

*The Indian* **EXPRESS**

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

# BEYOND PAKISTAN

India and Saudi Arabia are finally consolidating a partnership on the basis of shared interests

THE EXPANSION AND institutionalisation of strategic cooperation between India and Saudi Arabia during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Riyadh, the second in three years, marks the consolidation of a partnership that has long struggled to realise its full potential. Efforts to end the prolonged mutual indifference began during the tenure of Atal Bihari Vajpayee when his foreign minister, Jaswant Singh, traveled to the Kingdom in early 2001. Five years later, King Abdullah visited Delhi, the first visit to India by a Saudi monarch in half a century, to announce a new phase in bilateral relations. Progress in building the partnership, however, remained elusive. It seemed confined to India buying oil from the Kingdom and exporting manpower. There were the beginnings of counter-terror cooperation but the Pakistan factor continued to cast a shadow over the relationship — until recently.

The Saudis sought to maintain a balance in their relations with India and Pakistan, which has long demanded religious solidarity and unending financial support from Riyadh. India, in turn, seemed hesitant to adopt a bolder approach towards Saudi Arabia amidst the lingering obsession with the Pakistan question in engagement with the Kingdom. As recently as in February, when the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed bin Salman, visited Delhi, the question of India's tensions with Pakistan figured quite prominently. This time around, the joint statement issued at the end of PM Modi's visit made no reference to Pakistan. This was long overdue. It is rooted in Delhi's long overdue realist appreciation that Saudi Arabia has a lot more on its mind than protecting Pakistan in the name of religious solidarity; and that it is possible to build a solid partnership with Saudi Arabia on the basis of shared interests.

Within its immediate neighbourhood, Saudi Arabia has been struggling to cope with an assertive Iran and Turkey, both of whom seek to undermine the authority of the Saudi monarchy within the Kingdom and the region. If Iran mobilises the Shia militancy against the Kingdom, Turkey chips in with its support to Sunni radicals threatening the House of Saud. To make matters worse, the long-standing ally of the Saudis — Washington — increasingly looks unreliable. Meanwhile, the rapidly growing Saudi population can no longer be kept pliable with a rigorous diet of religious orthodoxy and generous subsidies from oil revenues, no longer the source of perennial comfort. To cope with these challenges, Saudi Arabia has begun serious social and economic reforms at home and diversification of its security and commercial partnerships abroad. Delhi has recognised the urgency of seizing this moment and building a strong security and economic partnership. The agreements signed during the PM's visit include the establishment of a strategic partnership council, deepening energy interdependence, and expanding defence and security cooperation bilaterally as well as in the Indian Ocean region. The challenge for Delhi now is to translate this bold new agenda with Saudi Arabia into quick and tangible results.

# BATTLE ON AIR

Confrontation between Delhi and its neighbours is unfortunate. Local and regional sources of pollution must be acknowledged

IN THE RUN-UP to Diwali, the Delhi government gave the impression that it was alert to the pollution concerns associated with the festival. It ran awareness campaigns to wean people off fire crackers, arranged cleanliness drives and organised a laser show. Yet the post-Diwali smog has kept its date with Delhi. On Wednesday, two days after the festival, the city's Air Quality Index exceeded the "severe level". Delhi's Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal seems to believe that the bad air this year is due to reasons beyond his government's control. "The people of Delhi are doing what they can to control pollution. I request the BJP to talk to their governments in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana and the Congress to speak to their government in Punjab to ensure that they don't burn stubble," he said. The Delhi CM's statement has drawn an angry reaction from his Punjab counterpart, who accused Kejriwal "of blaming others for his lapses". "Delhi's air pollution is directly related to construction activity, industrialisation and mismanagement of traffic," says Amarinder Singh

The jury is still out on the prime source of the capital's pollution. But by all accounts, Delhi's air quality is the outcome of the complex interplay of the pollution footprints of local activities and pollutants from upwind states. It would be facetious, therefore, to rule out the impact of stubble burning on the city's air. Data from the Punjab Remote Sensing Centre shows that the state recorded more than 15,000 stubble burning incidents between September 23 and October 28. The Centre-run System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research estimates that more than 35 per cent of Delhi's pollution on Wednesday was a fallout of stubble burning in the city's neighbourhood. Governments in Punjab and Haryana have been providing subsidies to farmers to buy modern farm equipment for management of paddy straw. But, as a report in this paper shows, many farmers in Punjab do not want to invest in these machines because they lie idle for most of the year — unlike tractors.

It would be unfortunate if the battle for clear skies in Delhi and its neighbourhood is reduced to a confrontation between the national capital and its neighbouring states. At "very poor", the post-Diwali AQI in Ludhiana and Jalandhar in Punjab, and Ambala, Kurukshetra and Sirsa in Haryana is only a notch better than that of Delhi. It is imperative, therefore, that Delhi and its neighbouring governments acknowledge the local and regional sources of the problem — and cooperate to resolve it.

# LOOK WHO'S JOKING

A study claims that most people believe men are funnier than women. They don't tell you why

SCIENCE, IF THERE is such an over-arching activity, should have better things to do than try and provide an empirical basis for stereotypes. "Are men really funnier than women?" is the title of an article by Gil Greengross in Psychology Today, where he discusses the findings of a study he conducted which shows that most people believe so. Greengross clarifies: "This stereotype is shared by both men and women — but of course, just because it exists does not mean it is true." The study, according to the author, "means that to the best of our knowledge, on average, men appear to have higher humour production ability than women".

After it was reported widely in the media this week, the study has unsurprisingly annoyed women, and women comedians. And, given the fact that there is an increasing number of professionally funny women, it is pointlessly provocative. Here's how you find out if someone is funny, male or female. They make you laugh. For far too long, women have been told that they must laugh with others, boost the male ego, but never make themselves the centre of attention. And it is in this socially constructed constraint that the roots of measuring "humour production" likely lie.

When women fake a laugh — giggle at the bad pun from their friends, family or paramours — the joke, in fact, is on men. There are enough studies to show that most men overestimate their own sense of humour. Like the emperor in his new clothes, they stare expectantly at their captive audience, feeling entitled to a polite laugh. And for too long, too many have been obliged. Perhaps the best way to break the stereotype that men are funny, and women less so, is to stop this charitable massaging of male egos.

# Warning in the Valley

Pakistan-sponsored terrorists target migrants, minorities to show that normalcy in Kashmir is far away

 SYED ATA HASNAIN

THE TARGETING OF non-Kashmiris by terrorists in South Kashmir and the killing of 11 persons in less than two weeks could seem puzzling to observers. However, this is nothing new. It just revisits a tactical method that terror groups, under the guidance of Pakistan's ISI, employ to remain relevant and promote Pakistan's interests. It has happened many times in the past too. So, the question should be: Why should it be allowed to happen today?

In the late Nineties, while I coordinated operations in South Kashmir from Avantipur's Rashtriya Rifles headquarters, we were suddenly hit by a spate of two kinds of incidents — minority killings and targeting of non-Kashmiri labour. The two prominent minorities in Kashmir — Kashmiri Hindus and Sikhs — live in pockets of both urban and rural areas. The urban areas are relatively safe, it's the rural pockets that pose a challenge. While there may have been an exodus of Kashmiri Hindus in 1990 under a focused Pakistani strategy, some of them did stay back, and the Sikhs hardly migrated. Both communities became the target of attacks by Pakistani terror groups from time to time. Who can forget the Nandimarg (2003) and Wandhama (1998) killings of Kashmiri Pandits and the Chittisinghpura massacre of the Sikhs in 2000. Since the latter occurred just as the then US President Bill Clinton was to address India's Parliament, the motive behind the attack was obvious. In 1999, just as the army was redeploying troops from Kashmir to Kargil to meet the sudden occupation of winter-vacated areas, labour from Bihar working at brick kilns and in the construction industry were targeted with mass killing, leading to their exodus.

A careful analysis of the trends at that time led to the conclusion that the Pakistani terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) had decided to execute a high-profile attack against soft targets in certain areas to announce its arrival and demonstrate its domination of the terror scene. It was almost akin to an unfurling of the LeT flag in areas of its choosing and became a signature method.

Migrant non-Kashmiri labour in those days, too, were accommodated in small

camps but the security for them was always insufficient. Security could have been strengthened by recognising that there was a major threat to them and gathering them into camps which were well protected and organising their secure movement to orchards or construction sites. Yet, the nature of the terror threat at that time — with more terrorists and lesser number of troops on the ground — prevented any such counter measures. The J&K Police (JKP) on its own could not provide the necessary security. Minority killings and targeting of non-Kashmiri labour tapered off in the early part of the first decade of the millennium and did not come to the fore despite the obvious soft nature of targets available. I, however, continued to harbour fears that the tactic would be used again when the levels of frustration of the Pakistani terror groups or the more radical of the Kashmiri terror elements would cross limits.

The recent targeting of non-Kashmiri labour and others such as truck drivers took place just when the curbs on postpaid mobile telephony were lifted. There really is no connection between the two occurrences in this case, as some are attempting to deduce. What Pakistan, through its proxies, wants to try and propagate is the idea that return of normalcy in Kashmir is yet very far away and that the security space is in their hands even with a limited number of terrorists. It wants to send the broad signal that the abrogation of the special constitutional provisions for J&K is meaningless and changes nothing in the state.

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With the numbers of terrorists down but some quantum of successful infiltration, as admitted by the JKP, the terrorists have had some time to reorganise, recalibrate and re-select their targets. Intelligence during the last three months has been of a lower order with a not-so-free movement of sources and non-availability of mobile communication. What we are witnessing in South Kashmir is a manifestation of this.

The focus of the security establishment would unmistakably have shifted towards the prevention of street agitation and mass protests. This was the correct response, as it responded to what was the bigger threat from 2008 onwards. Thereafter, the focus has

been on counter infiltration — not that the army and police cannot perform multiple tasks and they have done so creditably in the past. However, such situations do result in a shift of priorities and balancing them is a challenge. Much of this happened in 1999-2000 when the counter terror space was severely challenged after the shift of the army's focus to Kargil. Countering an aggressive terrorist phase involving so called "fidayeen" suicide attacks on government and other security targets proved more than challenging. The security establishment bounced back very quickly to neutralise 2,100 terrorists in 2001, the highest number ever. I have no doubt that with a little recalibration, the same will happen this time too. However, what has to be realised is that this takes away the larger focus from the more important factor of comprehensively neutralising the general ecosystem which enables the Pakistan-sponsored proxies and separatists to challenge the Indian nation's will.

The "tactical pause", so to say, must not allow for a return to the situation at the end of 2016 when the army and the police jointly launched Operation All Out. The latter was a very successful operation but we must not be drawn once again into the game of just neutralising terrorists. What the government had correctly done was to pay equal attention to dismantling financial networks and high-profile over-ground worker's networks. That is still a work in progress as it cannot be an overnight affair. Any slippage in this is bound to embolden the Pakistani sponsors and give a boost to their capability.

India goes beyond just neutralising terrorists. It's the elusive "terrorism", which we have rarely targeted, that should be the priority. By giving leeway on potential minority and current non-Kashmiri targeting, we may hand the initiative back to the other side. The security establishment should heed the warning that not only migrant non-Kashmiri labour but also minority elements in Kashmir are currently vulnerable.

*The writer, a former corps commander of the Srinagar-based 15 Corps, is chancellor, Central University of Kashmir*

# THE UNCOMPROMISING COMRADE

Gurudas Dasgupta fought for the rights of working people throughout his life

 D RAJA

COMRADE GURUDAS Dasgupta, who passed away on October 31, remained a fighter for the causes of the working class till the end of his days. From the beginning of his active political life as a student, to his leadership of both organised and unorganised labour, his career as a preeminent parliamentarian, and in the leadership of the Communist Party of India (CPI), he remained an uncompromising champion of people's rights.

Dasgupta made his mark in politics in 1957, when he became the general secretary of the students' union of the Asutosh College in Calcutta. Thereafter, he continued to be associated with student and youth politics for some time. He served as general secretary of the All India Students' Federation (AISF), the students wing of the CPI, and was one of the party's most prominent youth leaders in West Bengal. From the 1970s onwards, he was known on the national stage.

In 1985, Dasgupta was elected to the Rajya Sabha, where he served three terms. He was also elected to the Lok Sabha twice. In his time in Parliament, Dasgupta was a ferocious debator. He was outspoken on critical issues, holding the governments of the day to account. Using his considerable oratorical skill, he championed the rights of labour, farmers and the people of India as a whole. His work on multiple parliamentary committees earned him the respect of his colleagues across the political spectrum. He was a member of the parliamentary com-

mittee on finance as well as the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the securities scam. The latter involved investigating the infamous criminal manipulations of Harshad Mehta. Dasgupta's role in the committee, his vociferous and comprehensive questioning of witnesses was appreciated far and wide. He even received awards for his work in the JPC, but gave away the proceeds to organisations like the Punjab Stree Sabha.

Comrade Dasgupta also served as general secretary of the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC). The AITUC, a premier Indian trade union, has worked for the welfare of the working classes since 1920, when the communists stood against imperialist rule. Stalwarts such as Indrajit Gupta and A B Bardhan have also served as its past general secretaries. It is a bitter-sweet irony that on the day of Dasgupta's passing, the centenary commemorations of the AITUC have commenced.

Dasgupta served as the deputy general secretary of the CPI, a position he held till the last party Congress in 2018, in Kollam, Kerala. I have had the pleasure of serving with him both in Parliament and as a colleague in the CPI leadership. His commitment to egalitarian principles remained steadfast in every forum.

When the Congress government in the 1990s introduced the neoliberal economic agenda and implemented it through policy and law, Dasgupta was uncompromising in his opposition. Inside the House, he passion-

ately argued against moves that would go against the peasantry, labour and other sections of society who have suffered as a result. But Dasgupta's inspiring presence was not limited to Parliament. As a trade union leader, he organised numerous agitations of the working class. Throughout his long life of political and public service, Dasgupta stood against corporate forces and those that further ideas and policies of exclusion and religious bigotry. He had the unique ability to organise and mobilise, as well as motivate the people to fight the status quo, and recognise the fact that such a battle was in their own interest as well as for the benefit of the nation as a whole.

India, today, faces grave challenges. There is a disturbing economic slowdown, which is putting question marks on the fundamentals of the economy. Under the current ruling dispensation, the country is facing an onslaught of communal forces. At a time when we all must stand against these phenomena and those who have unleashed them, we have lost a comrade who has been at the forefront of such battles.

The passing of Gurudas Dasgupta is not merely a loss for the CPI. It is a loss for the communist parties as a whole and all the other socialist and progressive forces. It is a loss for India.

*The writer is general secretary of the Communist Party of India*

# NOVEMBER 1, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

ARUNACHAL CM QUILTS THE 43-DAY-OLD ARUNACHAL Pradesh Ministry, headed by Tomo Riba, resigned after five party legislators defected to the Congress (I), reducing it to a minority status. In his resignation letter to Lt Governor R N Haldipur, the chief minister said that in view of the political turmoil that had developed since October 30, the cabinet rmd decided to tender its resignation forthwith. Riba also conveyed to the LG his cabinet's decision to recommend the dissolution of the Assembly and holding of fresh elections. Mr Haldipur, while accepting the resignation of the Riba Ministry, has asked it to continue in office till alternative arrangements are made.

MP JANATA CRISIS THINGS ARE HOTTING up in Madhya Pradesh. The dissidents in the ruling party are making a determined bid to dislodge chief minister V K Saklecha from power. Some senior ministers and dissident MLAs are learnt to have met the state Janata party chief, Kushabhau Thakre and threatened to resign if the leadership was not changed, ignoring the wishes of the majority of party members. The dissident ministers, all of whom, interestingly, belong to the erstwhile Jana Sangh constituent, reportedly met at a dinner at the house of Jagdish Gupta, state minister for labour and resolved to submit their resignations en masse if the leadership

was not changed before the Lok Sabha elections.

HUA MEETS THATCHER FROM ALL ACCOUNTS, Chinese leader Hua Guofeng's visit to London so far has been successful. While it is too early to say what exactly transpired between him and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Chinese sources have not tried to hide their admiration for the latter's understanding of international politics and to say that there were "similarities of views on many matters between the two leaders". Hua and Mrs Thatcher, according to British sources, discussed east-west relations and the overall world situation.





# The remaking of Ladakh

As attention remains focused on the Valley, the other newly carved out Union Territory grapples with its own set of concerns



ASHOK THAKUR

LITTLE DID THE people of Ladakh realise that they would be caught in a bubble of history which would last for 185 long years when the forces of Zorawar Singh overran Ladakh and made it part of Gulab Singh's fiefdom in 1835. Ladakhis struggled with their identity, having nothing in common with their rulers, neither the Dogras nor the Kashmiris, in terms of language, religion, food, dress or even physical features. It was a gunshot marriage which ended on October 31 when Ladakh finally became a Union Territory. This historic moment will be celebrated by all Ladakhis, and specially by its architect, former MP Thupstan Tsewang, whose life-time goal will see fruition.

Had it not been for Zorawar's adventurism, Ladakh's trajectory in history could have been quite different and more akin to the other Himalayan kingdoms of Sikkim, Bhutan and Nepal. It had been an independent kingdom with a glorious history. It peaked during the reign of Gyalpo Singhe Namgyal (1616-1642) with its borders stretching up to Nepal and Tibet in the east and north and included the present district of Lahaul Spiti in Himachal to the south. The Gyalpos of Ladakh had defeated the Tibetans and even annexed the rich and fabled kingdom of Guge in Western Tibet for some time. The historic and strategic importance of Ladakh, linking the rich plains of India and Punjab through Mandi, Kullu, Lahaul and Leh with the Silk Route through Karakoram was very critical to the British for its shawl wool trade as well as success of the Great Game.

This jubilation amongst Ladakhis about its newfound status as a UT is not difficult to understand. In 1990, on visiting Ladakh, people voiced their deep sense of alienation vis a vis their government in Srinagar. Apart from a diesel genset, there was no electricity supply while at the same time in neighbouring Himachal Pradesh electricity had reached every nook and cranny. Also, many villages remained unconnected by road and the existing pukka roads were mostly courtesy the Indian Army. Since then many changes have taken place, especially after the creation of the Autonomous Hill Council and the boom in tourism. Budget allocation remained a sore point throughout, about which, Jamyang Namgyal, the young MP from Ladakh, effectively spoke in his maiden speech before the Parliament.

Till now Ladakh's communication route remained principally through Srinagar and Jammu. All this is set to change. The Manali-Leh axis will become more important since it will not only be shorter but safer as well in comparison to the Kargil-Srinagar road. With the tunnel below Rohtang being commissioned shortly and another one being planned under the Shinkun La, travel time and distance between Manali and Leh will reduce substantially. In the foreseeable future, journey by road from Chandigarh to Leh could be a



CR Sasikumar

day's affair. The proposed 365 km Bilaspur-Manali-Leh railway line will not only strengthen the country's defence requirements but will also enhance people to people contact between Ladakh and Himachal in an unprecedented way. For this to materialise, the Government of India will have to up its game to match with that of China's which has deployed Fortune 500 Companies to build road and other infrastructure on the other side of the border.

Ladakh and Himachal have a shared past. Many of the Gyalpos, erstwhile rulers of Ladakh, married from the ruling families of Lahaul and Spiti. Several important Gompas (monasteries) in Lahaul are affiliated even today to Hemis and other Gompas in Ladakh. Ladakh is indebted to Himachal for coming to its rescue in 1948 when two of Himachal's brave officers Major Prithi Chand (MVC) and his cousin Major Khushal Chand (MVC) and 16 other soldiers of the 2nd DOGRAS, mostly from Lahaul, Kinnaur and Kangra crossed the formidable Zoji La in the dead of winter and repulsed the armed Pakistani and tribal intruders. The local militia they motivated and trained later metamorphosed into the famous Ladakh Scouts which played a stellar role in defence of Ladakh in 1962 and in the Kargil operation of 1999. An ornate Chorten standing next to the Khalatse bridge which Major Khushal Chand destroyed in 1948 stands today as a joint symbol of solidarity and courage of the people of Lahaul and Ladakh.

There are other areas as well where

As the initial euphoria dies down, the realities of a UT have already started to sink in. The most important aspect is working out a harmonious working relationship between the two constituents of the UT, that is, the Shia Muslim majority in Kargil and the Buddhist majority in Leh. The realisation that now outsiders can buy land in Ladakh has sent alarm bells ringing and there is already talk of putting in place mechanisms as in Himachal Pradesh which hinder outsiders from buying land whether as agricultural or tribal lands.

Ladakh and Himachal can collaborate and learn from each other. Tourism is one such area where the Ladakhis would do well to avoid the mistakes committed in Shimla and Manali. The recognition of Bhoti as a scheduled language by the Government of India is another important area which both can help galvanise along with other Himalayan states like Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. This will not only lead to the emotional integration of borderland people with the rest of the country but also strengthen our claim to these areas as an integral part of India vis a vis that of China.

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The writer is former Secretary Gol, Ministry of Human Resource Development

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"No country in the world is willing to become a real enemy of China, including the US, which just declared that China is its strategic competitor —GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

# Most marginalised of them all

On socio-economic indicators, Muslim youth fare worse than SCs and OBCs. Is this linked to community's political marginalisation?



CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT AND KALAIYARASAN A

THE 2019 Lok Sabha elections have reconfirmed the political marginalisation of Muslims — MPs from the community are very few in Parliament's lower house. This process is converging with the equally pronounced socio-economic marginalisation of the community. Muslims have been losing out to Dalits and Hindu OBCs since the Sachar committee submitted its report in 2005.

Using the recent "suppressed" NSSO report (PLFS-2018) and the NSS-EUS (2011-12), examine the socioeconomic status of Muslim youth vis-à-vis other social groups in India. We use the same set of 13 states covering 89 per cent of the 170 million Muslims enumerated in 2011. We use three variables: Percentage of Muslim educated youth (21-29 age) who have completed graduation, percentage of the community's youth (15 to 24 age) in educational institutions and the percentage of Muslim youth who are in the NEET category (not in employment, education or training). These variables together reflect pathways of educational mobility for the country's youth.

The proportion of the youth who have completed graduation — we call this, "educational attainment" — among Muslims in 2017-18 is 14 per cent as against 18 per cent among the Dalits, 25 per cent among the Hindu OBCs, and 37 per cent among the Hindu upper castes. The gap between the SCs and Muslims is 4 percentage points (ppt) in 2017-18. Six years earlier (2011-12), the SC youth were just one ppt above Muslims in educational attainment. The gap between the Muslims and Hindu OBCs was 7 ppt in 2011-12 and has gone up to 11 ppt now. The gap between all Hindus and Muslims widened from 9 ppt in 2011-12 to 11 ppt in 2017-18.

Muslim youth in the Hindi heartland fare the worst. Their educational attainment is the lowest in Haryana, 3 per cent in 2017-18; in Rajasthan, this figure is 7 per cent; it is 11 per cent in Uttar Pradesh. Madhya Pradesh is the only north Indian state where the Muslims are doing relatively better in education — their educational attainment is 17 per cent. In all these states, except MP, SCs fare better than Muslims. The gap between SCs and Muslims with respect to educational attainment is 12 ppt Haryana and Rajasthan and 7 ppt in UP. In 2011-12, in all these states, SCs were slightly above the Muslims on this parameter.

In eastern India, the educational attainment among the Muslim youth in Bihar is 8 per cent, as against 7 per cent among SCs, in West Bengal it is 8 per cent, as against 9 per cent for SCs, and in Assam it is 7 per cent as against 8 per cent for SCs. While the gap between Muslims and SCs has narrowed in the last six years, the latter still fare better.

In western India, the educational attainment figures for Muslims are better compared to 2011-12. But they do not necessarily reflect a significant educational improvement when compared to the SCs and Hindu-OBCs. In Gujarat, the gap in educational attainment between the Muslims and SCs is 14 ppt in 2017-18; six years ago, it was just 8 ppt. In Maharashtra, the Muslims were marginally — by 2 ppt — better off than SCs in 2011-12, they have now not only lost to SCs but the latter has now overtaken them by 8 ppt.

With 36 per cent graduate Muslim youth, Tamil Nadu tops the educational attainment parameter with respect to the community in the country. In Kerala, this figure is 28 per cent, in Andhra Pradesh, it is 21 per cent and in Karnataka, 18 per cent of the Muslim youth are graduate. While the community is giving a close competition to SCs in Tamil Nadu and AP, it is losing out in Kerala. The developments in South India have more to do with the relatively faster mobility of SCs than the marginalisation of Muslims. The community's achievements also have to be seen in the context of positive discrimination Muslims enjoy in these states — Dalit and OBC Muslims are given reservations under the OBC quota.

The marginalisation of Muslims on socio-economic indicators becomes clear when we evaluate the statistics related to youth currently in educational institutions. The percentage of youth who are currently enrolled in educational institutions is the lowest among Muslims. Only 39 per cent of the community in the age group of 15-24 are in educational institution as against 44 per cent for SCs, 51 per cent for Hindu OBCs and 59 per cent for Hindu upper castes.

A sizable proportion of Muslim youth are leaving the formal education system and moving into the NEET category. Thirty-one per cent of youth from the community fall in this category — the highest from any community in the country — followed by 26 per cent among the SCs, 23 per cent among the Hindu OBCs, and 17 per cent among the Hindu upper castes. This trend is more pronounced in the Hindi belt — 38 per cent of Muslims youth fall under NEET in Rajasthan, in UP and Haryana, this figure is 37 per cent and in MP, it is 35 per cent. In South India, the proportion of Muslims outside the formal education system is relatively low — 17 per cent in Telangana, 19 per cent in Kerala, 24 per cent in Tamil Nadu and 27 per cent in AP.

While the marginalisation of Muslims began several years ago, the phenomenon seems to have gathered pace in recent years. As Sam Asher et al point out in their recent study, 'Intergenerational Mobility in India: Estimates from New Methods and Administrative Data', "Muslims are being left out from educational mobility in India while the SCs are getting integrated into it". More studies are needed to link this disturbing process to the political marginalisation of Muslims. The activities of vigilante groups could possibly have led young Muslims to withdraw in to their shell.

Jaffrelot is senior research fellow at CERI-Sciences Po/CNRS, Paris, and Professor of Indian Politics and Sociology at King's India Institute, London. Kalaiyarasan is faculty at Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, Delhi



SHASTRI RAMACHANDARAN

# Our unloved laureates

South Asia does not give its Nobel winners their due

EVERY YEAR when the Nobel Prizes are announced, Indians lament that they have been deprived of their "due recognition". Yet when an Indian, such as Abhijit Banerjee, is awarded the Nobel Prize, Indians, as a whole, take no pride in it. India does not love its Nobel laureates. Nor does the rest of South Asia. Pakistan and Bangladesh too, berate and belittle their laureates. South Asian laureates are treated in a shabby manner at home, as if they are undesirables, best got rid of.

This year, the response was somewhat mixed. Generally, "progressive" sections of the intelligentsia cheered when the prize was awarded to Abhijit Banerjee, along with Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer. Though there were conspicuous exceptions.

Bengalis felt they had a particular reason to be proud. Banerjee, though a US citizen now, is a Bengali. Bengalis have produced five of the 10 Indian Nobelists, beginning with Rabindranath Tagore in 1913, the two foreigners — Ronald Ross in 1902, for discovery of the malaria parasite, and Mother Teresa in 1979. The other two are Amartya Sen in 1998 and Banerjee in 2019. Of the three laureates from Madras (now Chennai), the first, Sir CV Raman, who got the Nobel in Physics in 1930, worked in Calcutta. While Tagore was the first Asian to receive the Nobel (for literature), Raman was the first Asian to get one in the sciences. Both had a Bengal connection.

Bengalis may also recall that when

Abdus Salam, the Pakistani laureate in Physics, came to India, he went to his pre-Partition physics teacher Anilendra Ganguly's house in Calcutta. Salam placed his Nobel medal in Ganguly's hands and said, "Sir, this is yours, not mine". Modesty muzzles the Bengali from claiming credit for that Nobel.

While the prime minister and a galaxy of eminent individuals greeted Banerjee, there were big names in academia and public life, including Union ministers, that trolled and trashed this year's Nobel winner and his seminal work which is part of a global trend among economists concerned with the poor. All because Banerjee did not endorse demonetisation, criticised the GST implementation and had his evidence-based poverty alleviation proposals, including the scheme for a minimum income, lauded by parties other than the BJP.

Though the applause for his Nobel is fulsome, Banerjee's focus on choices of the poor as opposed to the structural causes of poverty is debatable. This is a matter of ideology, difference in approach and something that concerns him and his peers, although it affects public policy. It is not a reason to be churlish about his Nobel. Just as Amartya Sen and Raghuram Rajan, in spite of their divergences, can be civil, have a dialogue and support each other at times, Banerjee's peers should applaud him unabashedly now, as some of the leftists, particularly those from

JNU, have done. In fact, being from JNU earned Banerjee much applause and support across academia and the thinking class. Above all, if his focus is on poverty, regardless of his method, his heart is in the right place.

Banerjee's Nobel has earned him a vastly more flattering response at home than Amartya Sen or Kailash Satyarthi, who in 2014, shared the Peace Prize along with Malala Yousufzai of Pakistan. India's philosopher-economist Sen has been vilified for his criticism of Narendra Modi — for the killing of Muslims in Gujarat under his watch in 2002. Sen is outspoken on issues of identity and academic freedom, and the majoritarian forces resent this. Instead of being honoured, valued and utilised in national interest, Sen was hounded out of the Nalanda University. The campaign of calumny and slander against Sen may have abated, but it continues.

Satyarthi and Malala were not cause for celebration in either India or Pakistan. Far from home, in the mid-December Nordic winter, snow-bound Oslo came alive with Prize-related events where Satyarthi and Malala were the toast of the town. They were feted as one for their work on child rights, without any trace of the hostility that marks India-Pakistan ties. But, many in India, including in the government, felt it was no honour, as the focus was on child rights, where India has a poor record.

Malala, who was forced by extremists to flee abroad for her life, did not evoke even a single cheer in Pakistan. Living in the West has earned her enemies at home where she's seen as an agent of anti-Islamic forces. Sadly, she was not sought after elsewhere in South Asia either.

The benign "neglect" of Satyarthi and Malala, compared to the shabby treatment meted out at home to Pakistan's Abdus Salam and Bangladesh's Grameen Bank founder Muhammad Yunus, is no cause for comfort. Somewhat like Sen, Yunus had a hard time in Bangladesh: He was reviled, including by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, and ousted from the board of the iconic institution that epitomises his work, and which inspired the micro-credit movement worldwide. Pakistan refused to accept Salam, one of the world's greatest physicists, as one of its own because he was an Ahmadiya — an excommunicated Muslim minority. Pakistan disowned both Salam and Malala.

It is cold comfort that Indian laureates are not consigned to obscurity (like Salam in Pakistan or Yunus in Bangladesh) when South Asia treats its globally acclaimed eminenes in such a despicable manner.

The writer is an independent political and foreign affairs commentator. He was invited to the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Oslo in 2014

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### ABOUT OUTCOMES

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A new kind of governance' (IE, October 31) Governance structures in the country are designed to administer "rules" not produce "outcomes". "Centrally-imposed" schemes generally have transient effects, are prone to "data doctoring" and are costly. In contrast, consider, one, giving a fixed tenure of three to five years to the district head, two, list the socio-economic-cultural indices (nationally mandated and district-specific) at the beginning of this official's tenure, three, allow him/her to form cross-functional teams, and four, measure the agreed indices at the end of the official's tenure. This could form the basis of the district head "performance assessments". We could then fulfill PM Modi's promise of "good governance" at no additional cost or effort.

Vinod Dhall, Gurgaon

### DIFFERENT BALLGAME

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Pink ball cricket' (IE, 31 October). Test Cricket is still considered the real game of cricket. But now spectators don't have the time to spend five working days on it, so day-night Test cricket will be the best option to promote the game. If pink ball cricket entertains spectators and satisfies advertisers, the game will move on.

Abhijit Chakraborti, Howrah

### 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](mailto:editpage@expressindia.com) or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301.

### MORE KARTARPURS

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Neighbour's duty', (IE, October 31). Pakistan's National Accountability Bureau is selectively persecuting political opposition and showing reluctance to prosecute former army officers involved in corruption scandals. The Pakistani deep state, like always, is ramping up hostility with India. The political leadership has a very limited role in matters related to security and international affairs. India should explore more Kartarpur-like moments to give ground to the civilian leadership.

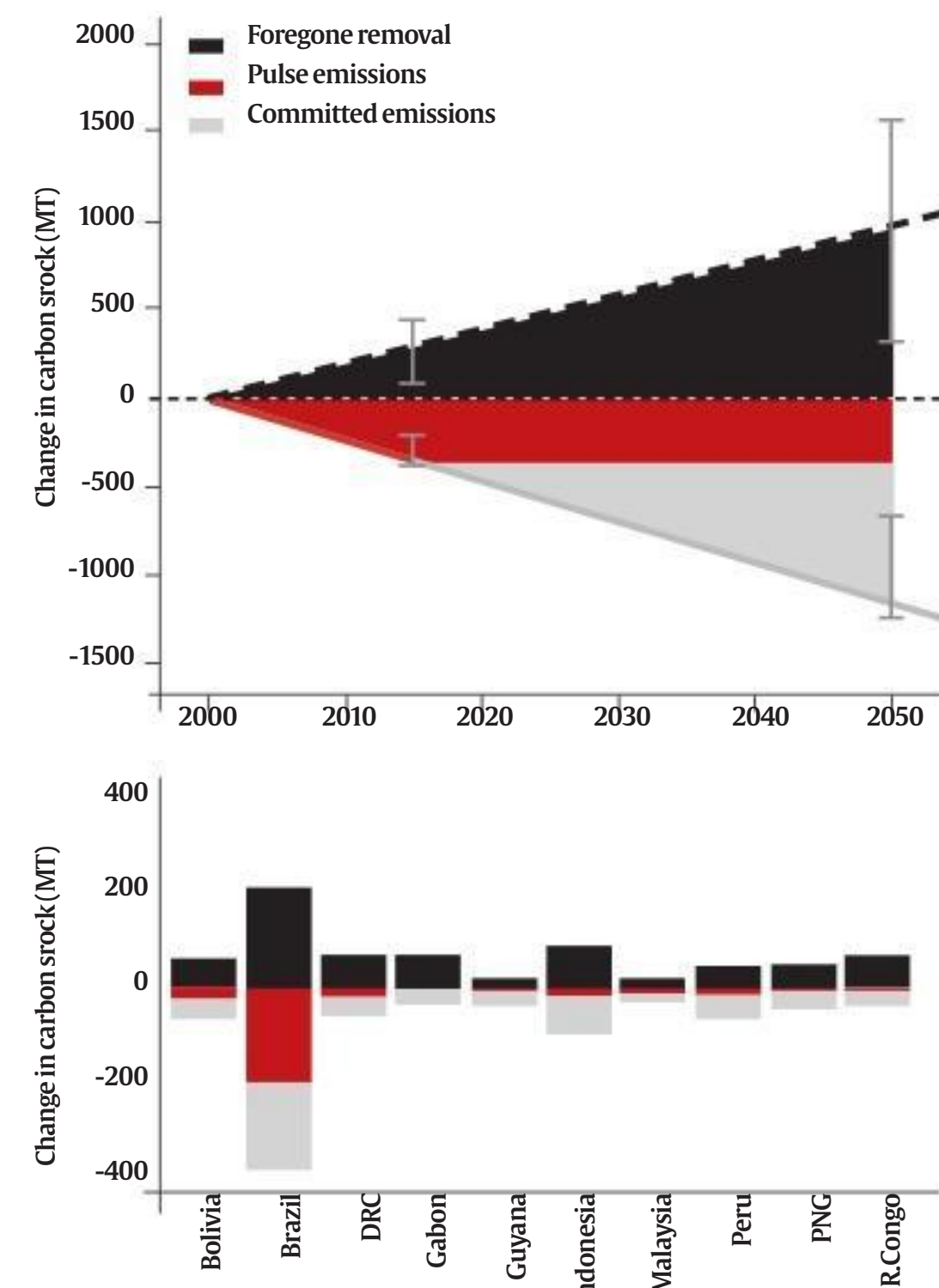
Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata





## TELLING NUMBERS

### Carbon emission from tropical forests jumps in new calculation



Overall carbon impact, after accounting for conventional as well as new factors. Segment A is for emissions from readily observed forest clearance, which is conventionally measured. Segment B is for emission due to less readily observed degradation processes that follow forest clearance — selective logging, edge effects, and defaunation. Segment C is for forgone carbon removal, which could have occurred had cleared or degraded forest areas remained intact beyond 2000. Source: Maxwell et al, Science Advances

A NEW study says that carbon impacts from the loss of intact tropical forests has been grossly underreported. Published in *Science Advances*, the study has calculated new figures relating to intact forest lost between 2000-2013. It has found that the long-term net carbon impacts, through 2050, are six times the current estimates. The revised total equals two years' worth of all global land-use change emissions, the World Conservation Society (WCS) said in a statement.

Conventionally, only carbon emissions from readily observed forest clearance are considered. This study accounted for less readily observed degradation processes that follow forest clearance - selective logging, edge

effects, and defaunation. Another metric used in the new study is "forgone carbon removal" — which could have occurred had cleared or degraded forest areas remained intact beyond 2000. Full accounting of these additional factors led to a 626% increase in cumulative net carbon impact from intact forest loss, the study says.

"Our results revealed that continued destruction of intact tropical forests is a ticking time bomb for carbon emissions. There is an urgent need to safeguard these landscapes because they play an indispensable role in stabilising the climate," the WCS statement quoted lead author of the study, Sean Maxwell of WCS and the University of Queensland, as saying.

## SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

# Meet spyware Pegasus

What is the Israeli-made malware that WhatsApp has said was used to snoop on journalists and activists around the world this summer, including in India? Are you personally at risk, and should you stop using WhatsApp?

SHRUTI DHAPOLA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

On Thursday, *The Indian Express* reported that the popular messaging platform WhatsApp was used to spy on journalists and human rights activists in India earlier this year. The surveillance was carried out using a spyware tool called Pegasus, which has been developed by an Israeli firm, the NSO Group.

WhatsApp sued the NSO Group in a federal court in San Francisco on Tuesday, accusing it of using WhatsApp servers in the United States and elsewhere "to send malware to approximately 1,400 mobile phones and devices ('Target Devices')... for the purpose of conducting surveillance of specific WhatsApp users ('Target Users')." The surveillance was carried out "between in and around April 2019 and May 2019" on users in 20 countries across four continents, WhatsApp said in its complaint.

In an Op-ed in *The Washington Post*, the head of WhatsApp, Will Cathcart, wrote that the surveillance "targeted at least 100 human-rights defenders, journalists and other members of civil society across the world". He underlined that "tools that enable surveillance into our private lives are being abused, and the proliferation of this technology into the hands of irresponsible companies and governments puts us all at risk". WhatsApp, which is owned by Facebook, is the world's most popular messaging app, with more than 1.5 billion users worldwide. About a quarter of those users — more than 400 million, or 40 crore — are in India, WhatsApp's biggest market.

The NSO Group is a Tel Aviv-based cyber-security company that specialises in "surveillance technology" and claims to help governments and law enforcement agencies across the world fight crime and terrorism.

#### So what exactly is Pegasus?

All spyware do what the name suggests — they spy on people through their phones. Pegasus works by sending an exploit link, and if the target user clicks on the link, the malware or the code that allows the surveillance is installed on the user's phone. (A presumably newer version of the malware

does not even require a target user to click a link. *More on this below.*) Once Pegasus is installed, the attacker has complete access to the target user's phone.

The first reports on Pegasus's spyware operations emerged in 2016, when Ahmed Mansoor, a human rights activist in the UAE, was targeted with an SMS link on his iPhone 6. The Pegasus tool at that time exploited a software chink in Apple's iOS to take over the device. Apple responded by pushing out an update to "patch" or fix the issue.

In September 2018, The Citizen Lab, an interdisciplinary lab based at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto, showed that Pegasus delivers "a chain of zero-day exploits to penetrate security features on the phone and installs Pegasus without the user's knowledge or permission". Pegasus spyware's operations were live in 45 countries at the time, The Citizen Lab research showed.

(A "zero-day exploit" is a completely unknown vulnerability, about which even the software manufacturer is not aware, and there is, thus, no patch or fix available for it. In the specific cases of Apple and WhatsApp, therefore, neither company was aware of the security vulnerability, which was used to exploit the software and take over the device.)

In December 2018, Montreal-based Saudi activist Omar Abdulaziz lodged a case against the NSO Group in a court in Tel Aviv, alleging that his phone had been infiltrated using Pegasus, and conversations that he had with his close friend, the murdered Saudi dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi, snooped on. Khashoggi was slaughtered by Saudi agents at the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul on October 2, 2018; Abdulaziz said he believed

his phone was hacked in August that year.

In May 2019, the *Financial Times* reported that Pegasus was being used to exploit WhatsApp and spy on potential targets. WhatsApp issued an urgent software update to fix the security bug that was allowing the spyware to exploit the app.

#### Once installed, what all can Pegasus do?

The Citizen Lab post said Pegasus can "send back the target's private data, including passwords, contact lists, calendar events, text messages, and live voice

calls from popular mobile messaging apps". The target's phone camera and microphone can be turned on to capture all activity in the phone's vicinity, expanding the scope of the surveillance. According to claims in a Pegasus brochure that WhatsApp has submitted to court as a technical exhibit, the malware can also access email, SMS, location tracking, network details, device settings, and browsing history data. All of this takes place without the target user's knowledge.

Other key features of Pegasus, according to the brochure are: ability to access password-protected devices, being totally transparent to the target, leaving no trace on the device, consuming minimal battery, memory and data so as to not arouse suspicion in more alert users, a self-destruct mechanism in case of risk of exposure, and ability to retrieve any file for deeper analysis.

The brochure, called *Pegasus: Product Description*, says Pegasus can work on BlackBerry, Android, iOS (iPhone) and Symbian-based devices. The mention of the now discontinued mobile OS Symbian and the no longer popular BlackBerry suggests the document is old — and Pegasus has certainly been upgraded over the years.

#### And how did Pegasus exploit WhatsApp?

That's the big question for many, given that WhatsApp has always tom-tommed its end-to-end encryption. The *Financial Times* report in May this year said that a missed call on the app was all that was needed to install the software on the device

— no clicking on a misleading link was required. WhatsApp later explained that Pegasus had exploited the video/voice call function on the app, which had a zero-day security flaw. It did not matter if the target did not take the call — the flaw allowed for the malware to be installed anyway.

The exploit impacted WhatsApp for Android prior to v2.19.134, WhatsApp Business for Android prior to v2.19.44, WhatsApp for iOS prior to v2.19.51, WhatsApp Business for iOS prior to v2.19.51, WhatsApp for Windows Phone prior to v2.18.348, and WhatsApp for Tizen (which is used by Samsung devices) prior to v2.18.15.

#### Can Pegasus be used to target just about anyone?

Technically, yes. But while tools such as Pegasus can be used for mass surveillance; it would seem likely that only selected individuals would be targeted. In the present case, WhatsApp has claimed that it sent a special message to approximately 1,400 users who it believed were impacted by the attack, to directly inform them about what had happened.

WhatsApp has not said how many people it contacted in India. *The Indian Express* reported on Thursday that at least two dozen academics, lawyers, Dalit activists, and journalists were alerted by the company in India.

It is not known who carried out the surveillance on the Indian targets. The NSO Group, while disputing WhatsApp's allegations "in the strongest possible terms", has said that it provides the tool exclusively to "licensed government intelligence and law enforcement agencies", and not just to anyone who wants it.

#### Is WhatsApp's end-to-end encryption now compromised? Should you switch to another app — perhaps Signal or Wire or Telegram?

The very popularity of a messaging app makes it a target for hackers, cyber criminals, or other entities. Even law enforcement agencies across the world want messages to be decrypted — a demand that WhatsApp is fighting, including in India.

WhatsApp uses the Signal app protocol for its end-to-end encryption, which seems safe so far. WhatsApp has an advantage over Telegram: in Telegram, only the "secret chats" are end-to-end encrypted, while on WhatsApp everything is end-to-end encrypted by default.

Those rattled by the WhatsApp episode might want to switch to Signal or Wire.

However, it is important to be aware that unknown "zero-day" exploits could exist for virtually every software and app in the world — and that they might be exploited at some point in the future by individuals or agencies determined to do so.

*The image is based on information in a Pegasus brochure submitted by WhatsApp to the California court as a technical exhibit. It shows the variety of data that the system can sweep up: email, SMS, location tracking, network details, device settings, browsing history, contact details, social networks, phonecalls, calendar records, file retrieval, instant messaging, photos and screenshots, and microphone recording. Illustration: Shyam Kumar Prasad*

# What National Health Profile says about targeted, actual health spend

ABANTIKA GHOSH  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

AT A time when Universal Health Coverage has become the new buzzword of healthcare in India since Ayushman Bharat, the National Health Profile 2019 throws up sobering figures. Between 2009-10 and 2018-19, India's public health spend as a percentage of GDP went up by just 0.16 percentage points from 1.12% to 1.28% of GDP, and remains a far cry from the 2.5% GDP health spend that has been India's target for some years now.

The National Health Profile (NHP) is an annual stocktaking exercise on the health of the health sector.

#### The current situation

"The cost of treatment has been on rise in India and it has led to inequity in access to health care services. India spends only 1.28% of its GDP (2017-18 BE) as public expenditure on health. Per capita public expenditure on health in nominal terms has gone up from Rs 621 in 2009-10 to Rs 1,657 in 2017-18," NHP 2019 says.

Compare this with the average total medical expenditure per child birth in a public hospital: Rs 1,587 in a rural area and Rs 2,117 in an urban area. Based on Health Survey (71st round) conducted by NSSO, average medical expenditure incurred during hospital stay during January 2013-June 2014 was Rs 14,935 for rural and Rs 24,436 in urban India.

In his Independence Day address in 2011, then PM Manmohan Singh had declared

that financing of health would be upped to 2.5% of GDP, during the 12th Five Year Plan (a concept since discontinued). In 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at the Partners' Forum meeting in Delhi: "We are committed to increasing India's health spending to 2.5% of GDP by 2025, reaching to more than \$100 billion. This will mean an actual increase of 345 per cent over the current share, in just eight years."

#### Blueprint for meeting targets

In 2011, the High Level Expert Group of the erstwhile Planning Commission submitted its seminal report on the roll-out of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in India. Recommendation 3.1.1 reads: "Government (central government and states combined) should increase public expenditures on health from the current level of 1.2% of GDP to at least 2.5% by the end of the 12th plan and to at least 3% of GDP by 2022."

The report adds: "Financing the proposed UHC system will require public expenditures on health to be stepped up from around 1.2% of GDP today to at least 2.5% by 2017 and to 3% of GDP by 2022. The proposed increase is consistent with the estimates by government as well as our preliminary assessment of financial resources required to finance the NHP. Even if we assume that the combined public and private spending on health remains at the current level of around 4.5% of GDP, this will result in a five-fold increase in real per capita health expenditures by the government (from around Rs 650-700 in 2011-12 to Rs 3,400-3,500 by 2021-22).

#### WHAT INDIA SPENT ON HEALTH

Year	Actual spend (₹ crore)	Per capita spend	% of GDP
2009-10	72,536	621	1.12
2010-11	83,101	701	1.07
2011-12	96,221	802	1.1
2012-13	1,08,236	890	1.09
2013-14	1,12,270	913	1.00
2014-15	1,21,600.23	973	0.98
2015-16	1,40,054.55	1112	1.02
2016-17 (RE)	1,78,875.63	1397	1.17
2017-18 (BE)	2,13,719.58	1657	1.28

Source: Health Ministry via National Health Profile 2019

There will also be a corresponding decline in real private out-of-pocket expenditures from around Rs 1,800-1,850 in 2011-12 to Rs 1,700-1,750 by 2021-22."

Universal Health Coverage, according to the World Health Organization, means that "all people and communities can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship." The three objectives are: equity in access to health services; quality of health services should be good enough to improve the health of those receiving them; people

#### WHAT COUNTRIES SPEND

Domestic general government health expenditure (GGHE-D) in constant (2016) US\$ per capita	
US	8,078
Norway	6,366
Switzerland	6,175
Luxembourg	5,093
Sweden	4,769
Denmark	4,682
India	16

Source: WHO via National Health Profile 2019

should be protected against financial-risk, ensuring that the cost of using services does not put people at risk of financial harm.

#### The states

There are wide disparities in the health spend of states, the NHP points out. The Northeastern states had the highest and the Empowered Action Group (EAG) states plus Assam had the lowest average per capita public expenditure on health in 2015-16. EAG states are the eight socio-economically backward states of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. Among the big states (erstwhile) Jammu

and Kashmir leads with a 2.46% GSDP spend on healthcare - nearest to the ideal spend. Among the NE states, the leaders in health spend were Mizoram with 4.20% GSDP spend and Arunachal Pradesh with 3.29%.

Even states seen as better performers on health parameters, such as Tamil Nadu and Kerala, fare poorly on the health finance index. Tamil Nadu spent 0.74% of its GSDP and Kerala 0.93% of its GSDP on healthcare.

#### India and world

The NHP does some very telling calculations on India's per capita health spend and how it stacks up against countries who are on the UHC path. In 2016, India's Domestic general government health expenditure stood at \$16 per capita. This is lower than Norway (\$6,366), Canada (\$3,274), Japan (\$3,538), Republic of Korea (\$1,209) and Brunei Darussalam (\$599). Among the 23 countries including India that the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence chose for that comparison, the highest per capita spender is the United States at \$8078. The American system, though, is considered neither ideal nor economical. This data has been sourced from the Global Health Expenditure Database of the World Health Organisation.

#### Other findings

The NHP also notes the change in disease profile of the country with a shift towards the non-communicable disease from communicable ones - a fact that has been minutely documented by the State Level Disease Burden Study that was released

some years ago and the subsequent analyses of that data periodically published in various medical journals. "It has been observed that the non-communicable diseases dominate over communicable in the total disease burden of the country. In a recent report of India Council of Medical Research, titled *India: Health of the Nation's States: The India State-Level Disease Burden Initiative* (2017), it is observed that the disease burden due to communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases, as measured using disability-adjusted life years (DALYs), dropped from 61 per cent to 33 per cent between 1990 and 2016. In the same period, disease burden from non-communicable diseases increased from 30 per cent to 55 per cent. The epidemiological transition, however, varies widely among Indian states: 48% to 75% for non-communicable diseases, 14% to 43% for infectious and associated diseases, and 9% to 14% for injuries," the NHP notes. DALYs are an international standard of disease burden that measures how much of a normal life span of an individual is taken away by a disease related morbidity or mortality.

The NHP has also noted that medical education infrastructure has shown rapid growth over the past few years. "The country has 529 medical colleges, 313 Dental Colleges for BDS & 253 Dental Colleges for MDS. The total number of admissions for academic year 2018-19 in Medical Colleges is 58756. The Dental Colleges saw an admission of 26960 in BDS and 6288 in MDS in the academic year 2018-19," it says.



TOPOF THE  
WORLD

## USA

Harris campaign  
lays off dozens  
of staffers

**Sacramento:** Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris is laying off several dozen staff members and transferring others in an effort to salvage her prospects in the Iowa caucuses. The move, which comes roughly three months before the caucuses formally usher in the Democratic contest, make the California senator the most prominent candidate so far to announce a major campaign restructuring. Harris's campaign turned to history to make the case that in order to win the leadoff caucuses, candidates sometimes have to overhaul their operations. "Plenty of winning primary campaigns... had to make tough choices on their way to the nomination," her campaign manager, Juan Rodriguez, said.

## AFGHANISTAN

'CIA-backed  
militia killing  
with impunity'

**Kabul:** CIA-backed Afghan paramilitary groups operating with impunity are summarily executing civilians during botched nighttime raids and are responsible for the disappearances of suspects, Human Rights Watch said in a report on Thursday. The report documented 14 cases from late 2017 to mid-2019. The secretive militias, whose support from the CIA continues a tradition stemming from the Soviet-Afghan war of the 1980s, have long hunted the Taliban and are seen as an important tool as the war against the insurgents intensifies. But their tactics have long sparked controversy across Afghanistan.

## BANGLADESH

400 Rohingya  
have returned,  
says Myanmar

**Dhaka:** Around 400 Rohingya have voluntarily returned to Myanmar from Bangladesh, Myanmar's embassy there said, but with previous repatriation attempts having failed, Dhaka was yet to verify the claim. Bangladesh is home to nearly a million Rohingya refugees. Myanmar's embassy posted photos on Facebook that purported to show "46 more voluntary returnees" being "warmly received" in Myanmar, taking the total number going back to 397 in an unspecified timeframe.

## KOREAN PENINSULA

North Korea fires  
two ballistic  
missiles: Japan

**Seoul:** North Korea fired two projectiles, which Japanese authorities said appeared to be ballistic missiles, into the sea between the Korean peninsula and Japan on Thursday, according to the Japanese coast guard and South Korea's military. The first of two "unidentified projectiles" was fired on Thursday at 4.35 pm local time from South Phyongan Province, in the centre of the country. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said in a series of statements. A second projectile was detected at 4.38 pm.

Pakistani protesters head to  
Islamabad, want Imran to quit

Security boosted, schools and some offices shut as thousands of demonstrators close in on capital

**SYED RAZA HASSAN**

ISLAMABAD, OCTOBER 31

THOUSANDS OF anti-government demonstrators were due in the Pakistani capital on Thursday to demand that the government step down, piling more pressure on Prime Minister Imran Khan as he strives to get the faltering economy on track.

The protests are organised by Fazl-ur-Rehman, the leader of one of Pakistan's largest religious parties, who says the government of cricketer-turned-politician Khan is incompetent and illegitimate and was installed by the military after a rigged election last year.

Schools and some offices were closed in Islamabad as the



Protesters on their way to Islamabad on Thursday. AP

protesters made their way from the eastern city of Lahore. They were due to arrive later in the day.

Police have reinforced checkpoints and brought in extra bar-

riers, including shipping containers to block roads and seal off the administrative and diplomatic heart of the city.

Rehman, who heads the

Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl party, has billed his protest as an Azadi march.

"This movement will not stop if we don't get the desired results after reaching Islamabad," Rehman told reporters in Lahore late on Wednesday. "We want the Prime Minister's resignation, the entire assembly is fake, we want to dissolve it."

Khan won last year's election on a promise to end corruption, help middle-class families and get the economy on track.

But the honeymoon has come to an end as the economy runs into headwinds with the fiscal deficit ballooning to about seven per cent of gross domestic product and a balance of payments crisis is looming.

Consumer inflation increased to 11.37 per cent year-

on-year in September from 10.49 per cent in August largely on food price rises, while the rupee has fallen more than 50 per cent against the dollar since the end of 2017.

The government agreed in July to a \$6 billion bailout from the International Monetary Fund.

Rehman is a veteran politician who heads an alliance with several seats in the National Assembly and provincial assemblies.

But his real influence comes from his ability to mobilise support, particularly in numerous madrasas across the country.

Pakistan's two main Opposition parties have both said they would back Rehman's campaign against Khan, though have also said they would not support any unconstitutional action. **REUTERS**

## 74 killed as fire sweeps through moving train in Pak

**ROBERT BIRSEL**

ISLAMABAD, OCTOBER 31

A FIRE swept through a Pakistani train on Thursday, killing 74 people and injuring nearly 40 after a gas canister that passengers were using to cook breakfast exploded, the minister of railways said.

The fire destroyed three of the train's carriages near the town of Rahim Yar Khan in the south of Punjab province. It was on its way to Rawalpindi, near the capital, from the southern city of Karachi, with many people travelling to a religious gathering.



Near Rahim Yar Khan in Pakistan's Punjab province. Reuters

It was the worst disaster on Pakistan's accident-plagued railway system in nearly 15 years. "Two stoves blew up when

people were cooking breakfast, the presence of kerosene with the passengers in the moving train further spread the fire," Minister

for Railways Sheikh Rashid Ahmed told Geo television.

Many of the dead were killed when they leapt from the moving

train to escape the flames, he said.

People sneaking stoves onto trains to prepare meals on long journeys is a common problem, the minister said. Shortly before the fire broke out, the conductor had ordered some passengers to stop cooking but they had ignored him, Ahmed said.

But several survivors questioned whether the fire was sparked by a cooking accident, telling media they believed the cause was a short-circuit in the train's electrical system.

Television pictures showed fire and black smoke pouring from the train's windows after it came to a stop on a stretch of line flanked by fields. **REUTERS**

## HOUSE APPROVES RULES FOR NEXT STAGE OF PROCEEDINGS

Trump impeachment effort  
passes first test in Congress

**PATRICIA ZENGERLE  
& RICHARD COWAN**

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 31

A DEEPLY divided US House of Representatives took a major step in the effort to impeach President Donald Trump on Thursday when lawmakers approved rules for the next stage, including public hearings, in the Democratic-led inquiry into Trump's attempt to have Ukraine investigate a domestic political rival.

In the first formal test of support for the impeachment investigation, the Democratic-controlled House voted almost entirely along party lines — 232 to 196 — to move the probe forward in Congress.

The vote demonstrated unity among Democrats who accuse Trump of abusing his office and jeopardising national security for personal political gain. But they did not pick up a single Republican vote.

"It's a sad day. No one comes to Congress to impeach a president," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said before the vote.

Televised public hearings featuring US officials testifying in Congress about alleged wrongdoing by Trump could crowd out other issues like the economy and immigration as



Speaker Nancy Pelosi presides over the vote on a resolution that sets up the next steps in the impeachment inquiry. Reuters

EXPLAINED

Show of unity and  
intent by Democrats

THE RESOLUTION passed by the House of Representatives sets out the rules and procedures to be followed in the impeachment inquiry, which will now enter its public phase. But the vote has greater significance with 231 out of 233 voting Democratic lawmakers backing the resolution. This is a show of unity from a party that was bitterly divided on the impeachment issue before the probe began. This also removes any doubt that the Democratic leadership will carry forward impeachment proceedings, but when they will be able to bring formal charges remains to be seen.

voters turn their minds to the November 2020 presidential election.

Republicans accused Democrats of using impeach-

ment to overturn the results of his 2016 victory.

"The Greatest Witch Hunt In American History!" Trump tweeted after the vote. **REUTERS**



## JAPAN

## FIRE ENGULFS WORLD HERITAGE CASTLE

A major fire devastated a historic Japanese castle on the southern island of Okinawa on Thursday morning, destroying large parts of the World Heritage site's complex, local authorities said. The Shuri castle is a key part of a complex dating back to the Ryukyu Kingdom, and is believed to have been in use from around the 1400s.

A video released by the Pentagon showed parts of US special forces' raid on Baghdad's compound in Idlib, Syria. **Reuters**

Islamic State names  
new chief, confirms  
Baghdadi's death

US releases video of raid on Baghdadi

**AP & REUTERS**

BEIRUT, WASHINGTON,  
OCTOBER 31

THE ISLAMIC State group declared a new leader Thursday after it confirmed the death of its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi days earlier in a US raid in Syria.

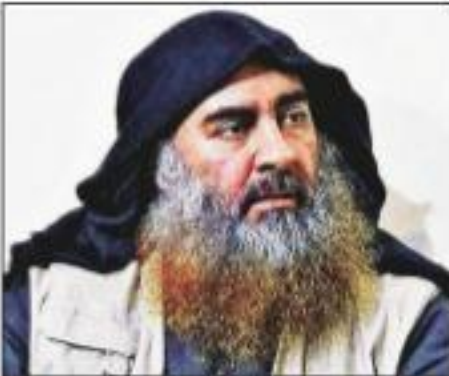
In its audio release by the IS central media arm, al-Furqan Foundation, a new spokesman for IS identifies the successor as Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi — tracing his lineage, like Baghdadi, to the Prophet Muhammad's Quraysh tribe.

It provided no other details about Qurayshi and it was not immediately clear who the name was in reference to. The group typically identifies its leaders using noms de guerre that refer to their tribal affiliation and lineage. Those names often change.

The speaker in the audio also confirmed the death of Abu Hassan al-Muhajir, a close aide of Baghdadi and a spokesman for the group since 2016.

Muhajir was killed in a joint US operation with Kurdish forces in Jarablus in northern Syria on Sunday, hours after Baghdadi blew himself up during a US raid in Syria's north-western Idlib province.

The killings were a double blow to the extremist group, nearly seven months after its territorial defeat in Syria.



Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was killed in a raid by US special forces on his hideout in Syria's Idlib last Sunday.

The new spokesman, named Abu Hamza al-Qurayshi, urged followers to pledge allegiance to the new "caliph" and addressed the Americans, saying: "Don't rejoice."

Meanwhile, the Pentagon on Wednesday released its first images from the raid in Syria that led to the death of Baghdadi.

The declassified, grainy, black-and-white aerial videos from Saturday's raid showed US special operations forces closing in on the compound and US aircraft firing on militants nearby.

The most dramatic video showed a massive, black plume of smoke rising from the ground after US military bombs levelled Baghdadi's compound.

"It looks pretty much like a parking lot, with large potholes," said Marine General Kenneth McKenzie, the commander of US Central Command, which oversees US forces in the Middle East.

Bangla SC upholds death  
sentence to top Jamaat  
leader for war crimes

**ANISUR RAHMAN**

DHAKA, OCTOBER 31

THE SUPREME Court in Bangladesh on Thursday upheld the death sentence to top Jamaat-e-Islami leader ATM Azharul Islam for committing war crimes during the 1971 Liberation War by siding with Pakistani troops.

A four-member Bench of the Appellate Division rejected Islam's appeal against capital punishment handed down by a high powered tribunal.

"Rejected," pronounced Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain as he read out the verdict summary of the apex court Bench.

On January 28, 2015, Islam filed his appeal challenging the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) verdict that sentenced him to death for war crimes.

Earlier on June 18, the Appellate Division started hearing arguments on the appeal from both the state and the de-

fence. However, the bench completed the hearing and deferred the matter as a case awaiting verdict on July 10.

Islam's case was the eighth one to reach the final verdict as Bangladesh's Awami League government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina initiated the process to bring to justice the suspected war criminals of 1971.

Six of the convicts have been executed by now, with five being leaders of Jamaat, which was opposed to Bangladesh's 1971 independence. The sixth was a leader of the BNP, whose leader Khaleda Zia is now serving a 10-year imprisonment on graft charges.

A former Jamaat assistant secretary general, Islam was a top leader of the notorious Al Badr militia force, manned mainly by the extreme right-wing party's youth and student wing siding with the Pakistani troops in 1971.

He was accused of presiding over the killing of over 1,400 people, the rape of many women, abduction and torture. **PTI**

## COMPLEX DISEASE SPREADING RAPIDLY

## Scientists say quarter of all pigs in the world may die of swine fever

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

SYDNEY, OCTOBER 31

AROUND A quarter of the world's pigs are expected to die from African swine fever as authorities grapple with a complex disease spreading rapidly in the globalisation era, the World Organisation for Animal Health's president said Thursday.

A sharp reduction in the world's pig population would lead to possible food shortages and high pork prices, and it might also cause shortfalls in the many products made from pigs,

such as the blood-thinner heparin that's used in people, said Dr Mark Schipp, the organisation's president.

The disease's spread in the past year to countries including China, which has half the world's pigs, had inflamed a worldwide crisis, Schipp told reporters at a briefing in Sydney.

"I don't think the species will be lost, but it's the biggest threat to the commercial raising of pigs we've ever seen," he said. "And it's the biggest threat to any commercial livestock of our generation."

African swine fever, fatal to hogs but no threat to humans,



African swine fever is fatal to pigs, but not a threat to humans

has wiped out pig herds in many Asian countries. Chinese author-

ities have destroyed about 1.2 million pigs in an effort to con-

tain the disease there since August 2018.

The price of pork has nearly doubled from a year ago in China, which produces and consumes two-thirds of the world's pork. And China's efforts to buy pork abroad, as well as smaller outbreaks in other countries, are pushing up global prices.

"There are some shortages in some countries, and there's been some substitutions using other sources of protein, which is driving up the prices of other proteins," said Schipp.

Progress had been made toward a vaccine, but Schipp, who is

also Australia's chief veterinary officer, said the work was challenging because the virus itself is large and has a complex structure. He said a big step forward was the announcement last week that scientists had unravelled the 3D structure of the virus.

African swine fever is spread by contact among pigs, through contaminated fodder and by ticks. It originated in South Africa and appeared in Europe in the 1960s. A recent reappearance in western Europe came from wild pigs transferred into Belgian forests for hunting purposes.

Its capacity to spread rapidly

is shown by its spread from China in the past year, Schipp said. Mongolia, the Korean Peninsula, Southeast Asia and East Timor have had outbreaks as well.

He said the spread reflects the global movement of pork and of people but also the effect of tariffs and trade barriers, which sends those obtaining pork to seek out riskier sources. And Schipp said quality control was difficult for products such as skins for sausages and similar foods.

He praised China's efforts to battle the disease and said the outbreaks would change the way pigs are raised.



DELHI URBAN SHELTER IMPROVEMENT BOARD

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER C-1

1st Floor, Circle Office Building, Near DTC Bus Terminal,  
RAJA GARDEN NEW DELHI 25454271

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

D/581/EEC-1/DUSIB/2019-20

Dated: 23/10/19

The Executive Engineer C-1, DUSIB, invites on behalf of  
DUSIB online Percentage rate bid on two bid system for  
following work:-

1. NIT NO. 62, TENDER I.D. 2019\_DUSIB\_182788\_1, Name of  
Work:- MLA LAD Fund, Sub Head: Providing approach road and  
repairing of drains at JJC A-11/12 Mayapuri **Estimated cost Rs.**  
10825731.84, **Earnest money Rs.** 2,16,550.00, **Tender cost Rs.**  
1000.00, **Time allowed:** 120 Days.

Last Date & time for download of entire Tender  
document/encryption on 13/11/2019 upto 1500 Hrs.

The bid form and other details can be obtained from the website  
(<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>) Note: Any amendment /  
change/clarification (if any) will be uploaded only on  
<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>, therefore intending  
tenderer may inspect the website regularly.

Sd/-

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER-C-1

DUSIB

DIP/Shabdarth/0904/19-20

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL



Neetu Pandey

General public is hereby informed that  
one girl namely Neetu Pandey, D/o  
Shri Ved Prakash Pandey, R/o H.No.  
S-196, Pandav Nagar, Delhi, Age 17  
years, Height 5'1", Complexion Fair,  
Round Face, Medium Built, Wearing  
Yellow colour kurti and blue colour  
jeans pant is missing/kidnapped from  
the area of PS Mandawali, Delhi since 02.10.17. In this  
regard a case FIR No. 451/17 dated 03.10.17 U/S 363 IPC  
has been registered at PS Mandawali, Delhi.  
Any person having any information or clue about this  
missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following.  
**E-mail ID:** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **SHO**  
**Tele:** 011-24368638, 24368641 **PS : Mandawali, Delhi**  
**Fax:** 011-24368639 **Ph.: 22720808, 22720030**

DP/7095/ED/19

भारतीय खाद्य निगम

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, हरियाणा बे नं. 29-32, सेक्टर-4, पंचकुला

की.1(1)ओएमएसएस (डी)/एकी.बी./19-20/ दिनांक- 01.11.2019

ई-नीलामी द्वारा भारतीय खाद्य निगम (सा.खा.नि.) हरियाणा क्षेत्र से ओपन  
मार्केट सेल स्क्रीन (डोमेस्टिक) (ओ.एम.एस.एस.डी) के अखीन गेहूँ की बिडी

ई-नीलामी के बारे में सारी जानकारी Bulk & Dedicated Tender फार्म में दी गई है  
जो कि मा.खा.नि. की वेबसाइट [fci.gov.in](http://fci.gov.in) और नै. एम-जंक्शन (M-Junction)  
वेबसाइट [www.valuejunction.in/fci](http://www.valuejunction.in/fci) पर उपलब्ध है।

नवम्बर माह में गेहूँ की बिडी के सम्बन्ध में ई-नीलामी गतिविधियों की तिथियाँ निम्नानुसार हैं:-

निविदा अपलोड करने और ईएमडी जमा करने हेतु आरम्भिक तिथि	ईएमडी जमा करने हेतु अंतिम तिथि	ऑनलाइन बोली हेतु आरम्भिक और अंतिम तिथि व समय
01.11.19	05.11.19	06.11.19 को 11:00 से 14:00 बजे तक
08.11.19	13.11.19	14.11.19 को 11:00 से 14:00 बजे तक
15.11.19	19.11.19	20.11.19 को 11:00 से 14:00 बजे तक
22.11.19	26.11.19	27.11.19 को 11:00 से 14:00 बजे तक

किसी भी घुसरा हेतु एम-जंक्शन के टोल फ्री नं. 18001027136, व ई-नेल  
[fcihelpdesk@mcjunction.in](mailto:fcihelpdesk@mcjunction.in) एवं मा.खा.नि., क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय पंचकुला के दूरभाष नं.  
0172-2567450 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

हस्ता / - महाप्रबंधक (क्षेत्र)

एकसीआई राष्द्र की खाद्य सुरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करते हुए

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

Senior Divisional Safety Officer, Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf of  
President of India invites e-tender for the following work:-

NIT No.	213-S/1/Vehicle Contract/Safety/2018
Name of work and its location	"Hiring of one multi-utility vehicle (i.e. Toyota Innova Crysta/Mahindra XUV 500/Tata Safari Storm/Tata Hexa or Equivalent/Higher version) for the period of Two years under ADSO/DLI, DRM's Office, New Delhi" for 2400kms with round with round the clock service.
Approx Cost of work	Rs. 13.53,600/- (Thirteen lac Fifty Three Thousand Six hundred only with GST as applicable)
Earnest Money	Rs. 27,072/- (Note:- It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. <b>Note:</b> FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board letter no. 2015/CR-IC/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016)
Completion period of work	Two years i.e. 24 months from the date of execution of work
Cost of tender document on cashby post	Rs. 2360/- with GST @ 18%
Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 12.00 hrs. on 2.12.2019 Opening of Tender at 12.00 hrs.
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen	Above tender available on IREPS i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

No.: 213-S/1/Vehicle Contract/Safety/2018 Dated: 30.10.19. 3501/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

MADURAI SMART CITY LIMITED

Advertisement No. : DIPR/3826/TENDER/2019

Ref. No. MSCL P(22)/19-20

Di: 31.10.2019

CORRIGENDUM

Kind attention invited on the above advertisement the following amendment given for the above Advertisement No. DIPR/3826/TENDER/2019

Sl. No.	Name of work	Value Put to Tender	EMD
Ref. No. MSCL P (22) / 19-20	1. Providing UGSS to Madurai City Municipal Corporation in added areas, Zone - 1 Smart City area, Phase - II, Package-I under Smart City Limited	Rs. 136.60 Cr.	Rs. 136.60 Lakh
Ref. No. MSCL P (23) / 19-20	2. Providing UGSS to Madurai City Municipal Corporation in added areas, Zone - 2 Smart City area, Phase-II, Package-II under Smart City Limited	Rs. 103.22 Cr.	Rs. 103.22 Lakh
Ref. No. MSCL P (24) / 19-20	3. Providing UGSS to Madurai City Municipal Corporation in added areas, Zone-3 Smart City area, Phase-III, Package-III under Smart City Limited	Rs. 38.89 Cr.	Rs. 38.89 Lakh

DIPR/ 3976 / TENDER /2019

Managing Director, MSCL

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

TENDER NOTICE NO.04/DB/F.114 N/2019 Dated: 30.10.2019

LS FORM (RATE TENDER SYSTEM) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu sealed tenders are invited by the Chief Engineer, Fisheries Department, Integrated office Complex, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Department, Nandanam, Chennai - 35, for the following works from the registered Civil contractors of Govt. Departments.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Value in Lakhs	EMD Amount (Rs.)
1.	Providing Artificial Reefs in 30 locations all along the inshore waters of Nagapattinam, Thiruvannamalai and Thanjavur Districts.	799.00	4,05,000/-
2.	Providing Artificial Reefs in 10 locations all along the inshore waters of Ramanathapuram District.	275.00	1,47,500/-
3.	Providing Artificial Reefs in 10 locations all along the inshore waters of Pudukkottai District.	275.00	1,47,500/-
4.	Providing Artificial Reefs in 10 locations all along the inshore waters of Cuddalore District.	265.00	1,42,500/-

• Period for Availability of Tender Schedule : upto 5.45 pm on 28.11.2019

• Last date of receipt of tender : 29.11.2019 upto 03.00 pm

The other details, terms and conditions may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Engineer, Fisheries Department, Chennai - 600 035 and the tender documents may also be downloaded at free of cost, through internet at the website "[www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in)".

DIPR/3974/Tender/2019

Chief Engineer, Fisheries Department, Chennai - 35.

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

No.GT/T/NOTICE/IREPS/2019-20/65 Global Tender Notice Date: 26.10.2019

E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following Items:- S.No.: 1, Tender No.: 10191141A, Due Date: 28.11.2019, **Items and Part No.:** Piston Ring Set to PL No. 16030618, Quantity: 9873 Nos., S.No.: 2, Tender No.: 10191198, Due Date: 29.11.2019, **Items and Part No.:** Thread Protector to PL No. 16240261, Quantity: 215 Nos. **Note:** For complete details of Tender Cost/EMD and downloading of Tender Documents, please visit Website: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) GT Corrigendum Notice, Date 26.10.2019, S.N.:1, Bid Inv. No.: IREPS 2019-20/53, Tender No.: 10191209, Rev.: 1, Details of Revision: Opening date to be read as 29.11.2019 instead of 21.10.2019. **Note:**All other terms & conditions remain unchanged.

PRO/DLW/S-96

Controller of Stores

[dieselocoworks](https://dieselocoworks) "Website: [www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in)"

"IMPORTANT"

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NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No.	58 & 60/19-20-W-V
1. Name of work with its location	1. Changing of U/S sleepers & repair to casual washable apron of platform no. 1, 5 & 6 at HN2M station in the section of ADEN/HNZM <b>Definition of similar work :</b> Any type of Tack work 2. Construction of 3.05m. wide Foot Over Bridge at Patli and Palam Railway stations on Delhi-Rewari section. <b>Definition of similar work :</b> Fabrication, Supply, assembly, erection and launching/regarding of girders through girder, plat girders, FOBs etc. in running track
2. Approx. Cost of work	1. Rs. 13314207.96 2. Rs. 42294545.87
3. Earnest Money	(It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. <b>Note :</b> FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no. 201025/CE-IC/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) 1. Rs. 216600.00 2. Rs. 361500.00
4. Completion period of work	1. 06 Months 2. 06 Months
5. Cost of tender	(It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. <b>Note :</b> FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no. 2015/CE-IC/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) 1. Rs. 5900.00 2. Rs. 11800.00
6. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15:00 hrs on 22.11.2019 opening of tender at 15:00 hrs on 22.11.2019
7. Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

128-W/280/e-Tender Notice/2019-20/W-V Dated : 28.10.2019

3500/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

E-TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICINE

Principal Chief Medical Director, Headquarters, Southern Railway for and on behalf of the President of India, invites ONLINE Open Tenders for the following supply contract as per Tender Notice given in IREPS website. Firms are requested to logon to <http://www.ireps.gov.in>->E-Tender->Goods & Services (New) and quote against these Tenders. **No Manual quotations will be entertained.** Closing time for the Tenders is **11.00 Hours on the date noted against each below:**

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity	Due Date
1.	SR1915304120455	CORONARY DRUG ELUTING STENTS	465	19-11-2019
2.	SR1915403620456	MRI CONDITIONAL DUAL (DDOR)	26	19-11-2019
3.	SR1915405220457	SINGLE CHAMBER RATE...	19	19-11-2019
4.	SR1915406220458	MRI CONDITIONAL SINGLE.....	4	19-11-2019
5.	SR1915206320459	INOUE TRANSVENOUS MITRAL....	21	19-11-2019
6.	SR1915406420460	MRI CONDITIONAL DUAL CHAMBER	11	19-11-2019
7.	SR1905312010722	CIPROFLOXACIN INJ/ 200 MG/VIAL	13550	19-11-2019
8.	SR1901405510724	EPLERENONE 25MG TAB	108500	19-11-2019
9.	SR1903820010725	HYDROXYPROPYL..... 10G OPTH GEL	4814	19-11-2019
10.	SR1907001710726	DICLOFENAC SPRAY MINIMUM 50G	3990	19-11-2019
11.	SR1908821110727	KOJIC ACID 2%..... 15G TUBE	916	19-11-2019
12.	SR1906502510728	RAMUCIRUMAB INJ 500MG VIAL	6	19-11-2019

PRINCIPAL CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Directorate of Horticulture and Farm Forestry, Chhattisgarh

HOD building, Indrawati Bhawan, IInd block, 4th Floor, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar

Ph:0771-2433001, Fax- 0771-2433002, E-mail: [dir.horti-cg@nic.in](mailto:dir.horti-cg@nic.in),  
Web: <https://agriportal.cg.nic.in/horticulture/HortiHi/>

No./Horti/Expo/2019-20/5195 Naya Raipur, Atal Nagar, Dated 30.10.19

**Re-EOI invited for Design, Construction, PR & Sourcing of Buyers for Chhattisgarh Pavilion at "BIOFACH INDIA 2019" (BI-2019) during 07-09 November 2019 at Gr.Noida Expo Centre.**

Department of Horticulture and Farm Forestry, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar, Chhattisgarh had invited EOI through newspaper, advertisement number G-73922 dated 06 October 2019. However, minimum number of proposals could not be received. Hence, date is being extended as follows:-

● Last date of submission of EOI :- 04.11.2019, 11:00 am

● Opening of EOI :- 04.11.2019, 12:00 pm

● Power Point Presentation :- 04.11.2019, 01:00 pm

The details viz. technical and financial specification and terms & conditions are same as its previous advertisement notice. It is available at our website, "<https://agriportal.cg.nic.in/horticulture/HortiHi/>".

Sd/-  
Director, Horticulture.

74562

MEGHALAYA POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (DISTRIBUTION)  
LUMJINGSHAI, SHORT ROUND ROAD, SHILLONG - 793001

Phone: (0364) 2590229 Email: [cedist.mepdcl@gmail.com](mailto:cedist.mepdcl@gmail.com)  
CIN: U40101ML2009SGC008394

No. MePDCL/CE (Dist)/T-476(RT-DAS/GIS/ERP)/2019-20/01  
Dated 31st October, 2019

TENDER NOTICE

Tenders in e-tendering format are invited for "Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Hardware & Software for implementing 'Real Time Data Acquisition System (RT-DAS)' covering 15 no's 33/11kv Substations (49 feeders) of IPDS Non-SCADA towns in Meghalaya", on single point responsibility "Full Turnkey" contract basis for specified locations in Meghalaya as defined in the bid documents. The last date of bid submission is **25th November, 2019 upto 12:00 noon**. The same shall be opened on the same day at **16:00 Hrs** in MeECL Conference Hall, Lumjingshai, Shillong.

Interested bidders may download the detailed Bidding Documents, Technical Specification, etc. from the website at [mecl.nic.in](http://mecl.nic.in) as well as from the website [www.meghalayatenders.gov.in](http://www.meghalayatenders.gov.in) from **04th November, 2019**.

MIPR No. 1033

Date : 31.10.2019

Chief Engineer (Dist)

THE ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED

CAD-520 OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha

CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, [www.omcltd.in](http://www.omcltd.in)

BRIEF TENDER NOTICE

NIT No. /OMC/Geo/e-PROC/02/19 Dtd-30.10.2019

1. Name of the work	INTEGRATED EXPLORATION WORK IN SOUTH KALIAPANI MINING LEASE FOR CHROMITE FOR PFS LEVEL STUDY, JAJPUR DISTRICT, ODISHA.
2. Availability of bid document in the portal	4.00 PM on 31.10.2019 to 29.11.2019 up to 5.00 PM
3. Last date of receipt of queries	Di. 10.11.2019 up to 5 PM
4. Date and time of Pre-Bid meeting	Di. 15.11.2019, at 11AM at Head Office, OMC
5. Last date for responses to queries	Di. 21.11.2019.
6. Date of start of submission of Bid in portal	22.11.2019
7. Last date of online submission of tender in portal	29.11.2019 up to 5.00 PM
8. Submission of EMD	Rs. 2,00,000/- (Two Lakhs) through online as available in website <a href="http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in">www.tendersodisha.gov.in</a>
9. Date of opening of techno-commercial Bid	11.00 AM on 30.11.2019

All other details can be seen from the tender document available at Government e-procurement portal i.e. [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in) and OMC website i.e. [www.omcltd.in](http://www.omcltd.in)

OMC reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

ADDL. GENERAL MANAGER (GEO)

30005/11/0083/1920

जयपुर विकास प्राधिकरण, जयपुर

भव्य ई-नीलामी

न्यू आतिश मार्केट विस्तार, सन्नी मॉल के पास

कॉमर्शियल प्लॉट

लोकेशन	भूखण्ड संख्या	क्षेत्रफल (वर्गमीटर)	बिड प्रारम्भ तिथि	EMD जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि	बिड की अंतिम तिथि (सायं 3.00 बजे तक)
न्यू आतिश मार्केट विस्तार खसरा नं. 74, 73 (पार्ट) 66 (पार्ट) सन्नी मॉल के पास	C1-C	67.42	24/10/2019	04/11/2019	07/11/2019
	C1-E	64.04	24/10/2019	05/11/2019	08/11/2019
	C3-A	175.84	24/10/2019	07/11/2019	11/11/2019
	C3-D	171.25	24/10/2019	07/11/2019	13/11/2019
	C1-F	58.45	24/10/2019	11/11/2019	14/11/2019
	C1-A	130.33	24/10/2019	11/11/2019	15/11/2019
	C1-B (SC)	69.11	24/10/2019	14/11/2019	18/11/2019
	C3-C	172.56	24/10/2019	15/11/2019	19/11/2019
	C3-E	169.47	24/10/2019	18/11/2019	20/11/2019
	C3-B	174.24	24/10/2019	18/11/2019	21/11/2019
	C1-I	60.00	24/10/2019	19/11/2019	22/11/2019
	C1-D(ST)	65.73	24/10/2019	21/11/2019	25/11/2019
	C1-J	60.00	24/10/2019	22/11/2019	27/11/2019
C1-G (Corner)	54.50	24/10/2019	25/11/2019	28/11/2019	
C1-H(SC)	60.00	24/10/2019	26/11/2019	29/11/2019	
C1-K	98.04	24/10/2019	29/11/2019	03/12/2019	

बोली प्रारम्भ : 1 लाख 75 हजार रु. Sq. Mtr.

\* भूखण्डों की नीलामी की जानकारी एवं शर्तों के लिए हमारी वेबसाइट [jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in](http://jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in) देखें या सम्पर्क करें विशेषाधिकारी (संसाधन विकास) फोन : 0141-2569696 (7021, 7226, 1128) उपायुक्त जोन - 5, मोबाइल नं. 9414445000

KEYMAP



CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HARYANA

Mahendergarh - 123031 (Haryana)

Tender Notice

AMI- CUH Unit invites sealed tenders from reputed and experienced agencies for providing 1. Catering Services 2. Construction of enclosure/iron hanger, exhibition stall and tent for food area during AMI conference 2019 (15-18 Nov 2019). The complete tender should reach by 05:00 PM on 10/11/19. The tender will be opened on 11/11/19 at 11.00 AM. For details visit [www.cuh.ac.in](http://www.cuh.ac.in).

AMI-CUH Unit

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking

(Of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation)

TENDER NOTICE

e-tenders are invited for the supply of following items.

(1) 45392 - Mechanical Connector (Joining & Termination),

Re-invited e-tenders

(2) 44592 - 10 KV Insulation Resistance Tester, (3) 44293 - Display of Advertisements by Affixing Kiosks on Street Lighting Poles.

Note : For more details, at ( Sr. Nos. 1 & 2) log on to website <https://mahatenders.gov.in> & ( Sr.Nos.3) [www.besttender.com](http://www.besttender.com).

PRO/AAM(M)/97/2019.

GENERAL MANAGER

DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATS DEPARTMENT, HARYANA

(SWACHH BHARAT MISSION -GRAMIN)

Plot No. 3, Haryana Panchayat Bhawan, Sector 28-A, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR INVITING INTERESTED AGENCIES/RECYCLERS ETC. FOR PURCHASE OF PLASTIC WASTE IN RURAL HARYANA

Haryana State Swachh Bharat Mission, Development & Panchayats Department invites expression of interest (EOI) from interested Agencies/ Recyclers etc. for Block wise purchase of Plastic Waste in the Rural Areas of all the 22 Districts of Haryana.

The Plastic waste collected by the Districts is in the mixed form i.e. all types of Plastic wastes. The Agencies/Recyclers will be responsible for collection transportation from the Block Level and further safe disposal of purchased plastic waste.

Interested Parties may submit their proposal by 15.11.2019 along-with rate for purchase of Plastic waste in sealed envelope through Registered Post only to the SBM-G Cell in the Office of Director, Development & Panchayats, Department Haryana, Haryana Panchayat Bhawan, Sector 28-A, Chandigarh.

Sd/-  
State Project Coordinator (SBM-G)  
O/o Director, Development & Panchayats Department, Haryana, Plot No. 3, Haryana Panchayat Bhawan, Sector 28-A, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh.  
Phone No. 0172-2637670

79024/HRY

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Directorate of Information and Public Relations

Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh

No. IPR/AdvT/Emp-159/2018(Part-1)

Dated Naharlagun the 17th October 2019

INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Secretary, Information and Public Relations, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, on behalf of Governor of Arunachal Pradesh extends the last date for submission of Expression of interest from Agencies approved and empanelled by Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC) erstwhile Directorate of Advertising and Audio Publicity (DAVP) for empanelment as advertising agency for publishing advertisements of departments/ offices/ institutions under Government of Arunachal Pradesh in the National and Regional newspapers. Other terms and conditions remains same as below :

TERMS AND CONDITIONS :

1. Agency/firm should be duly approved by BOC/DAVP and have an experience of at least five years experience in the field.

2. Should be approved/ empanelled by at least 3 (three) state Governments for at least 3 years.

3. Agency/ firm which agree to bill in BOC/DAVP rates for all advertisements issued to/ through it should only apply.

4. No newspapers published from Arunachal Pradesh shall be included in the list of newspapers under the agency.

5. Firm/ agency should be duly registered under appropriate section of law/ Act.

6. Firm/ agency should have its own PAN and GST number.

The sealed quotation of Interest accompanied with relevant documents should reach to the Director of Information and Public Relations, Polo Colony, Near Heema Kids Paradise School, Naharlagun- 791110 latest by 07.11.2019.

Sd/-  
Director  
Information and Public Relations  
Itanagar

Dated Naharlagun the 31st October 2019

DIPR/ARN-5092-95

epaper.indianexpress.com



## SECTOR WATCH

### INSURANCE

# With modified norms now in force, premium for health policies set to rise

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

HEALTH INSURANCE premiums are likely to rise, in the wake of the recent changes in regulations under the health policies of insurance firms.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) had recently modified regulations for standardisation of certain wordings, conditions which cannot be excluded under health insurance policies and coverage for modern treatments. “It is possible that insurance premiums could increase due to these changes, especially due to coverage being made mandatory for certain conditions which were hitherto excluded under health insurance policies,” said Subramanyam Brahmajosyula, head—underwriting and reinsurance, SBI General Insurance. “It is too early to comment on the quantum of increase as insurance companies would have to monitor and assess the impact of these changes on their loss ratios before approaching the regulator for approval for increased premium rates. The quantum of increase may also vary from company to company,” he added. However, insurance experts said premium can rise by 10-15 per cent in view of the changes.

Experts say the primary objective of these modifications is to promote uniformity, keeping the customer in focus. These changes will enable customers to take more informed decisions while purchasing their insurance cover, they say.

The modifications on guidelines, effective October 1, 2019, basically cover three areas: definition of pre-existing disease; optional covers and costs that are included in the definition of room charges, medical or surgical procedures; and treatment costs

“Optional covers and costs are basically clarificatory in nature and will help standardisation in health products across insurers. But these lists can’t be fixed for all time to come and IRDAI may have to bring out need-based and knowledge-based changes from time to time,” said KK Srinivasan, former member, IRDAI.

Regarding definition of pre-existing diseases, a simple reading gives an impression that as per the new definition, conditions ore illnesses discovered within 3 months of issuance of policy will be treated as pre-existing. “It does hit the policy holders but can prevent frauds,” Srinivasan added.

Insurers would have to incorporate all these modifications in their existing products

**Experts say the primary objective of the modifications by IRDAI is to promote uniformity in policies, keeping the customer in focus**

by October 1, 2020 and any new products filed post October 1, 2019 would have to be in conformity with the regulations. There could be some impact on pricing of health insurance products as a result of these changes, said an official.

During FY18, insurance firms collected Rs 37,029 crore as health insurance premium, registering a growth of 21.8 per cent over the previous fiscal. The share of group health insurance was the highest at 48 per cent, followed by individual business (41 per cent) and the government business (11 per cent). Five states — Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Delhi UT and Gujarat — contributed 68 per cent of total health insurance premium, according to IRDAI.

As per the IRDAI Annual Report 2017-18, the insurance sector has covered 48 crore lives under health insurance, of which 36 crore persons are covered under various government schemes. The industry has processed 1.6 crore health insurance claims during that year. The PMJAY scheme, launched in September 2018, had 18 lakh plus pre-authorisations approved amounting to over Rs 2,400 crore as on March 31, 2019.

In a circular issued to the CEOs of insurance companies recently, IRDAI allowed health insurers to effect a decrease in minimum and/or increase in maximum premiums and maximum entry age. Typically, the maximum age limit of health insurance policies filed is up to 65 years; but if the insurer feels that the age limit can be extended, then it can be increased beyond 65 years or as per maximum age filed.

IRDAI has allowed general and standalone health insurance firms to collect premium in various frequencies or instalments such as monthly, quarterly or half-yearly without filing with the regulator.

The regulator has also allowed additional distribution channels to be introduced for specific products on certification basis without waiting for the regulatory approval without changes to the terms and conditions.

There is a provision to change the premium by increasing or decreasing by 15 per cent, depending on the loss-ratio range.

## US HAD FILED COMPLAINT STATING EXPORT SCHEMES WERE A ‘DETRIMENT’ TO AMERICANS

# Withdraw prohibited subsidies: WTO panel to India

PRABHA RAGHAVAN  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

IN A move expected to put Indian export subsidy programmes claimed to be worth over \$7 billion at risk, the World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute settlement panel has sided with the United States on a complaint that these subsidies were not compliant with the multilateral trade body’s norms. At the same time, sources told *The Indian Express* that India will appeal the ruling, which may prevent the adoption and implementation of the panel’s decision.

The dispute panel formed to look into US’ complaints last year found that exemptions from customs duties and Integrated Goods and Services Tax and tax deductions provided under some sections or conditions of India’s export-oriented schemes were “inconsistent” with provisions of WTO’s Subsidies and Counter-

vailing Measures (SCM) Agreement.

This includes India’s Export Oriented Units (EOU) scheme, Electronics Hardware Technology Parks (EHTP) and Bio-Technology Parks (BTP) schemes, Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme, Special Economic Zones (SEZ) scheme and the Duty-Free Imports for Exporters Scheme (DFIS). It also found the duty credit scrips awarded under the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) to be inconsistent with these provisions.

The panel — in its 113-page report released late Thursday — recommended that India “withdraw the prohibited subsidies” under these schemes within 90-180 days (depending on the scheme) from the adoption of its report.

At the same time, the panel rejected US’ claims that the exemption from central excise duty on domestically procured goods under the EOU/EHTP/BTP schemes and the exemptions from customs

### ‘INDIA WILL APPEAL AGAINST RULING’

■ A senior government official said that India will appeal the ruling by the WTO dispute settlement panel, which may prevent the adoption and implementation of the panel’s decision

■ As per experts, the WTO appellate body is likely to be dysfunctional by December, if India appeals the report, then the panel report does not stand a chance of getting adopted by the dispute settlement body

duties on importation under certain conditions of the DFIS scheme are inconsistent with SCM.

These subsidies, worth “over \$7 billion”, are enjoyed by producers of Indian steel products, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, information technology products, textiles and apparel “to the detriment of American workers and manufacturers”, said the office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR).

“This is a resounding victory for the United States,” said USTR Robert Lighthizer in a statement

on the development.

India has “rapidly” expanded the MEIS to “nearly double” the number of products covered since the scheme’s introduction in 2015, said the USTR release.

“Exports under the SEZ have increased over 6,000 per cent from 2000 to 2017 and in 2016 accounted for over \$82 billion in exports, or 30 per cent of India’s export volume. Exports from the EOU increased by over 160 per cent from 2000 to 2016,” it added. “We will appeal the report,” a senior government official close to the

## ‘Financial inclusion: India among most conducive nations’

India is among the top nations with the most conducive environment for financial inclusion, The Economist Intelligence Unit’s (EIU) 2019 Global Microscope on Financial Inclusion report said

### Nations with most favourable conditions for inclusive finance:

- India
- Colombia
- Peru
- Uruguay
- Mexico

### Four basic enablers for promoting digital financial inclusion:

- Allowing non-banks to issue e-money
- Presence of financial service agents
- Proportionate customer due diligence
- Effective financial

### consumer protection

### Nations that scored perfectly across all four parameters:

- Colombia
- India
- Jamaica
- Uruguay

### Major drivers of digital financial inclusion:

- Large range of providers who can cater to people on margins on formal financial system
- Regulatory control on some of the risks inherent in digital financial services



■ Clear rules on innovation to achieve greater financial inclusion

**Draft national strategy by Reserve Bank:** The Reserve Bank of India has prepared a draft National Strategy for Financial Inclusion to

deepen financial services’ coverage in the country. The long-awaited strategy is expected to be finalised in 2019 and will cover a five-year period

# Rajan: Much of my term as RBI Governor was under BJP govt

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

FORMER RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan, who faced a stinging attack from Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for presiding over the “worst phase” of the Indian banking sector, on Thursday reminded her that two-third of his tenure as the head of the central bank was under the BJP government.

Rajan — who was Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from September 5, 2013 to September 2016 — said during his term a clean up of the banking sector that was “clogging” with bad loans had begun and the job remains unfinished. He said India needs a new generation of reforms to accelerate economic growth. At 5 per cent GDP growth rate, India was witnessing substantial economic slowdown.

“I had just over eight months in the previous (Congress) government and I had 26 months under



**“The reality is, there is a clean-up which we started, which is underway, which needs to be completed fast”**

RAGHURAM RAJAN,  
FORMER RBI GOVERNOR

this (BJP) government ... much of my term (as RBI Governor) was under this government,” he told CNBC in an interview.

He was asked about Sitharaman’s comments in New York earlier this month where she said that the Indian public sector banks had the “worst phase” under the combination of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Rajan. Rajan, however, hasten to add that he doesn’t want to get into a political debate on the issue.

“Let me not get into a political back and forth. The reality is, there is a clean-up which we started,

which is underway, which needs to be completed fast. The recapitalization has been done, but it also has to be done in the non-bank financial sector which is ceasing up and you need to clean-up, get the financial system going again if you want stronger growth,” he told CNBC.

Later in the day, after the release of his latest book ‘The Third Pillar: How Markets and the State Leave the Community Behind’ in Singapore, Rajan said a low tariff environment was necessary for India to engage globally, draw supply chains and create more jobs.

## Fiscal deficit hits 93% of BE at ₹6.51 lakh cr till Sept-end

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

INDIA’S FISCAL deficit reached 92.6 per cent of the budget estimate (BE) at Rs 6.51 lakh crore at the end of September in the current fiscal, as against 95.3 per cent during the same period last fiscal, as per data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) Thursday. The CGA data showed that revenue receipts of the Centre in the April-September 2019-20 period rose to 41.6 per cent of the BE, compared to 40.1 per cent in the corresponding period last year.

In absolute terms, revenue receipts stood at Rs 8.16 lakh crore at the end of September. For FY20, revenue receipts have been pegged at Rs 19.62 lakh crore. The capital expenditure was 55.5 per cent of the BE as against 54.2 per cent in the year-ago period.

# Apple India records highest Q4 revenue on services, iPad growth

NANDAGOPAL RAJAN  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

APPLE INC CEO Tim Cook said his company has just concluded “a groundbreaking fiscal 2019 with our highest Q4 revenue ever” powered by growth in services, wearables and the iPad. Apple has recorded a revenue of \$64 billion, an increase of 2 per cent from the year-ago quarter, with international sales making up 60 per cent of the numbers.

Cook, at Apple’s earnings call, said they had established new Q4 records in “many major developed and emerging markets” including India. Also, it was an all-time revenue record for Mac in India. The wearables category too was at an all time high in all markets. He also spoke about how the ECG app, available in India for a few weeks now, is “a widely celebrated illustration of Apple’s commitment to your health”.

development told *The Indian Express* on condition of anonymity.

The report comes a little over a month before the WTO dispute settlement mechanism is likely to be paralysed as its appellate body, which is supposed to consist seven members, will only be left with one member. At least three members are required to hear an appeal on a dispute panel’s ruling, and experts feel this may keep WTO from enforcing the ruling against the Indian export promotion schemes that were scrutinised in the present report.

“Since the appellate body is likely to be dysfunctional by December, if India appeals the report, then the panel report does not stand a chance of getting adopted by the dispute settlement body. In that situation, there would be a huge question mark on the legal sanctity of this report,” said Abhijit Das, head of the Centre for WTO Studies at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.

“If the appellate body had up-

held the contentions of the US, India would have had to withdraw the export-contingent subsidies without delay,” he said.

Meanwhile, the Centre has already begun work on making some of the debated schemes more WTO-compliant. In September, it announced various schemes for promotion of exports, including the Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Product (RODTEP) to replace the MEIS under the Foreign Trade Policy of India (FTP 2015-20).

“The new scheme which is being proposed is a different scheme as compared to the MEIS ... the overall envelope for the duty forgone under the new scheme will be more or less the same as MEIS which is at present around Rs 40,000-45,000 crore (annually). Otherwise, MEIS will have to be closed as it is not WTO compliant,” Directorate General of Foreign Trade Alok Chaturvedi had said. “The new scheme is WTO compliant and will go on.”

# Mirroring slowdown, core sector output shrinks 5.2% in Sept

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

GROWTH IN the eight core sectors of India’s economy declined by 5.2 per cent in September 2019 — a drop that analysts say has not been witnessed so far in either of the two base years used to calculate growth in production of the core sector industries. Overall growth has been hit by declining production in most core sectors except for fertilisers, according to data shared by the Commerce Ministry Thursday. This indicates that the country’s economic slowdown may be deepening.

Core sector growth in August, earlier expected to be at a three-and-a-half year low, was revised upward to 0.1 per cent from a decline of 0.5 per cent earlier. The growth of India’s eight core sectors — coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity — is a lead indicator of the monthly industrial performance. These sectors had grown by 4.3 per cent in September last, and their cumulative growth during fiscal 2018-19 was 4.4 per cent. The growth in April was recorded at 5.2 per cent, the highest this fiscal so far, before it began to decelerate.

In September, production in refinery products — which make up nearly 30 per cent of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) — declined 6.7 over the same month in 2018, continuing the mostly negative trend of growth witnessed in May 2019, when de-growth was 1.5 per cent. Coal production, accounting for 10.33 per cent of IIP, fell the most, posting a decline of over 20 per cent in September.

Production in natural gas and cement segments also declined, registering a de-growth of 4.9 per cent and 2.1 per cent, respectively.

Steel production, which accounts for 17.92 per cent, declined 0.3 per cent from 5.1 per cent in August and 13.3 per cent in April. Growth in the electricity sec-

## Explained: Fertilisers an outlier, may grow in Oct too

SEVEN OF the eight sectors registered negative growth rates in September, with only the fertilisers industry showing positive growth.

This could augur well for the nation’s agricultural sector, which is all set for the rabi sowing season and will be gearing up for a rise in demand for food crops. The fertilisers industry could also record positive growth in October.

tor, which accounts for nearly 20 per cent of the index, contracted for the second month this year, registering a 3.7 per cent de-growth. In August, de-growth was 0.9 per cent. The crude oil segment maintained a 5.4 per cent de-growth for the second month this fiscal. However, drop in production has slowed since April, when contraction in this sector was over 6 per cent — a trend that continued until July.

Fertilisers was the only segment registering growth. In September, production in this sector was up 5.4 per cent — the highest in FY20.

“Such a low growth in core sector industries has not been witnessed so far in either 2011-12 base or 2004-05 base series. This clearly indicates the severity of the ongoing industrial slowdown,” said Sunil Kumar Sinha, principal economist, India Ratings and Research.

**“... the most important thing by far is the product. And I think we’ve got the best lineup we’ve ever had. And the customer response to the product is what the product does for them is really incredible”**

TIM COOK  
CEO, APPLE INC

The Apple CEO was also optimistic about the prospects of the new iPhone and said the “price moves” made by Apple “have been smart and well-received and do show a level of elasticity”. Apple had launched the new iPhone 11 at a price point lower than the iPhone XR, which the new phone was succeeding. “But the most important thing by far is the product. And I think we’ve got the best lineup we’ve ever had.

And the customer response to the product is what the product does for them is really incredible.”

In India, the new phones have been a hit, though dealers have been struggling with supplies and most of the iPhone 11 models are sold out because of the festival season demand. Alluding to pricing in markets like India, Cook said the company had picked “locally relevant prices” and “in some cases where the dollar had become stronger” taken and “exchange rate that would have reflected a while back instead of the current exchange rate”.

Usually this exchange rate buffer is what makes Apple products more expensive in markets like India, where the locally currencies can tend to fluctuate. “In other words, we tried to stay as close as we could to a local price point that we knew was effective for that particular market,” he said, adding how the US pricing too has been “extremely well received”.



# PSU banks extend support of ₹2.56L cr to stressed NBFCs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

THE FINANCE Ministry on Thursday said public sector banks (PSBs) have extended support of Rs 2.56 lakh crore to NBFCs by way of credit and pooled buyout since September 2018, as part of efforts to provide much-needed liquidity to the sector.

Further, under the partial guarantee scheme, PSBs have been accorded sanction to purchase Rs 21,580 crore worth of pooled assets as of October 16, the ministry said in a status report of various stimulus measures announced since August 23 to boost sagging economic growth which hit a six-year low of 5 per cent during Q1 of the current fiscal.

To address the stress in the sector, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Budget proposed that public sector banks would purchase high-rated pooled assets of financially sound

**Under the partial guarantee scheme, PSBs have been accorded sanction to purchase ₹21,580 crore worth of pooled assets as of October 16**

NBFCs, amounting to a total of Rs 1 lakh crore, during the current financial year.

For this, the government will provide a one-time six months' partial credit guarantee to PSBs for first loss of up to 10 per cent. The Finance Minister announced several short and long-term measures to boost the economy in three phases between August 23 and September 14, it said. Of the 44 measures announced, 16 have been fulfilled, it said, adding the rest of the announcements are under active consideration by relevant ministries.

# Trump: Fed hurting US competitiveness

REUTERS  
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 31

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Thursday launched a broadside against the Federal Reserve and its chairman, Jerome Powell, saying the central bank's policies were hurting US competitiveness.

"The Fed puts us at a competitive disadvantage. China is not our problem, the Federal Reserve is," Trump said on Twitter, adding that interest rates in the United States should be lower than those in Germany, Japan "and all others."

The US central bank on Wednesday cut interest rates for the third time this year to help sustain US growth despite a slowdown in other parts of the world, but signaled there would be no further reductions unless the economy takes a turn for the worse.

Its key overnight lending rate now stands in a target range of between 1.50 per cent and 1.75%. One of the main reasons for

**New venue for inking trade deal soon: US**

*Washington:* US President Donald Trump said on Thursday the United States and China would soon announce a new site where he and Chinese President Xi Jinping will sign a "Phase One" trade deal after Chile cancelled a planned summit set for mid-November.

the Fed's decision to cut rates this year has been as insurance against the risks to the economy from the Trump administration's almost 16-month long trade war with China, which has hurt manufacturing and caused a drop in business investment.

In a press conference on Wednesday, Powell expressed hope that the Trump administration may be "a step closer" to resolving the US-China trade war.

DISCLOSE DIVERGENCE IN PROVISIONING IN 24 HRS

# Sebi tightens bad loan norms for listed banks

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

TIGHTENING THE disclosure norms for banks, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Thursday directed all listed banks to disclose any divergence in bad loan provisioning within 24 hours of receiving the Reserve Bank of India's risk assessment report.

In a circular, the Sebi said disclosures in respect of divergence and provisioning are in the nature of material events which necessitate immediate disclosure. Further, this information is also price sensitive, requiring prompt disclosure by a listed entity. Banks should not wait for publishing the details in their annual financial statements.

In recent months, there have been several instances of

**In recent months, there have been several instances of under-reporting of bad loans by lenders, prompting regulatory action by the RBI**

under-reporting of bad loans by lenders, prompting regulatory action by the RBI.

Share prices of some banks depreciated when it was published much later in their financial statements. Sebi's latest decision has been take in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India.

Accordingly, the regulator has decided that "listed banks shall make disclosures of divergences and provisioning be-

yond specified threshold, as mentioned in aforesaid RBI notifications, as soon as reasonably possible and not later than 24 hours upon receipt of the Reserve Bank's Final Risk Assessment Report (RAR), rather than waiting to publish them as part of annual financial statements".

This new framework will come into force with immediate effect, it said.

The disclosures need to be made in case the banks' additional provisioning for non-performing assets (NPAs) assessed by the RBI exceeds 10 per cent of the reported profit before provisions and contingencies, and if the additional gross NPAs identified by the RBI exceed 15 per cent of the published incremental gross NPAs.

Besides, Sebi has issued a format in which such disclosures need to be made.

# Sanofi inks pact with Unitaid; to reduce key TB drug's price by 70%

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS  
PUNE, OCTOBER 31

GLOBAL BIOPHARMACEUTICAL company Sanofi will lower the price of rifapentine, an important drug used to prevent tuberculosis (TB), as part of the agreement with Unitaid, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, an official release said on Thursday.

The agreement brings the price of rifapentine 150 mg tablets down from €4.62/pack of 24 tablets to €3.60/pack of 24 tablets.

Paula Fujiwara, scientific director at The International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease welcomed the slashing of the price of the drug. The deal will bolster efforts to treat latent TB infection — currently estimated to affect 1.7 billion people worldwide — by broadening access to better preventive therapy,

**The deal will bolster efforts to treat latent TB infection — currently estimated to affect 1.7 billion people worldwide**

Fujiwara told *The Indian Express*.

The volume-based agreement will discount the price of a three-month treatment course of rifapentine by nearly 70 per cent, from approximately \$45 to \$15 (ex-works) in the public sectors of 100 low- and middle-income countries burdened by TB and TB/HIV co-infection.

A quarter of the world's population is infected with latent TB, which have no symptoms and are not contagious. Without treatment, 5 per cent to 10 per cent of these people — 85 million to 170 million people globally — will develop active TB.

# Fiat Chrysler and Peugeot will merge to create world's fourth largest carmaker

REUTERS  
MILAN/PARIS, OCTOBER 31

FIAT CHRYSLER and Peugeot owner PSA plan to join forces in a 50-50 share merger to create the world's fourth-largest automaker, seeking scale to cope with costly new technologies and slowing global demand.

Fiat Chrysler (FCA) and PSA said on Thursday they aimed to reach a binding deal to create a \$50 billion group with listings in Paris, Milan and New York, and with PSA's Carlos Tavares as chief executive and FCA's John Elkann as chairman.

It was less than five months ago that FCA abandoned merger talks with PSA's French rival Renault and the move comes as carmakers grapple with a downturn in their markets as well as hefty investments in electric and self-driving vehicles.

FCA would get access to PSA's more modern vehicle platforms, helping it to meet tough new

**Fiat Chrysler (FCA) and PSA said on Thursday they aimed to reach a binding deal to create a \$50 billion group with listings in Paris, Milan and New York**

emissions rules, while Europe-focused PSA would benefit from FCA's profitable US business featuring brands such as Ram and Jeep.

However, Jefferies analyst Philippe Houchois said that, adjusting for the differences in market value and planned dividend payments, achieving the 50-50 split would effectively see PSA paying a 32 per cent premium to take control of FCA.

FCA shares jumped as much as 11 per cent to hit a one-year high of 14.248 euros. PSA shares fell as much as 14 per cent to touch a two-week low of 22.38 euros.

# Telcos have capacity to pay dues: Jio

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 31

MUKESH AMBANI-CONTROLLED Reliance Jio said on Thursday said the government should reject the bailout proposal of telecom companies at the taxpayer's expense and telcos should be directed to deposit their dues within the court-stipulated timeline of three months as they have the capacity to comfortably clear their liabilities.

The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) on Tuesday sought stimulus from the government in the wake of the Supreme Court's ruling mandating telecom carriers to pay Rs 1.3 lakh crore including interest on account of annual gross revenue (AGR), impacting the two incumbents the most.

In a letter to Telecom Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, Jio said the letter by COAI did not represent the view of the industry.

# GNCAP crash test: WagonR, Santro score two stars

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

MARUTI SUZUKI's hatchback WagonR and MPV Ertiga, along with Hyundai's popular model Santro, performed poorly in the crash tests with full ratings, as per the latest results revealed by Global NCAP, the international vehicle safety accreditation body.

The vehicles, including Datsun Redigo, were found to be unstable on several parameters with exposure to different kind of injuries, raising questions over the reliability of Indian cars, especially the mass segment ones meant for middle class buyers.

While Ertiga got three stars for adult and child protection, the MPV's bodyshell was rated borderline unstable, with the footwell region rated unstable, exposing front-seat occupants to foot injuries, according to the global new car assessment programme (GN-

CAP). "Its footwell area was rated as unstable and pedals displacement showed risks to the lower legs of the driver," GNCAP said.

The tests were conducted after the new safety norms became mandatory, which includes anti-lock braking system, seat-belt reminders, speed alarms and a driver's side airbag. So far, only Tata Motors' compact SUV Nexon has achieved a five-star rating.

The WagonR, which was recently upgraded by Maruti Suzuki, achieved two stars for adult and child occupant protection, with structure rated as unstable. **FE**

# IOC Q2 net profit falls 83% to ₹563 crore

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

INDIAN OIL Corporation (IOCL) reported a net profit of Rs 563.4 crore on a standalone basis for the three months ended September 30, recording an 82.6 per cent decrease from the same period a year ago. The largest state-owned oil refining and marketing company in India attributed the fall in

profit to inventory losses, stemming from fall in global oil prices.

As the retail prices of petroleum products are mapped with international rates, gradual fall of global oil prices in Q2FY20 meant that by the time IOCL sold its products after processing crude, the retail rates had dipped. The inventory loss in the quarter was Rs 1,807 crore against inventory gains of Rs 2,895 crore in the corresponding period a year ago, said

IOCL chairman Sanjiv Singh.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation fell by 47.2 per cent year-on-year to Rs 3,572.2 crore as revenue from operations fell 12.8 per cent y-o-y to Rs 1.32 lakh crore. The company also received lower returns from its refinery operations as the firm earned only \$1.28 from selling every barrel of refined products in the quarter, 81.1 per cent lower than Q2FY20. **FE**

**Container Corporation of India Ltd.**  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
ICD, Tughlakabad, New Delhi-110020

**TENDER NOTICE**  
(E-Tendering Mode Only)

CONCOR invites Online open tender in Single Bid system for **Services pertaining to substations and electrical installations at DCT/Okhla, NMS Area, New Delhi & AMC of Electrical Installations at ICD/MBD, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh.** Only through e-tendering mode. The bid document can only be downloaded after paying Rs.1000.00 through online from the website [www.tenderwizard.com/CCL/](http://www.tenderwizard.com/CCL/).

<b>Tender No.</b>	OPEN TENDER NO. CON/NR/ICT/MB/TECH/AMC/ELECT/2019
<b>Estimated Cost</b>	Rs. 7965885/- (Inclusive of GST)
<b>Period of the contract</b>	36 Months (24 Months+12 months) As per clause 5 of Section-II
<b>Earnest Money Deposit*</b>	Rs. 159317/- through e-payment
<b>Cost of Document*</b>	Rs. 1000/- inclusive of all taxes and duties through e-payment
<b>Tender Processing Fee*</b>	Rs. 4700/- (Rs.3983+18% GST) through e-payment which is Non-refundable
<b>Date of Sale (On Line)</b>	From 01.11.2019 at 15:30 Hrs. to 21.11.2019 up to 16:00 Hrs.
<b>Date &amp; Time of submission</b>	22.11.2019 upto 11:00 Hrs (E-Tendering Mode Only).
<b>Date &amp; Time of Opening</b>	22.11.2019 at 15:30 Hrs.

\* Through e-Payment

CONCOR reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof. For complete details login to [www.tenderwizard.com/CCL/](http://www.tenderwizard.com/CCL/).

**Executive Director, NR**

**Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**

(Regd. Office.: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)  
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813 (GST PROV ID: 03AAFCPS120Q1ZC)  
Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in)

**E-Tender Enquiry No. 02/SE/MHP/2019-20/P-399 Dated: 25.10.2019**

**Short Description:** Procurement of Lubricating Turbine Oil Servo Prime-57 or equivalent grade for Mukerian Hydel Project, PSPCL, Talwara, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Punjab.

**Date & Time upto which tender shall be received:** 04.12.2019, 11.00 hrs.

**Date & Time of opening of tender:** 04.12.2019, 11.30 hrs.

Tender Specifications can be downloaded from PSPCL website: <https://pspcl.abcpurchase.com> and no hard copy of the same will be issued by the office.

**Note:**

- The prospective bidders are requested to get clarification from this office and/or M/s. e-procurement Technologies Ltd. Contact Number +91-(79)-40016866/40/38/18/21 in case of any difficulty regarding uploading of the tender well in time. It is also requested to get their Digital Signature well in time as to submit tenders through e-Tendering only.
- It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in newspapers. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on official, PSPCL website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in).

C-429-19  
C-7614

Sd/- SE/O&M Circle,  
MHP, Talwara.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**  
**SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE SHAR**  
**CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP**  
**SRIHARIKOTA-524124.**

**E-TENDER BRIEF NOTICE**

**e-Tender Notice No.CMG/C/C 1987035** Date: 28.10.2019

1. On Behalf of the President of India, sealed, item-rate tenders are invited for the following work.

Sl. No.	Description	Details
1	Title of Work	Second Launch Pad Augmentation Project for Semi Cryo Stage at SDSC SHAR (Construction of 4 Buildings - Civil & Electrical Works)
	NIT No & Date	CMG/C/C 1987035, dt:28/10/2019
2	Estimated Cost put to tender	₹ 2046 Lakhs
3	Period of Completion	12 Month(s)
4	Period during which the tender documents can be requested	From : 01/11/2019,10:00 hrs To : 14/11/2019, 14:00 hrs
5	Last date and time for uploading of tenders	20/11/2019, 14:30 Hrs
6	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	₹ 30,46,000/-

2. Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) from website [www.isro.gov.in](http://www.isro.gov.in) / [www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO](http://www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO). For further details and purchase of tender documents visit [www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO](http://www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO). Ph:08623 226447,226420.

Group Director, CMG, SDSC SHAR

**Government of India**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY**  
**Board of Radiation & Isotope Technology**  
**Engineering support**

Vashi Complex, Navi Mumbai 400703.  
November 01, 2019

**TENDER NOTICE NO. : BRIT/ES/2019-2020/08**

Chief Executive, BRIT, Vashi Complex, behind APMC Fruit Market, near Govt. Ware House, Turbhe, Navi Mumbai-400703, for and on behalf of The President Of India hereby invites sealed tenders from eligible contractors on the approved list of Central/State PWD, MES, Railway and others for the following work.

**Description :** Annual maintenance contract for civil maintenance of Labs / Plants / Buildings at Vashi Complex, Navi Mumbai and project house, Deonar, Mumbai for the year 2019-2020.

**Estimated cost : Rs. 70,00,000.00.** (Including GST)

**Earnest money : Rs. 1,40,000/-** (This deposit should be either in the form of Demand Draft or deposit at call Receipt issued in favour of Pay & Accounts Officer, BRIT)

**Completion Period : Twelve Months (One Year).**

**Security Deposit :** 5% Performance Guarantee + 2.5% Security Deposit

Tender documents will be available at the office of the **Assistant Personnel Officer, BRIT, Vashi Complex, behind APMC Fruit Market, near Govt. Ware House, Turbhe, Navi Mumbai-400703**, and can be purchased on any working day between **10.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** (excluding Sundays, Mondays and public holidays) from **05.11.2019 to 19.11.2019** on payment of **Rs. 1000/- + G.S.T. @ 18%** (Total Rupees One Thousand one hundred eighty only) per set in cash (non refundable) against written application and on production of (a). **Bank solvency certificate** of minimum value **Rs. 28.00 Lakhs** (b). **Latest income tax clearance certificate** (Last 3 years), (c). **List with evidence of similar works** (Building construction works / Maintenance and repairs of buildings / Renovation of buildings) in hand and completed in last Seven years indicating agency for whom the work has been carried out , Value of work, stipulated and actual completion period, Present status. (The cost of work 40% of 3 similar works, 60% of 2 similar works or 80% of 1 similar work (d). **Performance / completion certificates**, (e). **List of construction plant & machinery**. (f) **List of Technical staff and administrative staff** available, (g). **Annual Turnover during last five years** and (h) Proof of GST registration.

After examining these documents, blank tender forms shall be issued only to the firm prima facie found competent to carry out the tender job. Sale of tender/ opening of tender does not imply acceptance/approval. Tenders will not be sent by post. The tenders will be issued only after the verification of certificates with the **originals**.

Tenders duly filled in should be placed in sealed cover, prescribed with the name of work, should be deposited in the box provided at Security counter, Vashi Complex, behind APMC Fruit Market, near Govt. Ware House, Turbhe, Navi Mumbai-400 703, upto **14.00 hrs.** on or before **23.11.2019** and will be opened by senior Manager (Engineering Support), BRIT, in his office at **15.00 hrs. on 23.11.2019** in the presence of such contractors who desires to attend.

Acceptance of tenders will rest with the Chief Executive, BRIT, Vashi Complex, who does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any other offer and reserves to himself the right to reject any or all the offer received without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Offers which do not fulfill all or any of the above conditions and incomplete in any respect are liable to be summarily rejected.

For further details regarding eligibility of contractors, conditions please visit [www.britatom.gov.in](http://www.britatom.gov.in)

**Senior Manager (Engineering Support)**  
**For and on behalf of The President of India**

**National Institute of Fashion Technology**  
NIFT Campus, Chheeb, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh-176001  
Phone No.: 01892-260872-5, Fax No. 01892-263872

**e-Tender Notice**

**NIFT/Kangra/Admn./Hiring of Taxi Services/2019-20** Date:- 01.11.2019

Sealed Tender is invited for Supply of Vehicle on monthly and as and when required basis. Last Date and Time for Submission of Tenders as mentioned in the Tender Documents is as under:

Date of Publication of e- Tender Notification	01.11.2019
Sale of e-Tender Document Commences from	01.11.2019
Last Date for Sale of e-Tender Document	29.11.2019 AT 11.00 A.M.
Last Date for Receipt of duly filled in e-Tenders	29.11.2019 AT 03.00 P.M.
Date and Time of the Opening of e-Tenders	29.11.2019 At 03.30 P.M.

The Interested Contractors/Firms/ Suppliers may visit NIFT Campus on any working day during office hours and contact Administration or NIFT website: <https://nift.ac.in/kangra/tenders> for Tender details. The Detail of Cost of the Tender Form is given in each Tender Document.

**The Tender is to be filled and submitted Online through the website: <https://nifttenders.eproc.in>.**

**Joint Director**

**DONATION TO NIFT ARE EXEMPTED UNDER SECTION 80G OF INCOME TAX**

**DELHI JAL BOARD GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CENTRAL)-II**  
**ANDHA MUGHAL, PARTAP NAGAR (NEAR METRO STATION)**  
**DELHI-110007**  
**PRESS NIT No. 42 (2019-20)**

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Date of release of Tender/ Tender ID.	Last date/time of receipt of tender
1.	Replacement of 300mm dia. water line from Six Tooti Chowk to Munje Wala Chowk Main Bazar Paharganj in Karol Bagh AC-23 under EE(C)-II.	27,44,398/-	54,900/-	500/-	Dt. 29.10.2019 2019_DJB_183049_1	14.11.2019 Upto 3.00 PM
2.	Replacement of old and damaged sewer line from Laddu Ghati to Basant Road Paharganj AC-23 Karol Bagh under EE(Central)-II.	31,32,644/-	62,700/-	500/-	Dt. 29.10.2019 2019_DJB_183050_1	14.11.2019 Upto 3.00 PM
3.	Replacement of old and damaged sewer line at Mantola Paharganj AC-23 Karol Bagh under EE(Central)-II.	40,96,256/-	82,000/-	500/-	Dt. 29.10.2019 2019_DJB_183053_1	14.11.2019 Upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.

Sd/-  
EX. ENGINEER (Central)-II

BRIEFLY

## Sensex touches record high in intra-day trade

*Mumbai:* The Sensex ended 77 points higher at 40,129 on Thursday on the back of a rally in IT and banking stocks. After touching a lifetime high of 40,392.22 (intra-day), the 30-share index settled 7718 points, or 0.19 per cent, higher at 40,129.05. The broader NSE Nifty too advanced 33.35 points, or 0.28 per cent, to close at 11,877.45.

## CBDT extends ITR deadline for J&K, Ladakh

*New Delhi:* The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on Thursday extended the deadline for filing of all kinds of income-tax returns to November 30 in the newly-created Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. The deadline for filing ITRs for certain categories of taxpayers — professionals with an annual turnover Rs 50 lakh, businesses with an annual turnover of Rs 1 crore and some other category of taxpayers who need to get their books audited — was to end on Thursday.

## Mitsui, TECO to set up EV plant in India

*New Delhi:* Japan's Mitsui & Co Thursday said it is planning to invest \$14 million to set up a manufacturing facility for electric vehicle motors in India in partnership with Taiwanese motor manufacturer TECO Electric & Machinery Co. The new plant will come up in Bengaluru. **PTI**

## Lagarde to take charge of ECB today

*Frankfurt:* Mario Draghi, a former head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), who as head of the European Central Bank kept the currency union together through a financial crisis will make way for Christine Lagarde. She has been managing director to the IMF. She will take charge of the ECB from Friday. **AP**

## Up to 50 planes grounded globally: Boeing

*Sydney:* Boeing announced Thursday up to 50 of its popular 737NG planes had been grounded after cracks in them were detected, in another blow to the US aircraft maker following two deadly crashes. Australian national carrier Qantas became the latest airline to take one of the planes out of the air, as it said it would urgently inspect 32 others but insisted passengers had nothing to fear. **AFP**

## Hong Kong falls into recession for first time in 10 yrs

*Hong Kong:* Hong Kong slid into recession for the first time in a decade in the third quarter, weighed down by increasingly violent anti-government protests and the protracted trade war. The economy shrank 3.2 per cent in July-September from the preceding period, contracting for a second straight quarter. **REUTERS**



RUSSIA IN AFRICA

# The art of darkness

Vladimir Putin flaunts Russia’s increasing influence in Africa



On October 23 and 24, Russia’s President Vladimir Putin hosted more than 40 African leaders at a first-of-its-kind summit in Sochi. *Reuters*

IN OCTOBER 2017 Faustin Archange Touadéra was in a difficult spot. The president of the Central African Republic (CAR), one of the world’s poorest and most fragile countries, was struggling to quell a dozen or so militias that threatened his regime. A year earlier France had withdrawn troops from its former colony. An arms embargo meant that the government of CAR could not equip its own soldiers. Short of options, Mr Touadéra did what desperate African leaders sometimes do: he turned to President Vladimir Putin of Russia.

The impact was swift. Within weeks a mining and a security company linked to Yevgeny Prigozhin, Mr Putin’s crony, were reportedly registered in Bangui, the capital. That December Russia successfully lobbied for the arms embargo to be lifted. Soon after, it dispatched weapons and mercenaries to shore up Mr Touadéra’s regime, as well as a former GRU (military intelligence) operative to act as the president’s security adviser. A few months later Lobaye Invest, the mining company, won concessions to look for gold and diamonds. When three Russian journalists tried to investigate their country’s shady operations in CAR they turned up dead in July 2018.

Mr Putin would like to have the world believe that his country’s approach to the con-

tinent is about more than chicanery. To that end, on October 23rd and 24th, Russia’s president hosted more than 40 African leaders at a first-of-its-kind summit in Sochi. As at the triennial summit of African leaders hosted by China, which the Sochi summit aped, there was much talk of trade and investment. “We have a lot to offer to our African friends,” said Mr Putin, ahead of the event. But Russia’s actions in CAR—and in other weak states—capture the nature of its operations in Africa much better than the rhetoric of Mr Putin, who overstates his country’s influence.

Russia has a long history of intervening in Africa. Its volunteers fought the British in the second Boer war. During the cold war the Soviet Union inculcated post-colonial leaders in Marxism-Leninism and backed liberation movements in countries such as Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau, often as part of proxy wars with the West.

Russia’s ambitions shrank after the Soviet Union collapsed. But over the past decade, and especially after America and the European Union imposed sanctions on Russia

related to its annexation of Crimea in 2014, the Kremlin has viewed Africa as an increasingly important arena. Since 2015 a dozen African leaders have visited Russia. From 2006 to 2018 Russia’s total trade with sub-Saharan Africa increased by 336%. It is the



largest arms exporter to the continent, accounting for 39% of deliveries in 2013-17 (many from Russia to Algeria).

Judged by the displays at Sochi, more will soon be on the way. “I didn’t know it would be a gun show,” says a Mauritanian businessman surveying the hall. There was weaponry all around: helicopters, tanks and missiles to shoot at helicopters and tanks. A few leaders took selfies next to the caches. Only Ivory Coast’s hot-chocolate stand attracted as much attention.

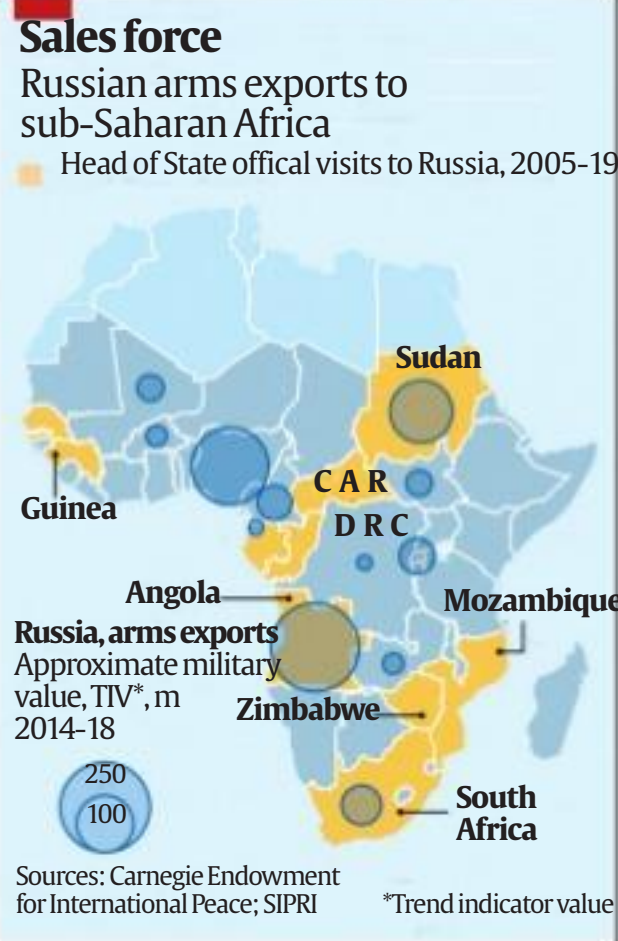
Russia does not just supply arms, however. In several countries it has become deeply involved in internal affairs. These engagements reflect the defining theme of Russia’s Africa policy: opportunism. One of Mr Putin’s skills is an ability to spot openings presented by a mix of fragile states and a distracted West. Once it has identified an opportunity, the Kremlin looks to increase its influence and to make money for cronies who operate on its license. Ideally these moves can be done at low cost, with high returns.

CAR is the emblematic example of this approach. For an estimated

cost of just €5m (\$5.6m), Mr Putin’s cronies gained access to minerals, provided jobs for mercenaries, also allegedly controlled by Mr Prigozhin, and tested out their tactics for interfering in the politics of other countries—a speciality of Mr Prigozhin, who was placed under sanctions by America for allegedly meddling in its election in 2016.

But CAR is far from the only case. In Madagascar Russian operatives allegedly helped at least six of the 36 candidates in the presidential election in 2018. In Zimbabwe Russians advised the ruling Zanu-PF party before elections last year, and Kremlin-linked firms have signed mining and fertiliser deals. Western diplomats believe Russia tried to sway elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo in favour of a candidate chosen by the former president, Joseph Kabila. And in Guinea, which supplies Rusal, a Russian aluminium firm, with 27% of its bauxite, Russia is supporting efforts by President Alpha Condé to defy the constitution and run for a third term.

Another surge of support is beginning in Mozambique. Following a visit by Filipe Nyusi, the country’s president, to Russia in August, Russian hardware and advisers have been spotted by intelligence analysts in Cabo Delgado province, near to where Rosneft, a Russian energy company, has gas contracts.



The advisers are believed to have been asked to subdue an insurgency that threatens both Rosneft’s interests and those of the corrupt ruling party, FRELIMO.

All of this activity is worrying some in the West. In a speech last year outlining America’s Africa strategy John Bolton, the former national-security adviser to President Donald Trump, called Russia and China “great power competitors” on the continent which are keen “to gain a competitive advantage over the United States.”

But there is a danger of conflating the brazenness of Russia with its actual influence. In nearly every area it lags behind America, the EU and China. “China got the juiciest bits. Russia was left to mop up the leftovers,” says Alexander Gabuev, Russia’s leading expert on China.

A closer look reveals Russia’s limits. Its favoured candidates did not win in Madagascar or Congo. Its attempts to prop up Omar al-Bashir, Sudan’s former dictator, failed earlier this year. And it could not get a nuclear-energy deal with South Africa, despite wooing the allegedly corrupt former president, Jacob Zuma.

There is also less to Russia’s military efforts than meets the eye. Ahead of the Sochi summit Mr Putin claimed more than 30 military co-operation deals with African states. But many amount to little more than the odd training exercise. African states often keep their options open, striking deals with America and China as well. Both have a base in Djibouti, a small east African country. Russia, though, does not, despite years of lobbying. American pressure on the local government has kept it out.

There is a similar gap between rhetoric and reality when it comes to economic deals. In 2018 the total value of Russia’s trade with sub-Saharan Africa was \$5bn, less than Turkey, Singapore or Thailand. (American and Chinese trade was worth \$120bn and \$35bn, respectively.) Many deals that are announced at lavish signing ceremonies by Rosneft or Rosatom, Russia’s state nuclear company, never end up happening. “It offers remarkably little that African states actually need,” explains Paul Stronski of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a think-tank.

For all the pageantry on show in Sochi, Russia remains a bit player in Africa. It is influential among beleaguered leaders with few options. But as more and more countries scramble to engage with the continent, its leaders see Russia as one of many suitors. Mr Putin may want Africans to think of Russia as a great power. But a summit does not make it so.

SPANISH HISTORY

# Digging up Franco

Franco’s exhumation is both historical duty and electoral stunt

AFTER DYING in his bed in 1975 General Francisco Franco, Spain’s dictator for 36 years, was buried in haste at the Valley of the Fallen, the grandiose monument on a mountainside outside Madrid that he built to celebrate his victory in the Spanish civil war. But his presence there, in one of only two named tombs amid 34,000 anonymous war dead, is now widely seen as an aberration. On October 24th, in an operation organised by Pedro Sánchez, the Socialist prime minister, and attended by 22 of the dictators’ descendants, Franco’s coffin was dug up. In scenes broadcast live on television it was then carried by the family, first to a hearse and then a helicopter, which took it for reburial at a quiet public cemetery at El Pardo, on the outskirts of the capital where his wife is buried.

Mr Sánchez was carrying out a resolution of the Spanish parliament and a promise he made on becoming prime minister last year. It took more than a year to overcome legal objections from Franco’s family—who wanted to rebury him, prominently, in the crypt of Madrid’s cathedral—and the

**Franco’s dictatorship relied partly on forced labour to build the Valley of the Fallen. Originally intended only to honour its own side, the dictatorship ended up filling its crypts, too, with dead from the vanquished Republic**

threatened disobedience of the Benedictine prior who administers the basilica and monastery at the Valley. The Vatican slapped down the prior; last month the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the government could rebury Franco at El Pardo.

“No enemy of democracy deserves a place of worship nor institutional respect,” Mr Sánchez said of the court ruling. “It’s a great victory for Spanish democracy”. More Spaniards agree with him than disagree. But the delay means the exhumation comes

barely a fortnight before a general election, the fourth in as many years. The Socialists hope it will rally their faithful. Only Vox, a far-right party, actively opposes what it calls a “profanation” of Franco’s tomb. The conservative opposition, which descends from moderate former franquistas who embraced democracy, would rather discuss the future.

The Socialists want to turn the Valley into “a museum of memory”. There is a risk in that of history once again being written by one side. Perhaps the best thing would be to deconsecrate the site and create a museum that explains what happened at the Valley itself. Franco’s dictatorship relied partly on forced labour to build it. Originally intended only to honour its own side, the dictatorship ended up filling its crypts, too, with dead from the vanquished Republic, extracted secretly from mass graves. Its architecture is forbidding, that of a militant Christianity. Its basilica is dug deep into the mountainside, and lined with statues of avenging archangels. It is topped by a cross half as high again as the Statue of Liberty.



On October 24, in an operation organised by Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez and attended by 22 of the dictators’ descendants, Franco’s coffin was dug up and taken for reburial at a quiet public cemetery at El Pardo, on the outskirts of Madrid. *Reuters*

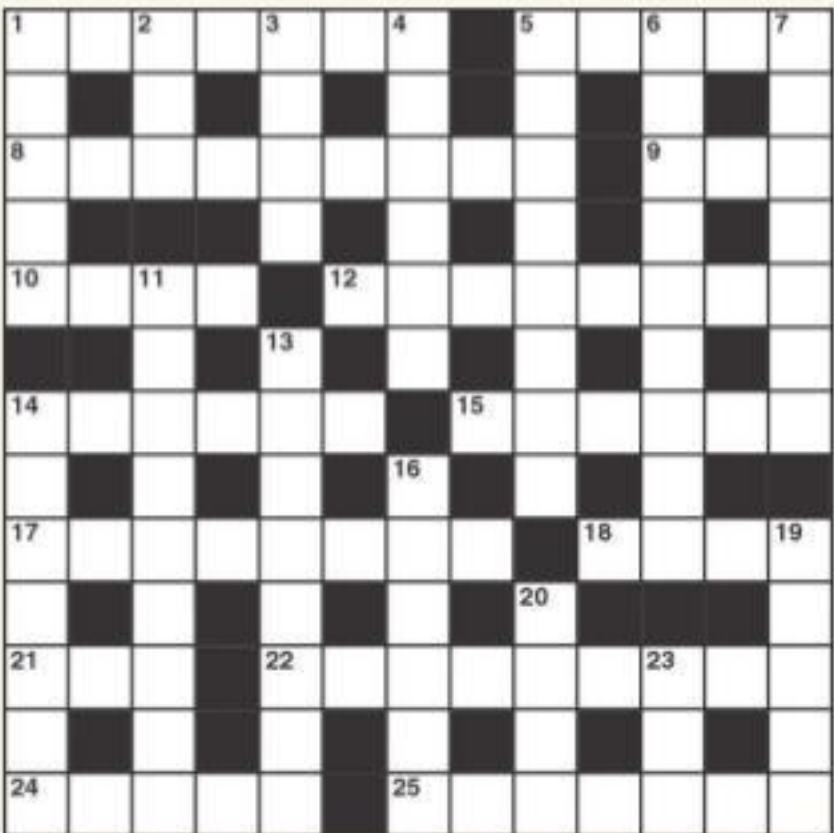
Modern Spain is not in thrall to Franco’s ghost. Most Spaniards have no memory of the dictator. Only an aging minority still reg-

ularly attend mass. But the lack of unanimity over the exhumation shows that the country has yet to agree on the past. Perhaps

it never will.



CROSSWORD 3951



- CROSS
- Down
- 1

Decline scented make-up (7)
- 5

Run away to join up perhaps (5)
- 8

Grenadine can be so sweetly attractive (9)
- 9

Service charge (3)
- 10

Boss is upset and shows distress (4)
- 12

Jumper having a pocket in front (8)
- 14

Rods, poles or perches maybe (6)
- 15

Sergeant comes in before the repeat performance (6)
- 17

Hold back an expression of disapproval in play (4-1-3)
- 18

Land in the river (4)
- 21

Eat out in the afternoon (3)
- 22

Form empty when filled up (3,6)
- 24

Fear father will come round again? (5)
- 25

Heart so affected, sounds can be heard within it (7)
- 1

I'd set out food courses (5)
- 2

Not happy with some people's advice (3)
- 3

Cheese that's made the wrong way (4)
- 4

Clannish? (6)
- 5

Fighting and winning (8)
- 6

A collection of service people, perhaps (9)
- 7

Regards unrefined mineral as a blot on the landscape (7)
- 11

Exploded with fury when there's commission to pay (9)
- 13

Unnatural red stain possibly (8)
- 14

Held place in the rush (7)
- 16

A wool-gatherer perhaps (6)
- 19

It may be held up or down (5)
- 20

Grumpy speculator? (4)
- 23

An expression of disgust (3)

**Solutions Crossword 3950:** Across: 1 Cyclamen, 5 Apse, 9 Panel, 10 Execute, 11 Auction rooms, 13 Cheers, 14 Astern, 17 Saint Bernard, 20 Outdoor, 21 Incur, 22 Sore, 23 Sea green. Down: 1 Cope, 2 Censure, 3 Alliteration, 4 Erenow, 6 Pluto, 7 Evensong, 8 Representing, 12 Scissors, 15 Earache, 16 Hearse, 18 Inter, 19 Oran.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLLED 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 quip.

I found Rome a city of \_\_\_ and left it a city of \_\_\_ - Augustus (6,.,6)

NYAER

ALYCLM

KYIRS

DUYBBK

SOLUTION: YEARN, RISKY, CALMIX, DYBBUK  
Answer: I found Rome a city of bricks and left it a city of marble - Augustus

**Difficulty Level 5s**  
**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 4015



NOTICE BOARD EDUCATION

CELEBRATIONS, EVENTS, APPOINTMENTS, HONOURS



ULLAAS-2019- CPJAIN COLLEGE, NERELA

CPJ Narela recently celebrated the Diwali Carnival "Ullaas-2019" with great enthusiasm. The college campus was decorated with colourful posters, banners & rangolis spreading the messages of "Eco friendly - Green Diwali" & slogans "Say No to Crackers - Save environment". The celebrations began with National Anthem followed by lighting the ceremonial lamp. First, Dr A. Jain, General Secretary & YChaturvedi, DG of CPJ, welcomed the CG Prof (Dr) KK Aggarwal, Chairman, National Board of Accreditation, & other dignitaries. The CG heartily appreciated the endeavours of the management of CPJ for organising the colourful Diwali fest Ullaas-2019.



MOMENTUM 2019- NCU

Momentum 2019, the annual cultural festival of The NorthCap University, was held recently. The 3-day festival showcased enthralling musical performance by NCU Encore Music Society, vivid presentation on drug abuse by Abhimanch Theatre Society, dance performance by Morphinated Dance Club, a powerful skit on protection of our environment by the children of Yuki, Fashion Show, Muscle Fit, performance by the Indian electronic music duo band Progressive Brothers, Mr & Ms Momentum, Solo & Group Dance, X-Fame, band performance by PARASHARA. The festival concluded with a stage show by Punjabi sensation Maninder Bhuttar.



CONTEST- ITS

Dristi- 2019 online contest was conducted by Texas Instruments (TI) at ECE Department, ITS Engineering College, Greater Noida. Total 38 students of B.Tech ECE 2nd & 3rd year appeared in this exam, out of which 24 qualified. The winners were: Abhishek Kumar Jaiswal (First Position), Sameer (Second Position) and Arshi Zeba (Second Position). Winners of the event were awarded with certificates and TI kits from Texas Instruments, Bangalore.



MOOT COURT-VIPS

J Rekha Palli and Justice Pratibha Singh, Judge, Delhi High Court, recently addressed valedictory session of 6th VIPS International Law Moot Court Competition. M koteswara Rao, SG, ISIL, was also present at the occasion. Justice Singh motivated students to undertake this activity as it teaches to research, draft and to argue. Justice Palli appreciated that girl students are pursuing law as a career. Prof Venkata Rao, Chairperson, VSLLS, asserted on the need of coming together to discuss legal issues. Prof Rashmi Salpekar, Dean, informed that more than 400 students participated in the event in different capacities.



SPORTS MEET- IP UNIVERSITY

Recently, IP University held its 16th Annual Sports Meet - 2019 at the main sports ground of its Dwarka campus. This three-day mega sports meet hosted Padma Shri Zafar Iqbal, former Indian Hockey player, as the Chief Guest. Hindi film "Chak De India" is based on his life. Former Indian Cricketer Yashpal Sharma was the Guest of Honour on the occasion. The Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof Mahesh Verma presided over the function. Apart from University schools, around 10,000 students of 86 affiliated institutes of the University actively participated in around 60 different sports events.



WORKSHOP-CPJAIN COLLEGE, NERELA

CP Jain College, Narela, recently organised the 8th National IT Workshop on "Android APP Development", in Collaboration with IIT Bombay, under the name of Abhyuday. A total 80 students participated in the workshop. The valedictory function was addressed by Prof (Dr) Amit Prakash Singh, Prof, GGSIU, & participants were awarded with certificates and prizes.



CONVOCATION 2019-IMS GHAZIABAD

It organized its Convocation-2019, for the PGDM Batch 2017-19. Former Governor of Chhattisgarh State, Shekhar Dutt was the Chief Guest. Many renowned academicians and doyens from industry had also graced the occasion. Total 307 successful graduates were conferred PG Diploma in Management by the Chief Guest in the august presence of the Chairman of the IMS Society, Sanjay Agarwal and other distinguished guests from academia and corporate besides IMS academic fraternity. Twinkle Jain was honoured with Gold Medal for being the topper of the Batch 2017-19 while Divya was awarded Silver Medal for being second topper.



VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK-IGNOU

At IGNOU, the Vigilance Awareness Week kick-started with the Integrity Pledge administered by Prof Nageshwar Rao, VC, IGNOU, to all the employees of the University at a ceremony held at Baba Saheb Ambedkar Convention Centre. IGNOU employees committed themselves to following the ethical code of conduct in their work and personal life. This year's theme for the week is "Integrity - A Way of Life". Observance of the Vigilance Awareness Week every year is part of the multi-pronged approach of the Central Vigilance Commission.



APPOINTMENT

**IP UNIVERSITY** Dr Mahesh Verma, the VC of IP University, Delhi, has been nominated as a member of the National Medical Commission from Delhi state by a notification issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India. A well-known name in the Healthcare sector, Dr Verma turned the Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences from an ordinary dental school into a Centre of Excellence through his able guidance and administration. Through his efforts, he highlighted the role dentistry could play in the Healthcare sector. Recognised globally, he is the recipient of many coveted awards like Padma Shri and B C Roy Award for his outstanding contributions in the field of Medicine.



SMART GENIE CONTEST-VMC

VMC organised an event to felicitate the students who topped in the recently held Inter-City (NCR) Test "Smart Genie" competition. The Smart Genie test was aimed at rewarding the best minds and make students aware of the academic excellence required to clear scholastic exams. The competition was held for the students currently studying in class 7th and 8th across the leading schools in Noida, Greater Noida & Indirapuram regions. Top three students from the test were rewarded by Saurabh Kumar, Director - Academic, VMC. The event was organised at IFA Auditorium, Sector 62, Noida.



SPELLATHON-SOMERVILLE SCHOOL, NOIDA

Somerville School Noida recently hosted Inter House Spellathon for Middle School. Each house had a team of 4 students. There were interesting rounds to test the spelling skills of the students. There were difficult words, silent lettered words, double lettered words, jumbled lettered words, missing letters and homophones. The last round was the hexagon round which turned out to be the decisive round. Two houses, St Peter & St John tied up for the first place. Yash Sah of Class VII bagged the spell champ position.

**IHMHR** Dr Michael J Klag, Global Health Leader & 10th Dean of Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, the world's leading institution, visited the IHMHR Delhi campus recently. Dr Klag had an engaging discussion with faculty, staff and students on a number of matters of mutual interest related to the field of health & hospital management. The institute hopes to leverage his presence for further inspirational work, global networking & ensuring prominent international achievements. The schedule involved a plethora of events from a faculty roundtable discussion to student interaction.

**DAAD** The latest figures released by the Federal Statistical Office of Germany reveal that the number of Indian students in Germany has grown by 18.44% over the last year and stands at 20,810 (Winter Semester 2018-19). The total number of international students in Germany has grown by 5.3%. The rate of growth in the number of Indian students going to Germany is almost four times that of the global average. Further, Indians form the 2nd largest group of international students enrolled at German universities.

**HARYANA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
**C-11, SECTOR-6, PANCHKULA**  
Ph: 2577870-73, E-mail: [hspcb.see1@gmail.com](mailto:hspcb.see1@gmail.com)  
**NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

It is for the information of all concerned for the public hearing of proposed "Mining of Boulder, Gravel and Sand Minor Mineral Mine of Shamtoo and Sukhdarshanpur of M/s Shiv Enterprises situated at Khasra No. 55 min, 48 min in Sukhdarshanpur Block/PKL B-13, Taluka-Sukhdarshanpur, Distt. Panchkula, Haryana, over an area of 37.38 Hectres", as per TORs for the preparation of the EIA/EMP report through its Letter No. SEIAA/HR/2019/161 dated 16.07.2019. The project is covered under as per the EIA Notification dated 14th September 2006, issued by Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India, New Delhi and thus Environmental Clearance is mandatory for the proposed project. Accordingly, the project proponent has applied to the concerned authority for Environmental Clearance and the public hearing has been fixed as per details given below:

Sr. No.	Name of Unit	Date of Public Hearing	Time of Public Hearing	Venue of Public Hearing
1.	Public hearing of our proposed "Mining of Boulder Gravel and Sand Minor Mineral Mine of Shamtoo and Sukhdarshanpur of M/s Shiv Enterprises situated at Khasra No. 55 min, 48 min in Sukhdarshanpur Block/PKL B-13, Taluka-Sukhdarshanpur, Distt. Panchkula, Haryana, over an area of 37.38 Hectres" as per TORs for the preparation of the EIA/EMP report through its Letter No. SEIAA/HR/2019/161 dt. 16.07.2019	04.12.2019	11.00 A.M.	At Site

The copies of executive summary of the project and EIA study report submitted by the project proponent are available in the Head Office of the Board as well as in the following offices, which can be perused during office hours, on any working day:

- Deputy Commissioner, Panchkula.
- The Regional Officer, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, SCO No. 116, 1st & 11nd Floor, Sector-25, Panchkula.
- O/o Zila Parishad, Panchkula.
- O/o Municipal Corporation, Panchkula.
- Joint Director/GM, District Industries Centre, District Panchkula.

Notice is hereby given to all concerned to file suggestions, views, comments and objections. If any, on the proposed project to the Chairman, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, C-11, Sector-6, Panchkula as well as Regional Officer, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, SCO No. 116, 1st & 11nd Floor, Sector-25, Panchkula within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Besides, a Public Hearing will also be held on the Date, Time & Venue mentioned above at the proposed site of the project, which can be attended by any person including Environmental Groups, bonafide residents and others, located at the project site/sites of displacement/sites likely to be affected. Oral/Written suggestions, if any can also be made during the Public Hearing.

No TA/DA will be admissible for attending the Public Hearing.

**S. Narayanan**  
Member Secretary

**Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited (JBVNL)**  
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)  
**ELECTRIC SUPPLY AREA, RANCHI**  
Regd. Office : KUSAI COLONY, DORANDA, RANCHI  
Telephone :- 0651-2490550/2490670 &  
Email : [gm\\_rncjseb@yahoo.in](mailto:gm_rncjseb@yahoo.in) <https://www.jbvnl.co.in>

**e-Tender Notice**  
e-tenders are invited from reputed, experienced, technically & financially capable firms/ agencies for Preventive & routine breakdown Maintenance of Service Agency for Engaging and Managing Urja Mitras (Meter Readers) for Operationalization of android. Based Smart Dedicated Handheld Device ( With in -Built printer) Photo spot Energy Billing & Collection System" under Electric Supply Area, Ranchi.

Sl No.	NIT No.	Name of Particulars	Cost of BOQ (in Rs.)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	188/PR/JBVN L/19-20	"Service Agency for Engaging and Managing Urja Mitras (Meter Readers) for Operationalization of android Based Smart Dedicated Handheld Device ( With in -Built printer) Photo spot Energy Billing & Collection System" under Electric Supply Circle, Ranchi	20,00,000-18 % GST= 23600	10,00,000.00
2	189/PR/JBVN L/19-20	Service Agency for Engaging and Managing Urja Mitras (Meter Readers) for Operationalization of android Based Smart Dedicated Handheld Device Device ( With in -Built printer) Photo spot Energy Billing & Collection System" under Electric Supply Circle, Gumla	20,00,000-18 % GST= 23600	10,00,000.00

\* Requirement may be increase or decrease as per requirement.

- Guidelines for online submission of bids can be downloaded from the website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>
- Bidders have to produce the original Demand Draft towards tender fee & EMD as mentioned in NIT to the Accounts Officer, Electric Supply Area, Ranchi alongwith one set of uploaded documents in hard copy and collect the money receipt before the cutoff date & time as mentioned in the NIT failing which bid will not be accepted. The details of cost of documents, EMD specified in the tender documents should be the same as submitted online (scanned copies) otherwise tender will summarily be rejected.
- Tender Notice is also available on our website : [www.jbvnl.co.in](http://www.jbvnl.co.in)
- For any clarification please contact : 0651-2490550 / 2490116 / 9431917536 / 9431994177

S. No.	Particulars	Details / Date and Time
1.	Bid availability and Last Date for Receipt of Bid	From 07.11.2019 to 04.12.2019 upto 05:00 PM
2.	Last date of Submission of Cost of BOQ and EMD (Original) and Other related documents	05.12.2019 at 05:00 PM
3.	Date of Opening of Bid	Techno-Commercial part will be opened at 03:30 Hrs of 06.12.2019 and Price Part on a date to be notified later.
4.	Date of Pre bid Meeting	13.11.2019 @ 11:30 AM
5.	Last date of Receipt of Queries	16.11.2019

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचाव। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को टोल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज कराएं।  
PR 221242 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd)19-20'D

Sd/-  
General Manager-Cum-Chief Engineer  
Electric Supply Area, Ranchi



# 23 TALK

## ART, MUSIC, STYLE, FOOD



### LONDON CALLING

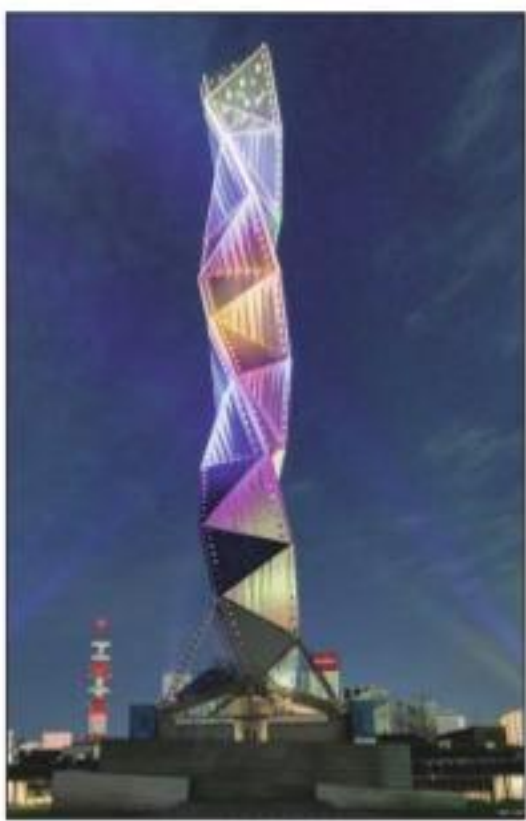
Screenwriter Aaron Sorkin's (pictured) adaptation of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, as a Broadway play, will open in London next year, at West End. It marks the 60th anniversary of Harper Lee's Pulitzer-winning novel.

### AROUND TOWN



### Ode to the Hills

GET A window seat to the inauguration of the Bhupen Hazarika pavilion, as the North East Institute of Fashion Technology ushers in the 9th edition of the Celebrating North East 2019. Other highlights of the festival include exhibitions of ingenious products from remote areas of North East, and performances by Zubeen Garg, Joi Barua, and Deeplina Deka. At Select City Walk, Saket, November 2-3, 10am-10 pm. Entry is free.



### Light on Nippon

GET UP close and personal with the design and architecture of Japan, through an exhibition titled "99+1 JAPAN: Traveling Through Art, Design & Architecture". Promoted by the Japan National Tourism Organisation, some of the island nation's well-known buildings such as the Teshima Art Museum and the Art Tower, Mito (pictured) will be showcased. At the Japan Foundation, Lalpat Nagar-IV, till November 21.



### He Said, She Says

ATTEND A lecture on "Securofeminism and the Saving of the Muslim Woman" by Professor Lila Abu Lughod (pictured), Joseph L. Buttenwieser Professor of Social Science, Columbia University. The talk, which will be chaired by Romila Thapar, Professor Emerita, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), will highlight mainstreaming gender and installing women in leadership positions. At the School of Arts and Aesthetics Auditorium, JNU, November 2, 11 am. Entry is free.

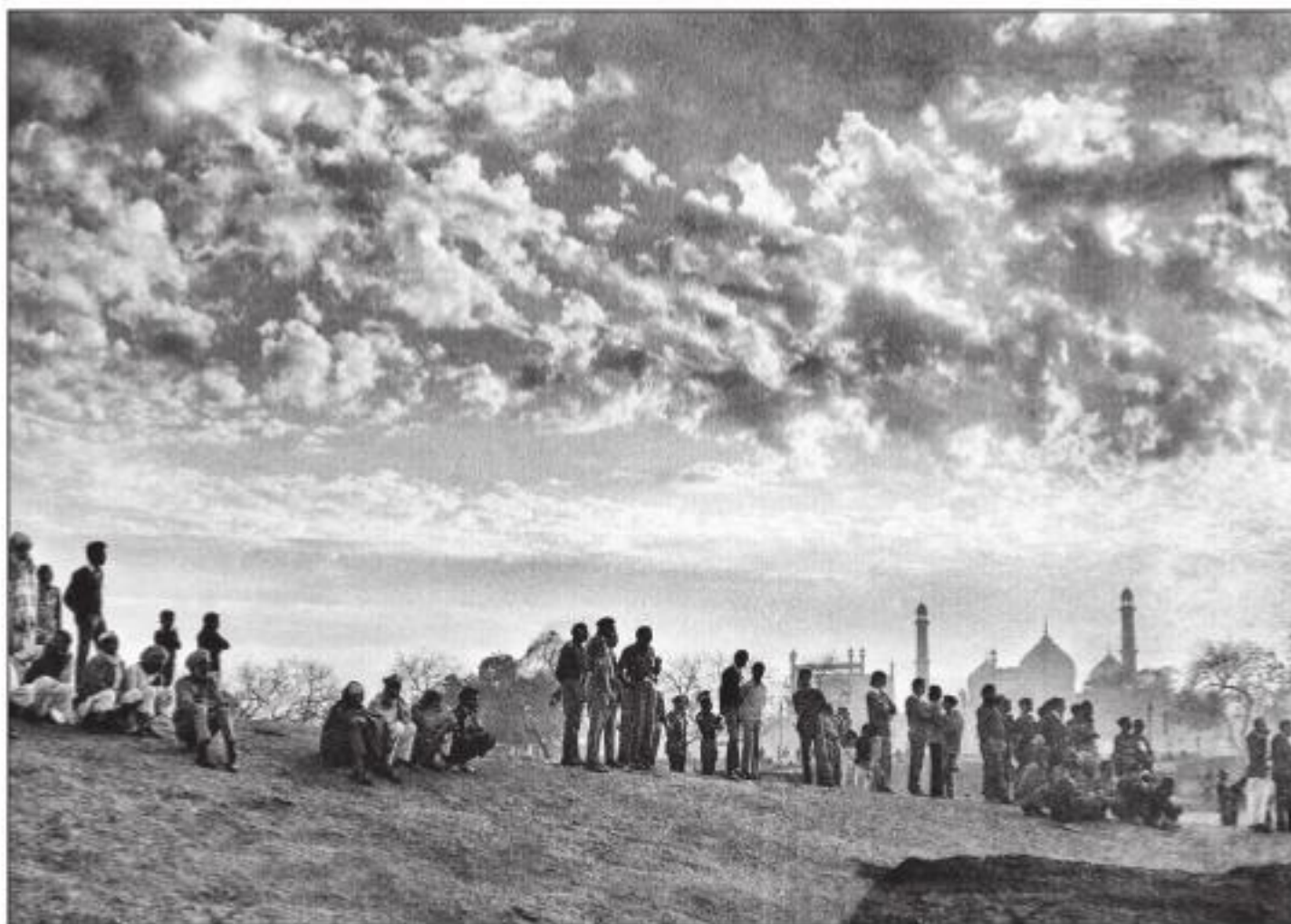


### Kabul Calling

PARWANA, A theatrical adaptation of the Afghan film *The Breadwinner* (pictured), directed by Aman Khandelwal and Mahita Valluri, is the story of girl whose life is turned upside down following her father's wrongful arrest by the Taliban. Now that the sole breadwinner is gone and women are forbidden from working, 11-year-old Parwana disguises herself as a boy to support her family. The play will be at the India International Centre, November 2, 6.15 pm. Entry free.

### Mythical Saga

WATCH A retelling of the myth of sixth avatar of Vishnu in the play, *Parshu-Ram*. Directed by Vivek Tyagi, the play tells the story of the warrior's life. At Sri Ram Centre, November 2, 7 pm. Tickets available at [bookmyshow.com](http://bookmyshow.com).



# Ghosts of a City

An exhibition reveals a nostalgic side of Delhi through the lenses of Raghu Rai, Madan Mahatta and Habib Rahman



PALLAVICHATTOPADHYAY

A STUNNING black-and-white photograph of the late classical dancer Indrani Rahman, who was the first Miss India, 1952, to represent the country at the Miss Universe pageant. Her reflection shot by her famous architect-husband Habib Rahman, after they shifted to the Capital, offers a ringside view of Delhi of the '50s. Famous for sporting a bindi and a gajra in the swimsuit round of the international competition, not many are aware that she won the Miss Calcutta competition as part of a fundraiser. Many such stories emerge from the exhibition "Delhi That Was" at Ojas Art Gallery, Delhi, which offers a rather unusual look at the Capital, beginning from the 1950s and follows it through the next five decades, with the works of

Rahman and renowned photographers Raghu Rai and Madan Mahatta.

Indrani's son Ram Rahman, who manages the Habib Rahman Archives, mentions how actor Raj Kapoor wanted to cast his mother in his film but she thought of Bollywood as being 'vulgar and cheap'.

In the exhibition are photos of Kashmir-born Madan Mahatta, who passed away in 2014. He had photographed the Gandhi family — Indira, Sanjay, Rajiv and Sonia — sitting in the front row of a Pierre Cardin fashion show in 1967. The frame is a far cry from the fashion shows of today that mostly have non-entities and token presence of the Indian film industry. Mahatta's 1978 photograph of the Delhi Zoo entrance, designed by Habib, has turbaned youngsters and women wearing shirts, pants, and salwar suits.

Mahatta also captured a flooded serpen-

tine lane in Delhi's popular Connaught Place (CP), full of Chevrolets, Fiats, Padminis and Ambassadors, that have wandered into oblivion in present day. It shows an almost empty Inner Circle with barely three cars parked around the shops. In a 1961 frame, there's Queen Elizabeth with Dr Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India. She is seen waving to the crowd that has assembled on the roads, terraces and roof of CP. A young boy in a red sweater seems to be running along the corner to catch a glimpse of the royal convoy. Mahatta also turned his lens to an elephant procession at Rajpath in 1955 and photographed MF Husain painting a colourful cinema hoarding in 1974. The canvas brims with elephants, tigers and rhinoceros.

New Delhi-based veteran photographer Raghu Rai is known for the way he captures the emotions of the city and its people. Be it



(Clockwise from above) Madan Mahatta's photo of MF Husain painting cinema hoardings, 1974; Habib Rahman's portrait of Indrani, 1953; Mahatta's Pierre Cardin Fashion Show, 1967; Raghu Rai's photo of people in front of Jama Masjid, 50 years ago; Mahatta's Connaught Place during the rains, 1970; Rahman's Rabindra Bhavan, 1961

monuments."

Institutions designed by Rahman become his focus of attention and were photographed right when they were built, be it Rabindra Bhavan and its interiors, the Curzon Road Hostels, IP Bhavan or Patel Bhavan. For instance, Rabindra Bhavan — which was initially designed to be seen from the *gol chakkar* — shines in a 1961 photograph and sits without the current temporary structures, boundary wall or planting. Ram says, "All that we get to see is the wall of trees now and we can no longer see the building from the road." There's also a photo of its interiors. The top glassed portion is full of light, in place of the artificial ones that are there today. Ram says, "All proportions that were carefully designed were messed up. The light coloured cement flooring was ripped apart and replaced with cheap wooden flooring. The sky lights have been blocked for no reason and it spoils the whole sense of light. Natural light used to fall on the central staircase but now it is a dark and gloomy place."

The exhibition is at 1AQ, Mehrauli, Delhi, till November 12, 11 am to 7 pm

## Migrations in Verse

Lovers of Urdu gathered in Delhi to read poetry on Lord Ram and the Ramayana



A glimpse of the Urdu Ramayana

EXPRESSFEATURESERVICE

IN HIS poem *Ram*, Urdu poet Allama Iqbal terms the deity as 'Imam-e-Hind', the prelate of India, in whose existence the entire country took pride in. The poet calls *Ram zindagi ki rooh* (the soul of life) and *roohaniyat ki shaan* (the pride of spirituality). For Iqbal, Ram, the great warrior king, was "humane" and "morally upright". Urdu poetry is replete with references to Lord Ram and the episodes from The Ramayana. An evening organised by author, translator and literary historian Rakhshanda Jilil, in New Delhi recently, had lovers of the language read from well-known literature. These included Rashmi Aggarwal, Jonathan Gill Harris, Fouzia Dastango, Chinna Dua, Zehra Kazmi, Kartikeya Pradhan, Amav Diwan and Vidit Singh.

The rendition of Iqbal's poems by Aggarwal, Delhi-based Sufi singer, had the audience hooked to her intonations. In one line, Iqbal says, "*Labrez hai sharaab-e-haqeeqat se jaam-e-hind/sab falsafi hain khitta-e-maghrib ke Raam-e-hind* (the goblet of India is brimful with the wine of reality/The philosophers of the West only echo Hind's Ram)".

"There are over 300 Ramayanas written in Urdu, many in Urdu verse known as manzum Ramayanas. The event was meant to showcase a sampler from the verse Ramayanas as well as the reams of poetry written on Ram, Sita, Urmilla, Lakshman and the other dramatis personae," says Jilil.

Conceptualised and curated by Jilil, "Kahani Ram-e-Hind Ki" was held at the India Habitat Centre. Its organiser, Hindustani Awaaz, promotes Urdu *zubaan* and *tehzeeb* through content-based programming. Gill Harris, professor of English at Ashoka University, recited Kaifi Azmi's *Doosra Banwaas*. The poem imagines Ram coming back to Ayodhya on December 6 and feeling exiled again after he is a witness to the dance of madness (*raqs-e-diwangi*) in his Capital. "It was written immediately after the destruction of Babri Masjid in 1992, but it resonates all the more now in a time when the name of Ram has been weaponised by Islamophobic mobs in ways that make a mockery of him," says Harris.

Before his recital, Harris said, "Urdu includes so many different variations, but also words that have migrated from so many other languages. It makes room for everyone because it is a true *rekhta* or mixture."

A young student, Zehra Kazmi, recited a poem by Tripurari, a Mumbai-based contemporary Urdu poet. Titled *Urmila*, the poem is about Lakshman's wife and Sita's sister. When Lakshman decides to accompany Ram in exile, leaving Urmila alone in Ayodhya, a desire tossed in pain (*tadapti aarzoo*) would have fallen from Urmila's lips to the floor, broken into a thousand shards. The poet says that there is no part of the epic that is not drenched with her tears, and yet there is no trace of her pain anywhere.

## To The Manor Reborn

The Delhi hotel that once housed India's most famous restaurant reopens with a new look and a new restaurant

POOJA PILLAI

FOR A boutique hotel tucked away in a tiny — albeit, posh — corner of Delhi, The Manor is fairly well-known. Of course, a large part of its fame came from Indian Accent, known to be one of the country's best restaurant. While chef Manish Mehrotra moved to a larger premises in The Lodhi Hotel in 2017, The Manor itself was closed for a makeover. It has now emerged, with a lot of fine-tuning and a pared-down aesthetic.

"The Manor opened as an inn in the 1950s, and then underwent a complete makeover in the '90s. When it opened again in '99, it was with Vinay Kapoor and Shirley Fujikama (of multidisciplinary design firm u+a) at the helm. The hotel changed hands a couple of times after that, but with this re-opening, Vinay and Shirley are again our principal promoters," says Akshay Chawla, general manager at The Manor.

The hotel has been partially operational since January this year, with the rooms, fitted out with new furniture and a beige-and-grey minimalist theme. "The previous room design featured heavy furniture, which was the trend 20 years ago, and had wall-to-wall carpeting. So while some of the old elements have been retained, like the layouts of the bathrooms (with new plumbing and fixtures) and the woodwork, the furniture



The newly renovated property carries a minimalist theme

property — which used to house Zehen Spa — has been completely overhauled. The ground floor will soon see the opening of a casual, all-day cafe called Noci Caffe and Cucina, serving small plates, wood-fired pizza and coffee. The first floor houses the fitness centre, STUDIO60, and the aesthetic clinic, ISAAC Luxe, both of which are operational, while the second floor will soon have a new spa called House of Ayurveda, by the Kairali Ayurvedic Group.

Chawla says that some space has also been carved out to house art galleries. "While those who stay with us will be guaranteed privacy and the sort of intimate setting that they experience in boutique hotels all over the world, the lifestyle block is where we hope to encourage other guests from outside to come and hang out," he says.

The Manor, 77, Friends Colony West, New Delhi



## DEODHAR TROPHY

## GAIKWAD, APARAJITH POWER IND B

Ruturaj Gaikwad and Baba Aparajith smashed centuries to power India B to a dominating 108-run win over India A in the opening One-dayer of the Deodhar Trophy.

# Bangladesh learning to live without Shakib

While all-rounder Al Hasan leaves a big vacuum in the team, his absence also gives youngsters a chance to step up

**VISHAL MENON**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

FEROZ SHAH Kotla was enveloped in a thick layer of haze when the Bangladesh team arrived for training on Thursday afternoon. For the third day in a row, Delhi's air remained 'severe', recording an abysmal 410 on the air quality index. Bangladesh opener Liton Das took the field wearing a mask, saying it was a precautionary measure.

With their star all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan banned, Bangladesh too need to take many preventive measures as they face a strong Indian side. The all-rounder's absence will surely rattle this outfit. However, it will also hand opportunities to some of the lesser-known players to step up on the big stage.

Since his debut in 2007, Shakib has been the pivot on which Bangladesh have hinged as a team. During the World Cup in England, he was instrumental in giving them a sniff of entering the knock-outs. Despite finishing with 606 runs at the showpiece event, Bangladesh failed to qualify because Shakib rarely found substantial support from the other end to match his scintillating stroke-play.

Das did not mince words when he said: "Shakib's absence is a huge loss for us. He is the best player that Bangladesh has ever produced, and to lose him in such a manner before this tour will hurt us no doubt. Having said that, these things are not under our control. Our job is to focus on the upcoming T20 series and hopefully, if some of our youngsters can step it up, it will serve us well."

Mahmudullah's men will seek inspiration from their performance in the Asia Cup last year, where they marched into the final despite the absence of Shakib, who sat out of that tournament due to a finger injury. In the summit clash, they came close to giving India a scare, before Dinesh Karthik sealed the match with a sensational cameo. "It's not like Shakib had played non-stop cricket for Bangladesh. There was a phase in 2018 when he sat out for more than six months due to an injury. He even missed the Asia Cup last year where we reached the final," Das explained.

## A-listers missing

Shakib is the not the lone high-profile player who will miss this India tour. Bangladesh's incumbent opener Tamim Iqbal has also opted out so that he can be with his wife for the birth of their second child, while fast bowling all-rounder Mohammad Saifuddin has been sidelined for at least four months after a relapse of his long-standing back injury.

Iqbal's paternity leave hands a rare opportunity to Imrul Kayes. The top-order batsman last featured in an ODI more than 10 months ago. His T20 appearances have been even more sporadic, having been out of action in this format since 2017. Apart from Kayes, Bangladesh's batting in this series will hinge on their seasoned wicket-keeper batsman Mushfiqur Rahim, the belligerence of Soumya Sarkar, opener Das, and captain Mahmudullah.

Bangladesh's batting may exude a semblance of hope, but their bowling looks short on experience and confidence. Shakib would have ensured four overs of parsimonious, yet attacking, left-arm spin. Without him, the onus falls squarely on their left-arm pacer Mustafizur Rahman, who has been quite a revelation for the Sunrisers Hyderabad in IPL. Like Kayes, the selectors have taken a bold decision to induct left-arm spinner Arafat Sunny in the mix. After intermittent appearances in the shorter formats, Arafat was reported for suspect action in 2016, which relegated him into the wilderness. More than three years later, and with a remodelled action, the 33-year-old now finds himself back in the cauldron.

As Bangladesh braces for life without Shakib, their fortunes in India will largely depend on this motley bunch, some experienced, while others are desperately looking to recalibrate their international careers.

## BCCI ethics officer summons Dravid again

**REUTERS**  
MELBOURNE, OCTOBER 31

NEW DELHI: BCCI ethics officer D K Jain has asked Indian cricket great Rahul Dravid to appear in person for the second time, on November 12, for "further submissions and clarifications" on the conflict of interest allegations levelled against him.

The 46-year-old former India captain had earlier explained his case in the personal hearing held in Mumbai on September 26.

MPCA life member Sanjiv Gupta had filed the complaint against Dravid, alleging conflict of interest in his current role as National Cricket Academy (NCA) Head and being an India Cements employee.

"Jain wrote to Dravid on Wednesday night, asking him to depose on November 12 in New Delhi. Gupta too will be heard," a BCCI official told PTI.

Dravid is currently the NCA Director in Bengaluru besides being a vice-president in the India Cements group, which owns the IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings.

He was also the head coach of the India A and Under-19 teams before being handed the NCA role, which includes monitoring the progress of these two sides as well.

Dravid has already given a reply and defended himself saying he has taken leave of absence from India Cements and he has nothing to do with the Chennai Super Kings. **PTI**



## NOT A HALLOWEEN COSTUME

Bangladesh batsman Liton Das is seen wearing a mask during a practice session at the Feroz Shah Kotla Stadium in New Delhi on Thursday. According to the Ministry of Earth Sciences' air quality monitor, SAFAR, the capital's air quality was 'severe' on Thursday. *Vishal Menon*

# In the (bad) light of air pollution, Ganguly says scheduling needs to be 'practical' in the future

**SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY**  
KOLKATA, OCTOBER 31

WITH FARM fires raging across north-western India, the outlook for Sunday evening, when India take on the visitors in the first T20 International, is grim. While BCCI president Sourav Ganguly said the Kotla T20I will go ahead despite the pollution, he agreed that scheduling of matches in the northern part of the country — especially during this time of the year — needs to be a little more practical in the future.

"In the future, when we schedule, especially in the northern part of India during the winter, we will have to be a little bit more practical," Ganguly told reporters at Eden Gardens.

He added that it's now "too late" to make a switch from Kotla.

"It's too late to do anything, because a lot of preparations go into matches tickets, crowds everything... So it's not possible to cancel things at the last minute. Fingers crossed," the BCCI president said. "I hope the match gets through. I spoke to the DDCA and they are confident to get through it. I know post-Diwali it's a bit

tough in the North. As I said, fingers crossed. It's too late to change. I hope everything goes fine."

Ganguly, though, has received assurance from the Kotla ground staff. "I spoke to the groundsman. He says once the sun comes out, it will be fine. He was my groundsman in Delhi Capitals. I know him well, so he said everything will be fine. We want the game to happen."

Post-Diwali, Delhi's air is 'severe' as usual. Back in December 2017, when Kotla had hosted a Test between India and Sri Lanka, a lot of Sri Lankan players wore face masks. Some of them gasped for breath and needed on-field treatment. And yet, the first match of the upcoming home series against Bangladesh was slotted in Delhi, on the heels of Diwali. Three T20Is and two Tests would be played in the series, with Rajkot and Nagpur being the venues for the second and the third T20Is, and Indore and Kolkata hosting the two Tests.

After registering the new BCCI constitution, the Committee of Administrators (CoA), which helmed the cricket board till the October 23 elections, had disbanded almost all the committees and sub-committees. The BCCI's tours and fixtures commit-

**We didn't have any problem when we played the Test match here (against Sri Lanka). We are not aware of the exact discussion... I haven't had any problem."**

**ROHIT SHARMA**  
ON PLAYING AMID SMOG

tee used to be in charge of finalising the itinerary for the home season. This time, scheduling for the ongoing home season apparently missed the post-Diwali Delhi air pollution issue.

And as Ganguly said, the elected office-bearers took charge only about a week ago and cancellation wasn't an option at such short notice. "The match was already scheduled, so we couldn't cancel it at the last minute because we came in on October 23."

## Pollution no problem: Rohit

India's stand-in captain for the T20I series, Rohit Sharma, however, played down the pollution issue, with regards to playing the match at Kotla. "We didn't have any problem when we played the Test match here (against Sri Lanka). We are not aware

of the exact discussion and I haven't had any problem," Rohit said during a promotional event in the capital.

Earlier, cricketer-turned-politician Gautam Gambhir had said pollution was a far more serious issue than having a game of cricket. "I'm not really bothered whether the match will happen or not. I hope it happens and it should happen, but again it's the thing which is throughout the year that Delhi people face. It is far more concerning than the match," Gambhir was quoted as saying.

## Shastri and NCA

Meanwhile, Ganguly said the BCCI would create a system to ensure that the Indian team head coach Ravi Shastri has more involvement in the National Cricket Academy (NCA). "We will also create a system where Ravi's involvement is more at the NCA till the time he is coach. We will make it a good Centre of Excellence. We have Rahul Dravid, Paras (Mhambrey), Bharat Arun..."

During his NCA visit yesterday, the BCCI president had a separate meeting with the NCA director, Dravid, to find out "what is the way forward".

# D/N Test good move as long as dew isn't a factor: Tendulkar

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 31

INDIA'S FIRST ever Day/Night Test will be a success only if the dew factor is countered effectively at the Eden Gardens, says the iconic Sachin Tendulkar, apprehensive that wet conditions might severely hamper pacers and spinners alike.

Tendulkar welcomed the introduction of Tests under floodlights in India, saying it is a "good move" and will pull back crowds for the traditional format. India will play their first-ever Test under lights with pink ball against Bangladesh from November 22 in Kolkata.

"As long as dew does not become a factor, it is a good move but if dew is going to be a factor then seamers as well as spinners are going to find it challenging," Tendulkar told PTI. "Because once the ball gets wet, neither seamers can do much nor the spinners. So in that way, bowlers will be put under the test. But if there is no dew, then surely it is a good addition," the maestro said about a historic first in Indian cricket.

The dew was a factor at the Eden Gardens during ODI games under floodlights, something Tendulkar is apprehensive about.

"I think the dew factor will play a big role over here. We need to figure out how much dew is there. The dew will determine, to what extent both teams are competing. The conditions shouldn't hinder anything (competitive-

ness)," said the highest run-getter in Tests and ODIs. However, Tendulkar agreed with BCCI president Sourav Ganguly that the experiment is a good idea to bring the crowds back to the stadium.

"There are two ways to look at it. One aspect would be from the public point of view. It is a nice concept as people would be able to watch a Day/Night Test after their working hours. People can come in the evening and enjoy the game. From players' point of view, it won't be a bad idea to play with pink ball and check how differently it behaves from the traditional red ball. It's about getting that pink coloured ball coming to you," said Tendulkar.

## Extra preparation required

Tendulkar's homework before facing any particular bowler, be it Shoaib Akhtar or Shane Warne, is a stuff of legends and he offered a tip to the Indian batsmen for their net session.

"The batsmen will need to practice with different balls at the nets. A new pink ball, a 20-over pink ball and a 50-over pink ball and an 80-over ball. See how differently a new, semi-new and old ball behaves. Accordingly prepare your strategy," he suggested.

With no Duleep Trophy held this year, Tendulkar urged the Indian team to take feedback from all the players who played the event in last three years. Duleep Trophy matches were held under lights.

"The India boys should also depend on word of mouth feedback from all those who played Duleep Trophy and they would have few things to share."

# Maxwell takes break due to mental health problems

**REUTERS**  
MELBOURNE, OCTOBER 31

AUSTRALIA ALL-ROUNDER Glenn Maxwell is taking an indefinite break from cricket with immediate effect as he undergoes treatment for mental health issues, coach Justin Langer said.

Maxwell, who played in Australia's two T20 wins against Sri Lanka in recent days and starred in the Adelaide series-opener, will be replaced by batsman D'Arcy Short for the third and final match in Melbourne on Friday.

Langer said he had spoken to Maxwell after sensing something was amiss with the hard-hitting 31-year-old before the Adelaide game, Australia's first international of the home summer.

"I'm not sure what prompted (it) just before Adelaide," Langer told reporters in Melbourne. "But you just could tell it was not quite right and he probably wasn't going to say (anything)."

"Even though in Adelaide he had that incredible innings and fielded like a genius like he can, I don't think he got much joy out of it, to be honest."

A fan favourite and one of Australia's most devastating batsmen in short-format cricket, Maxwell was in fine touch at Adelaide Oval where he blasted 62 off 29 balls to hasten his team to a 134-run victory.

He was also his usual energetic presence



One of Australia's most devastating batsmen, Glenn Maxwell was in fine touch against Sri Lanka at the Adelaide Oval, where he blasted 62 off 29 balls.

in the field, effecting a brilliant run-out and engaging in banter with broadcasters.

"They often put on a mask," Langer said of people suffering mental health problems. "In public positions they have to put on a mask all the time. That's his armour, his energy and the way he plays."

Maxwell, who has played 110 One-Day Internationals and 61 T20Is, will be assessed

in Melbourne over the next "day or so", Langer said.

Melbourne man Maxwell ranks among Australia's top-earning athletes, enjoying global prestige as a coveted gun-for-hire in domestic T20 competitions.

But his goal of breaking into the Test side has largely been frustrated. He has been dropped several times in his career of seven

**He is the great entertainer but underneath the mask — you probably just sense it. When you build relationships with people, you sense when they're not quite right."**

**JUSTIN LANGER**  
AUSTRALIA COACH, ON GLENN MAXWELL

Tests and was snubbed for the Ashes in England over August-September. Australia retained the urn.

While a number of local pundits felt selectors had dealt with Maxwell harshly, the cricketer said he had moved on.

"You can't play cricket bitter, it detracts from yourself and makes you stop concentrating on what you need to do," Maxwell said in a recent interview with Espnrcricinfo.

## A widespread issue

A number of top Australian cricketers have battled mental health problems in recent years. Much-hyped talent Will Pucovski took a break from domestic cricket a year ago and also withdrew from the Test squad in January to undergo treatment.

Three-Test batsman Nic Maddinson also took time off in 2017 after being dropped from the Test side before returning to the game after treatment.

Langer said things have not been well with Maxwell for a year.

"There's been a few times over the last 12

months where I've suspected that he was probably battling a little bit, but mainly in Adelaide last week before the first game," the Aussie head coach reflected.

"A few little things just weren't quite adding up. I just asked how he was going and he said, 'No, I'm not going that well actually'. I'm pleased he feels he has got that trust in the environment to be able to do that and he has got to do some work now to get himself right," he added.

According to CA, Maxwell told the team's support staff that he was struggling with his mental health and the Board, along with his state side Victoria, are backing him in this period.

Maxwell has often suffered criticism for his shot selection at crucial junctures of matches. He has managed just one century each in Tests and ODIs but has three hundreds in T20Is.

"He is the great entertainer but underneath the mask — you probably just sense it. When you build relationships with people, you sense when they're not quite right," Langer said.

The coach also said that the amount of travelling that a modern-day cricketer endures is contributing to the general stress.

"I think just mentally and physically it's exhausting and we've always got to try and find the balance," he said. "That's part of the world we live in now and I'm sure that's a part of how he's feeling."



ENGINEERING A CONTROVERSY

Storm in the teacup

Anushka Sharma blasts former India cricketer Farokh Engineer, who had ‘jested’ that he saw a national selector serving tea to her during the World Cup

BOLLYWOOD ACTOR Anushka Sharma, wife of Indian captain Virat Kohli, launched a blistering attack on former wicket-keeper Farokh Engineer, who had said that she was seen being served tea by an Indian selector during the World Cup in England. In an Instagram post, Anushka said: “The latest version of these ill-intended lies is that I was being served tea by selectors at matches during the World Cup! I came to



one game during the World Cup and sat in the family box and not the selector’s box as reported but when has the truth mattered when it’s about convenience!” Engineer had ridiculed the credentials of India’s five-member selection panel, led by MSK Prasad and comprising Sarandeep Singh, Jatin Paranjpe, Gagan Khoda and Devang Gandhi, terming them ‘Mickey Mouse Selection Committee.’

“IF YOU WANT TO have a comment on the selection committee and their qualifications please do so as it’s your opinion but don’t drag my name into it to substantiate your claim or sensationalize your opinion. I refuse to allow anyone from using my name in such conversations,” was her retort to Engineer’s claims.

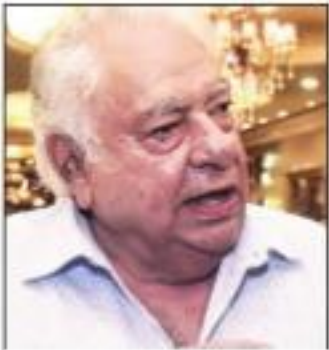
INHERPOST, the 31-year-old laments that her silence in the face of negative news reports and being blamed for her husband Kohli’s performance have led to lies allegedly be-

ing perceived as truth. “My name has been used in fabricated stories claiming I was part of closed-door meetings and influenced the selection process and I kept quiet,” Anushka writes. She clarified she pays on her own while travelling with Virat and she was asked by the wife of the High Commissioner to the UK to pose with Team India for a photo that was taken in London four months ago. She says she is speaking up now because ‘someone’s silence cannot be taken as their weakness.’ The actor has urged for ‘proof and facts’ when her ‘name is used’ and asserted that the media ‘leave (her) out of it.’ She ends subtly: “And for the record, I drink coffee.”

THEPOST received unanimous support from her celebrity friends. Arjun Kapoor wrote, “She hits it out of the park.” Parineeti Chopra chips in with, “Love you, Anushka. And coffee > tea.”

Petty talk, says MSK Prasad, while speaking on behalf of his colleagues, rubbished Engineer’s allegations.

“During the World Cup, none of the selectors were sitting in the box where the Indian captain’s wife sat and this is an absolutely rubbish, malicious and defamatory assertion,” Prasad told PTI. “I feel sad for someone deriving sadistic pleasure out of indulging in petty talk, thereby demeaning and disrespecting the selectors and the wife of Indian captain through frivolous allegations,” he asserted. “Let’s not forget that this selection committee has been appointed by BCCI through a proper process in an AGM,” he added.



Farokh Engineer

Engineer’s U-turn: ‘Said it in jest’

Following the outrage on Sharma’s Instagram post, Engineer made a U-turn on Thursday, apologizing to Sharma. In an interview with The Republic TV, the 82-year-old said: “I just said it in jest and a mountain is being made out of a molehill. Poor Anushka has been dragged into it, she is a lovely girl. Virat Kohli is a brilliant captain and coach Ravi Shastri is extremely good.” ENS

Daylight between India and Russia

MIHIR VASAVDA  
BHUBANESHWAR, OCTOBER 31

THEY ARE not here. But India can’t seem to stop talking about Pakistan. Partly in awe, partly as a warning. The Green Shirts’ spunky show against the Netherlands in the Olympic qualifiers last weekend has been the talk of the hockey world. For India, it was a lesson in avoiding complacency.

Not just Pakistan, in fact. France too featured heavily in coach Graham Reid’s team meeting as he pressed upon the team to shrug off its habit of underestimating lower-ranked teams, as India take on Russia in a two-match Tokyo 2020 qualifier.

“We had a meeting after those games (Netherlands-Pakistan and Spain-France) and what was really good is that we’ve been talking about exactly those things... When you don’t start well and when you don’t follow the game plan early,” Reid says.

Russia, ranked 22, have never qualified for an Olympics or the World Cup. To say that they are a nation with no hockey pedigree would be slightly misleading. The erstwhile USSR was one of the most dominant European teams in the 1980s, managing podium finishes at the 1980 Olympics and European Championships.

The break-up of the Soviet Union spelt the end of hockey in the region and Russia has never come close to achieving anything major. “We don’t have any money. Ice hockey has 4,000 times more funding than we do,” team manager Arkadii Kondratyev says.

This week, Kondratyev adds, will be historic for the team because both the matches will be shown live on TV back home. Unfortunately for them, if past results are anything to go by, the Russians are likely to witness a thrashing.

When the two teams met in the first round of Olympic qualifiers – the FIH Series Finals – four months ago at the Kalinga Stadium, which will host Friday’s match as well, India won 10-0. The only previous occasion they faced each other was at the 2008 Olympic qualifiers and back then, India thumped Russia 8-0.

India have so far refrained from making statements that can remotely be construed as overconfident. There’s an air of confidence around the team of getting the job done but there’s also a hint of cautiousness, with Reid reminding them at every opportunity to not get ahead of themselves. “My message has been pretty much the same ever since I have joined the team. Always treat everyone with respect, like you are playing the best in the world,” he says.

Complacency, in the first place, is the reason why India find themselves in the quali-

When the two teams met in the first round of Olympic qualifiers – the FIH Series Finals – four months ago at the Kalinga Stadium, which will host Friday’s match as well, India won 10-0.

fiers. India were so sure of winning the gold medal at the 2018 Asian Games – which would have guaranteed an Olympic berth – that they lost focus and Malaysia punished them for that. It was the lowest point for the team in a tumultuous 2018, which also saw two changes of coach, failure to medal at the Commonwealth Games and inability to go beyond the quarterfinals in a World Cup played at home, at this very venue.

This year, in comparison, has been quiet; perhaps a much-needed antidote. India have not had a single major assignment – the FIH Series Finals technically was but it was a competition full of minnows except Asian Games champions Japan – and most of the time has been spent playing practice matches around the globe.

Old hands return

Yet, some uncertainty remains. After dabbling with the policy of focusing on younger players and phasing out the veterans for a major part of this four-year Olympic cycle, India will ironically enter the two-match qualifying series with most of the senior players back in the squad.

Drag-flicker Rupinderpal Singh, defender Birendra Lakra, forwards Ramandeep Singh and Lalit Upadhyay are all back in the squad after being in-and-out for a major part of last year. Forward SV Sunil, who was dropped for the World Cup last year, returns as the vice-captain. “I don’t know the history but what I was told is he was injured,” Reid says about Sunil. Curiously, injury was never mentioned as a reason to drop Sunil and when he was excluded from the World Cup, it seemed like the end of his career. “The 18 players here are all equal. Those who deserve to be in the team are there,” captain Manpreet Singh says.

The return of these veterans makes India overwhelming favourites to win this tie. Then again, they are quick to give the Pakistan example. Sunil, the only player in this squad to suffer the ignominy of failing to qualify for the Olympics, even cited the 2008 example. “Our mindset should be about winning. But we don’t want to underestimate Russia,” Manpreet says. “Sunil has given us the example of 2008.”

MIHIR VASAVDA  
BHUBANESHWAR, OCTOBER 31

AFTER THE 4-0 drubbing at the hands of the USA in the 2008 Olympic qualifiers, Suman Bala grabbed Rani Rampal by the arm and whispered in her ear, “one day, you have to become like them and beat them.”

Bala was 26 and on the last legs of a once flourishing career. Rani was half her age; the qualifiers, a first brush on the canvas for her. The Americans, with their superior strength and bigger physique, struck fear in the hearts of both players.

“They were so tall and so strong,” Rani gushes even today. “We were scared of them.”

On Tuesday, 11 years after that defeat and three days before India were to take on the USA in the 2020 Olympics qualifier, Bala called Rani to remind her of the promise she had extracted. Till a couple of years ago, this would have passed off as wishful thinking. Not so much right now.

Since that rout in Kazan, the two teams have routinely played against each other. Their physical and tactical superiority unwittingly turned USA into a gold standard for India even though they have not quite been the gold standard themselves in world hockey.

But after a decade of losing to them, this weekend will be the first time in the 36-year competitive history between the two teams that India will enter a contest against the USA as equals. “We feel we can beat them. So far, we had an underdog mindset but that is not the case anymore,” Rani says.

It’s taken 18 months of relentless and borderline obsessive focus on improving the team’s speed and structure to close this gap. And its genesis lay in an embarrassment at the biggest stage of all – the Olympics.

The Rio Games were India’s maiden appearance at the Olympics in more than 30 years. India hoped to show the world how much they had improved, but what they got was a rude reality check. The team scored just three goals, allowed 19 and finished last in the 12-team tournament.

A few months after the debacle, Hockey India appointed Sjoerd Marijne as coach. “When Sjoerd first joined the team, I think he would have thought, ‘oh my god, what is this team!’” Rani says.

Marijne, who coached the world number 1 Dutch women before coming to India, laughs that what surprised him more was that the players called him ‘sir.’ But then, he saw the team train.

“There was no speed at all. And they did



The Indian women's hockey team after a training session at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.

not have much understanding of tactics,” he says. “So what kind of structure are you going to play if your team does not have any speed? Are you going to do high press? But, you know, one ball and the opposition will overlap you. If you want to play counter, you don’t have the speed... It was very difficult in the beginning.”

Speed, structure

Marijne and his assistant Eric Wonkink, both tactical nerds, and South African physio Wayne Lombard became fixated with improving these two aspects of the team. Every training session since early 2017, including the phase when Harendra Singh coached the team, has been used to make the girls quicker and fitter, which in turn helped enhance their understanding and implementation of structures and tactics.

A similar approach in 2011 had worked wonders for the men’s team and catapulted them into the top five of the world before they stagnated once again. As Marijne saw it, this was the only way to make sure the women’s team did not have to wait another 30 years to play at the Olympics.

It helped that the women’s team was re-

ceptive to his ideas. “They have leadership and are willing to take responsibility,” says Marijne, whose brief stint with the men’s team ended because some players were not comfortable with his philosophy of players taking ownership for their decisions on field.

The results were visible against USA, who else. At the Rio Olympics, the Americans had trounced India 3-0.

At the 2018 World Cup, India turned the tables and even though the match ended in a draw, it was enough to take India into the quarterfinals and knock USA out. “They play with a lot of pace now,” USA captain Kathleen Sharkey says.

A couple of years ago, such a comment would have been unthinkable for a team that looked like playing in slow-motion every time they stepped on the field. Now, the team can adapt and switch between playing long balls from the centre line, indulging in patient build-up by being strong on the ball, and create goal-scoring opportunities from set-pieces. This is perhaps the best-trained and most settled Indian women’s team, with 10 players featuring in all tournaments this year. Of the 26 matches India has played, they have won 16 and lost just four, scoring on an

average three goals every match. Given that they scored just three times during their entire 2016 Olympics campaign, this is a massive improvement.

India have relied heavily on Gurjit Kaur’s penalty corners for goals. Lalremsiami, Navneet Kaur, Vandana Katariya and Rani consistently chip in with field goals while Deep Grace Ekka leads the defence.

In USA, however, India will face a bogey team – the 2018 World Cup result was seen as an improvement, but it was still only a draw. The inferiority complex that once gripped the team may have vanished, but USA remain tricky opponents.

No one understands that better than Rani. “After we lost the match in 2008, so many players who were towards the end of their career were in tears because they missed the opportunity to play in the Olympics,” she says. “At that time, I did not know how important Olympics were to a player. Now I know that. And I do not want to experience that sadness.”

Live on Star Sports 1/HD 1: (Women) India vs USA, 6pm, (Men) India vs Russia, 8pm

Ravinder wins silver at Under-23 worlds

NITIN SHARMA  
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 31

THE FIRST thing that Ravinder Kumar did after securing the 61 kg silver medal in the u-23 World Wrestling Championship in Budapest was to call his father. He wanted to remind him of the loan installment that was due. Ravinder’s two knee operations had resulted in the family borrowing Rs 6 lakh three years back. Since then the young wrestler had been very particular about paying the EMI on time.

Father Satpal spoke about the pressures his son had to deal with. “When he injured his knee in 2016, I had to take a loan of Rs 2 lakh from the village agent. Next year he recovered and reached World Junior Championship semi-final and we thought things would be fine now. But again he was injured and he took another loan of Rs 4 lakh,” he says. “He told me about the medal after mentioning the EMI.”

Very early in life, Ravinder joined his coach Naresh Dahiya’s academy where his cousins Sanjay and Pradeep used to train. The Haryana wrestler would win the School Nationals gold in 2013 before winning a bronze in the 2013 Asian Cadet Championships. The following year saw Ravinder secure the Senior Nationals silver, where he lost to Sandeep Tomar.

“Like any youngster, Ravinder would not spend much time in training. He was very mischievous. He loved ice-cream. But slowly



Ravinder lost to Kyrgyzstan’s Ulukbek Zholdoshibekov in the 61kg final.

his interest in wrestling grew. When I would tell him to do 100 sit-ups, he would do 200 and that was his main strength. When he lost the final against Tomar in senior nationals in 2015, he was disappointed but I knew this boy was special,” recalls 50-year-old Dahiya.

In 2016, Ravinder suffered an injury on his left knee, for which he underwent an operation in Mumbai but the youngster made the comeback to reach the quarter-finals in inaugural edition of World U-23 Championships apart from reaching the semis of World Junior Championships in 2017.

He was also selected for the Indian team for Asian Wrestling Championships the same

In 2016, Ravinder suffered an injury on his left knee, for which he underwent an operation in Mumbai but the youngster made the comeback to reach the quarter-finals in inaugural edition of World U-23 Championships apart from reaching the semis of World Junior Championships in 2017.

year but suffered an ACL injury on his right knee. “When I got injured before the Asian Senior Wrestling Championships, I only thought about missing my chance for the initial days. After the operation, spending time at home was the most difficult part for me. I had been training in Delhi since I was 12 and most of the friends and neighbors would ask me about the injury. I could do nothing. I would watch videos of two-time world champion Reza Zazhdani, Olympic champion Jordan Burroughs and Russian Gadzhimurad Rashidov and observe their moves and imitate those moves in my mind,” says Ravinder, who is a Corporal in Indian Air Force.

New training regimen

Coach Dahiya also came up with a new training regime for the youngster. “While he

was technically strong, we did not want to put him under any pressure. But I insisted he did the rope climbing without using his leg support which made his upper body strong and it gives him a lot of strength in moves,” says Dahiya.

Ravinder became the fifth Indian wrestler to win a medal in the world U-23 Championships in its three years history. Ravinder was trailing by 1-3 before making a comeback to make it 3-4 in the last minute of the final before an unsuccessful India challenge resulting in 3-5 loss. Ravinder had defeated European champion Arsen Harutyunyan of Armenia 4-3 in the semi-finals, a bout where Ravinder was trailing 0-3.

“I knew that he likes to attack leg initially and I got bit confused initially. Thoda sa time laga read karne main aur wahi galti se gold medal reh gaya (I took time to formulate my strategy and hence lost out on a medal. But the medal has come after a long time and it’s like a new beginning for me. I had watched Ravi Dahiya’s bout against the Harutyunyan in World Championships last month earlier and I knew that I can catch with my speed. I used the move called Dunga, going for his rib area and it worked for me. After getting injured on both my knees earlier in my career, I would hesitate a bit initially after my recovery period in my moves but the training in the last one year has made me realise that if it has to happen, it will happen. My aim is to give my best and I am happy that I could do that here,” said Ravinder.

Pooja fights back from 2-4 to enter final

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
BUDAPEST, OCTOBER 31

INDIAN WOMEN grappler Pooja Gehlot (53kg) entered the finals after beating Turkey’s Zeynep Yetgil in the semifinals of the UWW Under-23 World Championships here on Thursday. Pooja scripted a superb come back as she fought her way from a 2-4 deficit to win 8-4 against Yetgil, a gold medalist at the Junior European Wrestling Championships in 2018.

In the summit clash on Friday, Pooja will be up against Haruno Okuno of Japan. No Indian has ever won a gold in the last three editions of the UWW Under-23 World Championships. Ravinder had settled for a silver medal on Wednesday after going down to Kyrgyzstan’s Ulukbek Zholdoshibekov in the 61kg final.

It was a fantastic display from the youngster who started from the qualifying stages, where she demolished Ekaterina Verbina of Russia 8-3.

In the quarter-finals, Gehlot blazed through her bout, notching up a commanding 8-0 win to set up a semi-final showdown against Zeynep Yetgil, gold medalist at the Junior European Wrestling Championships in 2018. Gehlot is the second Indian woman wrestler to remain in contention for a medal after Jyoti (50kg) made it to the bronze medal

In the quarter-finals, Gehlot blazed through her bout, notching up a commanding 8-0 win to set up a semi-final showdown against Zeynep Yetgil, gold medalist at the Junior European Wrestling Championships in 2018.

contest, which is also scheduled to take place tonight. In 50kg, Jyoti’s hopes of getting a bronze were dashed when she was blanked 0-10 by Russia’s Nadezhda Sokolova.

In 57kg, Pinki Rani advanced to the quarters from the qualifiers after registering a one-sided 5-0 victory over Arian Geralin Carpio of the USA. Her run came to an end in the last-eight at the hands of Hannah Fay Taylor, who edged her 2-1 in a gritty contest. None of the other Indians in action could win a round. While Ukraine’s Ilona Prokopecvniuk was declared a 2-0 winner by fall over Reshma Mane in 62kg, Nisha exited with a 3-11 loss to Maya Gabriella Nelson of the USA in 65kg.

In 72kg, Naina suffered the same fate when she was shown the door by Cuba’s Milaimys de la Caridad Marin Potrille after a 13-3 victory.





# Springboks’ Catch 22: Kolisi or not

The rugby case for the inspirational but fading South Africa skipper is powerful, but less so from a historical and political perspective

EXPRESS NEW SERVICE  
OCTOBER 31

STUART BARNES of *The Times* who has written extensively on Springboks rugby has struck a chord of disruption with his suggestion that rugby logic dictates that Rassie doesn’t include inspirational captain Siya Kolisi in his Starting XV. We look at the merits of the argument in the backdrop of Kolisi’s rise to leadership and what it means to South Africa. (For the record, Kolisi has been used in an extended 40-min first-half burst mostly, and subbed or called on in latter half, throughout the World Cup.)

## BARNES’ BURNING ISSUE

“South Africa have more chance of winning without their captain,” Barnes writes, adding that Erasmus, if he can ignore the “historical and political perspective”, should select his captain on the bench.

“The No 6 shirt should be worn by the South African who knows the game of Sam Underhill, England’s key man, better than anyone — his fellow Bath flanker Francois Louw,” he says, urging for a colour-blind decision. “The best chance of uniting 57 million South Africans is to play Louw from the kick-off. One man’s inspiration will not suffice if South Africa

are incapable of nullifying England at the breakdown. Kolisi has not appeared to be the force that he was before a knee injury that he suffered in Super Rugby in May.” The rugby case for benching Kolisi is powerful, Barnes insists. “Pieter-Steph du Toit has been far more influential in his lineout and counter-rucking than his fellow flanker. He has to start. But even Du Toit cannot compete quite like Louw at the breakdown.”

He cites Louw’s 74th-minute turnover in the semi-final win over Wales — a few minutes after coming on — as the match-winning moment to put South Africa in the final. “From the penalty, South Africa ended up with a kick to win the game. Would Kolisi have made that turnover? On the evidence of what came before, probably not,” he argues. Barnes hinges his theory on the breakdown not being the strength of Kolisi’s game. “It is with Louw. New Zealand gambled with an extra lineout man and lost the gamble as England controlled collisions and, with it, the tempo of the game. South Africa will be more comfortable than the All Blacks with slow possession — they will kick a great deal — but defensively, the Springboks have to halt the momentum that England bring to the game, especially early on.”

Barnes stresses that Louw will be wasted



Francois Louw has proved better than post-knee-injury Kolisi (pic). Reuters

in the last 25 minutes; the damage will be done. “Far more sensible to ask him to match Underhill and Tom Curry in contact and keep South Africa within range to throw everything, Kolisi et al, for an unstoppable Springbok surge in the final 20 minutes.”

## TWEAK TO INSPIRATION STORY

Barnes was inspired to pen the column after a happy Rassie declared post the Wales scrap that he was unafraid to take brave calls.

“Within the media, the decision not to select his captain would be the headline. Yet, as

Eddie Jones has shown with his treatment of George Ford, selection is about matching forces to strategy. If Erasmus can finish without his skipper and without hyperbole, why can he not start without him and finish with him? After all, if South Africa win, Kolisi will lift the trophy. Ramaphosa would have his Mandela moment. Play it the other way, bow to a perceived political imperative and the chances of any South African getting anywhere near lifting the trophy are diminished. Who would be Erasmus? The right rugby call may very well be the wrong political one; the politically correct one possibly the wrong rugby call. The easy choice is to stick to this; no one would criticise Erasmus. The other choice would be one of the bravest of all time. It may go down in history as a great call; conversely, it may be the end of Erasmus. Jones has made a few big calls in his time but none like this.”

## SIYASTORY

Siya Kolisi was raised by his grandmother, uncle and aunt in a Port Elizabeth township. At the age of eight he was identified as a rare rugby talent and educated at Grey Junior and then Grey High. His rugby-based education took him to Stellenbosch, the Stormers, a man-of-the-match debut against Scotland in 2013, Stormer captaincy.

The Springbok captaincy came in a circuitous way but you have to be cynical to put it down to quotas. Barnes recalls, “Had Warren Whiteley or Eben Etzebeth been fit the chances are Kolisi would not have been named captain. The flanker led South Africa in 2018 but only when Etzebeth was forced from the field.”

David Walsh of *Times*, recalls, “‘On a Monday morning in late May last year the South Africa rugby squad had a meeting at their Johannesburg hotel. The team had a three-test series against England as their immediate goal, the 2019 World Cup at their ultimate target and they needed to choose a captain. Siya Kolisi sat amongst his teammates not thinking for a second it might be him. Rassie Erasmus, the head coach, speaks matter-of-factly, his tone rarely changing. Kolisi remembers everything up to the moment Erasmus said that he, Kolisi, would captain the team for the series against England. Everything that came after that sailed right past him without stopping.

Later that morning Erasmus would say he’d known Kolisi since he’d entered the Western Province academy as an 18-year-old and chose him to lead the Springboks because of his leadership and humility.”

FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2019							
In order to clear extra rush of passengers for Chhath Puja Festival, Railways have planned to run the following Festival Special Trains as per schedule given below:-							
Spl. Train No.	Station From	Dept. Time	Station to	Arr. Time	Frequency/Day	Period	Accommodation
04001	Bhagalpur	18:45	Anand Vihar (T)	17:40	Weekly	Fri On 01.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04408	New Delhi	19:25	Muzaffarpur	16:30	02 Trips	Tue On 05.11.2019	AC 3 Tier
04407	Muzaffarpur	23:20	New Delhi	22:10	02 Trips	Wed On 06.11.2019	
04414	New Delhi	19:25	Saharsa	20:00	02 Trips	Fri On 01.11.2019	AC 3 Tier
04413	Saharsa	22:15	New Delhi	22:10	02 Trips	Sat On 02.11.2019	
04079	Patna Jn. (Suvidha)	12:00	New Delhi	04:00	01 Trip	Fri On 01.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier
04078	New Delhi	14:55	Patna Jn.	08:30	02 Trips	Fri On 01.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04077	Patna Jn.	12:00	New Delhi	04:00	02 Trips	Sat On 02.11.2019	
04052	Anand Vihar (T)	11:45	Katihar Jn.	12:45	02 Trips	Fri On 01.11.2019	Sleeper & General
04051	Katihar Jn.	20:00	Anand Vihar (T)	23:00	02 Trips	Sat On 02.11.2019	
04093	Jogbani (Suvidha)	09:00	Anand Vihar (T)	16:05	01 Trip	Sat On 02.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
82410	Delhi (Suvidha)	11:00	Darbhanga	08:30	02 Trips	Mon On 04.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, & AC 3 Tier
04023	Darbhanga (Suvidha)	12:00	Delhi	12:40	02 Trips	Tue On 05.11.2019	
04401	Anand Vihar (T)	23:00	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	14:00	Bi-Weekly	Thu On 04.11.2019	1st AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier
04402	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	23:30	Anand Vihar (T)	14:20	Bi-Weekly	Tue, Fri Upto 05.11.2019	
04998	Bathinda	20:50	Varanasi	19:20	Weekly	Sun On 03.11.2019	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04997	Varanasi	21:20	Bathinda	19:15	Weekly	Mon On 04.11.2019	
04420	H. Nizamuddin	20:50	Lucknow	06:30	Weekly	Mon On 04.11.2019	1st AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier
04419	Lucknow	19:05	H. Nizamuddin	05:30	Weekly	Thu On 07.11.2019	
04422	Anand Vihar (T)	21:05	Lucknow	06:30	Weekly	Wed On 06.11.2019	1st AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier
04421	Lucknow	19:05	Anand Vihar (T)	05:15	Weekly	Tue On 05.11.2019	
04502	Nangaldam	23:45	Lucknow	14:00	Weekly	Mon On 04.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04501	Lucknow	21:30	Nangaldam	13:00	Weekly	Tue On 05.11.2019	
04612	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	23:30	Varanasi	03:05	Weekly	Sun On 03.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04611	Varanasi	06:00	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	13:15	Weekly	Tue On 05.11.2019	
04409	Delhi Jn.	18:25	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	09:05	Tri-Weekly	Tue, Fri, Sun Upto 05.11.2019	AC 3 Tier,, Sleeper & General
04410	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	13:15	Delhi Jn.	03:00	Tri-Weekly	Wed, Sat, Mon Upto 06.11.2019	
04074	New Delhi	15:30	Varanasi	07:00	02 Trips	Fri On 01.11.2019	Sleeper & General
04073	Varanasi	09:50	New Delhi	01:45	02 Trips	Sat On 02.11.2019	
04923	Gorakhpur	22:10	Chandigarh	14:25	Weekly	Fri On 01.11.2019	1st AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04046	Anand Vihar (T)	23:35	Gorakhpur	13:35	02 Trips	Sat On 02.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04045	Gorakhpur	17:25	Anand Vihar (T)	07:15	02 Trips	Sun On 03.11.2019	
04418	H. Nizamuddin	21:35	Pune	21:25	Weekly	Tue On 05.11.2019	1st AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier
04417	Pune	05:15	H. Nizamuddin	05:35	Weekly	Thu On 07.11.2019	
04044	Anand Vihar (T)	00:10	Gaya Jn.	20:20	2 Trips	Sun On 03.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04043	Gaya Jn.	23:20	Anand Vihar (T)	17:05	2 Trips	Sun On 03.11.2019	
04022	Anand Vihar (T)	00:10	Patna	17:45	Weekly	Sat On 02.11.2019	AC 3 Tier,
04021	Patna	20:30	Anand Vihar (T)	14:10	Weekly	Sat On 02.11.2019	
04030	Delhi Jn.	13:45	Muzaffarpur Jn.	13:00	2 Trip	Sat On 02.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04029	Muzaffarpur Jn.	14:15	Delhi Jn.	14:00	2 Trip	Sun On 03.11.2019	
04010	Anand Vihar (T)	23:45	Jogbani	05:20	Weekly	Tue On 05.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04009	Jogbani	09:00	Anand Vihar (T)	16:05	Weekly	Thu on 07.11.2019	
04038	Delhi Jn.	20:50	Chhapra	15:30	Bi-Weekly	Sat, Tue Upto 05.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04037	Chhapra	23:30	Delhi Jn.	18:15	Bi-Weekly	Sun, Wed Upto 06.11.2019	
04098	Anand Vihar (T)	00:30	Gaya Jn.	22:30	02 Trips	Fri On 01.11.2019	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04097	Gaya Jn.	17:15	Anand Vihar (T)	13:00	02 Trips	Sun On 03.11.2019	
04193	Agra Cantt.	10:40	Jammu Tawi	01:25	Weekly	Fri Upto 13.12.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04194	Jammu Tawi	05:30	Agra Cantt.	21:00	Weekly	Sat Upto 14.12.2019	
82107	Mumbai (CSMT) (Suvidha)	14:10	Lucknow	13:15	Weekly	Tue On 05.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
01020	Lucknow (Suvidha)	15:00	Mumbai (CSMT)	17:35	Weekly	Wed On 06.11.2019	
81453	Pune (Suvidha)	21:30	Gorakhpur	08:30	Weekly	Mon On 04.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
01454	Gorakhpur (Suvidha)	10:45	Pune	21:00	Weekly	Wed On 06.11.2019	
04921	Saharanpur	04:45	Ambala Cantt	06:30	Daily	Daily Upto 15.11.2019	General
04922	Ambala Cantt	20:40	Saharanpur	22:40	Daily	Daily Upto 15.11.2019	
05101	Chhapra	16:00	Delhi Jn.	12:40	Weekly	Sun Upto 10.11.2019	General
05102	Delhi Jn.	15:05	Chhapra	10:55	Weekly	Mon Upto 11.11.2019	
04193	Jhansi	07:15	Jammu Tawi	01:25	Weekly	Fri Upto 13.12.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04194	Jammu Tawi	05:30	Jhansi	00:20	Weekly	Sat Upto 14.12.2019	
04111	Kanpur Cental	17:40	Jammu Tawi	13:50	Weekly	Wed Upto 27.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
04112	Jammu Tawi	22:10	Kanpur Cental	18:55	Weekly	Thu Upto 28.11.2019	
03427	Malda Town	09:05	Haridwar	14:05	Weekly	Mon Upto 25.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
03428	Haridwar	15:40	Malda Town	23:30	Weekly	Tue Upto 26.11.2019	

2905	Mumbai Central (Suvidha)	16:00	New Delhi	07:55	Tri-Weekly	Fri, Sun, Tue	On 01.11.2019 & 20.12.2019 to 31.12.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier
9006	New Delhi (Suvidha)	14:50	Mumbai Central	06:55		Sat, Mon, Wed	On 02.11.2019 & 21.12.2019 to 01.01.2020	
4028	New Delhi	10:40	Dwarka	16:10	02 Trips	Mon	On 04.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
4027	Dwarka	20:00	New Delhi	01:45		Tue	On 05.11.2019	
9005	Mumbai Central	16:00	New Delhi	07:55	Tri-Weekly	Sun, Tue	03.11.2019 to 17.12.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier
9006	New Delhi (Special train on special fare)	14:50	Mumbai Central	06:55		Mon, Wed	04.11.2019 to 18.12.2019	
9021	Bandra (T)	05:10	Jammu Tawi	15:30	Weekly	Monday	Upto 30.12.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, AC Chair Car
9022	Jammu Tawi	02:30	Bandra (T)	10:20		Wednesday	Upto 01.01.2020	
32911	Udhana (Suvidha)	23:55	Chhapra	06:15	Weekly	Sunday	Upto 10.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
2912	Chhapra (Suvidha)	07:50	Udhana	13:15		Tuesday	Upto 12.11.2019	
2941	Ahmedabad (Suvidha)	16:10	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	06:50	Weekly	Friday	On 01.11.2019	AC 3 Tier
9414	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	15:50	Ahmedabad	07:00		Saturday	On 02.11.2019	
9413	Ahmedabad Humsafar	16:10	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	06:50	Weekly	Friday	Upto 29.11.2019	AC 3 Tier
9414	Delhi Sarai Rohilla Humsafar	15:50	Ahmedabad	07:00		Saturday	Upto 30.11.2019	
2945	Gandhidham (Suvidha)	17:40	Bhagalpur	20:15	2 Trips	Friday	On 01.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
9452	Bhagalpur (Suvidha)	06:30	Gandhidham	08:00		Monday	On 04.11.2019	
9451	Gandhidham (Suvidha)	17:40	Bhagalpur	20:15	Weekly	Friday	08.11.2019 to 29.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
9452	Bhagalpur (Suvidha)	06:30	Gandhidham	08:00		Monday	11.11.2019 to 02.12.2019	
4092	New Delhi	09:20	Jaynagar	11:15	02 Trips	Fri	On 01.11.2019	Sleeper & General
4091	Jaynagar	15:30	New Delhi	19:30		Sat	On 02.11.2019	
2101	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	23:05	Varanasi	01:30	Weekly	Sunday	On 03.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
2102	Varanasi	08:00	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	08:20		Tuesday	On 05.11.2019	
2109	Pune	00:25	Hazrat Nizamuddin	01:00	Weekly	Tuesday	On 05.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
2110	Hazrat Nizamuddin	04:00	Pune	07:25		Wednesday	On 06.11.2019	
2119	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	05:10	Gorakhpur	12:45	Weekly	Saturday	Upto 09.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, Sleeper & General
2120	Gorakhpur	15:45	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	05:00		Sunday	Upto 10.11.2019	
4093	Jogbani	09:00	Anand Vihar (T)	16:05	Weekly	Saturday	On 02.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
4920	Ferozpur (via Delhi)	16:45	Darbhanga	04:00		Friday	On 01.11.2019	
4919	Darbhanga	15:30	Ferozpur (via Delhi)	04:55	Weekly	Sunday	On 03.11.2019	General
4090	Anand Vihar (T)	12:45	Bhagalpur	10:10		Fri	On 01.11.2019	
4089	Bhagalpur	11:30	Anand Vihar (T)	13:15	02 Trips	Sat	On 02.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
4057	Darbhanga	02:30	New Delhi	00:30		Fri	On 01.11.2019	
2406	New Delhi	10:55	Saharsa	11:30	02 Trips	Fri	On 01.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier & Sleeper
4031	Saharsa	18:00	New Delhi	19:50		Sat	On 02.11.2019	
4085	Saharsa	22:15	Anand Vihar (T)	22:10	01 Trip	Fri	On 01.11.2019	AC 3 Tier & Sleeper
2365	Patna	20:30	Anand Vihar (T)	14:20		Sun, Thu	On 03, 07 & 10.11.2019	
3266	Anand Vihar (T)	18:35	Patna	16:30	08 Trips	Mon, Fri	On 04, 08 & 11.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier & Sleeper
2527	Darbhanga (Suvidha)	21:30	Delhi	22:10		Monday	On 04.11.2019	
2528	Delhi (Suvidha)	00:10	Darbhanga	23:45	02 Trips	Wednesday	On 06.11.2019	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
5531	Saharsa Special	21:35	Delhi	02:00		Tue, Friday	On 05 & 08.11.2019	
5532	Delhi	05:00	Saharsa Special	09:15	By-Weekly	Thu, Sunday	On 07 & 10.11.2019	Sleeper & General
4662	Firozpur Cantt Jn.	01:30	H. Sahib Nanded	13:00		Thursday	Upto 14.11.2019	
4661	H. Sahib Nanded	09:00	Firozpur Cantt Jn.	22:50	Weekly	Saturday	Upto 16.11.2019	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
9809	Kota Jn.	20:20	Hazrat Nizamuddin	03:15		Daily	Upto 30.11.2019	
9810	Hazrat Nizamuddin	05:15	Kota Jn.	13:15	Daily	Daily	Upto 01.12.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
11707	Jabalpur Jn.	08:00	Atari Jn.	11:45		Tuesday	Upto 31.12.2019	
11708	Atari Jn.	14:45	Jabalpur Jn.	17:20	Weekly	Wednesday	Upto 01.01.2020	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
11709	Jabalpur Jn.	06:00	Atari Jn.	11:45		Saturday	Upto 28.12.2019	
11710	Atari Jn.	14:45	Jabalpur Jn.	19:50	Weekly	Sunday	Upto 29.12.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
11701	Jabalpur	15:15	Haridwar Jn.	12:55		Wednesday	Upto 25.12.2019	
11702	Haridwar Jn.	14:45	Jabalpur	12:25	Weekly	Thursday	Upto 26.12.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
4781	Bhatinda Jn.	06:40	Anupgarh	11:55		Daily	Daily	
4782	Anupgarh	12:30	Bhatinda Jn.	17:30				
4783	Bhatinda Jn.	19:00	Suratgarh Jn.	22:00	Daily	Daily	Upto 31.12.2019	Sleeper & General
4784	Suratgarh Jn.	06:20	Bhatinda Jn.	09:30				
2419	Bhubaneswar (Suvidha)	23:55	Anand Vihar (T)	07:00	Weekly	Sunday	upto 10.11.2019	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
2420	Anand Vihar (T) (Suvidha)	12:55	Bhubaneswar	17:45		Tuesday	upto 12.11.2019	
4653	Darbhanga	04:30	Firozpur Cantt.	15:05	1 Trip	Friday	On 01.11.2019	General
2533	Saharsa (Suvidha)	22:15	Anand Vihar (T)	22:10		Monday	On 04.11.2019	
5534	Anand Vihar (T) (Suvidha)	00:20	Saharsa	00:30	2 Trips	Wednesday	On 06.11.2019	AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
2535	Saharsa (Suvidha)	22:15	Anand Vihar (T)	22:10		Thursday	On 07.11.2019	
5536	Anand Vihar (T) (Suvidha)	00:20	Saharsa	00:30	2 Trips	Saturday	Upto 09.11.2019	AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General
9460	Gaya Jn (Suvidha)	12:00	Ahmedabad Jn	02:10		Friday	On 01.11.2019	