differently before Diwali. "Each class was allotted a different item — class V had cooking oil, VI had dry sweets, VII had soap cases — to distribute to less privileged children and we had a langar-style lunch to show that Diwali is about sharing and not bursting crackers," said principal Suruchi Gandhi.

With air quality deteriorating

and schools re-opening Wednesday, many schools have moved the assembly indoors and are sending out health advisories to parents.

"It's hard to keep children indoors, but we've sent out an advisory to not let children unnecessarily be outdoors. Physical education classes will also be moved indoors to the hall, where we can also have meditation. We have masks at hand if any child needs them and we have asked

parents to leave a nebuliser in the medical room if their child uses one. We also have air purifying plants in the corridors," said Tania Joshi, principal of The Indian School.

In the coming week, the school doctor will meet each class at Salwan Public School. "Students can speak to him about any health issues they might be facing. This will be more helpful than generalised health advisories," said Khetarpal.

Revised minimum wages will fix economic slowdown: Kejriwal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal Monday said that the new minimum wages notified by the Delhi government, "the highest in the country", will be an antidote to the slowdown afflicting the economy. He said the new wages will enable workers to spend more and give production a boost.

The hike, which was approved by the Supreme Court last week, is expected to benefit around 5 lakh workers in the capital, Kejriwal said, conceding that the implementation of the new rates will be a

challenge.

Minimum wages have been revised to Rs 14,842 per month from Rs 8,632 per month for unskilled labour; Rs 16,341 from Rs 9,542 for semi-skilled labour; and 17,991 from Rs 10,471 for skilled labour.

"We have removed 1,373 contractors associated with government agencies who were not giving minimum wages. We also conducted two special drives against minimum wage violations and got around 100 cases lodged. We also lodged cheating cases against six employers who used to illegally withdraw money from the accounts of employees," Kejriwal said.

Minimum wages are wages that workers are legally entitled to. In Delhi, the rates have been fixed by taking into account basic expenditure that a family of four has to incur on food, clothing, housing, power, fuel and education to lead life with dignity.

"We believe this is the most important step towards tackling the slowdown. If the poor have money, it will boost demand, production and jobs. When these poor labourers will purchase products from the market, the economy will revive and the economic slowdown will be fixed. In the long run, traders will enjoy greater benefits," he said.

Unwell Dean not allowed to leave, JNU admin considers action against students

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

IN THE latest showdown between the Jawaharlal Nehru University administration and the students' union, the Vice-Chancellor Monday said he was considering "severe action" against students who were protesting outside an Inter-Hall Administration (IHA) meeting, alleging that their behaviour was "dangerous".

The JNU Students' Union (JNUSU), which was not invited to the meeting, was protesting against the new draft hostel manual, which they say has "massive fee hike" and "regressive provi-

sions". The JNU administration said the union did not allow the Dean of Students Umesh Kadam to leave the venue despite health issues. However, JNUSU claimed Kadam "faked health issues" to avoid discussion.

The JNU Registrar said that when the students were asked to go out, they became "more aggressive and began sloganeering loudly, approached menacingly towards the Dean of Students".

"In this raucous atmosphere, the Dean of Students, Prof Umesh Kadam, fell sick with alarmingly high blood pressure. But what was most shocking was a complete heartlessness and insensitivity displayed by the students; they did not allow the ambulance

to move towards the hospital for an emergency rescue of Prof Kadam. Even the University doctors were not allowed to check on DoS Prof Kadam by this unruly crowd of students," JNU Registrar Pramod Kumar said in a statement.

"The situation of the DoS was getting worse; even his wife and two children were seeking relief from students. After a lot of effort, when the DoS was shifted into the ambulance, students again surrounded the ambulance and did not let the vehicle move towards the hospital. The wife of DoS was pleading with students and asking the University security to shift him to a fully equipped hospital outside the

campus, but these unruly students did not move; they surrounded the ambulance and forced it to be taken to the University Health Centre, rather than to the hospital as suggested by the doctor," he added.

JNU V-C M Jagadeesh Kumar tweeted: "The University administration is contemplating severe action against some JNU students whose conduct today has been not only unbecoming, but dangerous and shameful. This kind of behaviour by a section of JNU students is highly condemnable and outrageous."

However, the JNUSU alleged Kadam "dictatorially adjourned the meeting" and "faked health issues".

BRIEFLY

261 arrested for selling firecrackers

New Delhi: A total of 261 people were arrested for selling firecrackers in the city on Diwali. Over 433 cases were registered against people for bursting firecrackers, said police.

Police chief's Diwali visit

New Delhi: Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik interacted with police personnel deployed at police pickets, PCR vans and traffic intersections on Diwali and distributed sweets to them.

Man killed at de-addiction centre

Ghaziabad: The caretaker of a de-addiction centre in Ghaziabad was killed, allegedly by eight inmates, Sunday night. According to police, Sabir Khan was attacked inside the facility. He was rushed to a hospital where he was declared dead on arrival. ENS

CELEBRATE THIS FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, SAY NO TO POLLUTION

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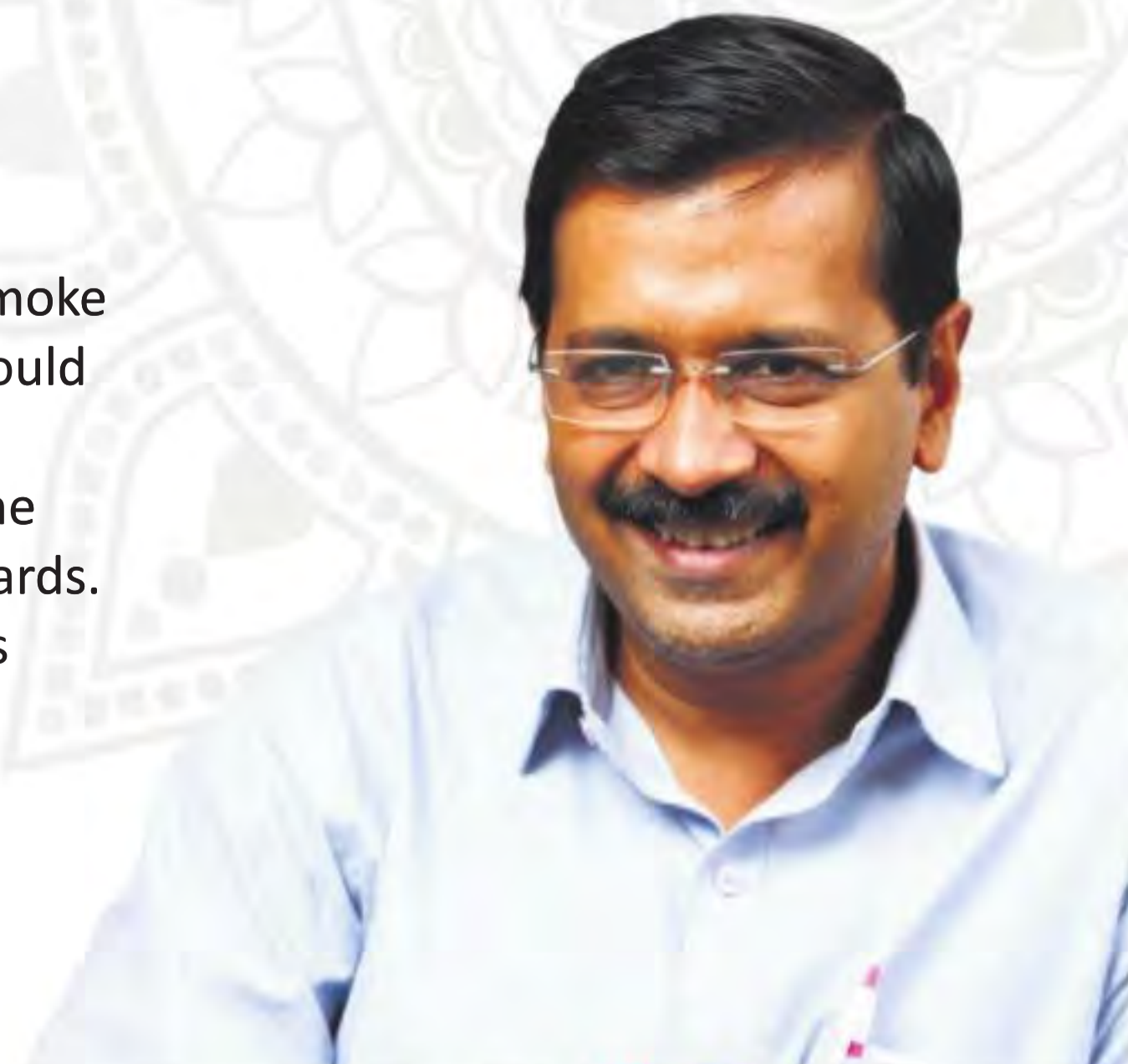
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दिल्ली कर दिखाएगी



New Delhi

6 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



SPECIAL SUBJECT

WHILE INDIA is trying to contain the internationalisation of the Kashmir issue, two former MPs will be sparring on the matter at the Oxford Union debate in the UK on Wednesday. While CPM general secretary and former Rajya Sabha MP Sitaram Yechury will speak against revocation of special status of Jammu and Kashmir, newly minted BJP leader Bajjayant Panda will explain the rationale for the move. Panda, a former Lok Sabha MP, is now a BJP vice-president.

LANDMARK POSTING

IT TOOK 67 years for Rajya Sabha to get a joint secretary from a Scheduled Caste, though it has passed several legislation on affirmative action including reservation in promotion since it came into being in 1952. Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu last Friday promoted Vimal Kumar, who put in 29 years of service in the secretariat, to joint secretary. Naidu was apparently aghast when he learned that the secretariat did not have an SC officer at that level and directed necessary action during a review of personnel and promotion policy soon after becoming Chairman of the Upper House in 2017. Kumar has four years of service left.

DIWALI MESSAGE

BJP LEADERS seem to not miss any chance to wear their commitment to party work on their sleeve. Even their Diwali greetings had outreach messages on them. While BJP national president Amit Shah put a quote from Prime Minister Narendra Modi about his government's drinking water mission on his greeting card, another senior leader wrote a long letter talking about the government's August 5 decision on Jammu and Kashmir. The Diwali greeting card sent on behalf of Shah and his wife Sonal said: "Our resolve is to reach drinking water to every household. Today, the country has set out to fulfill the Jal Jeevan Mission." The greeting from BJP vice-president Prabhat Jha said August 5 is no less than a national festival, and lauded the PM for his move that has taken the country towards "Akhanda Bharat".

Law Ministry notifies new category of absentee voters for postal ballot

The amendment comes after the EC wrote to the Law Ministry two months ago proposing that voters on duty in fields such as aviation, shipping, Railways, emergency services, those employed in long-distance road transport, the elderly, the physically-challenged, and journalists covering elections should be allowed to vote by postal ballot in upcoming Assembly elections. The EC's letter, as first reported by *The Indian Express* on September 5, had justified the recommendation to expand the above category of special voters stating that "it is necessary to explore all avenues to enable exercise of franchise by all eligible voters". "The government has accepted our request and paved the way for it by notifying a new category of voters. Now, the EC, from time-to-time, can notify the jobs and professions that will be covered under this category," said a senior EC official, who did not wish to be identified.

Chidambaram taken to AIIMS, discharged

New Delhi: Former finance minister and senior Congress leader P Chidambaram, who is currently in the custody of the Enforcement Directorate in the INX Media case, was taken to AIIMS on Monday evening after he complained of stomachache and related issues. He was discharged after treatment. According to sources, he was treated for gastrointestinal-related problems and discharged after doctors conducted a series of tests. Chidambaram was taken to RML Hospital earlier in the day, and shifted to AIIMS in the evening. "He reached the hospital around 5.40 pm and was examined by the doctors after he complained of pain in the stomach. Around 7 pm, he was discharged from the hospital," said a senior doctor. **ENS**

I don't wish collapse of BJP govt... no point in constant criticism, says Kumaraswamy

EXRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, OCTOBER 28
FORMER KARNATAKA chief minister and JD(S) leader H D Kumaraswamy has said that his party will not topple the BJP government in the state, adding that he will desist from criticising the saffron party. Speaking at meetings while touring the flood-hit Belagavi region last week, Kumaraswamy also echoed his former alliance partner and Congress leader Siddaramaiah — that there would be no push by the BJP central leadership to hold mid-term polls in Karnataka by April next year on account of the relatively poor performance by the party



KALI PUJA AT MAMATA'S
West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Thakur and his wife at Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's residence in Kolkata on the occasion of Kali Puja on Sunday. Banerjee, who observed a fast during the day and prepared the bhog (offering), played host to scores of visitors. *Express*

'Harassed' by YSRCP workers, TDP MLA quits

EXRESS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 28
A TDP legislator in Andhra Pradesh has resigned from the party and the Assembly, alleging harassment by workers of the ruling YSRCP as well as government employees.



Andhra MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi quit party, House

Vallabhaneni Vamsi, the MLA from Gannavaram in Krishna district, said he was quitting to protect his supporters. In a letter to TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday, Vamsi said, "I had the satisfaction of doing commendable and unparalleled public service as legislator. Now, having been elected again, my associates, followers and I are in neck-deep trouble due to the vindictive attitude of YSRCP in-charges and the partisan attitude of some government employees. I sincerely feel and believe that problems will be compounded multiple times due to me at the helm of affairs (in Gannavaram)... I have decided to restrain myself and quit from politics to safeguard my followers and supporters..." Sources in the TDP alleged that Vamsi was being harassed by YSRCP's Gannavaram-in-charge Y Venkat Rao, who lost to the TDP leader in state polls. "Under Rao's pressure, government employees were not cooperating with Vamsi. YSRCP workers were continuously harassing supporters of Vamsi," a TDP leader said. In response to Vamsi's letter, Naidu on Monday asked him to reconsider his decision. Stating

that the party strongly backs him and would fight against the ruling party if he was being harassed, Naidu said that "quitting politics will not stop the harassment and vindictive political actions unleashed by YSRCP and their stooges in the government. I think resigning or quitting politics is not the correct solution. It is our responsibility to fight against such unconstitutional and undemocratic methods of the present government by bringing awareness among the public. Therefore, in the interest of the future generation, safeguarding and upholding democratic values, we have to fight against the injustice of the present government". Rao denied Vamsi's allegations. "When TDP was ruling, Vamsi harassed YSRCP workers and forced police to file dozens of cases. We are not being vindictive. I think he wants to join our party. We will oppose it," he said.

MP Cong stares at new power struggle after Jhabua victory

EXRESS NEWS SERVICE BHOPAL, OCTOBER 28



A minister has said that Kantilal Bhuria must be made PCC chief

DAYS AFTER celebrating the Jhabua bypoll victory, the ruling Congress in Madhya Pradesh is staring at another phase of internal power struggle over the post of Pradesh Congress Committee chief, currently held by Chief Minister Kamal Nath. Former Union minister Kantilal Bhuria won the Jhabua seat by 27,804 votes, taking the Congress tally to 115 in the 230-member House. But the veteran's election means the party will have to either accommodate him in the Cabinet or in the organisation. The 69-year-old has been Union minister and state minister in his long political career. PWD Minister Sajjan Singh Varma, a confidant of the CM, on Monday demanded that Bhuria be made the PCC chief because he has held the post in the past and

laxity in acting against those booked for adulteration. Scindia had supported the move to abrogate special status to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370, giving rise to speculation over his next political move. He recently toured the Gwalior-Chambal region and visited homes of people from rival camps. He, however, did not campaign for the crucial Jhabua bypoll. Varma's demand to appoint Bhuria as PCC chief comes when the CM is in Delhi amid speculation that he may meet the top leadership. Nath has repeatedly said that someone should be named as PCC chief to relieve him of the burden. A Scindia confidant on Monday said that Varma had Scindia in mind when he made the demand. Another dimension to the power struggle is the demand by Bhuria's supporters that he be made deputy CM. If he is included in the Cabinet, Bhuria could become another power centre.

DAY AFTER KHATTAR SWORN IN AS HARYANA CM

BJP-JJP yet to reach consensus on Cabinet

Alliance also faces test over minimum common programme

EXRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 28

A DAY after Manohar Lal Khattar took oath as the Chief Minister and Dushyant Chautala as his deputy, the BJP-JJP alliance in Haryana is yet to reach a consensus on the formation of the Cabinet even as the two parties may face another test in deciding a "common minimum programme" comprising the policy layout for the next five years.

The BJP, which fell short of the majority mark by six seats, on Friday sealed a deal with the Dushyant-led JJP to form the government. There are 40 BJP members, 10 of the JJP, 31 of Congress, one each of the INLD and the Haryana Lokhit Party, and seven independents in the 90-member Assembly.

The independents too have offered support to the BJP, making difficult its task of picking names for the council of ministers. The JJP and the BJP, sources said, were yet to reach consensus on some names.

"It is too early to say anything," Dushyant said Monday on the status of expansion of the Cabinet.

EXPLAINED
Tough innings for Khattar

WITH THE victory of seven BJP rebels who were denied tickets, and 10 MLAs of a barely 11-month old party led by Dushyant Chautala, Manohar Lal Khattar is heading for a tough test in his second term. Not only do the BJP and JJP have ideological differences, they also have very different vote banks. While the Opposition has already started attacking the alliance, calling it a "marriage of convenience", Khattar will now have to live up to his claim of being a "rajneeti ka khiladi" (seasoned player in politics).

"We will stick to our agenda, which is to give a clean and transparent regime," Khattar told reporters in Karnal.

Five Cabinet ministers and one minister of state in the previous

government led by Khattar lost in the elections and several new frontrunners for ministerial berths have emerged in the saffron party. They include six-time MLA Anil Vij, who was the only minister apart from Khattar to win the election, Kanwar Pal, Seema Trikha, Mahipal Dhandra, and Ganshyam Saraf. From JJP, Ram Kumar Gautam, Ishwar Singh and Anoop Dhanak are in the fray. Meanwhile, Dushyant said that a committee will be constituted "to draft a common minimum programme document as per which the JJP-BJP alliance will move forward in the larger interest of the people of Haryana".

JJP will insist on including its three key promises — 75 per reservation in jobs to the state's youths, raising old age pension to Rs 5,100 per month, and providing MSP to farmers — in the common minimum programme.

Dushyant hit out at Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda, who had been accusing the JJP of acting against the "mandate of the state". "People have not forgotten how CLU (change-of-land-use) gangs used to be active during their (Congress's) time, how 63,000 acres of farmers' land was taken away for peanuts," he said.

At Chautala family get-together, Ajay and Abhay feed each other

EXRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 28

PUTTING ASIDE their differences and political ideologies, members of the Chautala clan Monday met at the family's farmhouse in Sirsa district's Teja Khera.

Videos of Ajay Chautala and Abhay Chautala, estranged sons of INLD president and former Haryana CM O P Chautala, meeting amicably, sharing drinks from the same glass and feeding each other from the same plate went



Dushyant Chautala interacts with people in Sirsa. PTI

viral on social media. Ajay and Abhay were also seen feeding Dushyant and Digvijay. This was the second time the

two brothers met in the last one year after INLD expelled Ajay and his sons Dushyant and Digvijay from the party.

Ajay and Abhay had met a few months ago after the death of their mother Sneha Lata.

"The Chautala clan, as part of its tradition... gets together at Teja Khera farmhouse every year on the day after Diwali. Today was no exception. Whatever their political differences may be, the family makes it a point to greet each other on this occasion," said a source close to the Chautala family.

Gehlot calls on BJP, RSS to denounce lynching

EXRESS NEWS SERVICE JAIPUR, OCTOBER 28

RAJASTHAN CHIEF Minister Ashok Gehlot on Sunday spoke up against mob lynchings and called for the BJP, RSS and VHP to denounce such incidents in a "clear-cut message".

Gehlot said, "Incidents of mob lynching have increased, and the entire country is worried... Such incidents should not happen... No religion accepts or tells us to unnecessarily doubt someone and take their life. Despite this, there is an environment of fear, disbelief, and violence in the nation."

The CM said that it is the duty of BJP leaders to give a message against lynching in the manner of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said that if the RSS, the VHP and the BJP have "a clear cut message" like Modi, who referred to



Gehlot at the Hingonia cowshed and rehabilitation centre in Jaipur. Express

mobs which lynch people as "anti-social elements", then incidents of mob lynching will stop.

Gehlot also said that his government's anti-mob lynching Bill is pending with the Centre. "They (the Centre) should come forward and support it because the Supreme Court has been mentioning (it) again and again," Gehlot said.

Baghel leads 'Gauthan Divas' celebrations

Raipur: Reiterating its emphasis on the protection of cows, the Congress government in Chhattisgarh held events across the state on Monday celebrating Govardhan Puja as "Gauthan (cowshed) Divas". At the front and centre of these celebrations was Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, who was involved in several "gauri gaura" celebrations, and also inaugurated a cow shelter in Raipur, promising the construction of two more, along with a biogas plant.

Under the Chief Minister's flagship Narwa Garwa Ghurwa Baari (canals, cows, waste, and vegetable garden) programme, more than 1,800 cowsheds have come up across the state. On Monday, Baghel said that the target was to double the number next year.

Baghel said that it was essential to connect animal husbandry to economics. **ENS**

BJP minority cell worker killed in Bengal clash, 4 held

EXRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, OCTOBER 28

A WORKER of the BJP's minority cell was allegedly killed in a clash allegedly between cadres of the saffron party and Trinamool Congress (TMC) in Arambagh area of Hooghly district on Sunday. Four persons have been arrested so far, police said.

Blaming TMC workers for the murder, the BJP has called for a 12-hour bandh in Arambagh on Wednesday, even as the ruling party denied the charge, calling the death a "fallout of personal enmity".

Four TMC offices have been vandalised in the area since Sunday and two BJP workers arrested in this connection, sources said. The area remains tense. According to police, the vic-

tim, Sheikh Amir Ali (28), was an e-rickshaw driver and an active member of the BJP minority cell.

He was allegedly beaten up during the clash on Sunday afternoon and succumbed to his injuries at Calcutta Medical College in Kolkata.

An FIR was lodged by Ali's family naming a few people, of whom two were arrested. The police also nabbed two others who were not named in the FIR.

"The motive of the murder is yet to be known. He had multiple injuries on body, but we are waiting for the post-mortem report," said a senior police officer.

According to the police, Chhobi Bibi and Tagari Bibi, who were named in the FIR, were accused of instigating the group to attack the BJP worker.

Sources said two groups had clashed over an old issue.

Centre holds talks with NSCN-IM, peace dialogue may continue beyond October 31

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, KOHIMA,
OCTOBER 28

THE CENTRAL government on Monday held a fresh round of talks with the National Socialist Council of Nagaland—Isak-Muivah faction (NSCN-IM), the major insurgent group in Nagaland, to finalise the Naga peace deal amid indications the dialogue will continue beyond October 31, when it was expected to conclude.

The talks were convened in Delhi to sort out differences, particularly on the NSCN-IM's demand for a separate flag and Constitution for the Nagas, officials said.

A team of the NSCN-IM led by its general secretary Thuingaleng Muivah and the Centre's interlocutor and Nagaland Governor R N Ravi discussed possible ways to find an "honourable" solution to address the issue of a separate flag and Constitution.

"The dialogue, which lasted for more than four hours, remained inconclusive and both sides agreed to meet again soon. However, a final agreement between the NSCN-IM and the government is unlikely to take place by October 31," an official privy to the development said.

Ravi, in a statement, said last week that a mutually agreed draft comprehensive settlement, including all the substantive issues and competencies, is ready for signing the final agreement.

"Unfortunately at this auspicious juncture, the NSCN-IM has adopted a procrastinating attitude to delay the settlement raising the contentious symbolic issues of separate Naga national flag and Constitution on which they are fully aware of the Government of India's position," he had said.

Three Maoists killed in encounter in Kerala

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
OCTOBER 28

THREE MAOISTS, including a woman, were shot dead in an encounter with police in the forests of Attappadi in Kerala's Palakkad district on Monday afternoon. Palakkad district Superintendent of Police (SP) G Siva Vikram said the identity of the Maoists would be officially confirmed on Tuesday after conducting the inquest. "However, after verifying the photographs of the killed people, the Maoists are identified as Suresh, Karthik and Sreemathi. They hail from Karnataka and Tamil Nadu," he said.

The SP said teams of Thunderbolt (Kerala's commando force mainly engaged in anti-naxal drive), were on a regular combing operation in

Attappadi region on Monday. "When a gang of Maoists spotted our team, they fired at us. We retaliated, which led to the killing of three people. Nobody from police side was injured. There were at least five people in that gang and we suspect others were also injured."

The SP said the operation is still going on in the forest. "Due to the presence of wild animals, the operation is hampered. Our forces are guarding the spot. At present, we cannot ascertain the nature of weapons they used," he added.

This is the third encounter in Kerala after Maoist menace resurfaced in the state in a decade.

In March this year, a Maoist identified as C P Jaleel (30) was shot dead by a Thunderbolt team in Wayanad, when he along with other members of the gang tried to extort money from a resort.

Jaleel was a native of Pandikkad in Malappuram district.

In November 2016, two other Maoists Kuppu Devaraj and Ajitha, both hailing from Tamil Nadu, were killed in a police encounter in the forests of Nilambur in Malappuram district. Devaraj had been a top leader of the Maoist movement.

Attappadi, the largest tribal region in Kerala, had reported presence of Maoists in recent years. There had been several instances in which police and local people had spotted armed gangs at tribal colonies. A few years back, a forest checkpoint was set up by suspected Maoists.

Forest areas in the northern districts of Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad and Kannur had been known for Maoist movement. The gangs used to foray into villages near forests and demand provisions from homes.



At the site in Trichy, Tamil Nadu, on Monday. Express

Ops to rescue boy stuck in borewell enter third day

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, OCTOBER 28

OPERATIONS to rescue a two-year-old boy, who slipped into a borewell at a village in Tamil Nadu's Trichy on Saturday, were still on as of Monday evening, with officials stating that their efforts were being hampered by the rocky terrain in the area.

Two-year-old Sujith slipped into a 600-foot borewell at Nadukattappatti village on Saturday evening. The boy was first located at a depth of 30 feet, but later slipped to a deeper depth of around 80 feet.

After initial measures to rescue him using ropes and bags proved futile, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams were brought in on Sunday. Boring machines were brought in from Karur and

Ramanathapuram to dig a parallel shaft to help rescue the boy.

Revenue Secretary J Radhakrishnan, who is leading the rescue operation, told *The Indian Express*, "We have reached 45 feet with lots of challenges and using local drilling machines, we are going down further. When we use heavy machines, the safety of the child also should be ensured as the vibration or further changes in the surface could hurt the boy."

Meanwhile, state Health Minister C Vijayabaskar, who is camping at the village along with Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam, said the boy's temperature levels were checked with robotic cameras on Sunday and that there were positive signs. "The rock bed is very hard, and that is the main reason that the rescue operation has been delayed," Vijayabaskar said.

MUMBAI

Man dies in police station; friend, kin claim cops beat him

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 28

A 26-YEAR-OLD man died in the Wadala Truck Terminal Police Station after he was brought in for inquiry in an alleged assault case on Sunday.

While the family of the victim, Vijay Singh, and his friend, Ankit Mishra, who was detained with him, alleged that he was beaten in custody, the police said he was not assaulted and died while he was leaving the police station after being released.

Singh and Mishra — both residents of Koliwada — were picked up by the police on Sunday night, after they allegedly had an altercation with a couple at a petrol pump in the area.

"While we were filling petrol, there was a couple who was also present. They claimed that we purposely flashed the headlight at them, following which, they came charging at us," said Mishra. The petrol pump staff informed the police control room and a patrol van reached the spot and took both Mishra and Singh to the police station, which is located about 200 metres from the pump.

"The police officers started beating Vijay at the spot. They then took us inside a room at the police station and started assaulting us. Vijay complained of chest pain and even asked them for water, but the policemen refused.

Police said he was not assaulted and died while leaving the station after being released.

Later, at around 2am, when he fell unconscious, they rushed him to Sion hospital where he was declared dead," said Mishra.

Rajendra Sangle, senior inspector of the Wadala Truck Terminal Police Station said, "There has been a dispute between the two groups for a long time. When they were fighting near a petrol pump, our patrolling staff noticed something unusual. They went to the spot and got them to the police station. Later, his (Singh's) parents were informed and they were present at the police station. We didn't even touch Singh. At midnight, when he complained of chest pain, we took his address, made him sign a document and let him go. When he reached the gate of the police station, he collapsed."

The police said Singh's family members then took him to Sion hospital in a taxi, where he was declared dead. "We got a call from the hospital. They informed us about Vijay's death following which we sent a team and registered a case of accidental death," added Sangle.

Mumbai Police PRO Pranay Ashok said the Crime Branch is conducting an investigation into the death.

Amid strike, TSRTC bus conductor 'hangs herself'

ENS & PTI
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 28

A WOMAN bus conductor of the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC), whose employees are on strike since October 5 over various demands, allegedly committed suicide by hanging at her residence in Khammam district on Monday.

The victim was identified as K Neeraja. "We got the information that she committed suicide. The reasons for her doing so are yet to be established," Police Commissioner Tafseer Iqbal told PTI. Her family members said that

she was worried about losing her job and was also not paid last month's salary.

Neeraja had joined TSRTC four years ago and was working at Sathupally bus depot. She had taken her two children to her mother's house on Sunday and left them there. She returned to her home alone on Monday morning and hanged herself.

TSRTC employees held protests at Sathupally bus depot after news of her death spread. Taking a strong stand against the 48,000 TSRTC employees on strike, CM K Chandrababoo Naidu had said that those not joining duty are deemed to be dismissed.

Goa to ban alcohol in notified industrial estates

Panaji: The Goa government has cleared the decks for a ban on sale and consumption of alcohol in notified industrial estates across the state, making it the third public space where alcohol will be banned. "...for the safety of our workers, I have cleared a file to make all industrial estates an alcohol-free zone." Industries Minister Vishwajit Rane said. **ENS**

Bulandshahr violence accused gets statue

Noida: Eleven months after a 20-year-old was killed during violence in Bulandshahr, the youth's father has erected a statue in his memory. On December 3, violence had broken out in Bulandshahr's Siyana after alleged cow-slaughter. The SHO of Siyana police station, Subodh Kumar Singh, was killed by protesters while Sumit Kumar (20) was shot allegedly by the policeman in an act of self-defence. **ENS**

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT (OPERATION BRANCH)

5/9, UNDER HILL ROAD, DELHI- 110054

F.7(45)/TPT/Veh/(I&C)/JJ/2019 Dated: Oct. 23, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Tender for Operation & Maintenance of Automated Vehicle Inspection & Certification (I&C) Centre, Jhuljhuli, New Delhi.

The Tender Documents inviting the quotation on above subject is available at e-Tendering system, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Vide Tender ID_2019_TD_182798_1 w.e.f. 23.10.2019 at 05:00 PM.

The last date of filing of Bid is 08.11.2019 at 03:00 PM for details.

Kindly visit <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

Sd/-

(S.S. Chauhan)
Dy. Commissioner (VIU-Jhuljhuli)
DIP/Shabdarth/0906/19-20

Form No. 22
General Notice in respect of Interlocutory Application
IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
MFA No. 1252/2016 (MV-D)

Appellants
V. MOHAN NARYAN
S/O R.N. VENKY, AGE: 61 YEARS,
R/AT NO. 210, "SAMACHAR APARTMENT", MAYUR VIHAR,
PHASE-I EXTENSION, DELHI-110091
AND OTHERS
Vs
Sri N SHANKAR RANGAREJI

Respondents
MR. RAKESH CHOUHARY
H. NO. 1974, SECTOR-4, GURGAON,
ALSO AT PLOT NO. 1045, APNAVILLA,
APARTMENT, H. NO. 23, SECTOR-10,
DWARKA,
NEW DELHI AND OTHERS.
To: Respondent No. 1
MR. RAKESH CHOUHARY
H. NO. 1974, SECTOR-4, GURGAON,
ALSO AT PLOT NO. 1045, APNAVILLA,
APARTMENT, H. NO. 23, SECTOR-10,
DWARKA,
NEW DELHI.
To: Respondent No. 3
HARSHA CHOUHARY
S/O. RAKESH CHOUHARY,
R/AT F-1-06, SRIRAKSHINA HOYSALA
APARTMENT,
SANJAYNAGAR, BENGALURU-
560001.

Whereas the above named appellant has preferred IA No 12016 praying this court to condone the delay of 99 days in filing the above Appeal against the Judgement/Award/Order passed on 13/07/2015 in M.V.C. 1013/2012 on the file of the XIII ADDL. SMALL CAUSE JUDGE & MEMBER, MACT, BENGALURU. (SCCH: 15).

Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court in person or through an advocate or through someone duly authorised to act for you in this matter on 27/11/2019 at 10.30 a.m. to show cause why the application should not be allowed. If you fail to appear, the application will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this court on Thursday THE 17TH DAY OF October 2019.

By order of the Court
Sd/-
Assistant Registrar.

HINDUSTAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION LIMITED
Registered Office: 17, Janshedji Tata Road, Mumbai - 400 020
Tel : 022 - 22863900 Fax : 022 - 22872992
Website : www.hindustanpetroleum.com Email : corphq@hpl.in
CIN : L23201MH1952G01008858

NOTICE
Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015, Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation will be held on Thursday, November 07, 2019 to consider, inter-alia, the Unaudited Financial Results of the Corporation for the Second Quarter & Half Year ended September 30, 2019.

The said notice can be accessed on the Corporation's website at <http://www.hindustanpetroleum.com>. Notice to this effect has also been given to NSE & BSE Ltd.

As communicated to the stock exchanges earlier, it is further informed that the Trading Window for dealing in securities of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited is under closure from October 01, 2019 to November 09, 2019 for all 'Insiders' as per the Insider Trading code of the Company. The Insider Trading Code is available on the Company's website www.hindustanpetroleum.com

Place : Mumbai **V. Murali**
Date : October 28, 2019 **Company Secretary**

EXPRESS Careers
Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd.
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Notice No. HQ/HR/2017/Hiring of SAP Consultants/PL1
ADVERTISEMENT NO. 14/2019

Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Railways invites eligible candidate for Walk-In-Interview for the post of **SAP Consultant/ Team Lead on contractual basis** at monthly remuneration of Rs. 1.5 Lakhs in DFCCIL as per details given below. Reporting time for Walk-In-Interview is between 09:45 hrs to 10:30 hrs.

S.No.	Post	Number of vacancies	Date of Walk-in-Interview
1.	SAP Consultant/ Team Lead	01 (One) (UR)	04.11.2019

For detailed advertisement including place of interview, eligibility criteria, remuneration, etc., Please see official website : www.dfccil.gov.in

EAST BOUND FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS FROM 29.10.2019 TO 02.11.2019
In order to clear extra rush of passengers during festival season, Northern Railway has planned to run following Festival Special Trains from Delhi area (or via Delhi area stations) from 29.10.2019 to 02.11.2019 as per the schedule given below:-

Spl. Train No.	Station From	Dept. Time	Station to	Arr. Time	Accommodation	Stoppages
List of East Bound Trains from Delhi area on 29.10.2019 (Tuesday)						
04010	Anand Vihar (T)	23:45	Jogbani	05:20	2A, 3A SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Chandausi Jn, Bareilly Cantt, Sitapur Jn, Gonda Jn, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn, Chhapra, Sonpur Jn, Hajipur Jn, Shahpur Patoree, Barauni Jn, Begu Sarai, Khagaria Jn., Naugachia, Katihar Jn, Purnea Jn, Arariya Court, Arariya & Forbesganj Jn. Stations
04074	New Delhi	15:30	Varanasi	07:00	SL & Gen.	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow and Sultanpur stations.
04404	New Delhi	19:25	Barauni	18:00	3A	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Sewan, Chhapra, Hajipur & Shahpur Patoree stations
04078	New Delhi	14:55	Patna Jn.	08:30	2A, 3A SL & Gen.	Kanpur Central, Allahabad Jn, Dd Upadhayaya Jn, Buxar, Ara & Danapur Stations
04084	Delhi	22:40	Purnea Court	22:30	SL, Gen.	Kanpur Central, Allahabad, Dd Upadhayaya Jn, Buxar, Ara, Patna, Bakhtiyarpur Jn, Mokameh Jn, Begusarai, Khagaria, Mansi, S Bhakhtiyarpur, Saharsa, Dauram Madhepura & Banmankhi Jn stations
04052	Anand Vihar (T)	11:45	Katihar Jn.	12:45	SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur Cantt, Gonda, Manikpur Jn, Basti, Gorakhpur, Siwan Jn, Chhapra (RL), Hajipur Jn, Barauni Jn (RL), Khagaria Jn. & Naugachia stations
04092	New Delhi	09:20	Jaynagar	11:15	SL & Gen.	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Narkataganj Jn., Raxaul Sitamarhi, Darbhanga & Madhubani Stations
04092	New Delhi	10:55	Darbhanga	10:30	2A, 3A & SL	Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Gonda, Buxar, Gorakhpur, Chhapra, Hajipur Jn, Muzaffarpur Jn & Samastipur Jn. Stations
82420	Anand Vihar (T)	12:55	Bhubaneswar	17:45	3A SL & Gen.	Kanpur Central, Allahabad, Pt DD Upadhayaya, Sasaram, Gaya, Koderma, Gomoh, Adra Jn, Bankura, Hiji, Balasore, Bhadrakh & Cuttack Stations
82412	Anand Vihar (T)(Suvidha)	07:50	Allahabad	17:00	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn, Kanpur Central & Fatehpur Stations
04038	Delhi	20:50	Chhapra	15:30	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar & Siwan Jn
04042	Anand Vihar (T)	00:10	Jaynagar	23:45	3A	Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Allahabad Jn, Dd Upadhayaya Jn, Buxar, Ara, Patliputra, Hajipur Jn, Muzaffarpur Jn, Samastipur Jn, Darbhanga Jn & Madhubani Stations
82402	Delhi (Suvidha)	13:30	Muzaffarpur Jn.	13:00	SL	Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Khalilabad, Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj, Padrauna, Tamkuhi Road, Thawe, Siwan, Chhapra, Sonpur Jn & Hajipur Jn stations
List of East Bound Trains from Delhi area on 30.10.2019 (Wednesday)						
82414	New Delhi (Suvidha)	00:20	Darbhanga	23:45	SL	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Narkataganj Jn, Raxaul & Sitamarhi Stations
04422	Anand Vihar (T)	21:05	Lucknow	06:30	1A, 2A, 3A	Ghaziabad, Moradabad and Bareilly Stations.
04030	Delhi	13:45	Muzaffarpur Jn.	13:00	2A, 3A SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Basti, Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj Jn., Padrauna, Tamkuhi Road, Thawe Jn., Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur Jn. & Hajipur Jn. Stations
04034	Anand Vihar (T)	00:10	Jaynagar	23:45	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Allahabad Jn, Dd Upadhayaya Jn, Buxar, Ara, Patliputra, Hajipur Jn, Muzaffarpur Jn, Samastipur Jn, Darbhanga Jn & Madhubani Stations
List of East Bound Trains from Delhi area on 31.10.2019 (Thursday)						
04002	Anand Vihar (T)	18:35	Bhagalpur	17:30	2A, 3A SL & Gen.	Kanpur Central, Allahabad, Pt. Deendayal Upadhayaya, Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patna, Bhakhtiyarpur, Mokameh Jn., Kiul, Hajipur, Jamalpur & Sultanganj Stations
82404	New Delhi (Suvidha)	14:55	Patna Jn.	08:30	2A & 3A	Kanpur Central, Allahabad Jn, Dd Upadhayaya Jn, Buxar, Ara & Danapur stations
82416	Anand Vihar (T) (Suvidha)	23:45	Jogbani	05:20	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Chandausi Jn, Sitapur Cant, Gonda Jn, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn, Chhapra, Sonpur Jn, Hajipur Jn, Shahpur Patoree, Barauni Jn, Begu Sarai, Khagaria Jn., Naugachia, Katihar Jn, Purnea, Arariya Court, Arariya & Forbesganj Stations
82410	Delhi (Suvidha)	11:00	Darbhanga	08:30	2A & 3A	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Sewan, Chhapra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur & Samastipur stations
04058	New Delhi	00:20	Darbhanga	23:55	Gen.	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Narkataganj Jn., Bettiah, Bapudam Motihan, Muzaffarpur & Samastipur Stations
04086	Anand Vihar (T)	19:25	Saharsa	20:00	3A & SL	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan, Chhapra, Hajipur, Barauni & Khagaria Stations
82412	Anand Vihar (T)(Suvidha)	07:50	Allahabad	17:00	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn, Kanpur Central & Fatehpur Stations
04112	Jammu Tawi (via Delhi)	22:10	Kanpur Central	18:55	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Pathankot Cantt, Jalandhar Cant, Ludhiana Jn, Ambala Cant Jn, Panipat Jn, Delhi, Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn, Tundla Jn, Etawah & Jhinjhak Stations
List of East Bound Trains from Delhi area on 01.11.2019 (Friday)						
04074	New Delhi	15:30	Varanasi	07:00	SL & Gen.	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow and Sultanpur stations.
04098	Anand Vihar (T)	00:30	Gaya Jn.	22:30	3A, SL & Gen.	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Sultanpur Jn., Varanasi, Dd Upadhayaya, Bhabua Road, Sasaram & Devi Ori Soh Stations
04414	New Delhi	19:25	Saharsa	20:00	3A	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Sewan, Chhapra, Hajipur, Shahpur Patoree, Barauni, Begu Sarai, Khagaria & S Bhakhtiyarpur Stations
04052	Anand Vihar (T)	11:45	Katihar Jn.	12:45	SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur Cantt, Gonda, Manikpur Jn, Basti, Gorakhpur, Siwan Jn, Chhapra (RL), Hajipur Jn, Barauni Jn (RL), Khagaria Jn. & Naugachia stations
04092	New Delhi	09:20	Jaynagar	11:15	SL & Gen.	Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Narkataganj Jn., Raxaul Sitamarhi, Darbhanga & Madhubani Stations
04090	Anand Vihar (T)	12:45	Bhagalpur	10:10	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Kanpur Central, Allahabad Jn., Pt. Deendayal Upadhayaya, Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn, Bakhtiyarpur Jn., Mokameh Jn., Kiul Jn., Jamalpur Jn. & Sultanganj Stations
04920	Firozpur Cantt Jn (via Delhi)	16:45	Darbhanga	10:30	Gen.	Fardkot, Kot Kapura Jn, Bhatinda Jn, Mansa, Jakhajal Jn, Jind Jn, Rohtak Jn, Shakurbasti, Delhi, Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Sultanpur, Varanasi, Pt. Deendayal Upadhayaya, Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Hajipur Jn, Muzaffarpur Jn & Samastipur Jn. Stations
04078	New Delhi	14:55	Patna Jn.	08:30	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Kanpur Central, Allahabad Jn, Dd Upadhayaya Jn, Buxar, Ara & Danapur Stations
82406	New Delhi	10:55	Saharsa	11:30	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Chhapra, Hajipur, Barauni, Khagaria & S Bhakhtiyarpur Stations
List of East Bound Trains from Delhi area on 02.11.2019 (Saturday)						
04046	Anand Vihar (T)	23:35	Gorakhpur	13:35	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Gonda Jn. & Basti Stations
04022	Anand Vihar (T)	00:10	Patna	17:45	3A	Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Allahabad, Pt Deen Dayal Upadhayaya Jn, Buxar and Ara stations.
04030	Delhi	13:45	Muzaffarpur Jn.	13:00	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Basti, Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj Jn., Padrauna, Tamkuhi Road, Thawe Jn., Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur Jn. & Hajipur Jn. Stations
04038	Delhi	20:50	Chhapra	15:30	2A, 3A, SL & Gen.	Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar & Siwan Jn. Stations

Northern Railway has planned and commenced running of Total 86 pairs of Special Trains (total 172 trains) including above trains during current festival period in co-ordination with other zonal Railways marking 1121 trips in all. Northern Railway also has enhanced passenger carrying capacity of many trains augmenting with an addition of 40 extra coaches marking 1118 trips in all. To cater to the enhanced demand, Northern Railway will also run additional special trains in keeping with operational flexibility and availability of rolling stock. More Number of unreserved special trains would be started from Anand Vihar (T), Delhi Jn. & New Delhi on short notice keeping in view the real time demand.

During the Rail journey never travel with inflammable objects like Crackers, Petrol, Kerosene, Gas Cylinder etc.

Note:- For detail timing of trains etc. passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139, nearest Railway Station or visit Railway's website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

Passengers are requested to book their seats/berths in reserved class coaches well in advance.

* 1A - First AC, 2A - 2Tier AC, 3A - 3Tier AC, SL - Sleeper & Gen - General

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Railway Security Helpline No. 182

Sadhvi abducted and gangraped in Bihar: Police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, OCTOBER 28

A 25-YEAR-OLD sadhvi was allegedly kidnapped from her ashram in Bihar's Nawada and gangraped on Monday, police said. A case was registered against four people but no arrests have been made so far and a hunt is on for the accused, they said.

The police officer in charge of the station concerned said the victim, who hails from Basti in UP, had lodged a case after having walked two km from the spot of the alleged incident.

The victim identified two of the four accused as hailing from Chhatisgarh and UP and said they visited her ashram several times, she said.

According to the officer, two women from Basti who were expelled from the ashram over theft allegations in 2017 came to the victim on Monday under the pretext of seeking her help. She then set off with them for Basti in a private vehicle. Midway, the two women got off. The driver then allegedly took the victim to a dilapidated building where she was gangraped.

Half season gone, NAFED records low procurement of apples in J&K

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

WHILE MORE than half of the apple harvesting season is over, the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) has been able to procure less than 1 per cent of the total production in Jammu and Kashmir.

Till Sunday, NAFED had bought about 4,500 tons (3 lakh boxes) of apples, while the projected production in the state is about 20 lakh tons.

"The procurement of apples in J&K has been below our expectations. The initial estimation of procurement was 10-12 lakh tons in the period between September 15 and December 15 this year, but there has been poor response due to the prevailing situation," said a NAFED official. He said restrictions on mobile and Internet services as well as transportation challenges hindered procurement.

"There is no target (for procurement). We have been asked to buy from the mandis. We want to buy as much as we can," he said.



NAFED has bought about 4,500 tons of apples. Express File

NAFED started procuring apples on September 12, through the J&K Directorate of Horticulture, Planning & Marketing. According to sources, till October 27, only 3,500 apple-growing farmers had registered to sell their produce to the agency designated by NAFED.

Of the 3 lakh boxes procured so far, about 80 per cent was from Anantnag district, while the remaining boxes were purchased from mandis in Shopian, Kulgam, Sopore and Srinagar. Of these,

about 90,000 boxes have been sold at different mandis in Punjab, UP, Bihar, Rajasthan and Delhi.

"We are in the middle of the harvesting season, the daily procurement is increasing now and we hope to touch 1 lakh tons by the end of the season," said sources.

"The price of the apples procured so far has been in the range of Rs 17-70 per kg...," said sources. While the official did not disclose the actual price at which NAFED

sold these apples, he said a box, weighing about 16 kg, was sold at an approximate loss of Rs 200. He said NAFED has so far spent about Rs 18 crore on buying these apples. "We are going to start selling apples at our retail stores in Delhi. We are also in talks with Safal, an organised retail network of fruits and vegetables in the National Capital Region," said sources.

This year, India's apple production is projected to touch 26 lakh tons. More than 80 per cent of this is expected to be from J&K. Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand will account for the rest. The harvesting season in J&K is usually September to October, but this varies depending on the weather.

NAFED is the nodal agency that procures oilseeds, pulses, copra, onion and cotton to deliver the MSP declared by the Centre to farmers. However, there is no MSP for apples. Following the Centre's decision to scrap J&K's special status under Article 370, NAFED was asked to procure apples in J&K under the government's market intervention scheme.

1.2 lakh thermal wear, 100 toilets: Extra forces gear up for Valley winter

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 28

OVER 1,20,000 items of thermal inner wear, more than 60,000 parka jackets, sleeping bags and blankets, close to 70 insulated pre-fabricated barracks with accommodation for 40 in each, more than 1,500 bukharis (traditional heaters), over 100 specially-designed toilets, hundreds of common bath spaces, thousands of litres of kerosene and miles of tin sheet.

This is how about 70,000 additional security forces deployed in the Valley, following the August 5 abrogation of Article 370, are preparing for the winter.

Since the Centre's decision, it has dispatched more than 700 companies of paramilitary forces drawn from the CRPF, BSF, SSB and ITBP to Kashmir to maintain law and order. These are in addition to the over 60,000 paramilitary personnel who are stationed in the Valley gear-round.

With Delhi giving no signal on reduction of troops, a senior officer of the CAPF said: "The last time I asked Delhi how long the additional troops were supposed to be here, I was told not to ask this question before next April. So we have to prepare for a long winter, where we will be largely fighting the elements."

The additional troops have been living in tents, government facilities, under-construction buildings, warehouses, abandoned homes and yatri camps. "None of these are suitable for winter. A very harsh winter will set mid-November onward. So we are running against time to erect suitable accommodation and procuring winter essentials," another officer said.

Among the important acquisitions are insulated pre-fabricated barracks. "This is for the first time that we are procuring these, as earlier we have never needed them. These barracks have insulation sheets inside. The CRPF alone is procuring more than 40



Centre has deployed 70,000 extra troops in Valley. File

of these," the officer said. Even concrete buildings for accommodation are being reinforced with tin sheets, sources said. "All these accommodations have to be given kerosene-fired bukharis," the officer said.

"Thermals, jackets, blankets and sleeping bags are being procured for each person," the officer said.

With so many soldiers in temporary accommodation, sources said toilets have become a major issue. "We do not want to create stress among forces, who are already in a difficult situation. Pit toilets have been built, but they won't work in winter," the officer said.

Specially-designed toilets have been ordered, which will be connected to sewers linked to the waste-management infrastructure. Adequate water supply is also being arranged, sources said.

Given the communication blockade in certain areas and lack of adequate transport, an officer said: "All procurement has to be made online, according to government rules. We had to make some procurement from Delhi—a special Internet connection had to be established in a camp office."

Given the situation in Kashmir, the material has to be fabricated in Jammu and transported to the Valley.

"Private transporters are reluctant to make the journey for reasons of security. We are transporting the entire consignment in our convoys," the officer said.

In Bengaluru, family does not stand for national anthem, forced to leave cinema hall

RALPH ALEX ARAKAL
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 28

A GROUP of people led by two actors heckled and forced a family to leave a cinema hall in Bengaluru after they did not stand up for the national anthem.

The incident took place on October 23 in a mall during a screening of the Tamil movie *Asuram*. A video, purportedly shot right after the national anthem was played in the hall, shows actors Arun Gowda and Aishwarya and around 10 others, in a heated argument with a family.

In the video, which Aishwarya also posted on her Facebook, Gowda points at the family and is heard saying, "These people chose not to stand up while the national anthem was being played. When asked why, they are asking us to file a police complaint."

Later, Aishwarya is heard saying, "If you cannot stand up, then get out of here."

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Gowda said that the incident became heated only when the family started speaking about "the Army in a disrespectful manner... Disrespecting the Army is not at all tolerable," Gowda said.

However, the video shared did not seem to contain any objectionable remarks by the family towards the Army or soldiers.

"We will check the video... we will take action if their (the family's) actions indicate disrespect, as per the Prevention of Insult to National Honours Act," DCP (North) N Shashikumar said.

A Supreme Court order in 2016 made the playing of the national anthem in cinema halls mandatory. The order was modified by the SC in 2018, under which playing the national anthem was left to the discretion of cinema hall owners. But the court made it clear that movie-goers will have to show respect to the anthem in case it is played, and they will have to stand.

'Kashmir business suffered Rs 10,000 cr loss'

ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 28

THE KASHMIR Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) has pegged the loss to the business sector at over Rs 10,000 crore, with over 1 lakh job losses, ever since the lockdown that followed the Centre's decision to scrap J&K's special status under Article 370.

"As per preliminary estimates, the loss to the business sector in Kashmir is over Rs 10,000 crore... Every business sector is badly affected. Tourism, handicraft, IT, transport and carpet sectors are the worst hit," Sheikh Aashiq, KCCI president told *The Indian Express*. "The to-



KCCI president Sheikh Aashiq

tal loss and damage to business can be confirmed only after we come up with a comprehensive report," he said.

He said state infrastructure projects, which were scheduled to be completed by 2019, have also been hit because the migrant labourers and other workforce have left Kashmir.

"The shutdown of Internet is the longest ever. I wonder if people living in the rest of India can

imagine how to do business when there is no Internet, transport is off the roads, and shops are closed," he said.

Saying that the private sector was the "worst hit", Sheikh said companies and other business establishments have started to lay off staff. "The private sector is bleeding in Kashmir... There is expenditure, but no income... There have been over a lakh job losses because of the ongoing situation. Lakhs of people were associated with industries like tourism, carpet, transport, hotels," he said.

He said there was no land available for young entrepreneurs who wanted to set up industries in the Valley. "The government has no land for them because 50-60% of the land

here is forest land... I spoke to government officials who said there is no land available. There was an industrial estate in South Kashmir, for which maybe about 500 people applied, and only 50 got... They (government) are saying some big industries will come, but where will the land come from? Will locals get preference... Peace is a prerequisite for any business to prosper," he said.

He said the current shutdown was a "spontaneous reaction from the people". "Everyone knows that there is no call for a shutdown by anyone... I think a proactive and human approach by the government is the primary requirement," he said.

Rs 45 lakh award for info on five Hizbul militants

Jammu: J&K Police has announced awards worth Rs 45 lakh for information leading to the death or apprehension of five Hizbul Mujahideen militants in Kishtwar and Doda districts in the last two days.

In Kishtwar, it has announced a bounty of Rs 30 lakh on the head of militants Mohammad Amin alias Jehangir Saroori, Riyaz Ahmad alias Hazari and Mudassir Hussain.

Saroori was allegedly the main conspirator behind the killing of senior BJP leader Anil Parihar and RSS functionary Chander Kant Sharma, besides incidents of weapon-snatching in Kishtwar town. ENS

Iqbal Mirchi PMLA case: Raj Kundra summoned by ED

Mumbai: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned Raj Kundra, the businessman husband of actor Shilpa Shetty, in connection with its money laundering probe against gangster Iqbal Mirchi and others, officials said on Monday.

They said Kundra has been asked to depose before the investigating officer of the case here on November 4.

The central probe agency is looking at Kundra's purported dealings with Ranjeet Bindra and a firm called Bastian Hospitality in connection with this case. Bindra was arrested by the ED in the case sometime back. Kundra had earlier denied any wrongdoing in these business deals. PTI

WITH AYUSHMAN BHARAT PUSH

India may eliminate shortage of doctors 'in less than 7 years'

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

INDIA MAY eliminate its shortage of doctors in less than seven years, as per estimates drawn up by the Union Health Ministry. As the country rolls out Ayushman Bharat and includes 50 crore people in the medical net, it is imperative that the shortage — of approximately four lakh doctors — is reduced and fast.

India has far less doctors than the WHO-mandated one doctor for a population of 1,000, and to meet that requirement, the country would need approximately 13.5 lakh doctors. There are 9.3 lakh registered medical practitioners in the country but the Health Ministry hopes to bridge that gap soon.

"We currently have about 9.3 lakh doctors. Taking an average doctor's professional life as 40 years, our calculations suggest that 23,000 doctors go out of the medical workforce every year. This means that of the 80,000 MBBS seats we currently have,

EXPLAINED Govt plans for inequitable distribution

THERE IS also the additional challenge of ensuring equitable distribution of doctors, which the ministry hopes would be tackled partly by the locations of the new medical colleges, states' initiatives, spread of medical infrastructure to underserved areas after Ayushman Bharat and an eventual saturation of the urban market that will force doctors to tier II and III cities and villages eventually.

There is a net addition every year of 57,000. Even if the seats remain at their present levels, which they will not, given that in the last three years alone we have added 30,000 seats, we will wipe out the current deficit in less than seven years," said Arun Singhal, Special

Secretary in the ministry.

The medical education system, meanwhile, is going through a period of transition as the government readies to roll out the National Medical Commission that will replace the erstwhile Medical Council of India as the apex medical education regulator. Of the 33 members of the NMC, 25 have already been selected and a search is on for the chairperson. While the NMC will essentially be the authority for deciding on various issues, sources say the ministry is looking at the expansion of MBBS seats with some caution given the experience in the engineering sector where seats were increased so much that jobs became scarce and colleges faced closures.

"We are looking at a figure of about 1,20,000 seats... We cannot afford a situation like engineering because medical education in the first place is more investment intensive so somebody who spends Rs 400 crore should not be forced to shut shop..." explained a source.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com



A protest in New Delhi seeking justice for the victims. PTI

Govt may reinvestigate or seek CBI probe into rape of 2 Dalit minors: Kerala CM

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 28

AMID AN uproar over the acquittal of the accused in the rape of two Dalit minors, who were later found dead, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Monday told the Kerala Assembly that the government is considering a reinvestigation or a CBI probe.

The Assembly was adjourned for the day as the Congress-led Opposition stalled proceedings, alleging lapses in the police probe and prosecution's conduct in the case at the POCOS court in Palakkad. Organisations affiliated to the Congress and BJP took out protest marches in Palakkad demanding a CBI probe.

On Friday, the court had acquitted three persons in the case pertaining to the 2017 rape of minor Dalit sisters in Palakkad. The girls, aged nine and 13, were found hanging at their home on different days over two months.

KOLKATA

5-year-old among 2 killed while setting off crackers

Kolkata: A five-year-old boy was among two people killed while setting off crackers in two separate incidents in Kolkata on Sunday night on the occasion of Kali Puja and Diwali. Police have arrested two people in this connection. According to police, both victims received injuries on their neck and face.

Meanwhile, more than 1,000 people were arrested on various charges on Sunday. Police said 400 people across various divisions were arrested for disorderly conduct while 758 people were held for using banned crackers and 32 people were arrested for gambling. ENS

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of tenders through E-Procurement system
Dy. Chief Materials Manager, N. Railway, Shakurbasti, Delhi-110034, for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S.No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Opening date
01.	47-GSD-SSB	Hiring of any modal trucks of 09 MT cap.	239 Trucks Load	21.11.2019

Note: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained. Tender Notice No:- 197-S/45/Despatch/SSB Dated: 25.10.2019. 3464/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, CENTRAL CIRCLE, RURAL WORKS, BHUBANESWAR

"e" Procurement Notice for Building Work for the year 2019-20

1.	Name of the Work	Building Works
2. <td>Total No. of Packages</td> <td>1 No. of Building Work</td>	Total No. of Packages	1 No. of Building Work
3. <td>Estimated Cost of the package</td> <td>Rs.119.47 lakhs</td>	Estimated Cost of the package	Rs.119.47 lakhs
4. <td>Class of Contractor</td> <td>Estimated cost more than Rs. 40.00 lakhs & up to Rs. 3.00 Crores. B Class & A class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authorities.</td>	Class of Contractor	Estimated cost more than Rs. 40.00 lakhs & up to Rs. 3.00 Crores. B Class & A class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authorities.
5. <td>Period of completion</td> <td>As mentioned in Column-6 of Annexure</td>	Period of completion	As mentioned in Column-6 of Annexure
6. <td>Offered rates by bidder</td> <td>The offered rate by the contractor shall be excluding GST.</td>	Offered rates by bidder	The offered rate by the contractor shall be excluding GST.
7. <td>Other details</td> <td></td>	Other details	

Procurement Officer: 1. Subintending Engineer, Central Circle Rural Works, Bhubaneswar

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in

25082/11/001/1920

Superintending Engineer, Central Circle, Rural Works, Bhubaneswar

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
Sr. Divisional Security Commissioner/RPF/N Rly Moradabad for and on behalf of President of India invites Open tenders through E-Tendering system for the following works:-

S. No.	Tender No. & Description	Approx. Cost Rs.	Earnest Money Rs.	Cost of Tender form Rs.	Last date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender.
1	1. Tender Notice No. PFG/RT/VehHr/DDL/IV/MB/2018, "Hiring of 01 Nos Non-AC Multi Utility Road vehicle (Mahindra-Scorpio, Bolero, Tuv etc.) to attend all type of emergency duties related to safety & security of passenger, railway property as well as train operation, on round the clock basis for Two years, for RPF Post Dehradun which may be used in Dehradun or other parts of Uttaranchal UP & Delhi, as per requirement with minimum running of 2500 Km in a Month.	Rs. 12,29,952/-	24600/-	2000/-	19.11.2019 up to 15:00 hrs and 19.11.2019 at 15:30 hrs.

Note:- Complete details of tender can be seen at www.ireps.gov.in, Tender Notice -PFG/Veh-Hiring/MB/2019 Date: 18.10.2019 3467/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, DEPARTMENT OF FLORICULTURE, JAMMU

DATE EXTENSION AND CORRIGENDUM

The Date of Downloading and Date of Depositing of Documents in Electronic Format of E-NIT No:- 45 of 2019-20/Floriculture Deptt. Dated:- 05.10.2019 issued under No:- EE/FDJ/2019-20/1612-19 Dated:- 05.10.2019 for work:- Development of Bhour Garden Jammu (Phase-I).

Read this	Instead of this
The Bidding Documents can be downloaded from the website: http://ktenders.gov.in from 1000 Hrs. 07.10.2019 to 30.10.2019 (1800 Hrs.)	The Bidding Documents can be downloaded from the website: http://ktenders.gov.in from 1000 Hrs. 07.10.2019 to 28.10.2019 (1800 Hrs.)
The Bids shall be deposited in Electronic Format on the website: http://ktenders.gov.in from 1000 Hrs. 07.10.2019 to 28.10.2019 upto (1800 Hrs.). The Bids received will be Opened at (1200 Hrs.) on 31.10.2019 Online.	The Bids shall be deposited in Electronic Format on the website: http://ktenders.gov.in from 1000 Hrs. 07.10.2019 to 28.10.2019 upto (1800 Hrs.). The Bids received will be Opened at (1200 Hrs.) on 29.10.2019 Online.
Technical Bids of Bidders shall be Opened Online in the Office of Directorate of Floriculture, Jammu on 31.10.2019 at (1200 Hrs.).	Technical Bids of Bidders shall be Opened Online in the Office of Directorate of Floriculture, Jammu on 29.10.2019 at (1200 Hrs.).

CORRIGENDUM

OTHER SPECIAL CONDITIONS Page No. 37 of 37

c) The Bidder/ the Manufacturer Authorizing the Bidder, shall have successfully executed/ completed at least one number of similar nature of fountains (As advertised) for an amount more than Rs. 80.00 Lacs.

d) The Bidder shall have successfully executed/ completed at least one number of similar nature of fountains (As advertised) for an amount more than Rs. 80.00 Lacs.

No:- EE/FDJ/1848-52 Dated:- 25.10.2019

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Floriculture Deptt. Jammu.

9 THE GOVERNANCE PAGE

WEST BENGAL/ ROAD SAFETY

Safe Drive, Save Life: How Kolkata made its roads less accident prone

A 2016 campaign by Kolkata Traffic Police has reduced the road accidents and fatalities by almost a third

SWEETY KUMARI
KOLKATA, OCTOBER 28

ON JULY 8, 2016, the West Bengal government launched the "Safe Drive Save Life" initiative in Kolkata aimed at reducing road accidents, which were one of the leading causes of deaths and disabilities in the state. The initiative, which was the brainchild of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, is proving to be hugely impactful.

The number of road accident cases in the state capital is down by nearly 15 per cent in 2018 compared to the year before. As per the data sourced from Kolkata Traffic Police Department, in 2015, total road accident cases registered were 3739; out of these, the number of deaths was 422 in Kolkata. In 2018, the total number of cases came down to 2,456 and deaths were down to 294 — a decline of over 30 per cent on both counts. "Safe Drive Save Life" has thus emerged as one of the most successful government programmes by the West Bengal government after Kanyashree Prakalpa, seeks to improve the status and wellbeing of girls, specifically those from socio-economically disadvantaged families through conditional cash transfers.

Speaking to *The Indian Express* on the successful implementation of "Safe Drive Save Life Campaign" Kolkata Police Commissioner Anuj Sharma said, "Kolkata Traffic Police over the years has successfully established itself as a premier organisation in metropolitan traffic management. We have undertaken efforts to improve our performance by adopting new technological advancements." (see box)

The traffic department implemented the three E's — Enforcement, Education and Engineering — of traffic management to achieve success. A big part of the plan was to raise awareness about traffic safety issues. So there was a concerted campaign to have roadside hoarding that carried slogans such as "speed kills" or "always wear a helmet" etc. urging commuters to be more responsible. The government also worked social media platforms such as Twitter to extend its message to the new generation. One of the biggest successes was when the department used the image of the Beatles walking across



Raising public awareness about road safety has been a highlight Partha Paul

KOLKATA'S TOOLS FOR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

- Speed laser gun at key locations to curb speeding
- Breath Analyser to detect drunken drivers
- Video analysis through CCTV to nab violators of traffic signals
- Red Light Violation Detective and Automated Number Plate Recognition
- system -- that intimate violators in real time
- A citation app that allows instant uploading of information about violators
- E-Challan for paperless prosecution
- Online payment for hassle-free and transparent payment of penalties

the zebra crossing on Abbey Road to get people to use such pedestrian crossings. This provided huge popularity for the department's Twitter handle.

The department also used shock tactics. During the initial phase of the campaign, the traffic department used to play real accident video footages at all movie theatre just before the start of the movie to get people's attention and raise awareness. Apart from these innovative methods, there were the regular modes of reaching out to the public — via radio jingles and puja pandals etc. The government also reached out to the schools. The government also put a lot of effort

in training drivers and sensitising them about the situation. One interesting approach in this regard was reverse the roles for the drivers and make them direct traffic for a few minutes at some traffic signals and make them see the whole situation from another side.

Beyond training and raising awareness, the officials also used technology and analysis of traffic patterns and accident locations to reduce fatalities. For instance, one of the first things they did was to identify 19 black spots — spots which were most accident-prone — such as Maa flyover, AJC Bose Road, EM Bypass. And then they placed CCTV cam-

EXPLAINED E. What is 'Safe Drive, Save Life'

THE 2016 campaign employs the three Es of traffic management — Education, Engineering and Enforcement. Thus, innovative methods like asking drivers to direct traffic and letting the field officials use latest technologies such as Automated Number Plate Recognition system have been a roaring success.

era there to better monitor the area.

The government also shifted to increasingly doing things digitally. So instead of sending notices via the snail mail, they sent challans via phone messages. Field officers were given mobile apps to instantly load information about violators. Speed guns to detect speeding and the use of Automated Number Plate Recognition system to track traffic signal violators were put in place.

The traffic department also has its own central data server where all this information is stored. The officials can now study traffic and accident patterns better. Road signals can now be controlled centrally. They are now synchronised in such a manner that allows traffic police to manage traffic better by tracking the peak traffic profile of the city.

"What the Chief Minister had aspired is now visible in numbers also. This campaign has created a positive impact on the psychology of the people," State Transport Minister Suvendu Adhikari told *The Indian Express*.

But Kolkata Traffic Police is not resting on its laurels. Moreover, the Bengal government is now determined to spread this campaign across other districts in the state.

'We are making PDS more poor-friendly, efficient, while rolling back cash transfers'

ONE OF the big ideas floated by the new central government has been the plan to have a 'One Nation, One Card'. Harikishan Sharma spoke to Ram Vilas Paswan, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, to understand what this is and how will it work.



THE POLICY INTERVIEW
RAM VILAS PASWAN
Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

What is the 'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme?

It means that a ration cardholder will be able to buy subsidised food grains under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) from any ration shop throughout the country. In the present system, a ration card holder is restricted to buy food grain from a designated shop in his locality. However, in the proposed system, if he migrates from his locality to another town or state, he will be able to buy the subsidised food grains there too. So far, 14 states have started this facility.

When will it be rolled out nationally?

It will become operational from June 1, 2020.

Is public distribution system (PDS) ready for the roll-out of such initiative?

After coming to power in 2014, the NDA government not only fully implemented the NFSA but also digitised almost all the ration cards in the country. Apart from this, we linked ration cards with the Aadhaar numbers of beneficiaries. It ensured that only genuine beneficiaries remain in the system and the bogus ones are get eliminated. Through this process, we had eliminated about 15 crore bogus beneficiaries out of the total 81 crore. So far, 89 per cent ration cards have been linked with Aadhaar.

Apart from this, PoS (point of sale) machines were provided at fair price shops. Beneficiaries are required to give thumb impression at PoS machines so that we can check that a person, who is taking subsidised food grain, is genuine or not.

Will there be a new ration card for existing beneficiaries?

No. A misconception is being created that there will a new ration card, which is not true. The present ration card will remain valid and by using it, beneficiaries can buy the subsidised food grains from any PDS shop across the country.

Who will get maximum benefits of this initiative?

It will benefit to all, particularly the poor. Suppose if a person from goes for work in the

Haryana or Punjab, he will not lose his right to cheaper food grains as he can buy food grain there also. He will no more restrict to just one ration shop.

Is there any technological challenge in the roll-out of this initiative?

So far, its roll-out in different states has been smooth. We have set the deadline for next year so that states can get more time to implement this.

What will be the additional fiscal burden on the government exchequer?

There will be no fiscal burden. In fact, it will check leakages further.

How will you ensure that people's privacy is not compromised?

There is no issue of violation of anybody's privacy. In fact, it will help people as they can buy food grains from any PDS shop from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.

Was a pilot project to provide cash through DBT in place of food grains?

Yes, there was a proposal of such reform in PDS but it has not been successful. We started cash transfer through DBT in three union territories — Puducherry, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Chandigarh. But there are problems with banking and power facilities. It is not cost-effective for the poor. There are shortcomings in this system. The UTs now want to roll it back.

FROM STATES REFORMS TRACKER

UTTAR PRADESH A blueprint for energy self-reliance



CHIEF MINISTER Yogi Adityanath has reportedly tasked senior officials to draw up a blueprint for the state's energy security. The aim is for the state to become self-reliant

in electricity generation by 2031. This would require the officials to get a clarity on the future demand as well as supply potential. A blueprint will help the state not just to determine its policies to efficiently use the power that it has but also sign new power purchase agreements with producers at reasonable prices.

HIMACHAL PRADESH Ayush services get capital subsidy boost

LAST WEEK, the state's cabinet decided to boost the provisioning of Ayush (that is, Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy) services by improving Ayurvedic hospitals and dispensaries. The idea is, according to a government spokesperson, to raise the standard of facilities and health care at the secondary and tertiary levels. The chosen mode to give this fillip is to provide greater capital subsidy on Ayush therapy units and interest subvention on loans for setting up such units.

TAMIL NADU Fourth Police Commission set up

THE STATE'S AIADMK government has announced setting up the fourth police commission to look into a variety of issues such as the general conditions of service and housing etc. However, the welfare of the personnel especially those that have retired is of special interest this time. The previous three commissions were set up under the DMK rule in 1956, 1969 and 1989.

Maharashtra's Sugar Commissionerate cracks the whip to make mills pay up dues

PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS
PUNE, OCTOBER 28

ON JULY 31, a judgment by India's apex court jolted the Maharashtra government, especially the officials in the state's Sugar Commissionerate. The Supreme Court ruled in favour of the Maharashtra State Cooperative (MSC) Bank that stated that the state government does not have a legal claim on the Rs 2,000 crore that it had given to 34 cooperative sugar mills. These 34 mills had gone defunct and when the MSC Bank sought to auction them and get back its dues, the state government wanted its dues as well. But the apex court ruled that the state government did not have its papers in order.

The background to this issue is that, in Maharashtra, governments have, since the start of the cooperative movement, invested three-times the money that promoters of a sugar cooperative mill have raised from their shareholders. But as Maharashtra's Sugar



Making the sugar mills pay up Express

Commissioner Shekhar Gaikwad realised in July, the paperwork for this investment was inadequate. A big reason for this lacunae is the heavy political interference in the way sugar mills and indeed the whole sugar economy runs. Because many politicians also own the mills, the government has historically been lax in asserting its rights as an investor. This inefficiency eventually cost the government in the MSC Bank case.

What Gaikwad also realised was that among the 102 cooperative mills that were still in operation, another Rs 3,000 was owed to the government. And he set about to get this matter sorted.

Technically, the government's investment was in the form of a loan which was supposed to be paid back after a definite period of time. But not only was the money never repaid, but it also was not even secured.

In an order Gaikwad gave in September, he laid out a timeline to get the matter sorted. By November, officials were to ascertain the government's dues. Between April and May every year, the government auditors will check the status of the repayment and update the same on the land records. Mills would be intimated of their yearly repayment amount by July every year. "Failure of the mill to adhere to the repayment schedule will see action under Land revenue codes, which will allow government to take possession and auction off the properties to recover dues," explained Gaikwad.

GUJARAT/EASY AVAILABILITY OF DRINKING WATER

In Vadodara — the 'boon' of flowing tap water in homes

ADITI RAJA
VADODARA, OCTOBER 28

THE TEDIOUS ritual of Diwali cleaning was never so fun for 32-year-old Rekha Solanki as she enjoys the feel of water gushing out of a PVC pipe in her two-room home in Navinagri village, some 22 km away from Vadodara city. For over a decade since she married her husband Girish, who is a farm labourer, Rekha has had to walk about a kilometre to the adjoining Ghanshyampura village to draw water from a tubewell for the entire household — that's five containers of 15 litres each.

But in the last four months, her life has changed as she now has her own tap connection with "flowing water". "This water connection at home has come as a boon," says Rekha with a smile. She is not alone. All the women around her are relieved and happy because the task of running around for water was typically the headache of the women in every household.

Navinagri and Ghanshyampura are among the 95 villages in the Waghodia



A water filtration plant of Waghodia taluka of Vadodara district Bhupendra Rana

taluka that now receive 100 per cent tap connectivity of surface water for drinking purposes. The entire district of Vadodara — a total of 660 villages — will soon see similar connectivity to surface water from the Narmada and the Mahisagar rivers that flow

through the district.

The changes are part of an initiative to ensure every household in the district has doorstep tap connectivity and access to clean, surface water. A pet project of District Collector Shalini Agarwal, which has already won a na-

SUCCESS RATE TILL DATE

515 villages have 100% tap connectivity

53 villages have 90 to 95% tap connectivity

62 villages have 75 to 90% tap connectivity

tional Skoch Excellence award, it aims to complete the shift from groundwater to surface water for the entire district by 2020, with over 50 per cent districts already receiving drinking water from surface resources since the implementation of the project.

Initially, water supply schemes in Vadodara were based on groundwater sources such as handpumps, open wells, tube-wells. With the development in agricultural, industrial, residential, commercial sector, the overall exploitation of groundwater and the use of pesticides along with decreased and uncertain rainfall led to an un-

sustainable situation.

"We saw that a Regional Water Supply Scheme based on surface source (Dam/River/Canal) for drinking purpose could be a sustainable source. We began a comprehensive implementation of an integrated drinking water supply project," says Vadodara District Collector Shalini Agarwal.

Agarwal, who has played a crucial role in ensuring that the water department of the district receives clearances and permissions from all authorities concerned at war footing, says, "rural Vadodara was heavily dependent on groundwater for drinking purposes and we are all aware that groundwater is contaminated in many places... The district is surrounded by rivers like Narmada and Mahisagar and so it was only a matter of ensuring that we utilize these resources for drinking water. Our aim is to cover every village, every hamlet and every household under this scheme", she says.

The project implementation involved planning to lay of water supply network in areas where homes had not seen tap water supply to date as well as the upgrade of old drinking water supply schemes.



“THERE IS MORE REFRESHMENT AND STIMULATION IN A NAP, EVEN OF THE BRIEFEST, THAN IN ALL THE ALCOHOL EVER DISTILLED.” — OVID

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

National dishonour

We need to ask why India lags behind its neighbours in combating hunger, malnutrition



HARSH MANDER

RED FLAG AT INFOSYS

Questions of corporate governance must be urgently addressed in the interest of investors, and the larger economy

MORE THAN two years after N R Narayana Murthy, a founder of the software services firm Infosys, raised issues of transparency and disclosure and falling standards of governance which led to a conflict between him and the company's board of directors and the exit of its then CEO, Vishal Sikka, fresh governance issues have cropped up. Early this month, the company disclosed that it had received two whistleblower complaints alleging disturbing malpractices, aggressive accounting policies and provision of selective information to the board by the CEO, Salil Parekh, and the CFO, Nilanjan Roy, aimed at boosting its bottomline in the near term. The company's board has responded by bringing into play its internal and external auditors and also drafting external legal support. That has not deterred a few US law firms from filing class-action suits in that country where Infosys American Depository Receipts or ADRs are listed and traded. Reportedly, the US Securities and Exchange Commission, too, plans to seek help from its Indian counterpart, Sebi, highlighting the challenge ahead for what many investors perceive as a bellwether for a new India.

Although it is not yet clear how serious the complaints are, what is surprising is that the disclosure and a statement from the company came only some time after the whistleblower's mail was first received on September 30. That raises more questions on the core issue of disclosure standards, especially for a company that has enjoyed a governance premium for the last couple of decades, something unique in the universe of listed Indian companies. This latest issue of corporate governance featuring a storied Indian firm comes at a time of economic downturn and unravelling of scams involving both promoters and senior managements in some other firms. That could lead to not just greater scrutiny of many corporate firms and value erosion but it could also potentially further undermine investor faith and trust with its impact on capital raising and investment. It is easy to revise corporate governance codes here too like in other jurisdictions and for policymakers and regulators to step in. But as long as large institutional shareholders are found wanting, and in the absence of any major outrage on the part of shareholders, it may be futile to expect insiders or the entrenched set to change.

The famed global investor, Warren Buffet, believes that the best way to get fat cat corporations to change is to embarrass them. He may be right. But as Murthy said in an interview to this paper earlier, it is the responsibility of the rich, powerful and the elite, including corporate leaders, to shore up hope and boost growth. Infosys and corporate India owe it to not just investors and other stakeholders, but also the broader economy.

TALL TASK AWAITS

In Maharashtra, new government needs to quickly get down to work on the stressed fiscal, farm and climate fronts

ONCE THE PULL and tug over power-sharing between the BJP and Shiv Sena subsides, the new government in Maharashtra would do well to take another look at the white paper presented to the state legislature in April 2015 on the health of the state's economy. Blaming the previous Congress-Nationalist Congress Party regime for leaving behind a legacy of alarming debts and deficits, the BJP-Sena government drew up a litany of fiscal sins that it went on to embrace itself, from rank populism to rising revenue expenditure. Revenue deficit, fiscal deficit and debt stock have all grown — to Rs 14,960 crore, Rs 56,053 crore and Rs 4,14,411 crore, respectively. Revenue expenditure in 2018-19 grew to Rs 3,01,460 crore against Rs 2,41,571 crore during 2017-18. Five years ago, the government inherited a debt of over Rs 3 lakh crore, which has grown by about a third in five years, making Maharashtra one of the country's most debt-stressed states. What has worked for the government is the growing GSDP, but it must return to its fiscal vows, broken on account of political exigencies, including increased capital expenditure, while curtailing off-budget borrowings and controlling revenue expenditure. Claims that Maharashtra is the top destination for investment have begun to appear hollow in the face of factory closures and poor job creation.

The other focus area will have to be agriculture and its allied issues of irrigation and climate-resilience in farming. Against a backdrop of promises to double farm incomes, the growth rate in agriculture is pegged at a miserable 0.4 per cent for 2018-19 and farmer suicides have peaked over the last five years. This calls for urgent attention to completing pending irrigation projects and drought-proofing chronically dry regions. A water grid for Marathwada and river-linking schemes have been drawn up, but these should be assessed on parameters of sustainability before they get off the ground. It is the less glamorous projects that need the chief minister's attention, including creation of value chains in agriculture and incentivising sustainable cropping. Amid questions on how effective the showpiece scheme, Jalyukt Shivar, has been, an exhaustive and honest audit of water conservation works will be welcome.

Maharashtra is one of the states where the gravity of climate concerns is clear and present — in August 2019, when Western Maharashtra experienced its worst ever floods that washed out hundreds of acres of standing crop, some regions continued to experience acute water scarcity from a long drought since the winter of 2018. Some climate policies were announced in the first term, including for electric vehicles, clean fuel and sustainable transport systems. The new government will do well to act on some old plans.

DON'T STOP THE PARTY

Release of high amounts of methane during Oktoberfest raises global warming concerns. Don't worry, there's a neat solution

IT WAS A conflict waiting to happen. The urgent action required against climate change may have a new target, one which has hardly ever been under fire. Oktoberfest, once a German folk festival, has become something of a global phenomenon. But over the last few years, the millions of gallons of beer, wine and meat consumed are raising eyebrows.

Researchers at the Technical University in Munich found that there is a massive increase of methane into the atmosphere in Munich during the festival, which concluded earlier this month. Methane accounts for about 20 per cent of global heating and is the second-most common greenhouse gas emitted after carbon dioxide. Tracking major sources of GHGs, and addressing the problem they represent, will require social and political initiative. But going after beer and bratwurst could present a conflict of interests, and tastes, for even the most committed environmentalist.

Luckily, a compromise is in the offing, one that fits in neatly with consumerism. The effervescence of beer and the carnivorous joy of a good sausage need not be abandoned, if other steps are taken. The bio-physical consequences of revelry contributed to only 10 per cent of the methane released during Oktoberfest. Poorly made-grills and cylinders, leading to methane leaks, share a larger part of the blame. So, it is likely that by next year, some smart technologies backed by smarter marketing will be selling "methane-free" sausage-cookers and beer-coolers. It's like buying an air purifier but continuing to drive a fuel-guzzling car in oh-so-polluted Delhi. Save the world, as long it's not too much trouble.

THE ABIDING DISGRACE of new India is that despite unprecedented quantities of wealth and the vulgar ostentation which has become customary in the gaudy glitter of city life, India is unable to overcome hunger and malnourishment. This is even more unconscionable when government warehouses are overflowing with stocks of rotting rice and wheat. The 2019 Global Hunger Index (GHI) report brings sombre tidings this year: India's poorer neighbours — Bangladesh, Nepal, and even Pakistan — have overtaken India in the battle against hunger.

Hunger is the failure to access the calories that are necessary to sustain an active and healthy life. It results in intense human suffering and indignity, as parents are forced to helplessly watch their children ache as they sleep hungry, as their brains and bodies are unable to grow to full potential, and, as they fall ill too often and are snatched away too early.

This is a colossal national dishonour for two reasons. One, this suffering is entirely preventable. Given appropriate public policies — sensitively designed, adequately resourced and effectively implemented — the country has both the wealth and the food stocks many times over to end hunger entirely. The relative success of our neighbours in combating hunger — Nepal emerging from 15 years of civil war and Pakistan still torn by internal conflict — is a sobering reminder of what India has not accomplished. Two, this failure does not spur public outrage and the introspection that it should.

The GHI report ranks India at a lowly 102 out of 117 countries listed. The GHI scores are based on four indicators — undernourishment (the share of population with insufficient calorie intake); child wasting (children with low weight for height, indicating acute undernutrition); child stunting (children with low height for age, reflecting chronic undernutrition); and child mortality (death rate of children under five).

Among all the countries included in the report, India has the highest rate of child wasting (which rose from the 2008-2012 level of 16.5 per cent to 20.8 per cent). Its child stunting rate (at 37.9 per cent) also remains shockingly high.

There is an urgent requirement for a legally enforceable right to healthcare, with universal and free out-patient and hospital-based care, free diagnostics and free medicines. All of this is not unknown. Yet, India continues to fail children born in impoverished households, to homeless people and single mothers, and to oppressed castes and social groups. Our economic policy continues to be trapped in an elite capture, dominated by measures that support big businesses to the exclusion of farmers and workers.

The report is instructive as it explains why Bangladesh and Nepal have surged ahead of a much wealthier India. The Bangladesh success story is attributed to pro-poor economic growth raising household incomes as well as significant improvements in "nutrition-sensitive" sectors like education, sanitation and health. Nepal, likewise, shows increased household wealth, maternal education, sanitation, health and nutrition programmes.

What must India do better to at least keep pace with its South Asian neighbours in tackling hunger? This is the question that Dipa Sinha, Parth Shirmali and I seek to answer in our essay in the latest 2018-19 India Exclusion Report of the Centre for Equity Studies.

We observe the cruel irony of the largest population of food-insecure people being food producers — farm workers, tenants, marginal and small farmers, fish workers and forest gatherers. To end hunger, food producers must be supported to receive adequate remuneration. We recommend sound measures to protect farmer incomes, including income transfers to farmers, minimum support-price guarantees and crop insurance, and a massive expansion of farm credit. For farm workers, a refocus on land reforms is called for, and, a greatly expanded and effectively managed rural employment guarantee programme with attention to land and watershed development, small irrigation and afforestation. There must also be an urgent and comprehensive shift to sustainable agricultural technologies less dependent on irrigation, chemical fertilisers and pesticides, to reverse our agri-ecological crisis.

The other large food-vulnerable population comprises informal workers. Hunger can't be combated without addressing the burgeoning job crisis. It also entails labour reforms which protect job security, fair work conditions and social security of all workers. We also argue that the time has come for an urban employment guarantee programme, to help build basic public services and infrastructure for the urban poor — especially slum and pavement residents, and the homeless. This should also include employment in the care economy, with services for child-care, children and adults with disability and older persons.

The Public Distribution System must be universalised (excluding income tax payees), and should distribute not just cereals but also pulses and edible oils. Further, we need to reimagine it as a decentralised system where a variety of crops are procured and distributed locally. Both pre-school feeding and school meals need adequate budgets, and the meals should be supplemented with nutrient-rich foods such as dairy products, eggs and fruits. Social protection also entails universal pension for persons not covered by formal schemes, universal maternity entitlements to enable all women in informal work to rest and breast-feed their children, a vastly expanded creche scheme, and residential schools for homeless children and child workers.

Malnourishment results not just from inadequate food intakes, but also because food is not absorbed due to frequent infections caused by bad drinking water, poor sanitation and lack of healthcare. India's nutrition failures are also because of persisting gaps in securing potable water to all citizens, and continued open defecation despite optimistic official reporting. There is an urgent requirement for a legally enforceable right to healthcare, with universal and free out-patient and hospital-based care, free diagnostics and free medicines.

All of this is not unknown. Yet, India continues to fail children born in impoverished households, to homeless people and single mothers, and to oppressed castes and social groups. Our economic policy continues to be trapped in an elite capture, dominated by measures that support big businesses to the exclusion of farmers and workers. Social rights are broken and betrayed.

At its core, the reason for India's continuing failures to end hunger and malnutrition of its millions is the indifference of people who have never known the agony of involuntary hunger. This is ultimately the result of our enormous cultural comfort with inequality, our gravest and most culpable civilisational flaw.

The writer is a human rights worker and writer



SHINY VARGHESE

AN OPAQUE PLAN

Delhi's Central Vista redevelopment project needs transparency and accountability

AT THE pre-bid meeting of September 12, of the nearly 17 firms that signed a petition to ask for an open competition, one firm did not want to add its name. That firm, HCP Design Planning and Management, has now won the bid for project consultancy to redevelop Parliament, the Central Secretariat and Central Vista.

More than three years ago when its director, Bimal Patel, wrote in this publication about the need for a new Parliament "to make a clean break, untether ourselves from the past and more fully embrace the future", little did anyone imagine that the same firm would win the redevelopment project.

The firm was always seen as a strong contender, long before the bids were even called, given their past design histories in Gujarat — the Central Vista in Gandhinagar and the Sabarmati Riverfront Development. While Urban Development Minister Hardeep Singh Puri would not divulge the overall cost of the project at the press conference last week, approximate calculations suggest it would be around Rs 25,000 crore, given the consultancy fee was marked at Rs 448 crore. If that's public money that will be spent, how much should people know about the project? The lack of transparency was evident when neither CPWD officials nor Puri would testify to sharing the design details of the shortlisted entries or provide the names of the jury members. The question then, is: Was there any winning design at all? Also, that the grandiose plans to revamp one of the world's most famous vistas lacked even a proper design brief, should worry everyone.

The word 'compete' comes from two Latin words: 'Com' which means together and 'petere' which means to seek or strive. History tells us that competitions were sacred to the Greeks, who rewarded struggle for the pursuit of perfection. In India, we shy away from competition because mediocrity is celebrated as a virtue. Here, architecture is moving away from becoming an inclusive exercise to being an exclusive space with security-laced entry.

Regarding the state of the profession, the fact that political patronage appears to be the only way to get projects also means we can comfortably do away with open competitions that is actually the best way to honour innovation and art. For instance, the world would be poorer without some of the best Sophoclean tragedies — like *Oedipus Rex*, a competition entry, or even the brave Pompidou Centre in Paris, which allowed two unknown architects (Richard Rogers and Renzo Piano) to gain international currency. The word "compete" comes from two Latin words: "Com" which means together and "petere" which means to seek or strive. History tells us that competitions were sacred to the Greeks, who rewarded struggle for the pursuit of perfection. In India, we shy away from competition because mediocrity is celebrated as a virtue. Here, architecture is moving away from becoming an inclusive exercise to being an exclusive space with security-laced entry.

Rhetoric comes free though. The buildings of the redeveloped Central Vista were given life-span extensions, which increased from 150 years to 250 within the hour-long press conference by Puri. For this, they will need to work with a material other than concrete, which only has a longevity of approximately 70 years.

When architecture is seen as a product, it is our cities that take the hit. Examples of these are the East Kidwai Nagar redevelopment project, or the upcoming exhibition-cum-convention centre at Pragati Maidan in

Delhi. Ideas of beauty, humanity and design vision blur as shock-and-awe architecture takes over the landscape. Austrian architect-writer Bernard Rudofsky's book, *Architecture Without Architects*, critiques the idea of pedigree architecture common in Western history. The latter, by considering only the "full pageant of 'formal' architecture", tends to deride 50 centuries of the art of building.

One can't fault leaders for vaulted ambition. That's what humans have defined as development since millennia — this time, this year is no different.

An Amsterdam-based architecture firm, XML had researched the architecture of "spaces of political congregation", and released a book called *Parliament in 2010*. Having documented and compared the plenary halls of the parliaments of 193 United Nations member states, they establish five design types — circle, classroom, horseshoe, opposing benches and semi-circle.

It was telling of how the architecture shapes politics. For instance, the semi-circle layout may indicate a "consensus-seeking" leadership, while authoritarian countries have adopted the classroom plan where the leader speaks and the others listen. Case in point: Cuba, China and North Korea. There were only 11 countries that adopted the circle, as a "representation of democratic equality". It would be interesting to see what the layout plans are for the new Parliament building in Delhi.

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OCTOBER 29, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

INFLUX IN ASSAM THE PROBLEM OF unabated influx of foreign nationals, mainly Bangladeshis, and the inadvertent inclusion of large number of them in the draft electoral rolls, once again promises to become a major election issue in Assam. It may even lead to a fresh ministerial crisis in the state. The agitation against the aliens seems to be gathering momentum. The feelings on the issue run so high that while 1,200 enumerators revolted and refused to submit the records, the North-Eastern Federation of Master Printers declined to print the electoral rolls till the names of all "foreigners" were deleted. This compelled the state election department to "publish" cyclostyled and hand-written draft rolls.

ALLIANCE POSSIBLE PRIME MINISTER CHARAN Singh said there was enough ground for the Lok Dal, the Congress and the communists "to work together" despite differences and called for an agreement on some minimal practical programme. He said "with all the differences, there is enough ground for the Lok Dal, the Congress party and the communists to work together not for a share in power but for some common objectives of ending mass poverty and mass unemployment, and abolishing the concentration of economic and political power." In a press statement Singh said, "There are bound to be issues among us, there are bound to be differences, let these differences be discussed in public and de-

bated again and again, without the debate degenerating into pejorative language".

KISANS CLASH AS THE KHARIF crops go to ruin, clashes have begun among the kisans in the drought-hit villages of Bihar over the limited irrigation resources. The hour-long shoot-out between the kisans of Tajpur and Bajitpur villages in Patna district, which ended with one death on each side last Wednesday, has brought to light the water problem in rural Bihar. There is only one government tubewell there but the kisans of Tajpur, who are rich and powerful, decreed that water would not pass into the channels of Bajitpur kisans who are mostly poor.

Prince and the PM

Prince Mohammad bin Salman's reform-driven Saudi Arabia offers India room to strengthen bilateral ties



RAJA MANDALA
BY C RAJA MOHAN

THE FIRST order of business for Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Saudi Arabia this week is business. But the PM should also be interested in the wide-ranging social and religious reform initiated by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman over the last few years. Saudi Arabia's economic transformation envisaged by Prince Mohammed, also known by his initials Mbs, opens up huge new opportunities for India's economic cooperation with the kingdom that has been limited for far too long to the import of oil and export of manpower.

Even more consequential over the long term is Prince Mohammed's ambitious agenda to modernise the Saudi society that has come under the domination of religious conservatism since 1979, when Islamic radicals came close to destabilising the kingdom.

Given the deep interconnections between the Gulf and the Subcontinent, the drift towards conservatism in the Arabian peninsula has had multiple negative effects on India and its neighbours, especially in altering the balance between religion, politics and the state.

The reform of the Saudi society, at the very heart of the Islamic world, will hopefully help to reverse some of these negative effects. Western liberals are dismissing the Mbs agenda as cosmetic while some religious conservatives in the Middle East are denouncing it as radical. Meanwhile, the regional rivals of Saudi Arabia, especially Turkey and Iran, are mounting relentless pressures against Mbs.

India, however, has a huge stake in the successful economic and social modernisation of Saudi Arabia. For a modern and moderate Arabia will reinforce similar trends in the Subcontinent. Prime Minister Modi has every reason, then, to extend strong political support to Prince Mohammed's reform agenda during his visit to Saudi Arabia.

Modi will be joining Brazil's president, Jair Bolsonaro, President Donald Trump's senior adviser and son-in-law, Jared Kushner and many other leading international figures at the annual international forum popularly known as "Davos in the Desert".

The forum, formally called the Future Investment Initiative, seeks to elevate Saudi Arabia's international economic engagement and was launched in 2017. It is part of Prince Mohammed's efforts to rapidly transform Saudi economy under the "Vision 2030" that he unveiled in 2016.

The ambition of Mbs is to diversify the Saudi economy from its historical reliance on the oil business and develop manufacturing and service sectors through liberalisation at home, and deeper integration with the world. It is founded on a tripod — the kingdom's special status in the Arab and Islamic worlds, its strategic location at the juncture of Africa, Europe and Asia, and its expansive investment capability. The objective is to generate significant and sustainable benefits for the young and rapidly growing Saudi population.

The last few years have seen some important initiatives, including the attempt to



C R Sasikumar

turn Saudi Aramco, the national oil producing company, into a global conglomerate. Other reforms include easing the restrictions on foreign direct investment, promoting tourism and the entertainment industry, development of the debt market, a bankruptcy law, introduction of VAT to enhance non-oil revenue generation, cuts in water and power subsidies, cash handouts to the needy, and a massive anti-corruption campaign.

The World Bank, in its latest report on the ease of doing business, offered praise for Saudi Arabia's economic reforms and named the kingdom one of the top ten "global business climate improvers" in 2019. Saudi Arabia is now ranked 62 in the global rankings, just above India.

An important element of Vision 2030 is the idea of strategic partnerships with select countries like the US, China, Japan, India, South Korea, Germany, France and the UK. The Mbs impact on Saudi Arabia's international policies is already evident in the growing Saudi interest to deploy massive capital into India. Aramco's decision to take a large stake in the oil business of Reliance could be the beginning of a new economic era in bilateral relations if Delhi can create the conditions for rapid growth in Saudi investments in India.

Even more interesting, from the South Asian perspective, is Prince Mohammed's commitment to strengthen the moderate trends in Islam. At the first round of the FII summit in 2017, Mbs declared that, "We are returning to what we were before — a country of moderate Islam that is open to all religions, traditions and people around the globe". The crown prince further added that, "We want to live a normal life. A life in which our religion translates to tolerance, to our

traditions of kindness".

Some of the social reforms implemented in the last three years include limiting the power of the religious police in public places, granting more rights to women, lifting the 35-year-old ban on cinema halls, letting restaurants play music and permitting large music concerts.

India, however, has a huge stake in the successful economic and social modernisation of Saudi Arabia. For a modern and moderate Arabia will reinforce similar trends in the Subcontinent. Prime Minister Modi has every reason, then, to extend strong political support to Prince Mohammed's reform agenda during his visit to Saudi Arabia. Modi will be joining Brazil's president, Jair Bolsonaro, President Trump's senior adviser and son-in-law, Jared Kushner and many other leading international figures at the annual international forum popularly known as 'Davos in the Desert'.



SURANJALI TANDON

Taxing new spaces

The OECD's draft report on digital taxation is a complicated compromise

THE PROLIFERATION OF technology has challenged the conventional notions of economic activity. This is now a serious challenge for policy, particularly for taxation. The challenges of taxing digital companies are twofold. First, the existing laws tax business profits based on its physical presence in a country.

Such a pre-condition, conceived in 1920s, is dated since digital businesses no longer have to be physically present to operate in and interact with an economy. Second, these platforms use hard to value intangibles. They are often registered in low tax jurisdictions which further frustrate the efforts to appropriately tax digital companies.

In the early versions of the Base Erosion and Profit Sharing (BEPS) report on the issue, the Task Force on Digital Economy at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) mentioned three measures — an equalisation levy, withholding taxes and a new nexus rule. The first two are taxes on the gross turnover whereas the new nexus rule was to modify the taxable nexus beyond the physical presence in a country. While in principle it was agreed that data and user participation are critical for a platform, no consensus emerged on their economic contribution. Disparate views derailed the talk of a uniform solution while the OECD continued to work on value-creation by various business models. Revenue authorities around the world grew anxious since

large tech companies were paying very low effective tax rates.

In 2016, India was the first to apply an equalisation levy. The levy was introduced outside the scope of the Income Tax Act and is applicable to a small set of companies operating in digital advertising. Globally too, there have been efforts to move past the OECD's call for consensus and to apply unilateral measures. For example, France and Hungary have implemented digital taxes, while Belgium, Italy, UK and Spain have proposed similar taxes. These would apply to a wide range of digital services. The potential ramifications of these taxes could be over-taxation or a pass through of costs to consumers. While it remains to be seen how tenable these are under the EU's state aid or WTO rules, such measures can give market jurisdictions greater power to tax.

Then in 2018, India proposed its long term solution to the problem — test for significant economic presence. The amendment, broadly similar to EU's proposal, was based firmly on the understanding that if a digital platform reported sales from a country or had significant number of users it should be considered as having taxable presence in that jurisdiction. Though it is a stride in the direction of reform, it is far from final. First, for the law to be applicable, treaties would have to be suitably amended. Second, the more fundamental issue of what size of operations would qualify as economic pres-

ence needs to be answered. Third, even if a business qualifies as having economic presence in India, how much of its profits should be taxable in India.

At the heart of the discussion is a more fundamental political issue of the redistribution of taxing rights.

An example of this tension is the US President Donald Trump's response to the French digital tax applicable to big tech companies that are predominantly residents of the US. Although, the agenda of taxing rights was strictly off the table, revisiting the age-old question of economic allegiance of a business made it impossible to ignore the elephant in the room. The OECD finally came around in 2019 when it published a policy note wherein its work plan was split into two pillars. Pillar one would examine the allocation of taxing rights whereas all anti-avoidance measures would be considered under the second pillar.

India has been extremely instrumental in driving this conversation. This is visible in the Programme of Work published in May 2019 which incorporates India's key proposals — significant economic presence and fractional apportionment, and among others the Modified Residual Profit Split, supported by the US, and the distribution approach. In an effort to garner consensus, the OECD released its draft for a unified approach earlier this month. While the report stresses on simplicity, it is far from it. The three proposals in the earlier draft have been tied together to

present a complicated compromise. Proposed therein is splitting up of global profits of a corporation into routine and non-routine. Then a fraction of non-routine profits would be allocated to the qualifying market jurisdictions and if there is any dispute arising from such taxation it would be resolved through mandatory or binding dispute resolution.

This would require serious effort and harder consensus on issues such as what constitutes routine profit. Seemingly, the promise of an overhaul is over-sold, especially since carve-outs are anticipated for sectors such as mining and financial services. A unified approach backing the new nexus rule is only a partial win for India. The reliance placed on conventional transfer pricing could make taxation of digital companies more messy. India is in a unique position as it offers a wide user-base and thus a large market for digital companies. The idea of consensus, though critical for international relations, must also be evaluated in light of the misalignment of economic interests between developing and developed countries. A good tax system is often evaluated along the axes of certainty, simplicity and neutrality. The suggested measures in some ways undermine these principles. A possible alternative may perhaps be to switch to a simpler withholding tax architecture.

The writer is assistant professor, NIPFP

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

Amritsar (Jallianwala Bagh) remains to this day the most potent embodiment of the violence on which British rule partly rested for nearly two centuries.

— THE GUARDIAN

Abandoning Gandhi

The idea of Truth, the reality of it, has been the biggest victim of our times



SHASHI DESHPANDE

HAVE WE forgotten Gandhi? In this year, when we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of his birth, the answer has to be a resounding "No!" The spate of articles on him, the debates, discussions, lectures, the books that continue to be published on him — all these make this abundantly clear. Even otherwise, Gandhi was always very much among us. We live in an age of documentation, and all school children know about his fight for India's freedom, his twin weapons of Ahimsa and Satyagraha. There are, besides, millions of images and pictures. Gandhi has always lent himself easily to the artist; a few lines can provide a beautiful minimalist picture, often enhanced by a tuneful, soulful Vaishnava Jana To playing in the background.

Unfortunately, in time, even this picture becomes a cliché, and stories harden into legends, they become banal and tired. If we want to get to the real man, we need to get to his story as he told it: *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*.

It is a dramatic story, even in his own plain, unexaggerated words. From being a shy young man from Kathiawad to becoming a barrister in London, from going to Africa to earn some badly needed money for the family and becoming, overnight, another man who knitted together a whole community, from being a man who came to India looking up to giants like Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Gopal Krishna Gokhale and, in the course of a visit to Bihar, because of an importunate poor farmer, discovering the weapon of civil disobedience with which to fight the British and awaken a whole country — it is a roller coaster ride like none other. As if these were not enough, he branched off into matters like a vegetarian diet, sanitation (he and his team were always there to clean the latrines), brahmacharya, the swadeshi and khadi movement.

What does one make of a man who dabbled in such disparate matters? Not so disparate to him, because for him all these elements were linked to his obsession with the Truth. His deep interest in them was part of his search for the truth.

To describe the truth as it has appeared and in the exact manner in which I have arrived at it has been a ceaseless activity.

Indeed, it was a ceaseless activity. The word Truth resounds throughout the book. Over and over again, he questions himself, asks if he has strayed from the Truth. To

read about the incident when he left his dying father to go to his wife because of what he bluntly calls his lust is to wonder where he got the courage to be so honest. For this was the early 20th century, when India was still caught in the grip of Victorian morality and prudery. The story of his giving in to his doctor and agreeing to drink goat's milk is equally fascinating. Why did I agree, he asks himself. Did not my vow include all milk? What sophistry made me separate goat's milk from the other kinds of milk? He was more scrupulous about keeping the vows he made to his mother (no meat, no wine, no women), observing them in the spirit, not the letter. When he realised he had kept back the fact that he was married from an English woman who had befriended him, he wrote to her, confessed the truth and apologised. Endless self-questioning, endless weighing himself on some unseen moral scales, and finally admitting he was wrong if he thought he was wrong.

A devotee of truth must always hold himself open to correction and whenever he discovers himself to be wrong he must confess and atone for it.

If this is the real Gandhi, the man who believed in admitting to one's own fault and then atoning for it, we lost Gandhi long back. I doubt whether, even then, in the heyday of Gandhism, there were many who implicitly followed all of Gandhi's teachings.

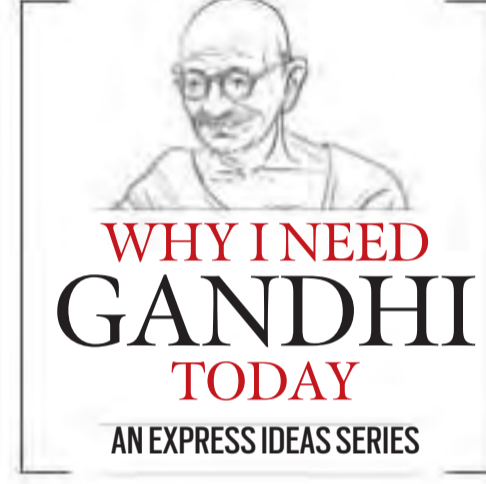
There was often impatience even among his co-workers at Gandhi's mixing up of the big issues with small ones. But nothing was small to Gandhi if it was about truth. According to Gandhi, Truth, Ahimsa and God are the same.

This idea of Truth, the reality of it, has been the biggest victim of our

times. Not only do we no longer care about Truth, we will not be able to recognise it even when it appears before us. Lies have become the common currency of public life, there is a mass culture of denial and refusal to take responsibility for one's words. By this one standard alone, we have failed miserably, we have abandoned Gandhi. Perhaps it requires a Gandhi to have the courage of absolute honesty. In fact, this is the time of liars, of lies which prompt a person to say, *I never said that, or, I never did that, or, I was misquoted misrepresented, quoted out of context.*

This is a time when rapists walk with a proud swagger, men and women who cheat and loot the country brazen it out, a person in power is arrogance personified and hypocrisy is rampant. How, then, do we dare to say that Gandhi lives among us? We have had our chance. Perhaps there is a tiny chance that we will look for the Gandhi in ourselves. That, indeed, would be a greater miracle than the miracle of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.

The writer is a novelist, whose most recent book is *Shadow Play*



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ACT NOW

THIS REFERS TO article 'National dishonour' (IE, October 28). The writer has cogently brought out the reasons as well as remedies to address the chronic malnutrition menace. The government needs to deal with the issue on a war footing through — convergence of fragmented schemes, behavioural change of not wasting food from schools and evidence-based action, especially targeting poor forest dwellers inhabiting remote areas.

Tushar Chaudhary, Meerut

PEACE CORRIDOR

THIS REFERS TO editorial, 'Kartarpur milestone' (IE, October 26). The foundation stone-laying ceremony of the Kartarpur corridor did get marred by controversies between the Congress and SAD. However, petty politics apart, the consent of India and Pakistan to build the corridor and sign the agreement may yet ensure that peace prevails between the two neighbours. The corridor holds great potential for bringing both sides to the talking table and thawing frozen relations.

Mona Singh, Amritsar

SECULAR SPACE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Breathing space for secularists' (IE, October 28). The morality of their profession demands that "journalists" do not include their ideological inclinations in their opinions. This is exactly what this journalist has done in this article. The irony of this article is this: The BJP is pronounced guilty of being non-secular, but not a word is uttered on the morality of caste or religion-based politics, or voting by substantial sections of the population along these lines. If the journalist feels so strongly about a political issue, she should join politics.

H N Bhagwat, Chiplun

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to

editpage@expressindia.com or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301.

the BJP on nationalism and Hindutva instead. Interestingly, by forcing the BJP into a coalition with ambitious regional outfits, the intelligent Indian voter has also constructed a natural check within the ruling dispensation.

S B Bhalerao, Mumbai

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Breathing space for secularists' (IE, October 28). The morality of their profession demands that "journalists" do not include their ideological inclinations in their opinions. This is exactly what this journalist has done in this article. The irony of this article is this: The BJP is pronounced guilty of being non-secular, but not a word is uttered on the morality of caste or religion-based politics, or voting by substantial sections of the population along these lines. If the journalist feels so strongly about a political issue, she should join politics.

H N Bhagwat, Chiplun

TELLING NUMBERS

Role of mountain streams in the carbon cycle, newly assessed

MOUNTAINS COVER 25 per cent of the Earth's surface, and the streams draining these mountains account for more than a third of the global runoff. What had not yet been evaluated, however, is the role mountain streams play in global carbon fluxes (the carbon exchanged between various carbon pools on Earth). So far, scientists had focused mainly on streams and rivers in low-altitude tropical and boreal regions.

Now, scientists have reported the findings of the first large-scale study of the carbon dioxide emissions of mountain streams, and their role in global carbon fluxes. They described their finding as unexpected — mountain streams have a higher average carbon dioxide emission rate per square metre than streams at lower altitudes, due in part to the additional turbulence caused as water flows down slopes.

5%: The proportion that mountain streams account for in the global surface area of fluvial networks.

10%-30%: The likely share of mountain streams in carbon dioxide emissions from all fluvial networks.

The findings appear to indicate that the carbon dioxide comes from geological sources, said the Switzerland-based research institute École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), whose PhD student Asa Horgby led the international study, which has been published in the journal *Nature Communications*.

In a statement on the research, EPFL said the result shows how important it is to include mountain streams in assessments of the global carbon cycle.

The scientists collected big environmental data from the streams draining the world's main mountain ranges. Then they used these big data to develop a model to estimate the natural carbon dioxide emissions from more than 1.8 million mountain streams worldwide, the EPL statement said.

THIS WORD MEANS

NELLOPTODES GRETAE

A species of beetle has been named after Greta Thunberg. Where is it from, what are its features?

BETWEEN 1964 and 1965, entomologist William Brock collected samples of soil from around east Africa. Inside one of these samples, taken in Kenya and stored in the British Natural History Museum until now, was a tiny species of beetle, pale yellow and gold. Measuring just 0.79 millimetres, the beetle has no eyes or wings, and a small pit between where the eyes should have been.



Nelloptodes gretae, finally named. Natural History Museum

The species has just got a name. Natural History Museum scientific associate Michael Darby, who is quoted on the Museum website as saying he is a great fan of Greta Thunberg, has described the species and named it *Nelloptodes gretae*, after the teenage climate activist.

Biological names comprise two words, one for the genus; the other for the species. Traditionally, it is the species name that scientists coin to honour a prominent personality, friend, or relative. While the species name *gretae* derives from Greta, the genus *Nelloptodes* too is new, the Museum said.

TIP FOR READING LIST

HISTORY OF ATTITUDES TO MENOPAUSE

THE TERM menopause was coined in 1821 by French physician Charles-Pierre-Louis de Gardanne. Menopause was then viewed as a medical problem.

In its review of the book, the *Financial Times* noted Mattern's "empowering" message: "We become non-reproductive so that we can do other things."

In *The Slow Moon Climbs: The Science, History, and Meaning of Menopause*, historian Susan Mattern traces the evolution of perceptions of menopause. "Menopause only became a subject of medical interest in Europe in the eighteenth century, and its place in modern medicine rests on that recent foundation. For most of human history, people have seen menopause for what... it really is: a developmental transition to an important stage of life; not a problem, but a solution."

"Because of a life cycle and reproductive strategy that included menopause, human populations could explode across a landscape in favourable circumstances, but also limit the number of dependent children competing for resources and maximise the number of adult providers to young consumers. Menopause is part and parcel of an extraordinary ability to cooperate that has been critical to humans' success in the past and seems likely to be critical to our future..." Mattern writes.



SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Naga talks: long road, issues

The deadline for wrapping up peace talks arrives this week, yet some key issues remain to be resolved. A primer on the long history of the Naga struggle, the territorial demand, and the role of NSCN(I-M)

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, OCTOBER 28

THE DEADLINE set by the Centre for wrapping up the Naga peace talks, October 31, arrives this week. While the Centre's interlocutor and now Nagaland's Governor, R N Ravi, has stressed that the government intends to meet the deadline, some key issues remain unresolved with the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (Isak-Muivah), or NSCN(I-M).

What are the Naga peace talks?

The talks seek to settle disputes that date back to colonial rule. The Nagas are not a single tribe, but an ethnic community that comprises several tribes who live in the state of Nagaland and its neighbourhood. One key demand of Naga groups has been a Greater Nagalim that would cover not only the state of Nagaland but parts of neighbouring states, and even of Myanmar.

The British had annexed Assam in 1826, in which they subsequently created the Naga Hills district and went on to extend its boundaries. The assertion of Naga nationalism, which began during British rule, has continued after Independence, and even after Nagaland became a state. Along the way, the unresolved issues gave rise to decades of insurgency that claimed thousands of lives, including of civilians.

How has the Naga assertion played out historically?

The earliest sign of Naga resistance dates back to 1918, with the formation of the Naga Club. In 1929, the Club famously told the Simon Commission "to leave us alone to determine for ourselves as in ancient times".

In 1946, A Z Phizo formed the Naga National Council (NNC), which declared Naga independence on August 14, 1947, and then, in 1951, claimed to have conducted a referendum in which an overwhelming majority supported an independent Naga state.

By the early 1950s, the NNC had taken up arms and gone underground. The NNC split in 1975, the breakaway group being the NSCN, which split further in later years, most prominently into the NSCN(I-M) and NSCN (Khaplang) in 1988.

And how have the peace talks played out in recent years?

Before the ongoing talks, which followed a framework agreement in 2015, there were



NSCN(I-M) leaders Isak Chishi Swu (now deceased) and Thuingaleng Muivah at a reception in New Delhi in January 2011. Express Archive

two other agreements between Naga groups and the Centre.

1975: A peace accord was signed in Shillong in which the NNC leadership agreed to give up arms. Several NNC leaders, including Isak Chishi Swu, Thuingaleng Muivah and S S Khaplang refused to accept the agreement and broke away to form the NSCN. In 1988 came another split, with Khaplang breaking away to form the NSCN(K) while Isak and Muivah headed the NSCN(I-M).

1997: The NSCN(I-M) signed a ceasefire agreement with the government in 1997, preceded by rounds of talks since 1995. The key agreement was that there would be no counter-insurgency offensive against the NSCN(I-M), who in turn would not attack Indian forces. The NSCN(I-M) had then announced to "every citizen of Nagalim wherever they may be", that a ceasefire agreement was entered into between the Government of India and the outfit "to bring about a lasting political solution to the long drawn out Indo-Naga issue".

2015: In August that year, the Centre signed a framework agreement with the NSCN(I-M). Prime Minister Narendra Modi described it as a "historic agreement" towards settling the "oldest insurgency" in India. This set the stage for the ongoing peace talks. In 2017, six other Naga armed outfits under the banner of the Naga National Political Groups (NNPGs) joined the talks. Today, Muivah remains the senior-most

Naga rebel leader. Isak died in 2016. In the NSCN(-K), its leader Khaplang died in 2018.

What was in the framework agreement?

The government has not yet spelt out the details in public. Following the agreement, the government had said in a press statement: "The Government of India recognised the unique history, culture and position of the Nagas and their sentiments and aspirations. The NSCN understood and appreciated the Indian political system and governance."

On the other hand, the NSCN(I-M) issued a statement earlier this year that said, "Nagalim State does and will not represent the national decision of the Naga people." The statement was in opposition to the proposal for a Register of Indigenous Inhabitants of Nagaland (RIIN) in the state of Nagaland.

Where does the territorial demand currently stand?

In 2018, *The Indian Express* reported that official sources had said that the accord being finalised "does not change the boundary of states; provides autonomous Naga territorial councils for Arunachal and Manipur; a common cultural body for Nagas across states; specific institutions for state's development, integration and rehabilitation of non-state Naga militia and the removal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act".

The map of Greater Nagalim in the NSCN(IM) vision, on the other hand, covers

a 1,20,000 sq km sprawl across the Northeast and Myanmar — the area of Nagaland state itself is only 16,527 sq km, a fraction of this vision. Amid the anxiety this has caused among citizens in neighbouring states, state governments have assured them that their respective states' territorial integrity would not be compromised.

Before the framework agreement, the Nagaland Assembly itself had endorsed the demand for "integration of all Naga-inhabited areas" as many as five times — in December 1964, August 1970, September 1994, December 2003 and on July 27, 2015.

What are the other issues?

The government and the NSCN(I-M) have failed to agree on issues relating to a separate Naga flag and a constitution. In its latest statement, the NSCN(I-M) has said it will not budge from the demand for the flag and the constitution — and that it is looking for a lasting solution.

Earlier this month, a statement from Governor Ravi's office said the government is determined to "honourably conclude" the Naga peace talks and it has reached a conclusion stage. But it noted: "Unfortunately at this auspicious juncture, the NSCN(I-M) has adopted a procrastinating attitude to delay the settlement raising the contentious symbolic issues of separate Naga national flag and constitution on which they are fully aware of the Government of India's position. They have mischievously dragged in the Framework Agreement and began imputing imaginary contents to it."

Ravi, 67, is a retired IPS officer who served in the Intelligence Bureau, including in the Northeast. He was appointed the Centre's interlocutor for the Naga peace talks in August 2014, and facilitated the signing of the framework agreement a year later.

Where could the disagreement lead to?

The statement from the Governor's office has given rise to speculation that the government is ready to sign a final peace agreement with other groups without the NSCN(I-M), the largest group, and with which the talks had begun in the first place. Civil society groups in Nagaland are divided in their opinion. Some have said the talks should be wrapped up with whatever is offered now and keep other issues open for later negotiations; others believe all issues should be settled and the NSCN(I-M) should be on board, even if it takes longer than the deadline.

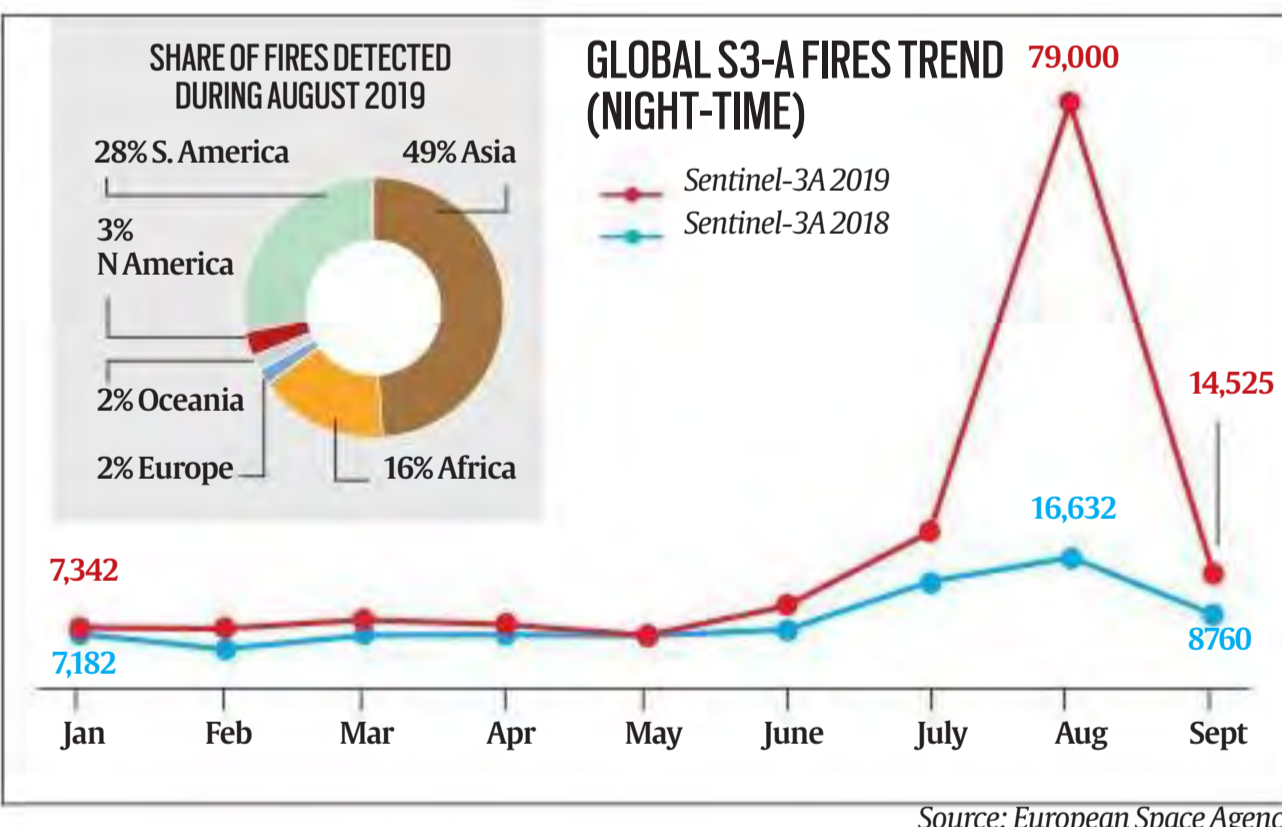
Fires peaked in August, half were in Asia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

COMPARED TO August 2018, there were almost five times as many wildfires across the world in August 2019, the European Space Agency (ESA) has announced citing data from its Sentinel-3 World Fire Atlas. August and September 2019 were also the months during which fires in the Amazon rainforest were at the centre of worldwide attention. A detailed analysis of the August 2019 fires, however, shows that it was Asia that accounted for nearly half of these fires, the ESA said.

"Fires in the Amazon sparked a global outcry this summer, but fires have also been blazing in the Arctic, France, Greece, Indonesia as well as many other areas in the world," the ESA said.

PEAK & DISTRIBUTION: The ESA's Copernicus Sentinel-3 mission recorded 79,000 fires in August this year, compared to just over 16,000 fires detected during the same period last year. These figures were achieved



by using data from the Sentinel-3 World Fire Atlas Prototype, which also provided a breakdown of these fires per continent.

The data revealed that 49% of the fires were detected in Asia, around 28% were de-

tected in South America, 16% in Africa, and the remaining were recorded in North America, Europe and Oceania.

HOW THEY ARE MAPPED: The Sentinel-

3 World Fire Atlas uses a method that enables it to identify all active fires at night. The sensors on satellites measure thermal infrared radiation to take the temperature of Earth's land surfaces. This information is used to detect and monitor the heat emitted by the fires.

The Sentinel-3 World Fire Atlas uses the satellite data to plot the number of fires occurring monthly. It cannot pick up all fires due to satellite overpass constraints and cloud coverage. The ESA noted, however, that it is statistically representative from one month to the other and from one year to the other.

"We have never seen an increase of wildfires of this kind since the ATSR World Fire Atlas was created in 1995," the ESA's Olivier Arino said in the statement.

Quantifying and monitoring fires is important for the study of climate because, as the ESA pointed out, fires have a significant impact on global atmospheric emissions, with biomass burning contributing to the global budgets of greenhouse gases, like carbon dioxide.

GS SCORE
An Institute for Civil Services
www.iasscore.in

The rules for global post, and how Pak stopped mail to and from India

DIVYA GOYAL
LUDHIANA, OCTOBER 28

IN A unilateral decision, Pakistan has stopped exchange of postal mails with India since August 27 (*The Indian Express*, September 28). Communications Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has said Pakistan's decision was taken "without any prior notice" and "in direct contravention of international norms but Pakistan is Pakistan". A look at the rules governing postal exchange, and how Pakistan took the step:

Who regulates postal exchange between one country and another?

The United Nations' Universal Postal Union (UPU) frames rules for international mail exchange, and fixes rates for international postal services. The UPU has 192 member-countries and is headquartered in Bern. Constituted in 1874, the UPU has four units: the Congress, the Council of

Administration, the International Bureau, and the Postal Operations Council. It regulates 6.40 lakh postal outlets worldwide. India joined the UPU on July 1, 1876 and Pakistan on November 10, 1947.

What has mail exchange between India and Pakistan been like?

Before Pakistan's move, mailbags were being exchanged almost daily. With no regular, direct flights between the two countries, mail was being routed through the Saudi Arabia. In India, all international post is handled through the 28 Foreign Post Offices, with those in Delhi and Mumbai designated to handle mail for Pakistan.

"The mailbags of both countries were exchanged at airports after a Customs check," a senior India Post official said.

Other than the UPU, three agreements cover postal exchange between India and Pakistan — Exchange of Value Payable Article, 1948; Exchange of Postal Article, 1974; and International Speed Post Agreement, 1987.

Can one UPU member-country unilaterally stop postal exchange with another?

Under UPU rules, when a country decides to suspend exchange with a country, it must notify the operator of the other country (in India's case, India Post) and, if possible, the duration for which services are being stopped. The UPU's International Bureau too has to be notified.

The International Bureau issued a Convention Manual in 2018, whose Articles 17-143 detail "Steps to be Taken in Event of Temporary Suspension and Resumption of Services".

"If services are temporarily suspended, the designated operator or designated operators concerned must be notified of the fact by telecommunications, indicating, if possible, the probable duration of the suspension of services. The same procedure shall be ap-

plied when the suspended services are resumed," the Manual reads. It adds, "The International Bureau must be notified of the suspension or resumption of services if a general announcement is considered necessary. If necessary, the International Bureau shall notify designated operators by telecommunications. The designated operator of origin shall have the option of refunding the postage charges, special charges and air surcharges to the sender if, owing to the suspension of services, the benefit accruing from conveyance of the item in question was obtained only in part or not at all."

According to the three bilateral agreements between India and Pakistan, too, a prior notice has to be served before suspending services, sources in India Post said.



So, did Pakistan skip the UPU protocol?

India was not given prior notice when

Pakistan suspended postal exchange, said Tanweer Qamar Mohammad, deputy director general, International Relations and Global Business, India Post. Even two months later, India is yet to receive a direct communication. Pakistan only handed over a copy of an internal order to airline operators, which handed them to Indian representatives, Qamar said.

"On August 23, the Customs and postal departments of Pakistan issued an internal order stopping postal exchange with India and handed its copy to airlines. They suddenly stopped picking up Pakistan-bound mailbags and asked us to take them back. Similarly India-bound mail was not given to us. Airlines handed copies of those orders to our representatives, given to them by the Pakistan side, following which the exchange stopped completely from August 27," Qamar said.

An India Post source added: "India is also unaware if Pakistan has notified the UPU about suspension of postal service with

India. Their internal orders do not specify any reason for the decision either. We haven't received any communication from the UPU either."

What is the current status of mail?

India Post, too, has now stopped taking new bookings for Pakistan-bound mail. "We do not have the space or logistics to take care of packets that become a responsibility," an official said. He said the department is waiting for directions from the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Communications on the next step to be taken.

From Pakistan, Ihsan H Nadiem, chief editor of the magazine *Punjab Dey Rang*, said he had mailed 70 copies to the Indian side. "All our copies were returned by the postal department here and also a note in Urdu was written on it saying that postal exchange with India has been stopped. They have also refunded our money. They aren't taking any bookings now."

13 THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD



He was 76 years old

BRITAIN

Prominent Soviet dissident Bukovsky dead

Moscow: Vladimir Bukovsky, a prominent Soviet-era dissident who became internationally known for exposing Soviet abuse of psychiatry, has died. He was 76. Bukovsky died of cardiac arrest on Sunday after a period of ill-health in Cambridge, England, where he had settled after being deported from the Soviet Union in 1976, according to the Bukovsky Centre volunteer organisation. Bukovsky spent a total of 12 years in Soviet prisons or psychiatric hospitals for his fierce criticism of the Communist government, becoming a symbol of Soviet persecution of dissent.

BURKINA FASO

15 killed as armed militants attack village

Ouagadougou: Gunmen killed 15 civilians in northern Burkina Faso over the weekend, security and local sources said Monday, in the latest deadly attack as the impoverished West African country battles jihadist revolt. "On Saturday night numerous armed individuals attacked the village of Pobe-Mengao and kidnapped several residents, ransacked shops and carried away equipment," a local source said. A security source said "the lifeless bodies of 11 people were found on Sunday morning... probably the bodies of those abducted the day before".

BRITAIN

Prince Charles to visit India next month

London: Britain's Prince Charles will visit India on November 13 and 14, his office said in a statement. The statement added that during his visit, he will discuss issues like climate change and sustainable finance. The visit by the heir-to-the-British throne to India will be his second trip in two years and 10th overall. "The Prince of Wales will visit India from November 13 to 14, as part of Their Royal Highnesses' Autumn tour, to celebrate British-Indian connections," Clarence House said in a statement. Charles is the longest-serving heir apparent in British history.

HOW ISLAMIC STATE CHIEF WAS TAKEN DOWN

Baghdadi's killing: Tip, raid, reveal

DEB RIECHMANN & AAMER MADHANI
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 28

THE HELICOPTERS flew low and fast into the night, ferrying US special forces to a compound where Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was hiding in Syria.

The raid was the culmination of years of steady intelligence-gathering work — and 48 hours of hurry-up planning once Washington got word that Baghdadi would be at a compound in northwestern Syria.

The night unfolded with methodical precision and unexpected turns. This reconstruction is based on the first-blush accounts of US President Donald Trump and other administration officials eager to share the details of how the US snared its top target, as well as observations from startled villagers who had no idea al-Baghdadi was in their midst.

Secret 2-day scramble

Events developed quickly once the White House learned on Thursday there was "a high probability" that Baghdadi would be at an Idlib province compound.

By Friday, Trump had military options on his desk.

There was no hint of the interior drama as Trump headed to Camp David on Friday night to celebrate the 10th wedding anniversary of daughter Ivanka and son-in-law Jared Kushner. Then he was off to Virginia on Saturday for a round at one of his golf courses.



In this photo provided by the White House, Trump is joined by top aides in the Situation Room of the White House to monitor the operation against Baghdadi. AP

Trump got back to the White House at 4.18 pm. By 5 pm, he was in the Situation Room to monitor the raid. They named it after Kayla Mueller, a humanitarian worker abused and killed by Baghdadi.

The stout, bearded militant leader wore a suicide vest and dragged along three children as he fled from the American troops.

"He reached the end of the tunnel, as our dogs chased him down," Trump said. "He ignited his vest, killing himself and the three children."

Panic, then death

Moments after the White House team had gathered, US helicopters took off from Al-Asad air base in western Iraq. Within hours, Baghdadi was dead.

The first inkling that something was afoot came when villagers saw helicopters swooping low on the horizon.

"We went out in the balcony to see and they started shooting, with automatic rifles. So we went inside and hid," said an unidentified villager. Next came a large explosion — Trump said soldiers blasted a hole in the side of a building because they feared the

entrance might have been booby-trapped. Baghdadi fled into a network of underground tunnels that snaked through the compound.

The stout, bearded militant leader wore a suicide vest and dragged along three children as he fled from the American troops.

"He reached the end of the tunnel, as our dogs chased him down," Trump said. "He ignited his vest, killing himself and the three children."

'It was him'

Baghdadi's body was mutilated in the blast, and the tunnel caved in on him. To get to his corpse, troops had to dig through debris. That's when the raid turned into a forensic operation — and the special forces had come prepared. They had brought along samples of Baghdadi's DNA.

"It was him," Trump said. While bin Laden orchestrated the deadliest militant attack in US history, the killing of Baghdadi was "the biggest there is", Trump said. Revelling in the moment, Trump spent more than 45 minutes speaking and taking questions about the raid. AP

BRITAIN

TRAIN FIRM SEARCHES FOR MISSING RARE VIOLIN

British railway company Southeastern said it was helping renowned violinist Stephen Morris track down a 310-year-old violin he accidentally left on a train. The instrument, worth \$321,000, was made by Roman master craftsman David Teichler in 1709. Morris was due to play it in two concerts during the weekend.



The EU's chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier at the EU headquarters in Brussels on Monday. AP

EU agrees to delay Brexit until Jan 31

Johnson decries 'unwanted' extension

JILL LAWLESS & SAMUEL PETREQUIN
LONDON, OCTOBER 28

THE EUROPEAN Union agreed on Monday to delay Brexit by three months until January 31, acting to avert a chaotic UK departure just three days before Britain was due to become the first country ever to leave the 28-nation bloc.

The decision was welcomed by politicians in the UK and the EU as a temporary respite from Brexit anxiety — but not by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who said just weeks ago that he would "rather be dead in a ditch" than postpone the UK's leaving date past October 31.

In the end, the choice was not in his hands. The UK Parliament forced Johnson to ask for a delay to avoid a no-deal Brexit, which would hurt the economies of both Britain and the EU.

In a letter to European Council President Donald Tusk, Johnson said that under UK law "I have no discretion to do anything other than confirm the UK's formal agreement to this extension."

But he called the delay "unwanted" and said it was "imposed on this government against its will". Johnson urged the 27 other

FLEXENSION

THE LATEST Brexit extension, which is the third since the 2016 Brexit vote, has been dubbed a 'flexextension'.

THIS WAS because, although the EU has agreed to delay Brexit till Jan 31, Britain could exit the bloc sooner.

UNDER THE terms of the agreement, the UK can leave either on Dec 1 or Jan 1 if the British and European parliaments both ratify a Brexit divorce agreement.

EU countries "to make clear that a further extension after 31 January is not possible".

Johnson is now pushing for an early election as a way of breaking Britain's political impasse. He hopes voters will give his Conservative Party a majority, allowing Johnson to push through the divorce deal he struck with the EU and — finally — take Britain out of the bloc.

Lawmakers in the House of Commons were voting later Monday on a government motion calling for a general election on December 12. AP

Pak bars TV anchors from giving opinions

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, OCTOBER 28

PAKISTAN'S ELECTRONIC media regulator has barred television anchors from giving "opinions" during talk shows and has limited their role to being a "moderator", a media report said on Monday.

In an order issued on Sunday, the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) also directed anchors hosting regular shows "not to appear as experts" in shows in their own or other channels, Dawn reported.

As per the PEMRA code of conduct, the role of anchors is to moderate the programmes in an objective, unbiased and impartial manner, excluding themselves from their personal opinions, biases and judgements on any issue. "Therefore, anchors hosting exclusive regular shows should not appear in talk shows whether own or other channels as subject matter expert," the order said.

Nobel winner Yunus told to surrender in Bangladesh

ASSOCIATED PRESS
DHAKA, OCTOBER 28

BANGLADESH'S HIGH Court on Monday asked micro-credit pioneer and Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus to surrender to a labour court by November 7 over the firing of three employees by Grameen Communications, where he is chairman.

The regulatory body directed the media houses to select the guests in talk shows with utmost care and keeping in view of their expertise in a particular subject.

The order said the Islamabad High Court had, on October 26 in a case related to Shahbaz Sharif, taken cognisance of various speculative TV talk shows in which anchors, in violation of the code of conduct, tried to malign the judiciary and its decision with mala fide intention, the report said.

"The court has sought a report of PEMRA's actions on such violations with reprimand," it added.

PEMRA said the IHC also noticed that some anchors/journalists held speculative discussions on Oct 25 on some TV channels and alleged a purported deal with regard to the bail granted to former PM Nawaz Sharif on Oct 26.

"This was believed to be an attempt to tarnish the image and integrity of honourable superior courts and to make their judgment controversial," it added. PTI

The order came in response to a petition seeking a stay of an arrest warrant for Yunus issued by the labour court last month, when he was abroad.

The three employees filed the cases in July, saying they were terminated illegally after seeking to form a trade union.

Yunus founded Grameen Bank, which provides small loans to impoverished people.



Alberto Fernandez and his running mate and former president Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner greet supporters in Buenos Aires. Reuters

Argentina's Peronists sweep back to power, Macri concedes defeat

NICOLÁS MISCOLIN & ADAM JOURDAN
BUENOS AIRES, OCTOBER 28

ARGENTINA'S PERONISTS swept back into power on Sunday, ousting conservative president Mauricio Macri in an election result that shifts Latin America's No. 3 economy firmly back toward the left after it was battered by economic crisis.

Peronist Alberto Fernandez had 47.79% of the vote ahead of Macri's 40.71% with more than 90% of ballots counted on Sunday night, putting the centre-left challenger over the 45% threshold to avoid a runoff and win the election outright.

Macri, speaking at his election party, conceded the race and congratulated Fernandez.

Fernandez had been the

EXPLAINED

Amid severe economic woes, Argentina goes down familiar route

THE ELECTION was dominated by economic issues, and with one in 10 people reported to be unemployed, voters have turned to the pro-working class political movement of the Peronists. Since 1946, Peronists have won nine of 12 presidential elections in which they weren't banned. The movement gets its name from Juan Domingo Perón, who served as Argentine president in the 1940s, '50s and '70s. Cristina Fernández is one of the most popular Peronist leaders of recent years and is known for her social programmes aimed at the poor during her tenure as president. With her as running mate, president-elect Alberto Fernández triumphed over incumbent Mauricio Macri who has presided over rising poverty and inflation.

favourite since winning the primaries in August. He extended that lead in opinion polls.

"Alberto has won it and I am

super happy. We spent four very hard years," Paola Fiore, a government worker, said at Fernandez's election base. REUTERS

ALLEGED RELATIONSHIP WITH STAFFER

US lawmaker Hill, facing ethics probe, resigns

PETE SCHROEDER
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 28

US REPRESENTATIVE Katie Hill, who is under investigation by the House ethics committee over an alleged relationship with a congressional staffer, said on Sunday that she was resigning from Congress.

Hill, a 32-year-old California Democrat who was elected to the House of Representatives in November 2018, posted her resignation letter to Twitter, saying she believed it best for her constituents, community and the country.

Hill has admitted to an "inappropriate" relationship with a campaign staffer when she was running for Congress but denied she had a sexual relationship with a staffer in her office, according to media reports.

The ethics committee said on Wednesday it was "aware of public allegations... (that Hill) may have engaged in a sexual relationship with an individual on her congressional staff," and said



Katie Hill

it was investigating.

Hill, who is going through a divorce, apologised in her resignation letter for "mistakes made along the way" but also lamented a "smear campaign".

Hill blamed her husband and said she was pursuing legal options after media outlets published intimate photos that purported to be of the lawmaker.

"Having private photos of personal moments weaponised against me has been an appalling invasion of my privacy," said Hill. "It's also illegal."

Hill serves on the House Armed Services and Oversight and Reform Committees, where she is also vice chair. REUTERS

REFINING LAB-GROWN MEAT COULD HELP MORE PEOPLE CONSIDER IT AS SUSTAINABLE OPTION, LEAD RESEARCHER SAYS

Researchers find a way to grow meat that doesn't look like mush in a lab

KNVUL SHEIKH
OCTOBER 28

THE ALT-MEAT industry has created quite a sizzle, promising delicious burgers, steaks and even sushi that is grown from animal cells in the lab.

But most cellular agriculture still looks like mush. The manufacturing process — which starts with animal muscle and fat grown from stem cells in petri dishes — is fine for making burgers, but it fails to provide the kind of texture needed for more substantial cuts of meat, like steaks.

On Monday, scientists at Harvard University reported that

they had found a way to more closely mimic the form and flavour of real meat, by growing the muscle cells of cows and rabbits on a gelatin scaffold. Their research was published in the journal *Science of Food*.

"We showed that it can be done," said Luke MacQueen, the Harvard researcher who led the study. "Now we'll keep improving our methods, tweaking the type of scaffold fiber to try even more complex textures, tastes and nutritional profiles."

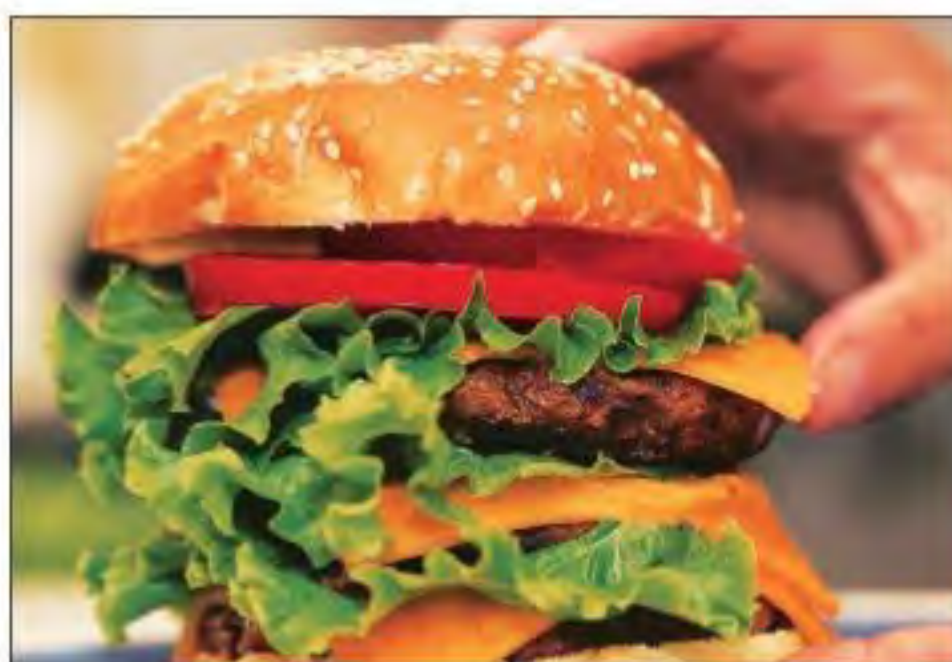
Refining this technique and others like it could help more people, including serious carnivores, consider lab-grown meat as a sustainable, ethical alterna-

tive to meat raised for slaughter, MacQueen said.

In the body, groups of cells get physical support from an extracellular matrix, which is made up of water, collagen proteins and various nutrients. The extracellular matrix also provides essential cues for growth, cell orientation and differentiation.

"Muscle cells need a structure to grow on, the same way the walls of a building need a steel frame or a house needs a wooden skeleton," said Kevin Kit Parker, a bioengineer at Harvard and also a co-author of the study.

To mimic this cellular environment, Parker and his colleagues decided to make scaffold



Currently available alt-meat is fine for burgers, but doesn't provide the texture needed for steaks. Reuters

folds out of different concentrations of gelatin, a protein product derived from collagen. When collagen-rich meat cuts, such as beef chuck, are cooked, the heat naturally melts collagen fibers into softer gelatin, giving meat its succulent texture, Parker said.

To make gelatin microfibers, the researchers dissolved commercially available gelatin powder in water and spun it like cotton candy. Rotating the gelatinous slurry at high speeds allowed fibers to form at the bottom of the spinner. Using enzymes, the researchers then cross-linked the fibers to form a strong, woven structure for cells to grow on.

Rabbit and cow cells latched

onto the gelatin scaffold, growing until they formed about a square inch of muscle.

To test whether the final product resembled the texture and behavior of meat that chefs and home cooks use every day, the researchers performed a variety of food industry analyses: simulating cooking by heating the lab-grown meat on a hot plate, compressing it as if with a meat mallet and measuring the force needed to cut each piece of meat. They found that their lab-grown meat fell in between the springiness of a hamburger and a beef tenderloin.

The Harvard scientists are not the only ones testing scaffolds for cell-based meat.

Some researchers have been inspired by the field of regenerative medicine, where scaffolds are used to help grow tissue that may one day be used for repairing organs or replacing grafts. They have transformed spinach leaves into scaffolds by removing the plant's cells and using the empty cell walls as a frame for growing animal tissue. Other groups have modified apples, artichokes and the thread-like roots of mushrooms.

Cellular agriculture companies are also devising scaffolds from naturally occurring materials, such as cellulose, starch and alginate, which may be more affordable than engineering scaffolds from scratch. NYT

14 THE WORLD THE END OF AL-BAGHDADI



Iraqis in Najaf watch news of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's death on TV on Sunday. The picture of al-Baghdadi is from a video of the terrorist leader that ISIS posted on the Internet in April 2019. Reuters

'He showed us the execution (of journalist James Foley) on a laptop. He was laughing...'

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was the world's most-wanted terrorist, the target of a \$25 million bounty from the US government. He evaded capture for nearly a decade by hewing to a series of extreme security measures. His concern was always: Who will betray him? He didn't trust anyone, not even close aides

RUKMINI CALLIMACHI & FALIH HASSAN
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ABU BAKR al-Baghdadi, the cunning and enigmatic black-clad leader of the Islamic State who transformed a flagging insurgency into a global terrorist network that drew tens of thousands of recruits from 100 countries, has died at 48.

The son of a pious Sunni family from the Iraqi district of Samarra, al-Baghdadi parlayed religious fervour, hatred of non-believers and the power of the Internet into the path that catapulted him onto the global stage. He commanded an organisation that, at its peak, controlled a territory the size of Britain from which it directed and inspired acts of terror in more than three dozen countries.

Al-Baghdadi was the world's most-wanted terrorist, the target of a \$25 million bounty from the US government. He evaded capture for nearly a decade by hewing to a series of extreme security measures. "Baghdadi's concern was always: Who will betray him? He didn't trust anyone," said Gen Yahya Rasool, a spokesman of the Iraqi Joint Operation Command.

The caliphate of blood

Much of the world first learned of al-Baghdadi in 2014, when his men overran one-third of Iraq and half of Syria, and declared the territory a caliphate, claiming to revive the Muslim theocracy that ended with the fall of the Ottoman Empire.

This distinguished the Islamic State from al-Qaeda, under whose yoke al-Baghdadi's men had operated for nearly a decade in Iraq before violently breaking away. Osama bin Laden too, had dreamed of restoring the caliphate, but he was reluctant to declare one, perhaps fearing the overwhelming military response that eventually cost al-Baghdadi his territory.

Yet it took five years before troops seized in March the last acre of land under al-Baghdadi's rule. In the interim, the promise of a physical caliphate electrified tens of thousands of followers who flocked to Syria to share his imagined state.

At its peak, the group's black flag flew over major population centres, including the Iraqi city of Mosul, with a population of 1.4 million. Its territory spread east into the mountains of Nineveh, the biblical city where the extremists turned centuries-old churches into bomb factories, whose women were singled out for sexual enslavement. It extended south to the Syrian oil fields of Deir al-Zour and the majestic colonnades of Palmyra.

Acting under the orders of a "Delegated Committee" headed by al-Baghdadi, the group known as ISIS, ISIL, or Daesh imposed its

violent interpretation of Islam in these territories. Women accused of adultery were stoned to death, thieves had their hands hacked off, men who defied the militants were beheaded.

The Islamic State shocked people around the world by televising its executions. A Jordanian pilot was burned alive in a scene filmed by drones. Men accused of being spies were drowned in cages, as underwater cameras captured their last tortured gasp. Others were crushed under the treads of a T-55 tank, or strung up by their feet inside a slaughterhouse and butchered like animals.

The militants harnessed the Internet to connect with followers around the globe, making them feel as if they were virtual citizens of the caliphate. Their message was: Anyone, anywhere, could act in the group's name. In this fashion, ISIS was responsible for the shooting at an office party in San Bernardino, California; an attack on a Christmas market in Germany; a truck attack in Nice, France, on Bastille Day; suicide bombings at churches on Easter in Sri Lanka.

'Sheikh Ibrahim of the Quraysh'

Born Ibrahim Awad Ibrahim Ali al-Badri, al-Baghdadi began life in a dry and desolate plain in the village of Al Jallam in central Iraq. He was one of five sons and several daughters of a conservative Sunni man who eked out a living selling sheep. Neighbours described the family as average; the area unremarkable.

Importantly, however, Al Jallam is home to the al-Badri tribe, which traces its lineage to the Quraysh people of the Arabian peninsula — the tribe of the Prophet Muhammad. A hereditary connection to the Quraysh is regarded as a prerequisite for becoming a caliph, and pamphlets published by ISIS traced al-Baghdadi's ancestry from the Badri community in Al Jallam to Fatima, the youngest daughter of the Prophet.

Al-Baghdadi went to school in the nearby city of Samarra, where he was a mediocre student. His high school transcript shows that his highest grade was in art (95/100); in subjects like algebra, he scored in the low 50s.

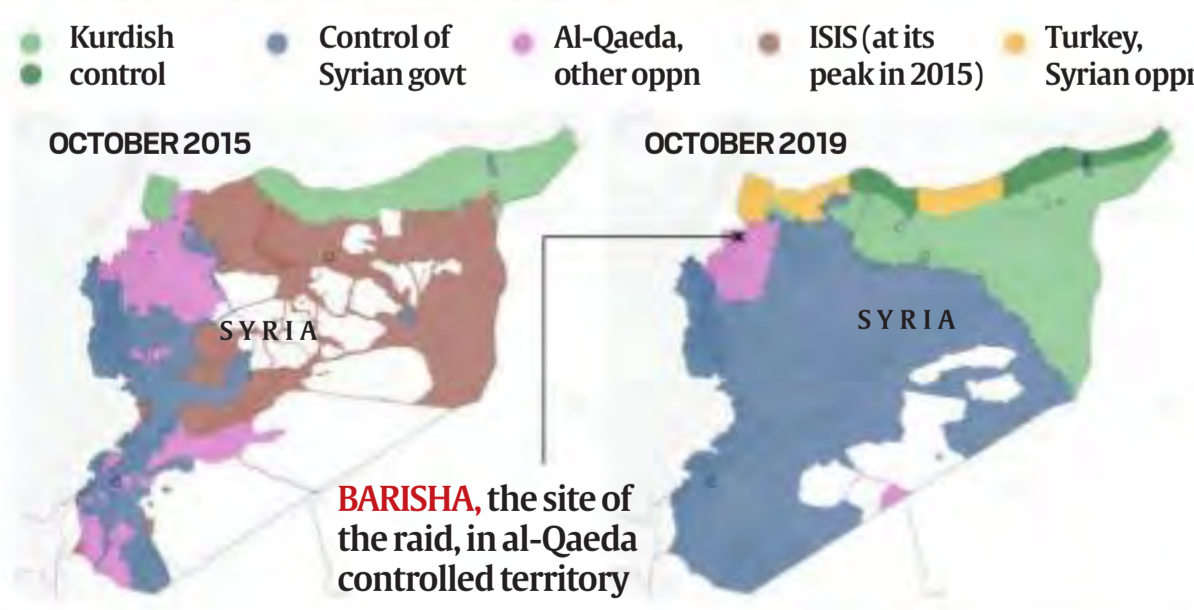
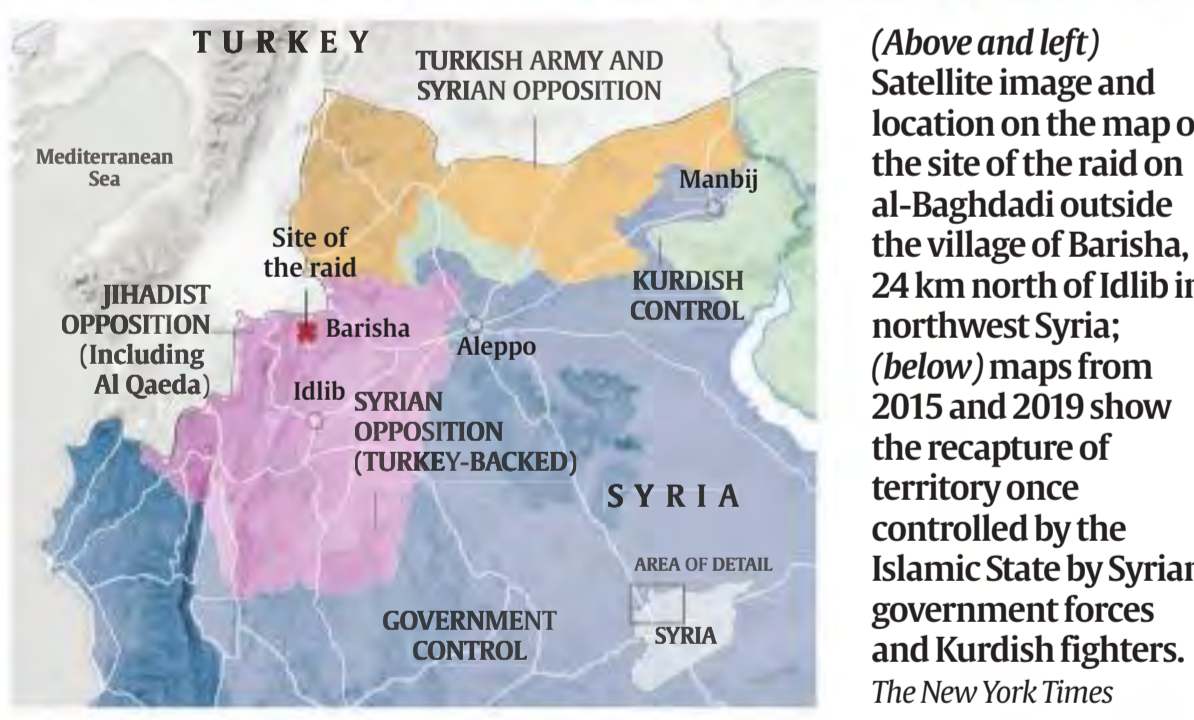
Friends, classmates, neighbours, teachers and former pupils described him as "shy", "reserved", "isolated", and "quiet." He found his place, they said, at the local mosque, where his father enrolled him in a Quranic memorisation class. "His soul was connected to the mosque," said the owner of the Ahmed Ibn Hanbal mosque, Khalid Ahmed Ismael.

Al-Baghdadi quickly outdid the other boys in the memorisation and recitation of scripture. By the time he was in high school, congregants began asking for the boy to lead the prayer in the imam's place.

At age 20, in 1991, he enrolled in the Shariah college of Baghdad University, according to school records obtained from Iraq's intelligence agency. After earning a bachelor's degree, he joined Saddam University, where

SITE WHERE AL-BAGHDADI WAS FOUND

The leader of the Islamic State was holed up in a compound in an area dominated by militant groups including al-Qaeda



he got a master's degree and a doctorate in topics related to Islamic scripture.

To pay for his studies, al-Baghdadi taught Quranic classes at al-Haj Zaidan Mosque in Baghdad, where his pupils referred to him as "Sheikh Ibrahim". He was taciturn and reserved, a quality that impressed his students.

Captured and released

In January 2004, less than a year after the American invasion to topple Saddam Hussein



(Top) Al-Baghdadi in a photo from the records of his school in Samarra; (above) from a video of a Ramadan sermon he delivered at the Great Mosque of al-Nuri in Mosul in 2014, during which he declared himself caliph of the Islamic State.

already committed to violence when he entered the prison camp.

Talib al-Mayahi met al-Baghdadi, who was then in his 30s and going by the *nom de guerre* "Abu Dua", at Camp Bucca. The prisoners had appointed secret "emirs" of each tent, and al-Baghdadi was leading his. He set to work driving Shiite prisoners from the tent, leaning on a gang of fellow Sunnis, armed with shanks made from the metal mined from the camp's air-conditioning units, Al-Mayahi said.

Hatred of Shiites would become a hallmark of the Islamic State, whose followers began targeting the sect throughout the world, dispatching suicide bombers to Shiite sites in Lebanon, Afghanistan, Iran, and Bangladesh.

Al-Baghdadi was released in late 2004, and he disappeared from view.

From Abu Dua to the 'Caliph'

In 2009, Iraqi security forces found, in a cache of documents recovered from a militant safe house, the name "Abu Dua". Then, in March 2010, Iraqi agents arrested Manaf al-Rawi, believed to be one of the executioners of the American contractor Nick Berg, the video of whose beheading was posted on the Internet. Al-Rawi named "Abu Dua" as one of the group's coordinators, said Abu Ali al-Basri, the director general of Iraqi intelligence.

Not long after, in May 2010, the insurgents announced their new leader: It was Abu Dua, who introduced himself to the

world as "Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi". The significance of the new *nom de guerre* was evident: Abu Bakr was the first caliph after the Prophet's death, and is credited with the wave of Islamic expansion that followed.

For the next three years, as Iraqi agents hunted al-Baghdadi, he kept escaping — apparently more due to luck than to smartness. He became more circumspect, obsessed with security, and untrusting. He is believed to have stopped using cellphones more than a decade ago, relying exclusively on hand-delivered messages, Al-Basri said.

In 2014, when he ascended the marbled pulpit of a mosque in Mosul to declare the caliphate, it was the first time a video appeared that showed his face uncovered.

Connoisseur of brutality

But al-Baghdadi was no recluse. He was directly involved in some of his group's most notorious atrocities, including the organised rape of women considered to be non-believers.

One of them was D, who was just 15 years old when she was kidnapped alongside other Yazidi women and girls from her village at the foot of Mount Sinjar in 2014. Interviewed after her escape, D described how the women and girls were transported to a building in Raqqa, which acted as a viewing gallery for the men wishing to enslave them.

The first man to come in was al-Baghdadi, she said: "I noticed right away that he was important — everybody stood up when he walked in."

She and the other girls he chose were moved from house to house, eventually ending up in the same villa as 26-year-old American aid worker Kayla Mueller. All of them were raped by al-Baghdadi, including Mueller. He took pleasure in brutality, the women held captive said.

One day in August 2014, D was summoned to see him, and she feared she would be raped again. However, al-Baghdadi took her into the living room and asked her to sit next to him on a couch. "He had a big, black laptop," she said, recalling how he hit "play" on a video on the screen. It showed the execution of the American journalist James Foley.

"He told us, 'We killed this man today,'" she said. "He was laughing at our reaction." Some who knew al-Baghdadi the longest wondered if it was his very nature that accounted for his ability to evade capture for so long, and not just his extreme security measures. Hussam Mehdi, an ISIS member who first met al-Baghdadi at Camp Bucca, recalled wondering whether "it's because he likes to be alone that isolation came easily to him".

(Edited excerpts from obituary on which Rukmini Callimachi reported from Samarra, Al Jallam and Baghdad between late 2018 and early 2019. Eric Schmitt contributed reporting from Washington.)

ELIZABETH WARREN

A plan for American capitalism

Elizabeth Warren wants to remake American capitalism

ELIZABETH WARREN is remarkable. Born into a struggling family in Oklahoma, she worked her way up to become a star law professor at Harvard. As a single mother in the 1970s, she broke with convention by pursuing a full-time career. In an era of rule-by-tweet, she is an unashamed policy wonk who is now a front-runner to be the Democratic nominee for president in 2020. Polls suggest that, in a head-to-head contest, more Americans would vote for her than for Donald Trump.

But as remarkable as Ms Warren's story is the sheer scope of her ambition to remake American capitalism. She has an admirably detailed plan to transform a system she believes is corrupt and fails ordinary people. Plenty of her ideas are good. She is right to try to limit giant firms' efforts to influence politics and gobble up rivals. But at its heart, her plan reveals a systematic reliance on regulation and protectionism. As it stands, it is not the answer to America's problems.

Ms Warren is responding to an enduring set of worries. America has higher inequality than any other big rich country. While jobs are plentiful, wage growth is strangely subdued. In two-thirds of industries big firms have become bigger, allowing them to crank out abnormally high profits and share less of the pie with workers. For Ms Warren this is personal. Her parents endured the Dust Bowl and the Great Depression in the 1930s and later her father's career collapsed because of illness. As a scholar, she specialised in examining how bankruptcy punishes those who fall on hard times. The idea that animates her thinking is of a precarious middle class, preyed on by big business and betrayed by politicians feasting on the corporate dollar in Washington, D.C.

Some Republican and Wall Street critics claim that Ms Warren is a socialist. She is not. She does not support the public ownership of firms or political control of the flow of credit. Instead she favours regulations that force the private sector to pass her test of what it is to be fair.

The scope of these regulations is jaw-dropping. Banks would be broken up, split between commercial and investment banking. Tech giants such as Facebook would be dismantled and turned into utilities. In energy there would be a ban on shale fracking (which, for oil markets, would be a bit like shutting down Saudi Arabia), a phase-out of nuclear power, and targets for renewables. Private health insurance would be mostly banned and replaced by a state-run system. Private-equity barons would no longer be shielded by limited liability: instead they would have to honour the debts of the firms in which they invest.

This sectoral re-regulation would complement sweeping, economy-wide measures—a 15% social-security levy on those earning over \$250,000, a 2% annual wealth tax on those with assets over \$50m, a 3% tax for those worth over \$1bn and a 7% extra levy on corporate profits. Meanwhile the state would loosen owners' control of companies. All big firms would have to apply for a licence from the federal government, which could be revoked if they repeatedly failed to con-



2020 US presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren at a town hall at the Peterborough Town House in Peterborough, New Hampshire. Reuters

sider the interests of employees, customers and communities. Workers would elect two-fifths of board seats.

Ms Warren is no xenophobe, but she is a protectionist. New requirements for trade deals would make them less likely. Her government would "actively manage" the value of the dollar.

Ms Warren champions some ideas this newspaper supports. One reason for inequality is that lucrative corners of the economy are locked up by insiders. She is right to call for a vigorous antitrust policy, including for tech firms, zero-tolerance of cronyism, and an end to non-compete agreements that limit workers' ability to gain higher wages and switch jobs. Given inflation, her plan to raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 over five years may be a reasonable way of helping poorer workers. The rich should indeed

pay more tax, although we think the practical path is to close loopholes, such as a perk for capital gains known as carried interest, and to raise inheritance taxes, not a wealth tax. And while a carbon levy is our preferred way to fight climate change, her plan for clean-energy targets would make a big difference.

However, if the entire Warren plan were enacted, America's freewheeling system would suffer a severe shock. Roughly half the

stockmarket and private-equity owned firms would be broken up, undergo heavy re-regulation or see activities abolished. And over time Ms Warren's agenda would entrench two dubious philosophies about the economy that would sap its vitality.

The first is her faith in government as benign and effective. Government is capable of doing great good but, like any big organisation, it is prone to incompetence, capture by powerful insiders and Kafkaesque indiffer-

ence to the plight of the ordinary men and women Ms Warren most cares about. When telecoms firms and airline companies were heavily regulated in the 1970s, they were notorious for their stodginess and inefficiency. Ms Warren's signature achievement is the creation in 2011 of a body to protect consumers of financial services. It has done good work, but has unusual powers, has at times been heavy handed and has become a political football.

The other dubious philosophy is a vilification of business. She underrates the dynamic power of markets to help middle-class Americans, invisibly guiding the diverse and spontaneous actions of people and firms, moving capital and labour from dying industries to growing ones and innovating at the expense of lazy incumbents. Without that creative destruction, no amount of government

action can raise long-term living standards.

Primary colours

Many presidents have taken positions in the primaries that they pivoted away from as their party's nominee. If Ms Warren were to make it to the Oval Office in 15 months' time, she would be constrained by the courts, the states and probably the Senate. The immense size and depth of America's economy means that no individual, not even the one sitting in the White House, can easily change its nature. Nonetheless Ms Warren's government-heavy master-plan contains much to worry about. She needs to find more room for the innovative and dynamic private sector that has always been at the heart of American prosperity.

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CUTTING THE LINE

Through the fence

To suppress news of Xinjiang's gulag, China threatens Uighurs abroad

ON A single day in January 2018 in the far-western region of Xinjiang, 25 members of Gulchehra Hoja's family, including her parents in their 70s, received calls summoning them to police stations in Urumqi, the provincial capital, and in Ili, 500km away near China's western border. When they arrived they were told they were being detained because of their kinship with Ms Hoja, a reporter for Radio Free Asia (RFA), a broadcaster funded by the American government. RFA had recently reported on the mass internment of Uighurs, a Muslim ethnic group that makes up nearly half of Xinjiang's 22m people. Ms Hoja's father could not answer the summons because he was in hospital. Instead, police sent guards to stop him escaping.

The message to RFA was clear, and it was not the first one. A year earlier—just before China began rounding up hundreds of thousands of Uighurs, often for no other reason than their devotion to Islam—Ms Hoja's colleague, Kurban Niyaz, another Uighur exile in America, received a photo from his younger sister on WeChat, a Chinese social-media app. It showed two Chinese police officers sitting on her sofa (one of them smiled for the camera). They had ordered her to send him the photo. Mr Kurban says, to remind him that "the people's cops are just next to my family members".

The Communist Party's efforts to suppress Uighurs have extended far beyond China's borders. Uighur exiles and former detainees in Europe, America and elsewhere have been warned, sometimes through relatives, not to speak about Xinjiang's new gulag. Those who have done so have faced repercussions. On October 13th state media

The Communist Party's efforts to suppress Uighurs have extended far beyond China's borders. Uighur exiles and former detainees have been warned, sometimes through relatives, not to speak about Xinjiang's new gulag. Those who have done so have faced repercussions

in China circulated a video of a Uighur man rejecting as "an outright lie" an account by Mike Pompeo, America's secretary of state, that the man's sister, Zumrat Dawut, had been detained, beaten and forcibly sterilised. In the video Ms Dawut's brother appears to be reading a statement. "I'm making this video clip just to tell the truth to the world," he says to the camera.

Few exiles have felt intimidation more acutely than the 12 Uighurs in America who produce RFA's Uighur-language news. That is because the station is the only one outside China that broadcasts in this Turkic tongue, and it pulls no punches. RFA reports relentlessly on Xinjiang's human-rights horrors. Uighur staff say their relatives have been interrogated or detained just for having a family member who works for RFA. At least six of them have a combined total of more than 40 relatives who are in the new detention facilities (officially known as vocational-training centres) or in prison, or have gone missing. That includes more than 20 of Ms Hoja's relatives, who are still being held 21 months af-

ter they were taken. The police have asked them what they told RFA, which China calls an "enemy radio station". Her relatives were not sources for her stories, she says.

It is easy to see why Chinese officials would view RFA so darkly, even if it were not funded by America. Its staff doggedly pursue sources in Xinjiang, sometimes making hundreds of calls daily, to glean tidbits of information about the regime's treatment of Uighurs. The service beams its Uighur-language reports for two hours each day via shortwave radio and satellite. China jams RFA's transmissions and blocks its website, but in a survey of Uighurs in Turkey who had recently left their homeland, about one-fifth had listened to or read RFA news at least once a week while in Xinjiang. RFA's stories have helped bring global attention to the new detention centres, details of which have been difficult for journalists to uncover because of an intense security clampdown in Xinjiang. The publicity has aggravated tensions between China and America. The Trump administration this month declared sanctions against Chinese officials and businesses implicated in repressing Uighurs.

It was more than a year after RFA first reported on the facilities that the government finally acknowledged their existence in October 2018. It continued to deny that Uighurs were being forced into them to undergo weeks, months or even longer periods of indoctrination in the party's virtues and the dangers of "extremism" (a term applied even to the wearing of Islamic dress). Since then officials have arranged Potemkin tours for some foreign media and diplomats. The visits have fooled few. In August Olsi Jazexhi, an Albanian scholar who had previously



A perimeter fence is constructed around what is officially known as a vocational skills education centre in Dabancheng in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, China. Reuters

been sceptical of reports such as RFA's, emerged from a detention-camp tour to attest (to RFA) that, from what he saw, people were being imprisoned for the crime of being Muslim and Uighur. Adrian Zenz, a German scholar, notes that even the government's own literature says the centres are meant to "wash clean the brains" of the people they house.

It is not only China's government that criticises RFA's reporting on Xinjiang. Some people who sympathise with the Uighur cause say its stories are sometimes thinly sourced and melodramatic. Others say the station's support from the American government, to

the tune of \$44m a year, including \$2m for the Uighur-language service, suggests that RFA is a propaganda tool. The broadcaster, founded in the 1990s, says it has editorial independence. But it belongs to a constellation of government-sponsored stations, other members of which had their heyday in the cold war, including Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

There is certainly a cold-war feel to working for RFA's Uighur service. Many of the people the journalists try to speak to in Xinjiang are too afraid to answer. Staff suspect the Chinese authorities use voice-recognition technology to identify them and block their

phone conversations—lines to Xinjiang often drop after a minute of conversation. "The intimidation, the incarceration of our loved ones is very constant," says Mamatjan Juma, the service's deputy director. His three brothers are all in custody, two of them since May 2017. Sometimes the pressure is too much—just hearing a song that he used to listen to with his brothers can cause floods of tears. "It affects you, but you have to get up every day and come to work, because if you don't write, if you don't report on these issues, nobody would. We don't have a choice."

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16 ECONOMY

GOLD	RUPEE	OIL	SILVER
₹35,000	₹62.5	\$61.76	₹35,000

*Indian basket as on October 25, 2019

SENSEX: 39,250.20 ▲ 192.14 NIFTY: 11,627.15 ▲ 43.25 NIKKEI: 22,867.27 ▲ 6746 HANG SENG: 26,891.26 ▲ 223.87 FTSE: 7,322.32 ▼ 2.15 DAX: 12,938.84 ▲ 44.33

*Equity, currency and bullion markets were closed on Monday on account of Diwali. International market data till 1900 IST

OUTSTANDINGS AT ₹97.6K CR AS ON AUG 31, 2019, AGAINST ₹78.5K CR A YEAR AGO

Credit cards: Outstandings up 24.4% YoY in Aug; usage growth falls in first 5 mths of FY20

During the five-month period ended August 31, 2019 of current FY20, card outstandings rose 10.6%

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 28

DESPITE THE slowdown in the economy and sluggish credit uptake, credit card outstandings have risen by 24.4 per cent to Rs 97,650 crore as on August 31, 2019, from Rs 78,499 crore a year ago.

According to the data available from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), credit card outstandings have spurred by 71 per cent in the last two years from Rs 57,100 crore in August 2017.

While credit card usage has increased after demonetisation in November 2016 and the thrust given to digital banking in the past two years, the growth rate of credit card use has come down in the past five months, according to bankers.

During the five-month period ended August 31, 2019 of the current fiscal year, card outstandings rose 10.6 per cent while the gross bank credit showed a decline of 0.9 per cent and credit offtake by the industry plunged 4.2 per cent, according to the RBI data.

EXPLAINED **E.** Despite boost to digital mode, card usage sees dip

WHILE CREDIT card usage has risen after demonetisation in November 2016 and the thrust given to digital banking in the past two years, the growth rate of card usage has come down in the past five months, as per bankers.

According to RBI data, the volume of business through credit cards was Rs 6.07 lakh crore in 2019-20, with 99 per cent of the business accounted by transactions on PoS (point of sale) terminals.

However, growth in outstandings has fallen from 37.4 per cent in the 12-month period ended August 31, 2018 and 14.4 per cent in the five-month period of last year amid a demand slowdown in the economy.

There were 5.17 crore outstanding cards in fiscal 2018-19, up from 4.70 crore in the same period of last year.

The volume of business through credit cards was Rs 6.07 lakh crore in 2019-20, with 99 per cent of the business ac-

counted by transactions on PoS (point of sale) terminals, the RBI data show. "Credit cards are used by customers mostly in PoS terminals of shops and establishments. In the case of debit cards, customers use it for cash withdrawals from ATMs," said an analyst with an investment bank.

In August 2019, credit card transactions at PoS terminals were worth Rs 59,601 crore while customers withdrew only Rs 410 crore from ATMs using credit cards.

However, debit cards were used to withdraw Rs 287,452-crore cash from ATMs while PoS transactions using debit cards were only Rs 58,040 crore in August, according to the RBI data.

If the slowdown in the economy persists, growth in the card business is also expected to decline. Increasing acceptance of digital payments and availability of better consumer credit data helped register a 22 per cent annual growth in issuance over FY2015-19.

"Credit card loans and spends have grown at a robust pace of 30-35 per cent over the same period. We expect credit card issuance and spends to sustain the growth momentum, given the low penetration levels (4 per cent) compared to debit cards (60 per cent) and savings accounts (120 per cent)," Kotak Research said in a report.

Analysts say the card business is a highly profitable business with big margins, as the interest rate can go up to 40 per cent per annum.

"It has a healthy operating

Now, Railways looks at 2 giant PSUs to manage rolling stock

AVISHKEG DASTIDAR
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

ALTERING ITS original plan to set up a mega rolling stock company to include all factories under it, the Railways plans to form two new central public sector undertakings (PSUs) as holding companies to control coach and engine production. The latest proposal in the project, which is being seen as a major reform in the rail sector, will soon come up for inter-ministerial consultation.

It would lead to the setting up of a new Indian Railway Motive Power Company to own and run factories like Chittaranjan Loco Works and Diesel Loco Works, Varanasi, and those in Madhepura and Marhowra in Bihar.

For now, as part of the '100 days' plan approved by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the Ministry of Railways is gearing up to form the Indian Railway Rolling Stock Company (IRRC) to own and operate the coach-making plants — Modern Coach Factory (MCF), Rae Bareilly, to begin with — and the wheel factories.

Sources said top brass of the Ministry felt that by making two companies — one dealing in coaches, which is controlled largely by the Mechanical department, and another in engines, which comes under the Electrical depart-

The Railways Ministry is gearing up to form the Indian Railway Rolling Stock Company to own and operate the coach-making plants and the wheel factories

ment — the project can be insulated from departmental rivalries. However, some officials feel that forming a single holding company dealing in all rolling stock, like China, would serve as a more effective antidote to "departmentalism".

Officials said the private consultancy firm studying the feasibility of the project had advised the setting up of two entities. Even when divided into two, the entities in terms of size and scale will be among the biggest in the world.

A Cabinet note is to be prepared to begin the process to form IRRC and incorporate MCF Rae Bareilly with an authorised paid-up capital of around Rs 1,700 crore. Subsequently, other large units, like RCF, Kapurthala and ICF, Chennai, and the wheel plants will be included.

For the first five years the IRRC — a Schedule A central PSU owned fully by the government — will have its top brass, such as CEO and

MID, appointed through the Ministry of Railways. After that, the selection process will be opened to the market and anchored by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB), sources said.

Officials said the benefit of corporatised entity will be that India can catch up with the rest of the world in terms of modern technological advances in making railway rolling stock. It can operate with a profit motive and join the global race of supplying to other countries. An official said, "The chief of a Schedule A PSU can, for instance, can approve new technology infusion in projects even as large as Rs 5,000 crore."

Incidentally, it took over 20 years for India to process the tender for bringing in the technology and manufacturing the German-design Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches in the early 2000s. While India's rolling stock industry missed the technology bus in the late 80s and 90s, setting itself back by at least a decade, there will be less chance of such a repeat with professional corporate entities steering this area of industrial production and opening up the sector, officials said.

The project has met with resistance from the railway unions, which have alleged that this is a first step towards privatising precious assets of the government — a claim the Ministry has denied.

BRIEFLY

Diwali Muhurat trading: 192-pt gain for Sensex

Mumbai: BSE benchmark Sensex rose 192 points to end at 39,250 on Sunday as investors built up fresh positions in the special Muhurat trading session to mark the beginning of Hindu Samvat year 2076. The 30-share index, after opening on a firm footing at 39,397.37, inched up to 39,402.23 as investors accumulated select auto, IT and bank stocks. It pared some gains on profit-booking and finally ended at 39,250.20, up 192.14 points. The broader NSE Nifty rose 43.25 points, or 0.37 per cent, to finish at 11,627.15. **PTI**

S&P 500 hits all-time high on trade optimism

Bengaluru: Tech stocks propelled S&P 500 index to an all-time high, while the Nasdaq hovered below its record level. During mid-day trade, the S&P 500 rose as much as 0.7 per cent to 3,044.08, breaching record level hit in July. **REUTERS**

'Alphabet makes offer to acquire Fitbit'

New York/San Francisco: Google owner Alphabet Inc has made an offer to acquire US wearable device maker Fitbit Inc, as it eyes a slice of the crowded market for fitness trackers and smart-watches, people familiar with the matter said on Monday. While Google has joined other major technology companies such as Apple Inc and Samsung Electronics Co Ltd in developing smart phones, it has yet to develop any wearable offerings. There is no certainty that the negotiations between Google and Fitbit will lead to any deal, the sources said, asking not to be identified. **REUTERS**

Virgin Galactic takes off in NYSE debut

Bengaluru: Shares of Richard Branson-backed Virgin Galactic Holdings Inc jumped as much as 7.7 per cent in early trading on the New York Stock Exchange on Monday, underscoring investor interest in the first space tourism firm to hit public markets. **REUTERS**

'Banks need to reinvent to strengthen profitability'

At a time when growth is slowing, the banking sector should consider a suite of radical measures, both organic or inorganic, to strengthen profitability and boost returns, McKinsey's Global Banking Annual Review said

Business model reinvention: The bottom third of banks need to rapidly reinvent their business models, in the face of continued threat posed by financial technology and big technology companies that are taking stakes in banking businesses	Industry utilities	both mergers and acquisitions as well as partnerships	bottom half of peers in the next cycle
Defensive moves: Banks need to adopt defensive moves like improving risk management with advanced analytics	Inorganic means of building scale: Banks should also consider their options for building scale or competence through inorganic ways, including	40% Percentage of top banks today in the country which will likely drop to the	10.3% Expected revenue growth within India's banking sector (from 2010 to 2018), falling from 22 per cent (2002-07)
Offensive moves: Some offensive measures need to be taken by lenders, such as dramatically lowering costs by outsourcing non-differentiated cost drivers to		2.3% Return on tangible equity experienced by Indian banks in 2018, falling from 17.7 per cent in 2013	35% Rise in predictive accuracy, that can be brought about by machine-learning models, in identifying riskiest potential customers

Apple India FY19 profit fall sharpest in a decade

ARUN NAYAL
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

ON THE back of weakening iPhone sales, Apple India's revenue and net profit slumped in financial year 2019-20. While net profit declined over 70 per cent year-on-year to Rs 262.3 crore, revenue from operations fell 20 per cent to Rs 10,583.3 crore, regulatory filings made to registrar of companies showed.

This is the sharpest fall in net profit for the US-based tech giant in at least a decade. Apple India's net profits had declined 64 per cent YoY in FY13.

In FY19, Apple had launched three variants of iPhones — XR, XS and XS Max.

Experts believe that high prices for its iPhone range and stiff competition from the likes of OnePlus led to decline in sales

during the year. Sales in India in 2018 was one of the worst, with shipments declining for the first time.

"The previous portfolio did not work out well for Apple in India. Most of the phones were imported and were expensive. The company also reworked its distribution strategy which impacted sales," Tarun Pathak, associate director, Counterpoint Research, pointed out.

According to the Hong Kong-based Counterpoint Technology Market Research, mobile phone shipments of Apple India's were estimated to be around 1.7 million units in 2018 calendar year.

Analysts expect iPhone sales in India to bounce back with attractive pricing for iPhone 11 series launched in September and cut in the prices of the popular XR model. **FE**

'Amazon India's e-commerce arm narrows FY19 loss to ₹5,685 crore'

New Delhi: Amazon Seller Services, online marketplace arm of the e-commerce giant in India, has narrowed its loss to Rs 5,685 crore for 2018-19.

This is a 9.5 per cent decrease from the last fiscal, when the firm posted a loss of Rs 6,287.9 crore, as per documents sourced by business intelligence platform *Tofler*.

Revenues growing 55 per cent to Rs 7,778 crore in FY19 over the previous fiscal.

'FY19: Flipkart sees ₹3.8K cr loss'

New Delhi: Flipkart India, the B2B arm of Walmart-owned Flipkart, has registered a higher loss of Rs 3,836.8 crore during 2018-19 as compared to the previous financial year, according to regulatory documents sourced by *paper.vc*.

The unit had posted a loss of Rs 2,063.8 crore for fiscal ended March 31, 2018, as per papers filed by Flipkart India to the Corporate Affairs Ministry.

"...company incurred a net loss of Rs 38,368 million during the financial year under review ...," according to the documents. **PTI**

'DGCA to IndiGo: Replace A320 Neo plane PW engines used for over 3,000 hours'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

THE COUNTRY'S civil aviation regulator, DGCA, on Monday asked IndiGo not to use such A320 Neo planes which are fitted with PW engines already used for over 3,000 hours, or face grounding of aircraft, officials said.

A Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) official said there are 16 aircraft in IndiGo's fleet in which both the Pratt and Whitney (PW) engines have been used for more than 2,900 hours.

All such 16 aircraft have to be fitted with at least one modified LPT engine within next 15 days,

said the official. "Failing which, all these aircraft shall be grounded. This has been done after studying the pattern and evaluating the risk," the DGCA official said.

In a statement, IndiGo said, "We are continuing to work with the authorities and will take necessary actions, as required, going forward." In October, IndiGo has reported three in-flight engine shutdowns on the A320 (Neo) fitted with PW engines.

These were commanded shutdowns, however, due to the fact that they occurred on consecutive days — October 24, 25 and 26 — a DGCA team visited IndiGo premises on October 28 to review the maintenance and safety data.

Trump: 'Ahead of schedule' to sign very big portion of China trade deal

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 28

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump said on Monday he expected to sign a significant part of the trade deal with China ahead of schedule but did not elaborate on the timing. "We are looking probably to be ahead of schedule to sign a very big portion of the China deal, we'll call it Phase One but it's a very big portion," he told reporters at Joint Base Andrews.

Leaders of the world's two biggest economies are working to agree on the text for a "Phase 1" trade agreement announced by Trump on October 11. Trump has said he hopes to sign the deal with China's President Xi Jinping next

month at a summit in Chile. Trump on Monday said the signing was planned for the summit but made a reference to recent political unrest in Chile and said he believed they could work things out. He said the phase one portion would "take care of the farmers" and "also take care of a lot of the banking needs."

"So we're about I would say a little bit ahead of schedule maybe a lot ahead of schedule," he said. Agricultural products are a major area of discussion. Beijing wants the US to cancel some existing US tariffs on Chinese imports, according to people briefed on high-level telephone discussions on Friday, in return for pledging to step up its purchases of US commodities like soybeans.

'US rejects China's request on sanctions'

Geneva: The US rejected China's request Monday for \$2.4 billion in compensatory sanctions for alleged US failure to comply with a World Trade Organization (WTO) ruling, sending it to arbitration, a trade official said.

WTO appeals judge said in July the United States did not fully comply with a WTO ruling about tariffs it put on Chinese solar panels, wind towers, and steel cylinders. **REUTERS**



'Ik Onkar' on AI flight

'Ik Onkar' painted on the tail of Air India's (AI) Boeing 787 Dreamliner as part of historic celebrations of the 550th anniversary of Sri Guru Nanak Dev, in Amritsar, Monday. **PTI**

17 TALK

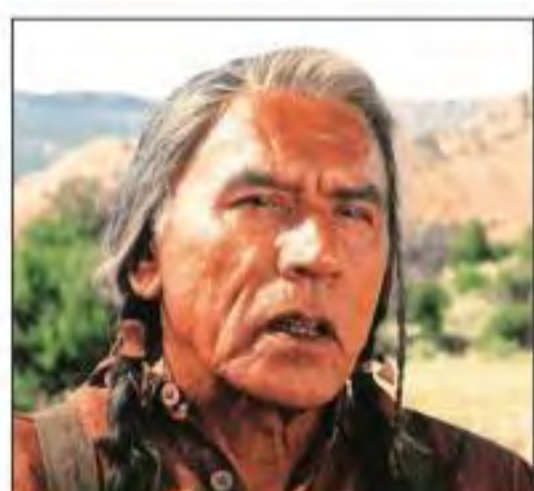
ART, MUSIC, STYLE, FOOD

SNAP SHOTS



Last Laugh

AMERICAN COMEDIAN Dave Chappelle (pictured), 46, known for building his career by pushing boundaries and challenging social conventions, has won the Mark Twain prize for lifetime achievement in comedy. Chappelle was a well-established comedian when he was offered his own sketch comedy show in 2003 on Comedy Central — *Chappelle's Show* — which became an immediate hit. It combined clever parodies that often tweaked racial conventions with uniquely staged musical productions featuring hip-hop and soul artists. He had shocked the entertainment industry by walking out of the show. He now releases regular stand-up specials with Netflix.



It's High Time

INEQUALITY IN the film industry got a high-profile spotlight at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' 11th Annual Governors Awards, where Cherokee actor Wes Studi (pictured), Italian director Lina Wertmüller and filmmaker David Lynch all received honorary Oscars on Sunday. Filmmaker Jane Campion stood beside Greta Gerwig, two of the five female directing nominees in Oscars history, and counted, by 10s, the number of men who have been nominated for best director. She got up to 350. While toasting Studi, the first Native American actor to get an Oscar, his *The New World* and *Hostiles* co-star Christian Bale noted that native and indigenous people have been under-represented on both sides of the camera.



Life Revisited

JAZZ TRUMPETER and composer Miles Davis's (pictured) estate has signed a publishing agreement with Downtown Music Publishing to represent his entire catalog. It covers the artist's songbook of more than 250 compositions, including songs from albums *Jack Johnson*, *Bitches Brew*, *In a Silent Way* and *Kind of Blue*, the latter of which remains the best-selling jazz record of all time. The announcement follows the recent London premiere of *Miles Davis: Birth of Cool*, the documentary chronicling his life, directed by Stanley Nelson.



Rare Finds

AN OLD painting found in the kitchen of an elderly French woman has turned out to be a masterpiece attributed to the 13th-century Italian painter Cimabue, who taught Italian master Giotto and is widely considered the forefather of the Italian Renaissance. Sold for \$26.6 million by Aetcon Auction House, it was the first time a Cimabue has gone under the hammer. Titled *Christ Mocked* (pictured), it is likely to be part of a larger diptych that the artist painted. Cimabue was known for breaking away from the Byzantine style popular in the Middle Ages and incorporating elements of movement and perspective that came to characterise Western painting.



A still from *Aise Hi* (above); Kislay

'The movie is about contradictions of the present times'

Through the story of a widow who wishes to live by herself, Kislay's *Aise Hi* explores social structures which surround us and a culture of repression

ALAKA SAHANI

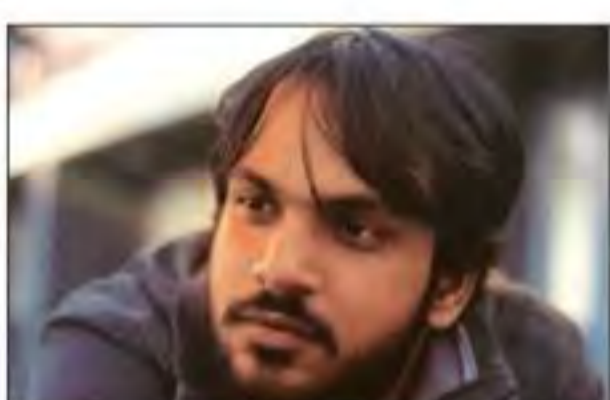
THE MOVIE about a woman re-imagining her life and discovering small joys after her husband's death in *Aise Hi* (Just Like That), walked away with special jury mention for Mohini Sharma for Best Actor (Female) and Film Critics Guild Award for the film during the closing ceremony of JIO MAMI 21st Mumbai Film Festival with Star. Set in Prayagraj (formerly Allahabad), the movie exposes the uncomfortable social conditions and mindset when a widow chooses to live by herself. Kislay, who has written and directed the movie, talks about the idea behind it and its making. Excerpts:

How did the idea of *Aise Hi* come about?

Aise Hi developed over the years. I had finished the script back in 2017 but I was not able to find a producer. Thankfully, Shwetaabh Singh came on board as he wanted to do something different. After that, I wrote another draft last year and we started working on it. *Aise Hi* was initially written for a short film but I felt it was too long for that. When I wrote the first draft, it was entirely focused on Mrs Sharma, the protagonist. But I felt it was important to see the story from other characters' point of view too. Then, one could explore the complexity of situations and emotions.

Tell me a bit about the shooting process and the cast of the film.

We shot in Allahabad, during extreme summer in May 2018 as heat was an important part of the film's mood. After discussion with Saumyananda Sahi (cinematographer), we went ahead with the shoot. Kudos to the actors and the crew that we were able to shoot non-stop for 41 days. We were initially hesitant about how our protagonist (Mohini



The bottom-line while writing was to see the characters in their surroundings and understand their fears and anxiety. The idea was also to see them as the product of their circumstances

KISLAY

Sharma) will be able to cope with so much heat. But she took it sportingly. Casting was done by my friends Dinker Sharma and Abhishek Bhardwaj. We did it over a long period and the idea was to cast people best suited to play the characters. The cast is a curious mix of first-timers, professionals and some non-actors.

We can see the city undergoing a change. Did the script keep evolving as you were making it?

Allahabad is my hometown. So, the changes you see in the film have been happening for a decade. I'm lucky to have collaborators like Tanushree Das (editor), Sahi and Gautam Nair (sound). All of them read various drafts and gave their insights. During the shoot, we followed the script. The city's name change to Prayagraj was a late addition. I thought that like the characters, the space,

too, should have a journey of its own.

How much were you driven by the urge to explore the idea of masculinity?

The way the story shaped up, I wanted to explore masculinity. However, the bottom-line while writing was to see the characters in their surroundings and understand their fears and anxiety. The idea was also to see them as the product of their circumstances. I wanted to explore social structures which surround us including masculinity, family and a culture of repression. Not just men but even women in the film in small ways end up behaving similarly with another woman.

The movie features several long shots.

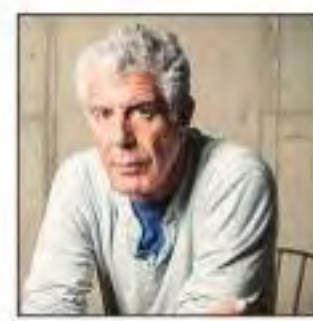
The idea was to let things happen in real time and to observe them as they happen. We did workshops with actors but long takes primarily meant a lot of takes and actors and camera person being in sync. Sahi preferred these type of shots.

Tell us a bit about you and what drew you to filmmaking.

I studied Economics at Delhi University. Before that, I spent my schooling years in Allahabad. We had a very active theatre society in college. Creating and discussing plays for long hours, formed the core of my training. Taking up filmmaking wasn't a thought-out decision. I got through to FTII and I joined it to understand cinema. I enjoyed being there immensely and maybe that made me confident that I could do this. All my team members are from there and my college.

What kind of journey do you have in mind for *Aise Hi*?

Films are chronicles of history. The movie is about contradictions of the present times and the questions that we are facing. I hope that it remains relevant in times to come.

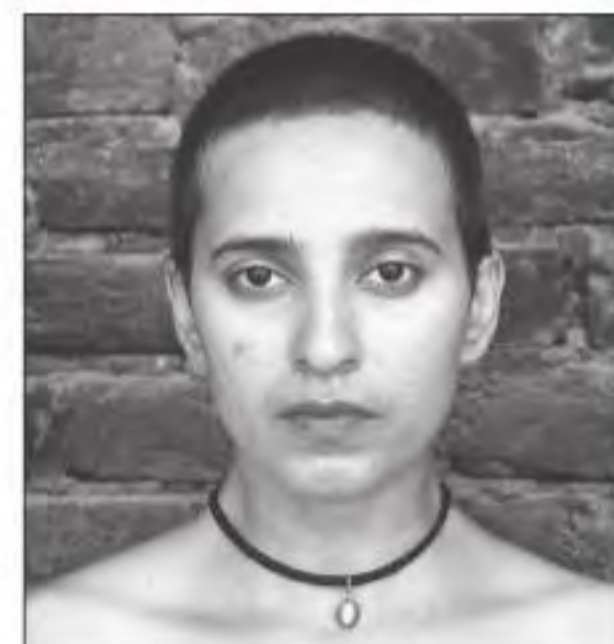


ODE TO BOURDAIN

Oscar-winning filmmaker Morgan Neville of *20 Feet from Stardom* fame is set to direct a documentary on the late food critic and chef Anthony Bourdain (pictured), who had a successful stint with his CNN series *Anthony Bourdain Parts Unknown*, and had died last year.

Art on the Screen

A video art festival, featuring works by veteran artists like Navjot Altaf and Ranbir Kaleka, as well as young, upcoming names, will be held in Mumbai



Navjot Altaf (top); Anuradha Upadhyay

DIPTI NAGPAUL

A MULTI-PRONGED art practitioner, Bharati Kapadia had been pondering over certain aspects of video art for a long time. She wondered what made an artist use long shots panning a certain scene, or even, say, use several frames of the same action. In an attempt to seek answers to such questions, Kapadia started to look for video art on the internet but realised that there is very little Indian work available online for those who wish to understand the medium. Realising that there must be many like her out there, the artist considered organising a video art show. "Of the 39 artists I reached out to, I received a positive response from 34, something I had not expected," she says, laughing. "That's when I cannot limit its scope to a mere show; this will have to be a festival."

Called 'Video Art' by Indian Contemporary Artists (VAICA), the festival will feature works by a range of artists, including established names such as Navjot Altaf, Mithu Sen and Tushar Joag as well as young practitioners such as Bengaluru-based Surekha and Mumbai-based Shakuntala Kulkarni.

The festival will begin on November 2 and will be held over five consecutive Saturdays all through November in Mumbai across different locations. Different films will be screened on each day of the festival. Kapadia, along with co-curator Chandita Mukherjee, has brought on board Kiran Nadar Museum of Art and Jehangir Nicholson Foundation as partners. The venues, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Goethe-Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan Mumbai, GSA Foundation for Contemporary Culture, and Godrej India Culture Lab, have lent their space free of cost for the festival. Detailed location-wise schedule is available at vaicafilms.wordpress.com. After Mumbai, the festival is due to travel to Delhi in December.

Kapadia believes that video art is on the cusp of growth as technological advancements make video more accessible. "The medium per se is rather new in the Indian art scene. The early practitioners like Ranbir Kaleka and Nalini Malani started exploring video art only in the early 2000s. But over the last few years, more younger artists are interested in its vocabulary. It's a virtual medium and so one does not need space to exhibit it. Also, one can have it without having to pay it. But video art is mostly exhibited as an installation, as a small part of a larger exhibition, or at a biennale. But that, I believe will change with this festival," Kapadia says.

However, video art's strengths also make it "unviable" to collectors. Another apprehension is that much like abstract art, people say that they don't know how to make sense of it. "But you don't have to. One doesn't make sense of a sunset, one experiences it. Abstract art or video art are similar — one should take it in the light,

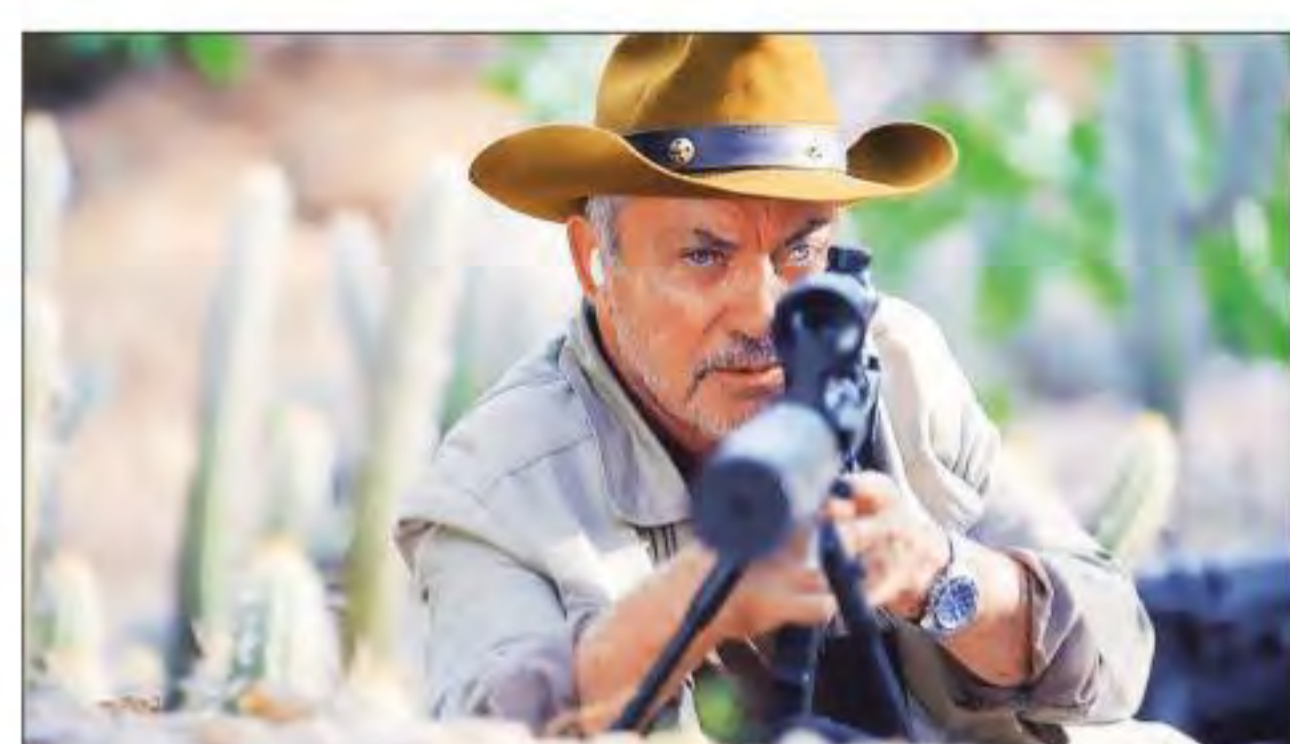
Video art is on the cusp of growth as technological advancements make video more accessible... However, video art's strengths also make it "unviable" to collectors

beauty and colours," says Kapadia, who adds that Indian collectors are beginning to see the investment potential of the field. "Corporates, museums, organisations, galleries and private collectors are all closely watching and contributing to its growth," she points out.

With VAICA, Kapadia is also creating a distinction between art films, artistic documentaries and video art. One of the selection criteria is that the film be under 15 minutes. Also, the featured artists have to be video art practitioners. "The concept of time in video art is not the same as conventional visual content. Nor is there a beginning, middle and end, necessarily," she explains.

With 65 videos from 35 artists, including one of her own, Kapadia was overwhelmed when she began to curate. While some of the films are new, and will be on view for the first time at VAICA, there are also old works, some by artists such as Kaleka. The curator points out that the audience will be able to tell the difference in the visual quality — while some are grainy, the others are made using recent technology.

After watching and re-watching each work, she came upon "a certain flow", something she felt that would bind such abstract works by various artists. "Sometimes it is sound, sometimes it's colours. It's very subtle and the audience may not always be able to tell what it is, but the idea is that the sequence in which the works are screened should not be jarring," Kapadia explains. To add to the viewers' experience, she will also be throwing open the floor to the audience and share her experience of curating the festival.



(From far left) Stills from *For Sama*; *Bacarau*; *Atlantics*

EXPRESS FEATURES SERVICE

FOR SAMA: A harrowing and intimate account of the siege of Aleppo by Syrian citizen-journalist Waad al-Kateab is more than just a documentary — it is a testimony of the triumph of the human spirit, and also its apathy. While Aleppo burned and crumbled, the world watched and did nothing. Using a hand-held camera, she chronicles the beginning of the Syrian resistance against President Bashar al-Assad in 2011, which then turns into a civil war, as well as events in her own life — her journey as an activist, falling in love in the time of war, and finally, the birth of her daughter, Sama, for whom this film has been made.

Deerskin: Georges is the funniest serial killer you'll ever meet. In Quentin Dupieux's surrealist comedy, *Le Daim* (*Deerskin*), he is played by Jean Dujardin (*The Artist*), a man who buys a cowboy-style deerskin jacket

Making the Shift

Talk picks out a few favourite international films at the recently-concluded 21st JIO MAMI Film Festival 2019

and desires to be the only man with a jacket in the world. He's not at all surprised when his jacket informs him that he too wishes to be the only jacket in the world. What follows is a rib-tickling killing spree that gratifies and horrifies in equal measure; but Georges' charming narcissism makes murder look like so much fun.

Honey Boy: Right from the beginning, *Honey Boy* cuts right through, wasting no time in devastating the audience with its tale of a violent and emotionally abusive

father-son relationship. Written by Shia LeBeouf, who based it on his childhood, and also plays father to Noah Jupe's character, the film explores all the ways in which addiction passes down generations and lingers on like a cancer that destroys every single feeling — except pain.

Marriage Story: Noah Baumbach's funny and bittersweet examination of the end of a marriage is the kind of film that stays with you long after the lights come back on — and it's mostly because of Adam Driver's lumi-

nescent performance as a theatre director and young father whose divorce to an actor, played by Scarlett Johansson, is turning out to be more absurd than he'd ever imagined.

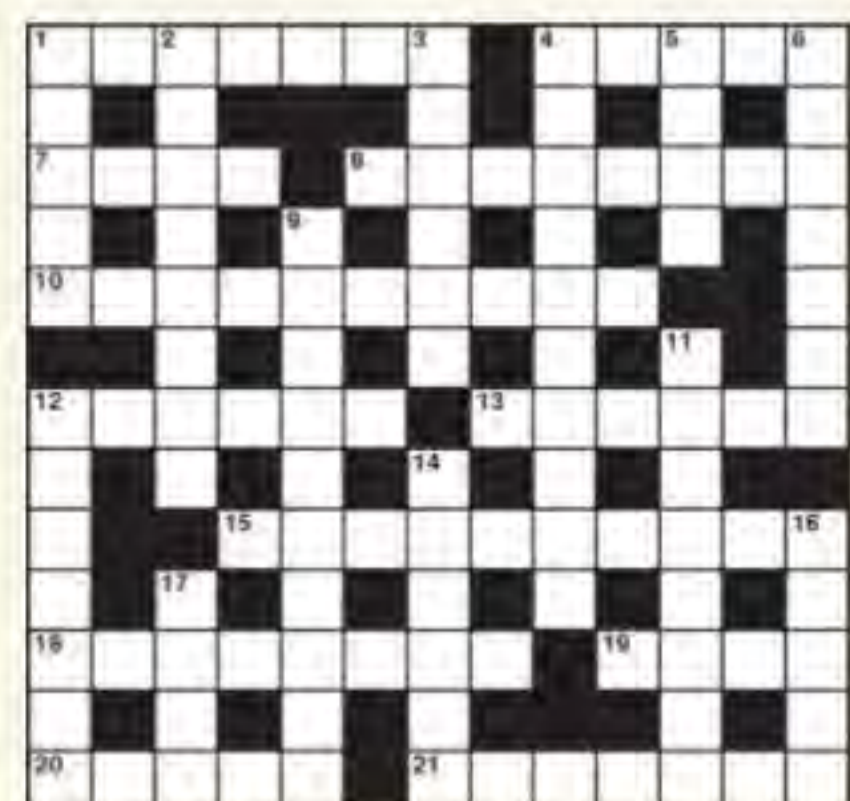
The Kingmaker: Lauren Greenfield's documentary about the life and times of Imelda Marcos, and the rise, fall and return to political power of the Marcos family in Philippines is gripping, hilarious, and shocking all at once. It serves as a primer, a history lesson about all the ways in which politics, avarice and power work.

Port Authority: New York City's busiest bus terminal is where Wye (Leyna Bloom) and Paul (Fionn Whitehead) lock eyes for the first time, drawn to each other in ways they can't quite explain. A troubled young man, he's selling 'white boy realness' while she's carving a place for herself in the city's kiki-voguing scene with her trans brothers and sisters. This romance directed by Danielle Lessowitz is fresh, heartwarming and fabulous.

Bacarau: The film is a Brazilian stand-off between the inhabitants of the village of Bacarau and everybody else who's out to get them — whether it's the mayor, a local politician, trigger-happy Americans hunting people for sport. Combining traditional and modern storytelling, with dollops of humour and well-deserved violence, *Bacarau* is nothing short of a wild ride.

Atlantics: With the city and the sea as backdrop, Mati Diop's seductive film is part social commentary, and part ghost tale. When Ada (the absolutely stunning Mama Sané) learns that her lover Souleiman decided to leave Senegal to seek refuge in Spain, she is heartbroken; when she learns that he and his friends drowned in the sea, she is ready to give up. But somebody has seen Souleiman recently, she cannot rest now. At the heart of it, *Atlantics* is a love story, but one that tells us more about what happens when someone else's selfishness and greed tears our worlds apart.

CROSSWORD 3948



- ACROSS**
- Bill goes to the north gate (7)
 - The keynote of medicine (5)
 - Producers of light skates? (4)
 - Work at opening port (8)
 - Duties that do not extend very far (5,5)
 - Father divides the remains of a meal (6)
 - Vessels which, coming back, may be waiting for the wind (6)
 - Commanding individuals with important roles to play (7,3)
 - Respect I possibly show those that have paid (8)
 - It conveys one's meaning (4)
 - Wicked impulse that makes men do wrong (5)
 - Set down in the act, but not immediately implemented (7)
- DOWN**
- I get a number to follow through danger (5)
 - Blue picture? (8)
 - Indian antelope that's ailing perhaps (6)
 - Trees will not usually grow above this height (6,4)
 - In France we mind (4)
 - Small company having unusually short Roman soldiers (7)
 - A Scot of the greatest urbanity (10)
 - In vulgar fashion, usually (8)
 - Stopped work and went to bed (7)
 - Revised point I'd raised with Edward (6)
 - Observed how music is written (5)
 - The lowest sort of people, but always found at the top (4)

Solutions Crossword 3947: Across: 1 Left in doubt, 9 Forfeit, 10 Coati, 11 Odds, 12 Nobodies, 14 Entrap, 16 Petrol, 18 Hear hear, 19 Ooze, 22 Atoll, 23 Termini, 24 Entrance fee, Down: 2 Erred, 3 Tier, 4 Lotion, 5 Once-over, 6 Brazier, 7 Off one's head, 8 Diesel train, 13 Bachelor, 15 Tea gown, 17 Carton, 20 Olive, 21 Tree.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLER WORDS

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

One ___ is worth a thousand ___ - Fred R Barnard (7...5)

IVERR **IKPCTU**

JTIOS **AERDPW**

SOLUTION: RIVER, JUST, UPTICK, WARPE

DIFFICULTY LEVEL 2s

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

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

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



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4012



Classifieds

- PERSONAL**
- I, Sanjay Gautam** alias Sanjay Kumar Gautam, S/O Shri. Rajender Prasad Gautam, R/O-B-6/94, Sector-5, Rohini, Delhi-110085, inform that Sanjay Gautam and Sanjay Kumar Gautam both are the same person. 0040517705-9
- I, Ambar Taneja**, S/O Sh. Arvind Taneja R/O-75, Golf-Links, New-Delhi-110003, have changed the name of my minor daughter Anya Taneja aged 04-years and 06-months to Anya Aneska Anand Taneja, for all purposes. 0040517701-8
- I, Pooja D/o-Vipin Goyal** R/O A-57, Shahbad-Dairy Delhi 110042, have changed my name to Pooja Goyal for all future Purposes. 0040517701-2
- I, Akshit Singh Arora** s/o Guneet Singh Arora r/o E-296, Greater Kailash-1, Delhi-110048, have changed my name to AKSHAT SINGH ARORA. 0040517685-1
- I, Ambar Taneja**, S/O Sh. Arvind Taneja R/O-75, Golf-Links, New-Delhi-110003, have changed the name of my minor daughter Seher Taneja aged 04-years and 06-months to Seher Samsara Anand Taneja, for all purposes. 0040517701-7
- I, Yashvir Singh** S/O Mahipal Singh R/O 266, D5/A, Ward No.2, Mehrauli, Delhi-110030, have changed my name to Yashvir Singh. 0040517701-3
- I, Tejpreet Singh**, S/O Avtar Singh Mendiratta Address-5/158 Subash-Nagar Delhi-110027 Changed My Name To Tejpreet Singh Mendiratta. 0040517701-1
- I, Sumeru Sanjay Kumar** W/o-Sanjay Kumar R/O-B-904, Anant-Apartment, Plot 25-A, Sector-4, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078, have changed my name to Sumeru. 0040517705-6
- I, Palram Lakhani** Shree Chandra Bali S/O-Chandra Bali R/O-Village & P.O.-Ismaikhal-Amraivadi, Tehsil & Distt.-Ahmedabad, Gujarat-380026, have changed my name to Pal Ram Lakhani. 0040517701-5
- I, Nitika D/o-Naresh Kumar** R/O-VPO-Khaparwas, Tehsil-Matanhalli Distt.-Hajjar, Haryana, have changed my name to Nitika Sangwan, for all future purposes. 0040517705-4
- I, Neera W/o Arun Kumar** Balyan R/O 296/297 SF2 Shatabdipuram Govindpuram, Ghaziabad, have changed my name to Neeraj for all purposes. 0040517686-1
- I, Mohammad Nadeem** R/O H.No- D-4, 3rd Floor Abul Fazal Enclave, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025 have changed the name of my minor son to Mohammad Mustafa to Mohammad Mustafa. 0040517684-1
- I, Manmeet Singh Arora**, S/O-Sardar Jagdish Singh, R/O-E-189, Greater-Kailash-1, New-Delhi-110048, have changed my daughters name, from Gurleen Kaur to Gurleen Kaur Arora, for all future Purposes. 0040517701-4
- I, Jile Singh**, S/O Bhagwan Das R/O-HN-L3-4, New-Roshanpura-Najafgarh, New-Delhi-110043, have changed my name, from Zile Singh to Jile Singh, for all purposes. 0040517701-9
- I, Ishita D/o Sanjay Kumar** R/O-B-904, Anant-Apartment, Plot 25-A, Sector-4, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078, have changed my name to Ishita Kanojia. 0040517705-7
- I, Harish Kumar Bidhori** S/O Suresh Kumar Bidhori, R/O H.No. 446, Noughara Mohalla, Tughlakabad Village, New Delhi-110044, have changed my name from Harish Kumar Bidhori to Harish Kumar Bidhuri for all future purposes. 0040517688-1
- I, Deepak S/o Mukand Lal** R/O 2E/26, Ward.No.11, NH-2, Faridabad, Haryana-121001, have changed my name to Deepak Madaan. 0040517705-5
- I, Bhanu S/o Vinod Kumar** R/O A-72 Radhey Shyam Park Extension Railway-Colony Krishna-Nagar Delhi-51...changed My Name To Bhanu Kashyap. 0040517705-10
- I, Anju Shukla** W/O-Prashant Shukla, H.No-1, Gali.No-1, Khasra.No-30, Saidula-Ajab, Mehrauli, New-Delhi-110030, have changed my name to Anju Bassi. 0040517705-8
- I, Amrita D/o-Surjeet Singh** R/O-251/1 Mandir-Wali Gali, Shri.Ram Nagar, Shahdara Delhi-110032, have changed my name to Amrita Kaur for all purposes. 0040517701-6
- I, Mohammad Shafiuddin** Shiddique, S/O Abdul Halim Shiddique, H.No-169, Masjid-Wali, Gali, Rajiv-Nagar, Amar-Nagar, Faridabad, Haryana-121003, changed My Name To Mohammad Shafiuddin Shiddique. 0040517705-3
- I, KAVITA W/o Mr. Shrinivas**, R/O-RZ-106A, Street.No.14, Tughlakabad-Extension, New-Delhi-110019, have changed my

LOST & FOUND

- I, Vinod Bhatia**, S/O Late. Sh. Darshan Lal Bhatia, R/O-M-1B, Gulmohar-Apartment, D-Block, Vikaspuri, ND-18, have lost/missing the original-conveyance deed registration No.19722 in Addl. Book.No.1, Volume.No.1413 on pages-109 to 110 on this date-14/3/2005 of flat.no.B-601, Panchvati-Apartment, Vikaspuri, ND-18 which was in the name of Darshan Lal Bhatia. If found Cont. 9868277363. 0040517705-11
- I, Smt. Laxmi devi**, w/o shri. arjun dast H.no-877 sector-4, urbanestate Gurgaon, I, have lost my property document-1 allotment-letter, possession-letter, session-leter. original certificate. 0040517701-10

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Kuldeep Kaur D/o Pavitar Singh R/o Begawal, Ludhiana, Punjab declare that in my service records my mother name is wrongly mentioned as Harjinder Kaur. That her correct name is Rajinder Kaur. That both name i.e. Rajinder Kaur & Harjinder Kaur is one and same person. k ld 3 4hRLY(4)

Tender-Notice
Jai Prakash University
Chapra-841301
Advertisement No.-JPU/02/Security/2019 Dated:- 16.10.2019
Tender is invited from eligible agencies for providing security services in Jai Prakash University, Chapra. For details, visit the university website www.jp.vb.nic.in.
By the order of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Sd/- Registrar

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(Ph.No. 22355772, e-mail ID : eec8.delhishelter@gmail.com)

The Executive Engineer C-8, DUSIB, invites on behalf of DUSIB online Percentage rate bid on two bid system for following works :

NIT No. 41, NOW: TYADB SH: P/L C.C. pavement and construction of drain at Mangal Bazar (20 ft) road, Meet Nagar.

E-Tender No.	Estimated cost Rs.	Earnest Money	Tender Cost	Period of completion
2019_DUSIB_181972_1	80,76,569/-	161540/-	1000/-	120 days

NIT No. 42, NOW: TYADB SH: P/L cement concrete pavement and Const./raising of drain in SC/ST Basti in ward no 262(E-53), E.B no 18(CN 369-491) Block-D, Amar Colony, East Gokulpur (AC-68).

2019_DUSIB_182750_1	88,02,196/-	176045/-	1000/-	150 days
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NIT No. 43, NOW: TYADB SH: P/L cement concrete pavement and Const./raising of drain in SC/ST Basti in ward no 262(E-53), E.B no 19 (CN 492-614) Block-D, Amar Colony, East Gokulpur (AC-68).

2019_DUSIB_182751_1	77,20,164.00	154405/-	1000/-	150 days
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NIT No. 44, NOW: TYADB SH: P/L cement concrete pavement and Const./raising of drain in SC/ST Basti in ward no 262(E-53), E.B no 16-2(CN 185-245), Block-D, Amar Colony, East Gokulpur (AC-68)

2019_DUSIB_182752_1	46,46,755/-	92940/-	500/-	150 days
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NIT No. 45, NOW: TYADB SH: P/L cement concrete pavement and Const./raising of drain in SC/ST Basti in ward no 262(E-53), E.B no 16-1(CN 123-184) Block-D, Amar Colony, East Gokulpur (AC-68).

2019_DUSIB_182755_1	38,36,453/-	76730/-	500/-	150 days
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NIT No. 46, NOW: Pay & USE JSC SH: Up gradation and renovation of 42 Seater Jan Suvidha Complex at F-Block, New Seemapuri.

2019_DUSIB_182756_1	39,60,546/-	79300/-	500/-	180 days
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Last Time and date of submission of bid on 11.11.2019 up to 3.00 PM
The bid form and other details can be obtained from the [web site https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in](http://www.web.site/govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in).
All bidders are advised to visit above mentioned site regularly for any update/corrigendum related to these tenders. The corrigendum, if any shall not be advertised in press.

DIP/Shabdarth/0905/19-20

NMDC Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Khamil Bhavan, 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad-500 028
CIN : L11001GJ9588CO001674

CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT

Tender Enquiry No: HQ/Contracts/NISP/Boiler/COB/BPP/741 Dated: 29/10/2019

NMDC Limited, A "NAVARATNA" Public Sector Company under Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India, invites online bids from experienced domestic bidders for "Hiring of Package Boilers on Monthly rental basis including Installation, Operation and Maintenance of the Package Boiler to meet the Process Steam requirement for Commissioning of proposed Coke Oven Complex comprising of Coke Oven Battery, CDCP By Product Plant etc., for a limited period (Package No 110A) for 3.0 MTPA Integrated Steel Plant at Nagarnagar near Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh State". MECON Limited is the consultant for this package.

The detailed NIT and Bid documents can be viewed and / or downloaded from NMDC website: <http://www.nmdc.co.in>, Central Public Procurement portal <https://www.eprocure.gov.in/publish/app> and MSTC portal <https://www.mstccommerce.com> from 29/10/2019 to 18/11/2019.

For Accessing the Bid document from NMDC website, the bidder has to register as New User in Bid section at NMDC's website link - <https://www.nmdc.co.in/nmcdcenter/default.aspx>

For accessing the bid document from MSTC, bidders to visit website link - https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprocure/nmcd/buyer_login.jsp and search Tender No. NMDC/HQ/117/19-20/ET/557. Bidders are requested to register as 'New Vendor' for downloading the tender document. For further help refer to 'vendor guide' given in MSTC website.

The bidders are requested to submit their bids through online mode and details of submission of bid through online are given in NIT.

The Bidders on regular basis are required to visit the NMDC's website / CPP Portal/MSTC website for corrigendum, if any, at a future date.

For further clarification, the following can be contacted:

- Jl. General Manager (Contracts), NMDC Limited, Hyderabad, Fax no. +91-040-23534746, Tel.No. +91-040-23590449, email: steelcontracts@nmdc.co.in
- Jl. General Manager (NMDC Contract), MECON Limited, Ranchi, Fax no. +91-651-2482214, Tel.No. +91-06512483508, email: projnmdc@meconlimited.co.in

Jl. General Manager (Contracts)

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

The Sr.DME/Diesel, Northern Railway, Diesel Loco Shed, Tughlakabad for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tenders for the following work. The tender will be accepted online only in the prescribed tender document. Subject: Description Name of work: "Mechanized Cleaning and Washing of Locomotives at Diesel Shed, Tughlakabad" Place of work: Diesel Shed, Tughlakabad New Delhi-110044 Completion Period: 24 months. Approximate cost of work: Rs.48,71,896/- including GST @18% (Rs. Forty Eight Lakh Seventy One Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Six including GST @18%). Tender Document Cost: Rs.3540/- (Rs. Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty only) Earnest Money: Rs.97,400/- (Rs. Ninety Seven Thousand Four Hundred only) Website to be downloaded and upload e-tender document: www.irps.gov.in In Due date & time of uploading of Tender by tenderer: 20.11.2019 at 12:00 Hrs. Place of opening of tender: Divisional Railway Manager office, State Entry Road, New Delhi. Date & Time of Tender opening: 20.11.2019 after 12:00 Hrs. Validity of offer: 45 days from opening of tender Allocation: 05-0313-32 Tender Document can be downloaded from Indian Railway website www.irps.gov.in. For details of work, experience, scope of work and terms & conditions please see Tender document. Tender Notice No.: DSL/TKDL/ washing/OT/2019 dated: 26.10.2019 3463/19

Serving Customers With A Smile

MAHARASHTRA METRO RAIL CORPORATION LTD.
(A joint venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Maharashtra)
(Nagpur Metro Rail Project)
"Metro House", 28/2, CK Naidu Marg, Anand Nagar, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001
E-mail: md.nmrc.tenders@gmail.com, Website: www.metrorailnagpur.com

Tender Notice No. M1Consul-02/2019 Dt. 29.10.2019

Name of work: Empanelment of Detailed Design Consultants (DDC) for various Upcoming, Existing Projects and Works of Maha-Metro. Cost of documents: INR 11,800/- (inclusive of GST). Interested Bidders may visit MAHA-METRO Website: www.mahametro.org or download the bidding documents and obtain further details regarding the tender from our e-tender portal <https://mahametrorail.etenders.in> from 17.00 Hrs on 31.10.2019 to 16.00 Hrs on 25.11.2019. Executive Director/Procurement, Maha-Metro, (Nagpur Metro)

Bharat Nirman through Rural Roads
Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala H.P., 176215
BHARAT NIRMAN
UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
e-Procurement Notice

The Government of India has received a loan/credit number "P124639" under PMGSY (Rural Roads Project) Rural Roads Additional Financing towards the cost of Rural Roads Project (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document.

The Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala-176215 on behalf of Governor Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the district of Kangra as detailed in the Table below from the eligible contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T, Railways/other state govts/Central Govt agencies. Non-registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Division	Package No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)		Total Cost (In Lacs)	Period of Completion (Months)	Bid Security (Rs. Lacs)
			Construction	Maintenance			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Dehra	HP-04-251	Upgradation of Balaur to Rohara Road Km 0/0 to 2/800.	111.92	16.86	128.78	12	2.60
Dehra	HP-04-263	Upgradation of Dhatehar to Dodru Road Km 0/0 to 2/700.	178.14	16.26	194.40	12	3.90
Dehra	HP-04-240	Upgradation of Surani to Baggi Road Km 0/0 to 6/400.	242.42	38.54	280.96	12	5.61

Other details can be seen in the bidding document. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

Submission of all physical documents will be accepted only up to or before the time and date of submission of bids. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date/Time and place for receipt of bids through e-procurement:-
Bids can be submitted online from **Date 31 Month 10 Year 2019 to Date 22 Month 11 Year 2019 upto 1700 Hours** and will be opened on **Date 23 Month 11 Year 2019 at 1130 Hours** in the office of **Superintending Engineer, 9th Circle, HPPWD, Nurpur**.
For further details please log on to <https://pmgsytendershp.gov.in>
The undersigned has right to extend or cancel the bids without declaring any reasons there-of.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
Kangra Zone, H..P.P.W.D, Dharamshala-176215.
Fax: 011892-223100.
Tel: 011892-224948.

2598/H.P.

DAY TODAY BY PETER VIDAL

- ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**
For the last few weeks you may have been caught in a fog, unable to see your way forward with your usual clarity. Several planets are now hovering on the very brink of a new sector of your chart, heralding a fresh phase of energetic restlessness.
- TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**
An unusually complex relationship between the Sun and Mercury should make for a lively and satisfying week, mainly from the social point of view. Personal contacts could help your progress at work, but this is no time to take dubious offers at face value: look a little deeper.
- GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**
You may still feel a little out on a limb or out in the cold, but there's a great deal you can do to re-establish ordinary human contact. The influence of that energetic sign Aries will soon have you back on form, boosting your social confidence and giving you the edge over your rivals.
- CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**
It's at work that the main problems are likely to crop up. This may come as a surprise to those of you who imagine that personal affairs are most important. Intimate and family issues should be dealt with smoothly over the next forty-eight hours if possible.
- LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**
You've done well, no doubt about that. However, you can best make further progress by offloading some financial responsibilities and cutting your costs. Allow loved ones to take over the reins if you think you can trust them. If you can't, then you can at least offer them some constructive advice.
- VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**
There are some wonderful planetary alignments this week to encourage and sustain you, including aspects to Jupiter, the planet of reckless optimism. It's a week to go wild socially, if that's not too out of character. But one word of warning: if you do let your hair down then anything could happen; and I mean anything.
- LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**
Venus and Mars are in their own ways both so constructive that we can only conclude that for once you feel like a square peg in a square hole. In other words, you are getting on very well indeed. Just one condition, though, you need to clear up all unfinished emotional business.
- SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**
It's a superb moment to cut through your routine chores and daily tasks with a spot of lateral thinking. You know full well that there are ways to be more efficient with your time and resources, and now may be the moment to cut out the dead wood that's been holding you back.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**
In many ways you're walking an emotional tightrope, but even today there's an impetuous mood in the air which suits you. You'll be free to chop and change and cancel agreements, but don't be surprised if more conventional people look askance at your behaviour.
- CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**
The most advantageous sectors of your solar chart at the moment are without a doubt those pointing to your financial fortunes. Although it looks as if there'll be a slight hiccup in personal matters, business relationships should be perfectly profitable.
- AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**
Your social stars are still very strong and, although one friendship or attachment should have weathered recent storms, you must now ensure that you are not getting too carried away by your thoroughly individual emotions. What you need now is a sense of stability.
- PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**
You're now entering a high-spending phase. Over the next few weeks you'll be juggling your finances as only a true Piscean can. Everything about the present time suggests an easy ride, so don't make life difficult for yourself. And don't tangle with authority figures either.

FIRST-CLASS PLAYERS COULD GET CONTRACT

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly hinted that a contract system will soon be in place for the thousands of first-class cricketers in India.

Vanua digs deep and guides PNG to maiden T20 WC

REUTERS MELBOURNE, OCTOBER 28

GLOBAL CRICKETERS hailed one of the sport's "feel good" stories of the year on Monday after Papua New Guinea dug themselves out of a huge hole at a Dubai qualifier to book their maiden appearance at the T20 World Cup in Australia next year.

Emerging cricket nation PNG were 19 for six against Kenya after an early collapse at Dubai International Stadium but ended up thrashing the Africans by 45 runs on Sunday. PNG then had a nervous wait for the result of the Netherlands' game against Scotland, but they ultimately topped their group at the tournament due to a higher net run rate and qualify directly for Australia, their first World Cup in any format.

The PNG players celebrated wildly in the stadium's terraces and their Australian coach Joe Dawes was overwhelmed. "I am feeling a little emotional," former Queensland bowler Dawes told the global governing body ICC. "It's been a pretty big two years, for them to achieve this is pretty special."

Dawes said planning for next year's tournament could wait. "We are just going to enjoy the moment. For them to achieve this is a great thing for us and for the nation," he added.

PNG's automatic qualification came at the expense of the Netherlands, who defeated Scotland but will have to take the playoffs route to reach Australia.

Cricket was introduced into PNG in the early 1900s by British missionaries but the national teams have struggled to make an impression on the world stage until recently. The men's "Barramundis" team were awarded One Day International Status by the ICC in 2014 and they have benefited from development grants from neighbouring cricket power Australia.

"The fact that Papua New Guinea have qualified for their first Men's T20 World Cup in 2020 is one of modern cricket's amazing feel good stories," commentator and former West Indies fast bowler Ian Bishop tweeted.

India spinner Ravichandran Ashwin also hailed PNG's entry to one of cricket's biggest global stages. "So PNG qualifies for the T20 World Cup!! It's amazing to see the game expanding globally and will surely bring more young ones to play the great game," he tweeted.

BRIEF SCORES: Papua New Guinea 118 all out (Vanua 54, Bundi 4-18) beat Kenya 73 all out (Karim 29, Vala 3-7, Pokana 3-21) by 45 runs



All-rounder Norman Vanua struck 54 runs and took two wickets.

Strike over, but storm brewing

Though Bangladesh players have called off their strike, the absence of senior players in the camp suggests unease

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA DHAKA, OCTOBER 28

BANGLADESH CRICKET Board president Nazmul Hasan 'Papon' has alleged that there has been constant attempts to sabotage Bangladesh's upcoming tour of India and the strike by country's top cricketers with 11-point demand was an extension of that. He implied that several players are still disgruntled.

Bangladesh players called off the strike after BCB agreed to their demands of better pay package at the international and first-class level days before their four-week long tour of India where they are supposed to play 3 T20s and two Tests.

"You people (media) haven't yet seen anything about the India tour. Just wait and watch. If I am saying that I had specific information that this was a conspiracy to sabotage India tour, then you should believe me," Hasan told country's premier bengali daily 'Prothom Aalo' in an interview.

Asked to explain in detail why he thought so, Hasan has expressed his suspicion in the manner senior opener Tamim Iqbal has pulled out of the tour citing his wife's delivery as a reason after initially agreeing to only skip the final Test. "Tamim had initially told me that he will only skip the second Test (in Kolkata from November 22-26) for the birth of his second child. However after the meeting with players, Tamim comes to my room and said, he wants to opt out of whole tour. I asked him 'why so?' but he simply said he won't go," Hasan revealed to the Bengali daily.

Bangladesh are due to arrive in New Delhi on Wednesday, October 30 but he is sceptical that there could be a few more pull-outs. "Now after this, I won't be surprised if I find that someone else pulls out at the eleventh hour when we would be left with no other options. I have called Shakib to have a chat. Now if he also pulls out, where do I even find a captain? I might have to change whole combination. What do I even do with these players," he said. He informed that a call will be taken on him on Tuesday.

The top boss is still livid with the arm-twisting tactic employed by senior cricketers and feels he made a mistake by agreeing to their demands. He says he still can't believe what has been transpiring in the few days after the strike was called off. "I still can't believe it. I speak to them everyday. They didn't even intimate me before calling a strike. I feel that it was a mistake on my part to have agreed to their demands. I should have never done that," he said.

"I should have told the players, 'Unless you call off strike, we will not sit with you guys across the negotiation table. Speaking to various member boards, I felt that this should have been our approach but the media also created pressure on us,'" Hasan also added.

Showcase notice to Shakib

Shakib al Hasan is unlikely to face any legal action from the cricket board but Bangladesh's Test and T20 captain will still have to reply to the showcase notice for violation of central contract clause. CEO Nizamuddin Chowdhury said. Shakib had signed as the brand ambassador of country's telecom major 'Grameenphone', which is a direct competitor of team's sponsor 'Robi'. According to the central contract clause, this is a violation Nazmul Hasan Papon had threatened legal action against country's best player. However BCB CEO Chowdhury has said that no legal action will be taken.



Bangladesh's Test and T20 skipper Shakib-Al-Hasan hasn't yet informed the board about the reason to skip the training camp for the Test series against India.

'Individual issues crop up, but won't affect us'

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY KOLKATA, OCTOBER 28

BANGLADESH HAS played a Test in India before, but a full tour which will be part of the World Test Championship provides an added dimension. Former skipper Habibul Bashar, now a national selector, talks about the significance and the recent problems, including the short players' strike.

This is Bangladesh's first full tour of India. How do you look at it?

It makes the assignment even more important from Bangladesh's perspective. We are very excited, especially for the fact that we will be playing a Test at Eden Gardens. It makes the occasion humongous. Playing a Test at Lord's is a matter of pride and prestige. The same applies to a Test at Eden Gardens. Also, we will open our World Test Championship campaign with this series against India.

How well are Bangladesh prepared for the upcoming series, given that the players went on strike and Test captain Shakib Al Hasan has fallen out with the BCB over an alleged breach of contract?

See, the strike didn't last long. The matter was resolved in two days. We didn't have any match or practice sessions during that period.



Chief selector Bashar is optimistic of a strong Bangladesh performance.

The BCB handled it professionally. As for the issue related to Shakib, it's not a team issue. Sometimes, such individual issues crop up. I hope it will not affect our preparations. But we will miss Tamim Iqbal, as he is not available (the opener has pulled out on personal grounds). It's a big setback for us, because he has been our best batsman (in Tests) for long.

And like you mentioned, India are in tremendous form. They are the strongest opposition in Test cricket at this moment. So, opening our World Test Championship campaign against India is a huge challenge. We know that. It's a very tough test. At the same time, it's an opportunity for us as well. If we

perform well, Bangladesh cricket will make a rapid forward movement. But once again, it won't be easy. India probably have the best bowling attack in the world at this moment. Pace, spin – they have an all-round bowling attack. They probably also have the best top-five, batting-wise. So we have to play out of our skins.

But Shakib is at loggerheads with the BCB; will it affect the team atmosphere?

No, I don't think so. I think players are now very happy, for whatever they demanded they got it. The problem between Shakib and the BCB is over a contract clause. It's not related to cricket. So the team (atmosphere) will not be affected.

How excited are the fans in Bangladesh?

Fans are very excited. I'm sure a lot of fans from here (Bangladesh) will be going to Eden. For a lot of people in Bangladesh, especially those who are from Jessore and Khulna, it's easier to go to Kolkata than Dhaka, distance-wise (Kolkata is just 128 kilometres from Jessore). Obviously, there's sentiment attached as well, between Kolkata and Bangladesh. In Kolkata also, there are many people who have their ancestral roots in Bangladesh (erstwhile East Bengal). Like many people in Bangladesh consider Kolkata sort of their second home, I believe a lot of Kolkatans, too, reciprocate that feeling. A lot of my friends are planning to go for

the Eden Test. I won't be surprised if more than 6,000 Bangladeshi fans turn up.

The Eden Test could be a pink-ball, day-night affair. If the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) receives a request from the BCCI in this regard, will the BCB be agreeable to it?

I'm 100 per cent sure that the BCB will not object. Although we haven't played pink-ball cricket much, I'm sure that the BCB and the team will accept (it). It won't be a problem.

Bangladesh are a good batting unit and the team also has a few very decent spinners. But they probably need a tearaway fast bowler to reach the next level. Do you agree?

Yes, fast bowling is one area where we are struggling. We don't have flat-out fast bowlers. But I'm hopeful that Taskin (Ahmed) will be fit and available for the Tests. He is currently acquiring game time in first-class cricket. If he is fit for the Tests, that will be a real positive for us. We have also brought back Al-Amin (Hossain). We don't have a fast bowler like (Jasprit) Bumrah or (Mohammed) Shami. Whatever we have, Bangladesh had earned success with them in the past. And we will unearth fast bowlers in the future. At one time, India, too, had this problem (not having 140kph fast bowlers). Hopefully, we will unearth some fast bowlers soon.

Hockey Olympic qualifiers: A weekend of happy hosts, crazy comebacks and messy reviews

A vintage Pakistan performance followed up by, well, a typical Pakistan performance. A controversial decision by the video umpire that doused Ireland's Olympic hopes – and forced their captain to remark that the "video umpire should hang his head in shame". A French scare for Spain, and China's improbable comeback against Belgium.

THE FIRST weekend of the hockey Olympic qualifiers – a two-match series played at the home of the higher-ranked team – threw up a few dramatic storylines and some improbable comebacks. Ahead of the Indian men and women teams matches against Russia and USA respectively this weekend in Bhubaneswar, here's how some of the matches panned out last week, with all home teams emerging winners.

PAKISTAN FLATTER TO DECEIVE

Game 1: Ned 4 Pak 4
Game 2: Ned 6 Pak 1
(The Netherlands won 10-5 on aggregate)

Summing up his side's mentality, former Pakistan coach Shahnaz Sheikh had once said: "We either destroy others, or we destroy ourselves."

Inside 24 hours in Amsterdam, they did both.

Pakistan entered the qualifiers after paying a fine of 170,000 euros to the International Hockey Federation, in installments, for withdrawing from the Pro League, sort of qualifier for the qualifiers, at the last minute.

The three-time Olympic champions, currently ranked world number 17, were pitted against two-time gold medalists and world number 3, the Netherlands. The Netherlands had played 27 matches against top-quality opponents this year whereas the cash-crunch meant Pakistan could manage just four games the whole year. They had a whole new coaching staff after the debacle at the World Cup last year



Canada clinched an Olympic spot in men's field hockey with a sudden-death shootout victory over Ireland on Sunday . File

and the playing group was shuffled as well. The Dutch were the clear favourites.

But Pakistan surprised all, even themselves. The first game – a match for the ages – saw Pakistan take the lead thrice, but on all three occasions the Dutch managed to find a way back. Pakistan's all four goals came from penalty corners, their forwards wrecking havoc in the Dutch 'D', finding gaps and methodically demolishing the famed Dutch structural play.

Pakistan's relentless attacks and unerring penalty corner conversion seemed to have shocked the Netherlands, who – somehow – stayed alive in the tie. Pakistan led 4-3 with one second remaining. However, Mink van

der Weerden converted a controversial penalty corner – his second goal of the match – to deny Pakistan a famous win.

Just how much Pakistan had hurt the Netherlands could be gauged from the fact that skipper Billy Bakker said, "I don't want to sound arrogant, but with the quality of team like that, we should do better." And better they did.

The two teams returned on the pitch less than 24 hours later. But this time, the wounded Dutch had much more finesse than fragility. They didn't give Pakistan a sniff, romping through 6-1 and sealing a spot at the Tokyo Games. For Pakistan, this was a second successive failure to qualify for the Olympics.

(HARD) LUCK OF THE IRISH

Game 1: Canada 3 Ireland 5
Game 2: Canada 3 Ireland 1
(6-6 on aggregate, Canada won 5-4 via tie-breaker)

Video reviews aren't causing controversies in football alone. On Sunday, Ireland, one of the most improved teams in recent times, believed they had sealed the Olympics spot. Amidst the jubilation, they missed the bit where a collision inside their 'D' had been referred to the video umpire. Since 1956, are on their way to Tokyo as well. France, meanwhile, have been waiting for their first Olympics appearance since 1972. And looks like it'll end in 2024, when the Games will be held in Paris.

CHINESE WOMEN LEAVE IT LATE

Game 1: China 0 Belgium 2
Game 2: China 2 Belgium 0
(2-2 on aggregate, China win 2-1 via tie-breaker)

The largely eventless tie between two evenly-matched sides came to life in the final five minutes. Belgium had established a comfortable 2-0 lead after the first game, and had done well to protect it in the deciding fixture for 55 minutes. China's coach Huang Yongsheng replaced goalkeeper Li Dongxiao under an outfield player in the 54th minute.

Belgium buckled under relentless Chinese pressure. The hosts scored two goals in as many minutes, 56th and 57th, to force a tie-break. The goalkeeper was back under the bar for China and she pulled off a string of miraculous saves to deny four out of the five Belgian penalty takers. China eventually won the shootout 2-

SPAIN SURVIVE FRENCH SCARE

Game 1: Spain 3 France 3
Game 2: Spain 3 France 2
(Spain win 6-5 on aggregate)

France, the story of last year's World Cup, almost pulled off the improbable once again

TEAMS QUALIFIED MEN

Japan (Hosts, 2018 Asian Games champions)

Argentina (2019 Pan-American Games champions)

South Africa (2019 African Olympic Qualifiers) Belgium (2019 European Championship winners)

Australia (2019 Oceania Cup winners)

Spain (Defeated France in qualifiers)

The Netherlands (Defeated Pakistan in qualifiers)

Canada (Defeated Ireland in qualifiers)

WOMEN

Japan (Hosts, 2018 Asian Games champions)

Argentina (2019 Pan-American Games champions)

South Africa (2019 African Olympic Qualifier winner)

Netherlands (2019 European Championship winners)

New Zealand (2019 Oceania Cup winners)

Spain (Defeated Korea in qualifiers)

China (Defeated Belgium in qualifiers)

Australia (Defeated Russia in qualifiers)

Woods scales Mt. 82 on PGA Tour

American staves off Matsuyama to match compatriot Snead's all-time record of 82 victories

KAREN CROUSE
OCTOBER 28

TIGER WOODS was 6 years old the first time he crossed paths with Sam Snead, who played a two-hole exhibition in Southern California with Woods and said afterward, "If the kid doesn't burn out, he'll be the greatest golfer the world has ever seen."

Thirty-seven years later, Woods again found himself in Snead's company. At the inaugural Zozo Championship in Chiba, Japan, Woods chased down Snead, completing a wire-to-wire win on Monday for his 82nd tour victory to pull even with Snead, the PGA Tour's career titles leader. It was Woods's 359th start, which means that he has won roughly one-quarter of the tour events that he has played. The site of Woods's latest milestone was itself a nod to his eminence. Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club was the first PGA Tour event as the United States-based circuit continues to spread into far-flung territories seeded by Woods's renown.

Woods's worldwide reach was borne out in the huge crowds — at times 20 fans or more deep — that turned out to catch a glimpse of him. His global influence was also evident in the form of his main challenger, Japan's Hideki Matsuyama, whose golf journey was inspired by Woods.

After Woods won his first Masters, in 1997, Matsuyama, who was 5 at the time, said he repeatedly replayed the video of Woods's 12-stroke victory. Matsuyama offered that anecdote in 2016, after he won the tournament in the Bahamas hosted by Woods, who finished 14 strokes behind in his return to competition after a back injury had sidelined him for roughly 15 months.

Matsuyama started the final round in second and that's where he finished. Denied the opportunity to go head-to-head with Woods in the final grouping — to save time, the players weren't re-paired before the start of their fourth round on Sunday — Matsuyama ended up three strokes behind Woods, who birdied

the last hole to close with a 67, 19 under par for the tournament.

"This is big," Woods said in an 18th-green interview. "Hideki made it tight, a lot closer than people probably thought." On winning his 82nd, Woods said: "Just crazy. It's a lot. I've been able to be consistent most of my career."

Woods hadn't played competitively in two months because of surgery in August to repair minor cartilage damage in his left knee. Snead was right to sound a note of caution about the unseen forces that could trip up Woods. But burnout has never been Woods's problem. A broken-down body has been what has kept him from becoming, by all measures, the greatest golfer the world has ever seen.

As the 2018-19 season wore on, the only physical discomfort that Woods mentioned was a mild oblique strain that caused him to withdraw before the second round from his penultimate start, at the Northern Trust. Only after the fact did Woods acknowledge that his knee had been bothering him since before he claimed his first victory in five years at the 2018 Tour Championship. With that admission, the mystery of his sudden disappearance from leader boards was solved.

After Woods won the Masters in April for his 15th major title, the expectation was that the result would catapult him to great heights. It seemed entirely conceivable that he would clear the five-win bar that he set in 2013. That's what I thought, anyway, and I was in good company. Instead, he made only six starts last season after the Masters and his best finish after Augusta was a tie for ninth. "When he wins the Masters, you think he's going to win another five majors straightaway," Adam Scott, the former world No. 1 from Australia, said last month at the Safeway Open in Napa, Calif. "And then right now we don't know exactly how his health is." Woods, who will turn 44 in two months, looked as fit as a player half his age, and his ball-striking and putting called to mind the Woods of lore, whose appearance on the leader board causes angina in his competition.

"I know some of my friends have made Olympic teams before in the past and they said it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I'll be 44 and I don't know if I have many more chances after that. Hopefully I can play a little better than I did post-Masters this year and qualify for the team."

TIGER WOODS

No stopping Tiger

Woods hadn't played competitively in two months because of surgery in August to repair minor cartilage damage in his left knee but the rust didn't show in Japan.



Tiger Woods with the trophy after winning the Zozo Championship PGA Tour at the Accordia Golf Narashino country club in Tokyo, Japan. AP

52 Sam Snead was 52 years, 311 days old when he lifted his 82nd and last PGA Tour trophy at the 1965 Greensboro tournament, making him the oldest winner on the circuit. Woods will turn 44 on December 30, which makes him a likely candidate to go past Snead. Woods's first PGA Tour title came at the 1996 Las Vegas Invitational.

■ What makes Woods's victory in Japan all the more remarkable is that it was his first event after his fifth knee operation nine weeks ago. He has also had four back surgeries. Despite not playing a lot due to physical and injury issues, the last year or so have been excellent for the former world number one. After clinching the Tour Championship last year — his first title on the PGA Tour in five years — Woods won a 15th Major at Augusta, pulling himself within three of Jack Nicklaus's record. Nicklaus won his 18th and final Major at the age of 46 in 1986.

■ Of players who have made 200 starts, Woods has the highest win percentage in PGA Tour history — 22.8 per cent. He has won 44 of 46 PGA Tour events (95.6 per cent) when he has held the outright 54-hole lead.

■ Woods has been named captain for the Presidents Cup to be held in Melbourne in December. Generally, it's a non-playing captain. Hale Irwin has been the only player-captain when he led USA to victory in the inaugural edition in 1994. Arnold Palmer was the last player-captain in the Ryder Cup, back in 1963.

■ The Tokyo Olympics next year is another goal high on Woods's priority list. He was out injured in 2016 when golf made a comeback to the Olympics in Rio. Only the top four American players by rankings will make it to the Games — with Woods just inside the cut line, so to speak, behind Brooks Koepka, Dustin Johnson and Justin Thomas. So, he can't afford to have a lean time in the coming months.

Liverpool survive Spurs scare to restore 6-pt lead

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
LIVERPOOL, OCTOBER 28

MOHAMED SALAH claimed the 50th Anfield goal of his Liverpool career from the penalty spot as the Premier League leaders restored their six-point advantage at the top of the table after surviving a major scare against Tottenham.

It was a comeback victory that had Liverpool's demanding manager Jurgen Klopp heaping praise on his players for their composure in responding after Harry Kane had shot Spurs into a shock lead with only 47 seconds played. Salah struck a clinical 75th-minute penalty into the bottom right-hand corner after Serge Aurier tripped Sadio Mane, which took him to a half-century of home goals in just his 58th outing.

It completed a second-half comeback, started when Jordan Henderson cancelled out a dramatic opening goal from Kane.

There was more good news for Liverpool supporters after the game when Klopp revealed that Salah, who limped off in the closing minutes with what appeared to be an ankle problem, was only removed as a precaution. "When we were 1-0 down, we didn't chase it immediately. We just played it," said a delighted Klopp.

"Very often the result is the result of the performance. The performance was really, really good. I liked it a lot. Being 1-0 down against Tottenham with the strength they have in counter-attacking is really tough." He added: "The game I loved, a super game, how football should look, how we should play against a really strong, good organised side."

Kane strikes

Kane struck inside a minute, becoming the joint-third highest scorer in the famous club's history with his 174th goal in Tottenham colours. It was also one of the simplest after Moussa Sissoko sparked a scrambling counter-attack and set Son Heung-min racing upfield.

The South Korean's powerful strike from the edge of the area took a wild deflection off the head of Dejan Lovren before striking the woodwork but the rebound fell kindly for Kane to stoop and head into the gaping net.

It was a lead that lasted, somehow, until the 52nd minute when a Henderson cross was headed clear and turned back into the area by Fabinho. Danny Rose appeared



Salah struck a 75th-minute penalty to reach his 50th Anfield goal. Reuters

to nudge Roberto Firmino in the back but, with referee Anthony Taylor unmoved, the ball continued to the corner of the six-yard area where Henderson hit it on the half-volley into the Spurs goal. Minutes earlier, Spurs might have doubled their lead when Son was sent clear on the end of a long clearance by keeper Paulo Gazzaniga. He rounded Alisson Becker but could only strike the cross-bar from a tricky angle. But the equaliser was no more than Liverpool deserved after a dominant first-half spell in which only an inspired performance from stand-in goalkeeper Gazzaniga maintained the visitors' lead.

In one breathless, four-minute spell, Liverpool carved out five excellent chances, with Gazzaniga peerless in dealing with them. "In this season we deserve more points on the table," said Spurs manager Mauricio Pochettino, whose side are languishing in 11th spot in the table.

"It's a moment to stay strong, to keep pushing. Of course in a different season this could have finished two or three nil for us. But today for us it is a different way and it is important for us it is to stay calm and take the best decisions for the future."

"I've nothing (critical) to say because after five-and-a-half years it's a moment to be all together and show our support."



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