

India, Saudi Arabia condemn terrorism

No particular religion, race or culture should be linked with international terror, says joint statement

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India and Saudi Arabia on Tuesday condemned the recent drone attacks on the Aramco petroleum processing facilities at Abqaiq and Khurais in eastern Saudi Arabia.

In a joint statement issued at the end of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit, both sides also condemned terrorism in all forms and stated that no particular religion, race or culture should be linked with international terrorism.

An announcement by the Ministry of External Affairs declared that both sides sealed 12 MoUs on issues such as preventing narcotics trafficking, renewable energy, training of diplomats, defence industry production, security collaboration, and the use of RuPay cards in Saudi Arabia.

The MEA's Secretary in charge of Economic Relations, T.S. Tirumurti said that the discussion also considered possibilities of increasing Indian investments in Saudi Arabia. India, he



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with King Abdullah II of Jordan in Riyadh on Tuesday. •PTI

said, has not 'pledged' any amount for Saudi Arabia, but there is a chance of greater private investment from India to Saudi Arabia.

India also cleared an MoU that will help Haj pilgrims to travel comfortably in Saudi Arabia during the pilgrimage seasons.

Prime Minister Modi who

reached Riyadh late on Monday evening, held a series of consultations with Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman Al Saud, Minister of Energy, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, Minister of Foreign Affairs and with King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

During an interaction at the trade summit, Mr. Modi

also pushed for greater respect for international laws and conventions and urged for reform of the UN Security Council.

"Some countries have become too big and don't want to obey rules. But I think they have to respect and conduct themselves according to the global rules," he said.

Both sides discussed a number of regional conflicts like the war in Syria and Yemen and sought lasting peace in the Palestinian territories for the establishment of the independent Palestinian state based on the pre-1967 borders with "Jerusalem as its capital."

On the sidelines of the summit, Mr. Modi met King Abdullah II of Jordan.

"Both leaders exchanged views on working closely together to strengthen our ties across sectors, especially in trade & investment, human resource development & people-to-people ties," External Affairs Ministry spokesman Raveesh Kumar tweeted.

The two leaders met last month on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly session in New York.

Mr. Modi had met King Abdullah for the first time on the sidelines of the UNGA in September 2015. This was followed by a visit by the then president Pranab Mukherjee to Jordan in October 2015.

(With PTI inputs)

Manipur faces stir as Naga settlement 'deadline' nears

NGOs call for a civil uprising and collective resolution

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

An umbrella organisation of non-governmental organisations in Manipur has announced a 20-hour protest on October 31, the "deadline" for arriving at a solution to the protracted Naga political problem.

The Coordination Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI) has asked the people, irrespective of their religion and ethnicity, to suspend all normal activities on Thursday for protesting against a peace deal that could "challenge" the State's territorial integrity.

"The call to people is for building up a civil uprising and a collective resolution to determine our own future in case the final Naga agreement challenges Manipur's territorial integrity, economy, cultural practices and administrative set-up," COCOMI coordinator Sunil Kar said.

The protest, expected to



Keeping the peace: Soldiers stand guard in Kohima on Tuesday ahead of the deadline to conclude the Naga talks. •AP

shut down at least five districts straddling the Imphal Valley, is scheduled from 4 a.m. to midnight.

Manipur, along with Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, fears losing large swathes of land if the Centre is working towards an "inclusive settlement" covering all Naga-inhabited areas of the northeast.

The apprehension stems from speculation that the Centre and the Isak-Muivah faction of the National So-

cialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-IM) reached an agreement that would lead to the redrawing of boundaries of the States with a sizeable Naga population.

Nagaland and Manipur are also abuzz about the Centre, determined to conclude the peace talks by October 31, cold-shouldering the NSCN-IM and going for a settlement with a caucus of rival outfits called the Naga National Political Groups (NNPGs).

Sharp fall in number of Pakistanis visiting India

Bangladeshis make up the largest block of foreign visitors

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

There has been a sharp decline in the number of Pakistanis visiting India in the past three years, according to the annual report of the Union Home Ministry.

From 1,04,720 in 2016, the number fell to 57,283 in the whole of 2018 and the first three months of 2019. In 2017, it was 67,350, the report said.

A senior government official said that in August 2016, the Ministry put in place an electronic visa clearance process for Pakistani citizens. For countries under the restricted category, such as Pakistan, China and Afghanistan, any visa application has to be cleared by the Ministry after receiving inputs from the security agencies within 60 days.

The highest number of foreign visitors in the 15 months from January 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019 was from Bangladesh. Of the 1.37 crore foreigners who came to India during the period, around 28.76 lakh were from Bangladesh, followed by 18.63 lakh from the U.S. and 13.69 lakh from the U.K., the report said.

Deportations

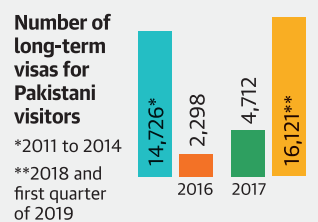
Out of the 1,982 foreigners deported by the authorities of the Foreigners Regional

Guest list

Thanks to the strained ties between the neighbours, there are now fewer visitors from Pakistan to India



The Samjhauta Express and other modes of direct transport between the two countries have been suspended post-Balakot. •FILE PHOTO



SOURCE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNION HOME MINISTRY

Registration Office (FRRO) during the 15 months, the highest number belonged to Nigeria (847), followed by Bangladesh (491) and Somalia (124), the report said. In 2017, of the 1,303 deported, the highest were from Nigeria (601), followed by Bangladesh (328) and Afghanistan (61).

In the 15-month period, a total of 16,121 long-term visas were granted to Pakistani nationals. A long-term visa is a precursor to Indian citizenship. The visa facility was first introduced in 2011 for persecuted Hindus from Pakistan. The LTVs granted to Pakistani Hindus from 2011 to 2014 stood at 14,726. The

BJP government at the Centre will reintroduce the Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2019 in the coming winter session of Parliament. It proposes to grant citizenship to six religious minorities – Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Parsis, Christians and Buddhists – from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh who came to India before December 31, 2014.

The Bill lapsed in the previous Lok Sabha as the House was dissolved following the election of a new Parliament.

In 2016 and 2017, a total of 2,298 and 4,712 LTVs, respectively, were approved for Pakistani nationals.

Cong. claims 'Pak. link' to cargo ship stuck off Goa coast

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PANAJI

The Congress in Goa on Tuesday cited "RTI documents" to claim that the cargo vessel stuck off the State coast since October 25 had originated from Pakistan.

The unmanned vessel 'MT Nu Shi Nalini', carrying 2,600 metric tonnes of naphtha, 50 tonnes of heavy oil and 19 tonnes of diesel, ran aground near Dona Paula close to the Goa Raj Bhavan.

The Congress demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi constitute a special investigating team (SIT) to investigate the matter.

Addressing reporters, Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) president Girish Chodankar cited an RTI application filed by a local in July this year to highlight the "Pakistan link" of the ship.

"It is a matter of national security as the vessel, according to documents obtained under RTI, had originated from Pakistan," he said.

Mr. Chodankar, however, didn't reveal who had filed the RTI application, its purpose and the agency to which it was submitted.

Meanwhile, the State government has requested defence authorities to provide a helicopter to drop heavy pumps and equipment on the vessel to empty it out.

Cong. plans offensive on slowdown

Senior party leaders to address press conferences across the country

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Stepping up its attack on the economic slowdown, the Congress on Tuesday finalised a plan to hold a series of press conferences across the country between November 1 and 8 to be addressed by senior leaders.

A senior Congress functionary said Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad would meet the press in Hyderabad. Rajasthan Deputy Chief



Ghulam Nabi Azad

Minister Sachin Pilot would address the media in Bengaluru.

Senior leader Mallikarjun

Charge will be in Jaipur while Ajay Maken will be addressing a press conference in Lucknow.

Former Defence Minister A.K. Antony will be Kerala to address press conferences in the State.

To give final shape to this programme, Congress president Sonia Gandhi has convened a meeting of general secretaries and heads of the frontal organisations on Saturday.

The party will focus on

the economic slowdown, joblessness, agrarian distress and a proposed trade agreement called the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

The Congress argued that the RCEP trade agreement would open up the Indian markets to 15 countries including China, Australia among others. The party held the view that it would affect agriculture, dairy farming, textile, steel and auto industry.

'Kudankulam plant control systems are hack-proof'

Official says it is not connected to a network or Internet

P. SUDHAKAR
TIRUNELVELI

Officials of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP) on Tuesday said a cyberattack on the unit was not possible as its systems were all standalone.

R. Ramdoss, Training Superintendent and Information Officer, KKNPP, said in a press release that in the Kudankulam and other Indian nuclear power plants, control systems were not connected to an outside cyber network and Internet.

Tweet in question

On Monday night, Pukhraj Singh, an independent expert on cybersecurity, tweeted that domain controller-level access at the plant had been breached. "Extremely mission-critical targets were hit," he said.

However, a senior official



of the KKNPP told *The Hindu* that at the isolated networking system of the KKNPP Universal Serial Buses (USB), compact discs could not be used as these ports had been deactivated in all the systems. It could not be accessed by any of the networks from any part of the world. Moreover, all the systems had been loaded with home-grown firewalls to check hackers' attempts,

if any. "When an Iranian nuclear power plant came under suspected cyberattack, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) took all precautionary measures though it had already put in place an isolated network.

The official revealed that a cybersecurity audit was conducted recently after a futile attempt to hack the NPCIL's isolated network was made.

"So there is no need for panic as the healthy reactors are generating power," he said.

Asked about the possibility of hand-held communication devices being used, the official said there was no possibility of smuggling such devices into the plant premises as a two-tier check was conducted every day on the employees and the contract workers.

Adrenaline rushes into Gaul

As Asterix completes 60 years, it gets its first female hero in Adrenaline, daughter of Gaul chieftain Vercingetorix. We get exclusive access to panels from the new book

SWETA AKUNDI

Things are aflutter at the Gaulish village, home to our tiny but indomitable hero Asterix, and his strong, good-natured sidekick, Obelix. And it is all because of the arrival of one teenager – Adrenaline, daughter of Vercingetorix, the chieftain of the Gauls, in *Asterix and the Chieftain's Daughter*. Adrenaline not only has the Gaulish village in throes of teenage rebellion, but is the first female hero the comic has seen in its 60 years of existence.

Escorted by two Arverni chiefs, Adrenaline lands up in the village with a target on her back. She is being chased by Caesar and his legionnaires, thanks to her father, the chieftain Vercingetorix. Remember, the last time we saw him, he had grudgingly conceded defeat by laying his weapons down at (or rather,

throwing them on) Caesar's feet at Alesia.

With long red hair in a plait that is reminiscent of, but outdoes, Obelix's, Adrenaline stands with her arms crossed and a defiantly smug look on her face. What teenage character would be complete without headphones to shut the world out? Adrenaline wears gold ones.

As her name suggests, Adrenaline is determined and fierce, and it is upto Asterix and Obelix to keep her safe as the Romans try to hunt her down.

"We didn't want to develop a character who would be based on her seductive side as we usually do with female characters in *Asterix*. Most of the time, they are young attractive women who seduce Obelix and their role stops there," said Didier Conrad to the media. Conrad took over from Albert Uderzo as illustrator, and the writer Jean-Yves Ferri,



from René Goscinny in 2013. Both have, however, stuck closely to the original format ever since.

"In terms of vocabulary, it was quite amusing because I had to create a sort of teenage language for the time. We don't have a lot of documentation about that. So

the idea was to use certain expressions like teenagers do," said Ferri.

Why Adrenaline stands out As Didier pointed out, most of the female characters in the comics have been side-characters, better known as one of the main

guys' spouses or love interests. That is not to say they weren't strong characters. Disposable as they were, they did always manage to squeeze out a couple of snorts from us.

Take Impedimenta, for instance. An ambitious woman, as the village chief Vitalstatix's

The new order (Clockwise from left) Panels from the new book; (below) Adrenaline, the female hero • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



SIXTY YEARS OF ASTERIX

- In February 2019, France issued a commemorative €2 coin to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Asterix
- Paris has renamed 12 metro stations, such as 'Mehirmontant', 'Place de Clichix', and 'Ecole Légionnaire' to honour the comics
- A new album, *Asterix: Generations* has been launched to commemorate 60 years of the comic series

– Panacea, the beautiful or Mrs Geriatrix, wife of the oldest Gaul. Women from the real world too have occasionally made cameos in the series; actress and singer Annie Cordy appears as Bonanza, the wife of the Belgian chief in *Asterix in Belgium*.

However, it is now after 60 years that we are getting our first female as a main character – one who will not be using her looks to drive the plot. Conrad has said that as Adrenaline is still a teenager, all that is feminine is focussed on her face.

According to the panels shared with us, the arrival of Adrenaline has caused considerable chaos, with the information

trying to be kept secret (an effort highly unlikely to succeed).

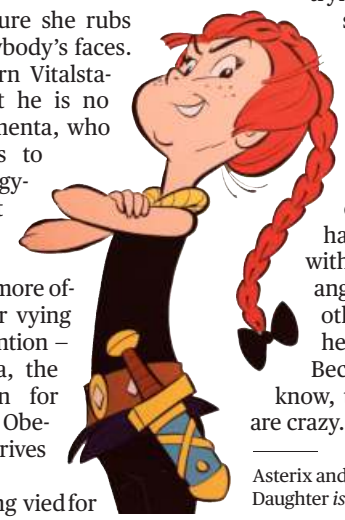
Asterix and Obelix must intervene;

on the one hand dealing with her teen angst and on the other, protect her from Caesar. Because as we all know, these Romans are crazy.

wife, she makes sure she rubs her power in everybody's faces. Proud and stubborn Vitalstatix may be, but he is no match for Impedimenta, who always finds ways to convince her 'Piggy-wiggly' to do what she wishes.

The other minor characters are more often than not either vying for a warrior's attention – think Hydrophobia, the fishmonger known for her admiration for Obelix's curves which drives him to blush.

Or, they are being vied for



Asterix and the Chieftain's Daughter is available online

FOOD REVIEW



NAVAL SATARAWALA CHOPRA

The charming husband-wife chef duo, Hanisha Singh and Jamsheed Bhote, have opened Delhi's finest (remember, I called it first!) contemporary international cuisine restaurant. It is not just about the quality of cooking, which is tremendous, or their selection of dishes on the menu, which makes you want to order everything, or the phenomenal flavours that they create, but it's



even the ingredients they source – their prawns felt as if they had been just caught, and after decades I've had veggies in Delhi which taste fresh.

Vibe: Minimalistic, bright and comfortable. The focus clearly is on the food.

Must try: Oh, where do I begin! On their appetizers list, the Shroom Buns with Mushroom and Truffle Mousse are as light as clouds and yet full of rich and creamy fungi goodness, the Prawn and Calamari

The food at Plats (Clockwise from top left) The burrata with blistered and pickled grapes, the prawn and calamari, shroom buns, charred broccoli

• SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

a la Plancha (grilled) is fresh, juicy and has an amazing spicy kick, the Charred Broccoli with Spanish Romesco (tomato) sauce and Indonesian Sambal Sauce is just wow. The Shrimp and Chicken Stuffed Wings are sticky, sweet and succulent. The burrata comes with a hazelnut and herb salsa and blistered and pickled grapes which are pure genius – we

In culinary heaven

Plats is a triumph of love, skill and fresh produce



fought over the grapes at our table.

Hanisha's famous Cubanos (sandwiches) are on the menu and they don't disappoint. There are a selection of "bowls", the Charred Pumpkin and Kale Risotto was perfect and I am so glad they served it al dente (best not to send it back saying it's undercooked).

On to mains: I've had and loved all their dishes but the two standouts are the Beetroot Pave which is caramelized to perfection and comes with a To-

mato Garlic Sauce and Sweetcorn Polenta, and the Lime Leaf and Chilli Crusted Seabass served with a citrus coriander oil that takes the dish to another level.

Finally, desserts. The chocolate soufflé tart and the Tiramisu Mille Crepe Cake are memorable.

Skip: The Banana Crème Brulee. The chocolate cake and biscuit base of it just doesn't taste right.

Spacebar: 950 sq feet with 40 covers.

Cost: ₹2,500 for two sans alcohol
Getting there: Located at C-51 Shivalik Road, three minutes from the Panchsheel crossing. Ample parking.



PRODUCTS

Wedding sutra



Anita Dongre has collaborated with Paperless Post for made-to-order digital wedding invitations for all traditional ceremonies. The collection contains 11 sets of invitations with floral and botanical motifs in muted pinks, powder blues, mint greens, peaches, yellows and tangerines. Using an online tool, you can personalise the design, send invitations, and collect RSVPs for each of the events on their wedding itinerary. In the past, Paperless Post has collaborated with design houses such as Oscar de la Renta, Kate Spade New York and Kelly Wearstler. This is their first partnership with an Indian designer.

At Paperlesspost.com, launching November 1, upwards of \$10

Contact us at delhimetro@thehindu.co.in

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



EXHIBITION

Gond artwork
Gallery Ragini is presenting an exhibition of traditional Gond artwork. Called *Folklore*, this will showcase works by artist Dhawat Singh from Chhattisgarh. The paintings tell stories of birds: peacocks losing their crowns to vanity for instance, with attention to detail and narrative.
VENUE: Ambassador, IHCL SeleQtions, Subramaniam Bharti Marg
TIME: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.



PERFORMANCE

Hindustani vocal
The India Habitat Centre is hosting a Begum Akhtar commemorative concert this evening. Rekha Surya, an award-winning Hindustani light-classical vocalist and composer, will render the poetry of Kabir, Mirza Ghalib, Faiz, Meer, Nasir Kazmi, Tulsi Sahib Hathrasi, Amir Khusro, and other iconic poets.
VENUE: Amaltas Hall, IHC, Lodhi Road
TIME: 7 p.m.



FOOD

The Signature Menu
Antidot – The Waterbar Cafe has a new menu comprising dishes like Antidot Dragon Dumplings, Home Made Ravioli, Crazy Shrimps, and Soft Tofu Chimi Changas. Beverages include Antidot Dark and Storm, made of Scotch Smoke, cinnamon bitters, and peach; Anti Connection, with cranberry infused vodka.
VENUE: B-6/2 2nd, 3rd floor, Safdarjung Enclave
TIME: 12 p.m. to 12 a.m.



FESTIVAL

Ancient Arts
The 7th International Ancient Arts Festival and Symposium, a two-day event, begins today. Scholars and artists from across the globe will attend. The first day will see an Odissi dance by Reela Hota, followed by a fusion-music set by Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, Salil Bhatt, and German jazz guitarist Matthias Muller.
VENUE: Shriram Centre for Performing Arts
TIME: 6:45 p.m. onwards



DANCE

History-inspired
Shrinkhala Dance Company's production, *Aatmadarshanam*, which will blend Indian and contemporary styles, traces the lives and virtues of three *yugpurushas*: Shiva, Gautam Buddha, and Mahatma Gandhi. The focus is on compassion, wisdom, patience, and the courage to stand up against injustice.
VENUE: The Stein Auditorium, IHC
TIME: 7 p.m.



On the road Scenes from the Ibex Trail 2019 in Ladakh; Anupam Thareja leading the 90th anniversary ride, as Ambassador Hovorka flags it off • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



ni, son of Ideal Jawa's Rustom Irani, launched with three bikes: Jawa, Jawa Forty Two and Jawa Perak. But one year later, the bikes are not yet a familiar sight on streets in any major city, despite them being pocket-friendly for a leisure motorcycling experience.

factory in Pithampur, Madhya Pradesh. Interestingly, he was also associated with the Royal Enfield turnaround, before he quit the company in 2008 to start his own investment firm. Much like that previous project, the Jawa relaunch too is one that is dipped in the rose-tinted stickiness of nostalgia.

Thareja draws from pop-culture to explain himself: "Anyone who might attempt a remake of *Sholay* (1975) will feel like a dud,"

So where are the bikes?

"Any relaunch is very difficult," says Thareja, whose company is manufacturing the units from a

he says at one instance; "but look how beautifully *Batman* has evolved to appeal to generations over the years", at another.

He confirms that one of the contributing factors for this is that their network of dealerships is spread thin, with 81 cities through the country.

"The reason we don't see bikes on the road is because I'm probably supplying two bikes here and six bikes there. In a normal biking scenario, there would be 10 dealerships in a few major locales, a whole lot of bikes sent, [resulting in] seeing the bikes there. But we are across tiers," he says.

In June, seven months after their launch, the bike makers also explained the delay in order deliveries, saying they were "overwhelmed" with the initial response. Their waiting period now has been brought down from 10 months to about six, says Thareja.

Selling a lifestyle

Industry observers have also noted the risk of people not being entirely convinced with new-age iterations of vehicles that have piggybacked off an old favourite. Contexts change too, and loud decibel levels may not cut it with an environmentally-sensitive post-millennial. Earlier this month, Bajaj relaunched the Chetak in an electric version, in the hope of riding on its nostalgia value.

"We are going to stick to what we think [the Jawa] customer needs and how we think this brand is going to be built over a long period of time," says Thareja. He aims to do so by organising more rides backed with the philosophy of their Jawa Nomads programme, where the brand encourages participants to give back to the community of the regions through which they ride – they let riders experience local food, be more mindful of the ecology, enforcing a no-plastic policy on all such rides.

Their Ibex Trail 2019, which ended in the first week of September, saw one such clean-up initiative at the Hanle river bed in Ladakh.

In tandem with the niche clientele that Jawa appeals to, Thareja hopes to "adopt a sub-culture in music and a sub-culture in sport" by associating non-mainstream artists and sporting communities. Jazz and folk-fusion over pop; hockey over cricket, he says. "Because if I start selling a motorcycle I lose. If I start selling a lifestyle, maybe I have a chance."

VANGMAYI PARAKALA

The air in the already-quiet diplomatic enclave of Chanakyapuri was quieter still last week – until the distinct exhaust note of a classic two-stroke engine filled the air. This came from one of the few vintage Jawa bikes parked at the Czech Embassy's courtyard, announcing the start of the evening.

The Embassy was celebrating the 90th year of the motorbike brand, which had originated in Czechoslovakia and found an almost cult-like following in India since the 1960s.

To mark this milestone, they also unveiled a limited 90th Anniversary edition of the bike, from Jawa's new custodians, Classic Legends, a subsidiary of the Mahindra Group, which relaunched Jawa in the Indian market in November last year.

Earlier that morning, these vintage models had participated in a ride down Rajpath, to celebrate the milestone, which the Czech Ambassador to India, Milan Hovorka, had flagged off. Yezdis, which were manufactured in India with know-how from Jawa, also took part.

Family silver

Some of these bikes were passed on from father to son – for instance, 46-year-old Atul Arvind Gokhale from Pune remembers taking the bike he brought to Delhi, on rides as early as when he was just 13 years old. "I never ex-

The (almost) return of the Jawa

The Czech Ambassador in India, along with Classic Legends, marked 90 years of Jawa. But where are the bikes?

pected my bike [a 1967 Jawa 250 Type 353] to stay with me all this time. It's a part of my family," he says. At the event, Hovorka too recalled the emotion that many back in the Czech Republic hold, of owning a Jawa. "We call this family silver. It has that value."

Jawa first formally came to India in 1961, imported by a domestic firm called Ideal Jawa, founded by the Parsi businessmen Rustom and Farrokh Irani. Under licence, they also started manufacture of these bikes from their Mysore factory. By 1971, they had also started the Yezdi.

Gokhale, a service head at Honda Cars based in Pune, is also one of the founding members of the Yezdi Jawa Owners Club (YJOC) of Pune. They had started with just three people in 2001. Today, the club has over 250 members, with the youngest in their late teens, and the oldest close to 75.

Since the bikemaker officially stopped production in India in the early '90s, close to 35 groups through the country like the YJOC Pune – including the Roaring Riders, Yezdi & Jawa Club Delhi, Rajasthan Jawa Yezdi Club, Mysuru Jawa Club, Puducherry Jawa Club, the Jawa Yezdi Club of Hyderabad – have only served to cement the cult-like status of the Jawa-Yezdi bikes in India until today.

Zero-maintenance value

"This used to be called the *hoodhwala* bike," says 45-year-old Mandar Phadke, another member of the YJOC. "The idea behind that [expression] is of reliability. I've driven mine [a 1950 250cc Perak] for the last 19 years, travelling over 84,000 kilometres, from -7°C to 46°C; it is still 200% reliable."

Unlike Gokhale, Phadke bought his bike. It's been 19 years since he

did, and as its third owner, he got a bit of it restored. "But most of it is intact still – these spokes are over 70 years old," he says. "It's really a zero-maintenance bike."

The revival

Even before manufacturing began in Mysore, the stage had been set for Jawa's entry, with collectors transporting small numbers of the bikes into the country, even in the 1950s.

This niche established an aspiration, so when the brand formally arrived in India, it could hold its own in the market, which already had the Royal Enfield, and later the Bajaj Chetak and the Lunas as two-wheeler options. Jawa, like the Enfield, was also the more "masculine" of options.

Last November, investment banker Anupam Thareja, co-founder of Classic Legends, backed by Anand Mahindra and Boman Ira-

POOCH CAFE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



TIGER



WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



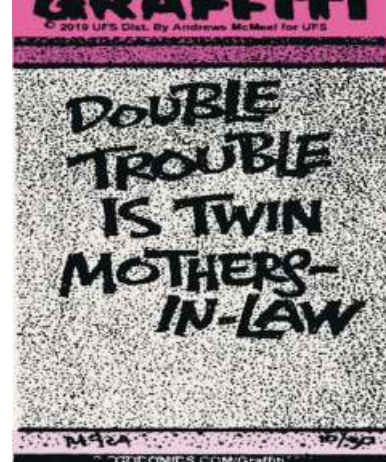
PEANUTS



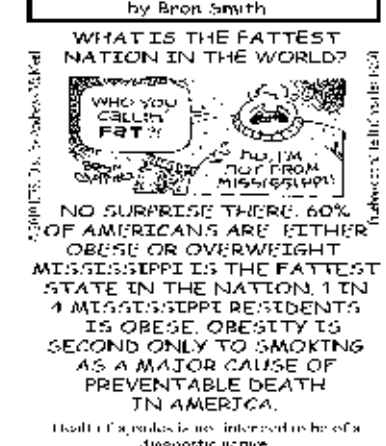
CALVIN AND HOBBS



GRAFFITI



HEALTH CAPSULES



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- 5 Priceless (10)
- 6 Affirmative gestures (4)
- 7 Hang around in a secretive way (4)
- 10 Wagner opera (10)
- 12 (Sound made by) fancy frills on female dresses – four/four (anag) (4-4)
- 13 In motion (5, 3)
- 16 Horses (6)
- 18 Worry unnecessarily (4)
- 19 Long-necked bird (4)

Solution will appear in The Hindu dated October 31, 2019.

Solution No. 13210

- 1 Snide remarks (4)
- 3 Countrywide (8)
- 8 Equipment (4)
- 9 Dali, painter (8)
- 11 Gondolier's song (10)
- 14 Sea cow – gun dog (anag) (6)
- 15 Senior nursing officer of old (6)
- 17 Small melon with ribbed skin (10)
- 20 Dirty (8)
- 21 Fine (for the Scots) (4)
- 22 Summer frock (8)
- 23 Wharf (4)

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TV PICKS

NBA: Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 8 a.m.
Australia vs Sri Lanka: 2nd T20I, Sony Six (SD & HD), 1.30 p.m.
T20 WC Qualifiers: Star Sports 3, 3.30 p.m. & 9 p.m.
ISL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.
Serie A: Sony Ten 1 & Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 1.30 a.m. (Thursday)
FIFA U-17 World Cup: Sony Six (SD & HD), 1.30 a.m. (Thursday).

IN BRIEF



Curry and Green lead Pelicans rout

LOS ANGELES
Stephen Curry scored 26 points and Draymond Green bagged a triple-double as Golden State Warriors bounced back from successive thrashings to down New Orleans Pelicans on Monday. The reigning Western Conference champions rediscovered their scoring touch to claim a 134-123 win at the Smoothie King Centre.
The results: Detroit Pistons 96 bt Indiana Pacers 94; New York Knicks 105 bt Chicago Bulls 98; Philadelphia 76ers 105 bt Atlanta Hawks 103; Toronto Raptors 104 bt Orlando Magic 95; Houston Rockets 116 bt Oklahoma City Thunder 112; Milwaukee Bucks 129 bt Cleveland Cavaliers 112; Golden State Warriors 134 bt New Orleans Pelicans 123; San Antonio Spurs 113 bt Portland Trail Blazers 110; Utah Jazz 96 bt Phoenix Suns 95; Denver Nuggets 101 bt Sacramento Kings 94; Los Angeles Clippers 111 bt Charlotte Hornets 96. **AFP**

Joshna loses to defending champion

CAIRO
India's Joshna Chinappa lost to Nour El Sherbini, the defending champion and the No. 2 seed 11-5, 11-3, 11-6 in the pre-quarterfinals of the PSA women's World championship here on Tuesday. The three-time World champion comfortably won the opening two games, before Joshna put up more of a fight in the third.



Gymnastics venue for Tokyo Olympics unveiled

TOKYO
Organisers of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics on Tuesday unveiled a custom-built \$188 million gymnastics venue inspired by Japanese architecture that uses wood brought from around the country. The futuristic Ariake Gymnastics Centre in Tokyo uses 2,300 cubic metres of wood and is intended to hark back to traditional building techniques that pre-dated the use of modern materials. **AFP**



Way to go! Kiki Bertens made her presence felt in her very first match in the Finals. **REUTERS**

Miranda House enters semifinals

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
Harshita was hampered by a knee injury and had to retire from a winning position against Ankita Hoon, as Miranda House secured a 2-0 victory over Sri Venkateswara College in the quarterfinals of the Delhi University inter-collegiate women's tennis, organised by the Lady Shri Ram College, here on Tuesday. Gargi College and Indraprastha College were the other teams that made the semifinals.
Host Lady Shri Ram College was locked 1-1 against

Kalindi College. The decisive doubles will be played on Wednesday.
The results (quarterfinals):
Gargi College bt Jesus and Mary College 2-0 (Anu Moar bt Amrita Yaav 6-0, 6-1; Tanmayee Patnaik bt Nisha Rani 6-4, 6-1).
Indraprastha College bt Shri Ram College of Commerce 2-1 (Shivya Sachdeva bt Rishika Sharma 6-2, 6-2; Manisha Hooda lost to Shefali Arora 1-6, 3-6; Shivya & Manisha bt Rishika & Shefali 6-4, 6-1).
Miranda House bt Sri Venkateswara College 2-0 (Neeru bt Malika 6-2, 6-2; Ankita Hoon bt Harshika 6-4, 2-6, 0-4 (ret.)).

Thapa and six others enter last-four stage

BOXING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA TOKYO

Four-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa (63kg) assured himself of a medal at the Olympic boxing Test event here winning his quarterfinal bout on Tuesday while six other Indians made the last-four stage without even stepping in the ring.



Shiva Thapa. **FILE PHOTO: AKHILESH KUMAR**

Thapa overpowered local favourite Yuki Hirakawa in a 5-0 verdict to fight his way into the medal rounds. The seasoned boxer from Assam claimed his third National title earlier this month.

Bye for Narimatsu

He will be up against another Japanese, Daisuke Narimatsu, in the semifinals on Wednesday.
Narimatsu got a bye in the first round.
The six other Indians, including former junior World champion Nikhat Zareen (51kg), a medal was guaranteed without a fight as they either got byes or were helped by the size of their draws.
Zareen, who hit the sea-

dlines recently for a bitter row over selection for next year's Olympic qualifiers where six-time world champion M.C. Mary Kom has been preferred over her without a trial, will face Japan's Sana Kawano on Wednesday.
Apart from Zareen, Asian silver-medallist Sumit Sangwan (91kg), Ashish (69kg), Vanhlmpuia (75kg), Simranjeet Kaur (60kg) and Pooja Rani (75kg) made the semifinals.
The only disappointment for the Indian contingent was the quarterfinal exit of Anant Choapde, who went down 3-2 in a hard-fought contest against local hope Toshio Kashiwasaki.

Bertens has a surprise for Barty

Injured Osaka's replacement stuns World No. 1

WTA FINALS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE SHENZHEN

Kiki Bertens, who replaced an injured Naomi Osaka, stunned World No. 1 Ashleigh Barty with a comeback three-set victory to shake-up the season-ending WTA Finals here on Tuesday.
The World No. 10 looked in deep trouble at a set and break down, but turned the tide with ruthless returns and aggressive play at the net to overwhelm a deflated Barty, who could have sealed a spot in the semifinals with victory.

Bertens won 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 in two hours and nine minutes in a see-saw match featuring 12 breaks of serve.
Bertens appeared nervous under the bright lights dropping her first three service games and Barty, who has locked up the year-end No. 1 ranking, pounced to run away with the first set.
Barty then endured her own service woes against an increasingly aggressive Bertens, who showcased soft touch at the net. A slumping Barty had her serve broken five times through the second and third sets as Bertens stormed to her first victory over the Australian.

Bertens continued her strong form after making the final in Zhuhai last week and the semifinals of the China Open earlier in the month, when she lost a three-set thriller to Barty.
Bertens, who made the semifinals of last year's edition, has to win both her matches to qualify for Red Group.
In the later match, Belinda Bencic fought back from a second-set spiral to beat Petra Kvitova 6-3, 1-6, 6-4 in one hour and 47 minutes.
Bencic stays alive
It kept her tournament hopes alive after she had lost

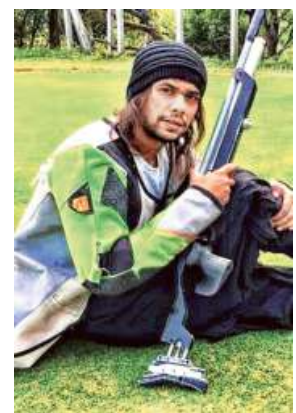
her opening match to Barty.
Earlier, two-time Grand Slam winner and third-ranked, who was on a hot streak of 11 matches, withdrew from the season finale with a shoulder problem – the second straight year she has been forced out due to injury.
The 23-year-old Osaka said she was unsure of the severity of the injury, which she initially hurt during her triumph in Beijing earlier this month.
The results:
Red Group: Kiki Bertens bt Ashleigh Barty 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; Belinda Bencic bt Petra Kvitova 6-3, 1-6, 6-4.

Sidhartha Babu aims for a Paralympics medal

Planning an equipment upgrade in pursuit of his dream

M.R. PRAVEEN CHANDRAN THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Sidhartha Babu, the rifle shooter who won a quota place to compete in the 2020 Paralympics, is aiming for a podium finish in Tokyo.
Sidhartha Babu shot 617.6 points to finish sixth in the mixed 50m rifle prone SHI event at the WSPS championship in Sydney last week.
The performance earned him a quota place and Sidhartha Babu is obviously thrilled.



Single-minded focus: Sidhartha Babu qualified for the Games at the WSPS championship in Sydney last week. **SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**

"It was the moment I was waiting for all these years. I had many dreams and this was my first target. I am excited and very proud to represent the nation at the Paralympics. I am thankful to all people who supported me, especially the Kerala government," he said.
The Bengaluru-based

for seven years, I concentrated more on technique. I also worked on my concentration and did regular workouts at the gym. I was aware of the windy conditions in Sydney and was mentally prepared for it," he said.
Sidhartha Babu said he was planning to upgrade his equipment and has ordered a new rifle. As for his preparation, he wants to reunite with his foreign coach Sergi Martynov from Belarus.
"He is a multiple Olympic champion and I was fortunate to train with him for two weeks last year. This time I am looking for a longer session, like one or two months. I will also be competing in the World Cup in March and I am looking to win a medal as a first step towards achieving the larger goal," he said.

shooter was extremely focused on his mission. He spent seven to eight hours at the shooting range.
"I stuck to my schedule. Since I was using an old rifle, one that has been with me

Mohun Bagan bows out in semifinals

FOOTBALL

SPORTS BUREAU CHITTAGONG

Lee Tuck's hat-trick helped Terengganu FC defeat Mohun Bagan 4-2 in the semifinals of the Sheikh Kamal International Club Cup at the M.A. Aziz Stadium here on Tuesday.

Fran Gonzalez equalised twice in the second half to bring the scores level at 2-2.

Twin strikes

But Syafik Bin Ismail put the Malaysian club back in the lead before Tuck added his third in the 79th minute to put the scoreline beyond Bagan.
The result: Terengganu FC 4 (Lee Tuck 39, 59, 79, Syafik Bin Ismail 75) bt Mohun Bagan 2 (Fran Gonzalez 47, 61).

Castaway well prepped to come good

MYSURU: Castaway, who has been well tuned, is expected to score in the M.K. Srinivas Memorial Trophy (1,200m), the feature event of the concluding day's races to be held here on Wednesday (Oct 30). False rails (width about 2m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position. A carried over amount of ₹8,49,841 will be added to the combined jackpot pool.

1. MULKI PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 1-00 p.m.: 1. Only Prince (1) Chetan G 60, 2. Premier Premises (4) Arshad 60, 3. Extremelydangerous (9) S. Shareef 59, 4. Rancho (5) K. Raghu 59, 5. Cherie Amour (2) Rajesh K 58, 6. Emerald Green (12) T.S. Jodha 57, 7. South Bell (1) Sai Kiran 57, 8. Vroom Vroom (7) Chotu Jaiswar 55.5, 9. Natalie (6) Rayan 55, 10. Iconic Glory (10) Ramandeep Bal 54.5, 11. Desert Gilt (8) Vaibhav 54 and 12. Oro Plata (3) Mukesh K 51.

1. PREMIER PREMISES, 2. EMERALD GREEN, 3. DESERT GILT

2. NUGU DAM PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 1-30: 1. Castlebar (7) H.M. Akshay 60, 2. Hafnium (1) Dhebe 59.5, 3. Oceana (3) K. Raghu 59, 4. Eloika (1) Janardhan P 58, 5. Green Meadow (6) H. Rahul 57.5, 6. Divine Retribution (5) R. Manish 57, 7. Girl With Pearl (8) Arshad 57, 8. Aerospeed (9) B. Harish 56, 9. Industrialist (2) Darshan 55, 10. Kasauli (4) Vaibhav 55, 11. Princeazeem (12) T.S. Jodha 55 and 12. Perfect King (00) Sai Kiran

52.5.
1. AEROSPEED, 2. HAFNIUM, 3. GIRL WITH PEARL
3. MULKI PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 2-00: 1. Heart Beat (7) Shiva Kumar 62.5, 2. Lightning Attack (2) Chetan G 62.5, 3. Moonstruck (10) G. Rohith 62.5, 4. Arrogance (9) M. Naveen 62, 5. Only Hope (4) Gautam Raj 62, 6. Nostradamus (1) S. John 61, 7. King Star (8) Madhu Babu 60.5, 8. Firestone (6) A. Vishwanath 59.5, 9. Smart Signs (5) Vipin Kumar 59.5, 10. Star Lagoon (1) S. Shareef 59.5, 11. Lovely Sierra (3) Jagadeesh 59 and 12. Star Style (12) Vijay Kumar 58.5.

1. NOSTRADAMUS, 2. STAR LAGOON, 3. ARROGANCE
4. KASARGOD PLATE (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 2-30: 1. Thea's Glory (6) H.M. Akshay 60, 2. Carnival Express (5) Ramandeep Bal 59.5, 3. Countrys Crown (1) Vijay Kumar 58, 4. Segera (12) Shiva Kumar 55.5, 5. Swiss Admiral (9) Rajesh K 55.5, 6. Naval Wrestler (3) Adarsh 54.5, 7. Akimbo (4) Sai Kiran 54, 8. Sumner (1) S. Imran 54, 9. King's Command (2) Jagadeesh 53.5, 10. Pilgrim (8) Arshad 53.5, 11. Classic Jewel (7) A. Merchant 52.5 and 12. Siberian Tiger (10) Dhebe 52.

1. CLASSIC JEWEL, 2. SWISS ADMIRAL, 3. AKIMBO
5. ALEKONA TROPHY (1,600m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 3-00: 1. Brabourne (4) Kiran Rai 61.5, 2. Susses Pride (6) J. Paswan 59.5, 3. All In (1) Rajesh K 58, 4.

Celestial Light (7) Adarsh 57, 5. Order Order (2) S. Shareef 55, 6. Reanna (3) Dhebe 55, 7. Thea's Gift (10) H.M. Akshay 55, 8. Willow Glen (11) Ramandeep Bal 55, 9. Ascendancy (9) Arshad 54.5, 10. Siddhani (5) Janardhan P 54, 11. Arak (12) Shiva Kumar 53 and 12. Anteros (8) I. Chisty 52.

1. ORDER ORDER, 2. BRABOURNE, 3. ANTEROS
6. K. THAMMANNA GOWDA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 45 to 65, 3-30: 1. Coorg Regiment (4) Mukesh K 60, 2. Take A Bow (9) Jagadeesh 60, 3. Illuminate (8) Dhebe 59.5, 4. Animal Queen (1) S. John 59, 5. Greek Goddess (5) J. Paswan 57, 6. Class Above (10) Ramandeep Bal 56, 7. Ewador (12) Rajesh K 56, 8. Spanish Beauty (7) I. Chisty 55, 9. Clovis (2) Md. Mushraf 54.5, 10. Eddie The Eagle (1) S. Imran 54, 11. Export Quality (3) H.M. Akshay 53.5 and 12. Valkyrie (6) Arshad 53.

1. SPANISH BEAUTY, 2. ANIMAL QUEEN, 3. CLASS ABOVE
7. M.K. SRINIVAS MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 60 & above, 4-00: 1. Star Of Thea (2) Chetan G 63.5, 2. Country Music (6) S. John 60.5, 3. Batman (7) Rajesh K 59.5, 4. Haedi's Folly (1) I. Chisty 58.5, 5. Maduro (11) Santosh K 58, 6. Fringe Benefit (12) S. Shareef 57.5, 7. Mint (5) Sai Kumar 57.5, 8. Castaway (9) A. Imran 57, 9. Good Earth (10) Kiran Rai 53.5, 10. Super Success (4) Darshan 53, 11. Admiral Act (8) Mukesh K 51.5 and 12. Cyclone (3) C. Umesh 51.

1. CASTAWAY, 2. HAEDI'S FOLLY, 3. GOOD EARTH
8. NUGU DAM PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 4-30: 1. Al Dorado (5) Kiran Rai 62.5, 2. Brooklyn Supreme (2) Chetan K 62.5, 3. Maybe Forever (4) Rajesh K 62.5, 4. Be Bold (3) Sai Kumar 61, 5. Habanero (9) A. Imran 61, 6. Lucky Pineapple (7) J. Paswan 61, 7. Morrane Gabriella (8) R. Pradeep 60, 8. Sufficient Proof (6) Chetan G 60, 9. Touch Of Class (1) Sai Kiran 60, 10. Tanoura (11) Adarsh 59, 11. Stari Grad (12) Dhebe 58.5 and 12. Back Of Beyond (10) S. Shareef 58.

1. BROOKLYN SUPREME, 2. HABANERO, 3. BE BOLD
9. KASARGOD PLATE (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Country's Power (1) Darshan 60.5, 2. Dancing Blues (5) Janardhan P 60, 3. Dean's Gal (11) H.M. Akshay 60, 4. Spiritual Force (10) C. Umesh 60, 5. Naval Glory (6) Santosh K 57, 6. Sky Jasmine (8) K. Raghu 57, 7. Ireland (4) Rajesh K 56.5, 8. Frosted (9) Arshad 56, 9. Airvelocity (7) I. Chisty 55, 10. Masters Mind (2) S. Imran 55, 11. Octopussy (3) H. Rahul 55 and 12. Venu Vidi Vici (12) T.S. Jodha 54.5.

1. FROSTED, 2. COUNTRY'S POWER, 3. AIRVELOCITY
Day's best: NOSTRADAMUS
Double: SPANISH BEAUTY – CASTAWAY
Jkt: 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9; Tr (i): 1, 2 and 3; (ii): 4, 5, and 6, (iii): 7, 8 and 9.

IN BRIEF


Modern humans came from Botswana: study

PARIS
Modern humans emerged 2,00,000 years ago in a region of northern Botswana, scientists have found. While it has long been known that modern humans – *Homo sapiens* – originated in Africa, scientists have until now been unable to pinpoint the precise location of our species' birthplace. A team analysed DNA samples from 200 Khoesan people to arrive at the conclusion. AFP


U.K. to melt down and recycle Brexit coins

LONDON
The U.K.'s Royal Mint plans to melt down and recycle the commemorative coins minted to mark Brexit on October 31, after the U.K.'s exit from the European Union (EU) was delayed by three months until January 31, 2020. The concept of a new 50-pence coin, featuring the U.K.'s scheduled departure date from the economic bloc, will now be moved to a later date. "We will still produce a coin to mark our departure from the European Union," a U.K. Treasury official said. PTI

Assamese Bhaona to make an English debut in Abu Dhabi

Three siblings seek to take the folk theatre form to a global audience

RAHUL KARMAKAR
DIBRUGARH

Almost 500 years after saint-reformer Srimanta Sankardeva experimented with the literary language of Brajavali, Assam's Bhaona has now reached foreign shores in an English avatar.

Entertainment played a major role in the neo-Vaishnavite movement that Sankardeva started in Assam. He wrote his prose in Sanskrit but used Assamese and Brajavali to develop Borgeet, a new form of spiritual music, and Bhaona, a mythology-based theatrical performance, and monastic dances that evolved into the classical Sattriya.

Linguistic researchers say Sankardeva needed to connect with his Assamese masses, who did not expect the divine characters of his plays to speak in the common man's language. So he created the Brajavali, a literary language limited to theatrical usage.

The need to connect with an audience not conversant with Assamese, not to speak of Brajavali, was the reason why three siblings from Sonitpur district's Jamugurihat conceived the English Bhaona a couple of years ago. The experiment has taken them to Abu Dhabi where they are set to stage two Bhaonas –



Vibrant medley: Bhaona performers incorporate music, dance and drama into the folk art form. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Keli Gopala ('Playful Krishna') and *Ravana Badha* ('Slaying Ravana') – on November 1.

"The Bhaonas would be performed by members of Prajanma Unmesh, a socio-cultural organisation, at the BRS Auditorium in Mohammed Bin Zayed City. Assam's Department of Culture has supported our initiative to take Bhaona to the world

in a language many are familiar with," Sandhya Gitimallika Baidya told *The Hindu*.

While Ms. Baidya and her sister Girimallika Saikia are the coordinators of the plays, their brother Arup Sakia is the director. He also translated the Bhaonas from Brajavali into English.

Conservatives have been critical of the trio for "deviating" from the pure form of

Sankardeva and his disciple Madhabdeva's creations with their "English misadventure".

Mr. Saikia defended the attempt. "Intellectual assets cannot be kept within the narrow confines of a particular language. One has to change with the times and showcase the cultural wealth to the new generation across the globe," he said.

A Bhaona, involving dialogues, songs and dances by performers in costumes and ornaments, usually involves 40-50 people, including those playing heavy drums and cymbals.

But the team that landed in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday has 25 members.

"Transporting an entire troupe with their costumes and array of musical instruments is unwieldy besides being expensive. We had to keep the troupe to a minimum for managing with a limited budget," Ms. Baidya said.

Many of the actors in the two Bhaonas are schoolchildren. They include Ms. Baidya's 13-year-old son Daawarnil, one of the lead singers, and 14-year-old Rahat Rahman who plays two characters from the Ramayana – Rama's brother Lashmana and Bali, the monkey king of Kishkindha.

14 mountains in six months: Nepali climber makes history

Nirmal Purja smashes record for scaling highest peaks

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KATHMANDU

A Nepali mountaineer on Tuesday smashed the speed record for summiting the world's 14 highest peaks, racing up all "8,000ers" in just six months and six days, organisers said.

The previous record for the 14 mountains above 8,000 metres tall was almost eight years.

"MISSION ACHIEVED!" says @nimsdai from the summit of #Shishapangma," read a post on Mr. Purja's Facebook page, while a statement quoted him as being "overwhelmed and incredibly proud" after his 189-day feat.

"It has been a gruelling but humbling six months, and I hope to have proven that anything is possible with some determination, self-belief and positivity," the 36-year-old said. "We started with nothing, but look how far we've come."

Starting with Italy's legendary Reinhold Messner in 1986 – who on Tuesday praised Mr. Purja's "unique mountaineering accomplishment" – around 40 climbers have climbed the Earth's 14 highest mountains, but none have come close to Mr. Purja's speed.

The late Polish climber Jerzy Kukuczka took seven years, 11 months and 14 days



Pinnacle of success: Nirmal Purja. •@NIMSDAI/TWITTER

in 1987. South Korean Kim Chang-ho completed the challenge one month faster – although unlike Mr. Kukuczka and also Mr. Purja, he never used supplementary oxygen. Mr. Purja, a former member of the Gurkhas – a brigade of Nepalis in the British Army – as well as the elite Special Boat Service, kicked off "Project Possible" in April.

In the first part of his record attempt, Mr. Purja ticked off Annapurna, Dhaulagiri, Kanchenjunga, Everest, Lhotse and Makalu in just one month.

A month later, Mr. Purja

tackled the notorious Nanga Parbat at 8,125 metres.

Battling sleep deprivation to meet his target, Mr. Purja said he was almost sprinting up and down five of Pakistan's highest peaks including Gasherbrum I, Gasherbrum II and K2, the second highest in the world.

Twenty-three days later he was standing atop Broad Peak, his fifth and final mountain of the second phase. Mr. Purja began his final push in September, reaching the tops of Cho Oyu and Manaslu within a week.

With the summit of Shishapangma, he met his goals.

Robert Evans, maverick producer of classics, dies at 89

He oversaw the making of *The Godfather* and *Chinatown*

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LOS ANGELES

Legendary Hollywood movie mogul Robert Evans, who oversaw 1970s classics *The Godfather* and *Chinatown*, has died aged 89.

A larger-than-life figure, Evans was known in Tinseltown both for saving Paramount Pictures by green-lighting a string of hits, and for his tabloid lifestyle including cocaine addiction and seven marriages.

Evans' death, which occurred on Saturday, was confirmed on Monday by his publicist, and by a second person close to the producer. No details were immediately available.

Evans took over as Paramount's head of production in 1966 aged just 36, ushering in a highly successful era for the studio including *Ro-*



Robert Evans

semary's Baby (1968) with director Roman Polanski, followed by Francis Ford Coppola's *The Godfather* (1972).

Mr. Coppola paid tribute on Monday to Evans' "charm, good looks, enthusiasm, style, and sense of humour".

"He had strong instincts as evidenced by the long list of great films in his career," said Mr. Coppola, also praising the producer's "ultimate realisation that *The Godfather*

er could be 2 hours and 45 minutes in length".

Evans earned an Oscar nomination – his only Academy recognition – for personally producing *Chinatown* (1974).

Born the son of a New York dentist in 1930, Evans was a partner in a clothing company before moving to Los Angeles where he began his film acting career. He appeared in the 1957 movie version of Ernest Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises*, despite the author's protests.

Darryl F. Zanuck, head of 20th Century Fox at the time, reportedly insisted that the handsome Evans remain in the film by declaring "The kid stays in the picture" – later the title of Evans' autobiography and a documentary about his life.

Trick or treat



All dressed up: U.S. President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump hand out candy to schoolchildren in advance of Halloween (October 31) at the White House in Washington, U.S. on Monday. •REUTERS

Mountain gorillas in Africa rebound thanks to careful interventions

Change could not have happened without an exercise some biologists call "extreme conservation", which has entailed monitoring every single ape in the rainforest

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KINIGI

Deep in the rainforest of Volcanoes National Park, a 23-year-old female gorilla named Kurudi feeds on a strand of wild celery. She bends the green stalks and, with long careful fingers, peels off the exterior skin to expose the succulent inside.

Biologist Jean Paul Hirwa notes her meal on his tablet computer as he peers out from behind a nearby stand of stinging nettles.

The large adult male sitting next to her, known as a silverback, looks at him quizzically. Mr. Hirwa makes a low hum "ahh-mmm" imitating the gorillas' usual sound of reassurance.

"I'm here," Mr. Hirwa is trying to say. "It's OK. No reason to worry."

Raising the alarm

American primatologist Diane Fossey, who died in 1985, would likely be surprised any mountain gorillas are left to study. Alarmed by rising rates of poaching and deforestation in central Africa, she predicted the species could go extinct by 2000.

A concerted and sustained conservation campaign has



Dedicated team: Trackers observing a pair of gorillas in Volcanoes National Park. •AFP

averted the worst and given a second chance to these great apes, which share about 98% of human DNA.

Last year, the Switzerland-based International Union for Conservation of Nature changed the status of mountain gorillas from "critically endangered" to "endangered," an improved if still-fragile designation, reflecting new survey data.

It wouldn't have happened without an interven-

tion some biologists call "extreme conservation," which has entailed monitoring every single gorilla in the rainforest, periodically giving them veterinary care to clean infected wounds, for instance, and funding forest protection by sending money into communities that might otherwise resent not being able to convert the woods into cropland.

"The gorillas are still here. We celebrate that as a victo-

ry," Mr. Hirwa says. Instead of disappearing, the number of mountain gorillas, a subspecies of the eastern gorilla, has risen from 680 a decade ago to just over 1,000 today. Their population is split between two regions, including mist-covered defunct volcanoes within Congo, Uganda and Rwanda one of Africa's smallest and most densely populated countries.

"The population of mountain gorillas is still vulnera-

ble," says George Schaller, a renowned biologist and gorilla expert. "But their numbers are now growing, and that's remarkable."

Once depicted in legends and films like *King Kong* as fearsome beasts, gorillas are actually languid primates that eat only plants and insects, and live in fairly stable, extended family groups. Their strength and chest-thumping displays are generally reserved for contests between male rivals.

Medical assistance

Every week, Mr. Hirwa and other scientists gather data as part of long-term behavioural research.

In case medical intervention is needed, the scientists inform the chief park warden and the staff at Gorillas Doctors, a non-governmental group whose veterinarians work in the forest. The vets monitor wounds and signs of respiratory infections, but they intervene only sparingly.

When they do for example, by darting a gorilla with antibiotics they almost never remove the animals from the mountain, since reuniting gorillas can be difficult. A

With tourism, the tension is always not to overexploit

DIRCK BYLER
Global Wildlife Conservation

long absence can change the delicate social dynamic.

"Our hospital is the forest," says Jean Bosco Noheli, a veterinarian at Gorilla Doctors. When his team goes into the field to address a gorilla emergency, they must carry everything they might need in equipment bags weighing up to 45 kg, including portable X-ray machines.

Mr. Schaller, the biologist, conducted the first detailed studies of mountain gorillas in the 1950s and early 60s, in what was then the Belgian Congo. He was the first to discover that wild gorillas could, over time, become comfortable with periodic human presence, a boon to researchers and, later, tourists.

Today, highly regulated tour groups hike in the Rwandan rainforest to watch gorillas. Within Volcanoes National Park, tour groups are limited to eight people at a time, with only an hour spent observing gorillas.

People are not allowed to

carry food or even water bottles near the animals, lest a curious silverback snatch them and get exposed to germs from humans.

The number of tourists per day is limited, and the price is steep: \$1,500 (₹1.6 lakh) per visit.

Sustainable ideas

Ticket revenue pays for operating costs and outstrips what might have been made from converting the rainforest to potato farms and cattle pastures. About 40% of the forest already was cleared for agriculture in the early 1970s. "With tourism, the tension is always not to overexploit," says Dirck Byler, great ape conservation director at the non-profit Global Wildlife Conservation, which is not involved in the Rwanda gorilla project. "But in Rwanda, so far they're careful, and it's working."

The idea of using tourism to help fund conservation was contentious when conservationists Bill Weber and Amy Vedder first proposed it while living in Rwanda during the 1970s and 80s. Diane Fossey herself was sceptical, but the pair persisted.

Figuring out the balance

of how many people could visit the forest, and for how long, was a delicate process of trial and error, Mr. Weber says.

The pair, who are married and currently professors at Yale University, had another idea, equally radical when it was first proposed some of the money raised must benefit local communities.

"Back then, the field of conservation was dominated by the 'fortress model': You draw a line, build a wall, hire guards and keep local people out," Mr. Weber says. "But it wasn't really working to stop poaching. There needs to be a real incentive for local people to care about conservation."

In 2005, the government adopted a model to steer 5% of tourism revenue from Volcanoes National Park to build infrastructure in surrounding villages, including schools and health clinics. Two years ago, the share was raised to 10%.

To date, about \$2 million has gone into funding village projects, chief park warden Prosper Uwingeli says. "Every year, we meet with the communities," he says. "We have to give back."