



FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

FRAUGHT COURSE

On essential religious practice, SC should have gone case by case — rather than aim for a grand unified theory

A FIVE-JUDGE CONSTITUTION bench has deferred its decision on the review of the 2018 Sabarimala verdict until a larger bench examines a range of broader issues — and thereby led the apex court into uncharted, and potentially turbulent waters. There are technical reasons why reference to a larger seven-judge bench in a review petition is mined with complications. The parameters of review usually permit a narrow reconsideration in case of an error in the verdict or discovery of new evidence. But apprehensions that the majority judgment on Thursday could open up new questions, instead of settling the old, go well beyond technicalities. The court has clubbed together the question of the entry of women of menstruating age into the Sabarimala temple with others — the entry of Muslim women in the dargah/mosque and of Parsi women married to non-Parsis to the holy fireplace of an Agyari, and whether female genital mutilation in the Dawoodi Bohra community constitutes that religion's essential practice. It is possible to argue that each of these questions must be considered on its own ground, in its specificity. Not content with putting together issues that may not belong in the same frame, the court has gone further, casting on the larger bench a responsibility that may not belong to it.

The seven-judge bench has been tasked with finding the balance between the right to freedom of religion and other constitutionally-guaranteed rights, especially the right to equality, defining "essential religious practice" and "constitutional morality". This is a tall order, and not least because in a large and diverse democracy, spelling out judicial doctrines on these matters removes essential ambiguities. It also usurps the space of other players and protagonists, and narrows the room for manoeuvre for them, for the court itself — and eventually, for justice. Of course, constitutional morality has been used to emancipatory effect in past cases by the apex court, not only in striking down the restrictions on women of a certain age in the 2018 Sabarimala decision, but also in another verdict the same year decriminalising homosexuality. In both, the court upheld ideas of freedom and equality and the constitutional promise of a pluralistic and inclusive society, while redressing an injustice, even though its Sabarimala decision was seen by certain sections to rush into grey areas of tradition and its autonomy. Yet in setting itself the task of defining this constitutional morality, the court will now have to go into the question of its limits and boundaries, of its possible clash with religious beliefs and faith and what is essential to them. In the process, it could not only be tying its own hands for the future, but also circumscribing individual freedoms and treading into the clergy's domain.

The court has been inconsistent in applying the essential religious practice doctrine that it evolved in the 1950s. Perhaps that is just as it should be. It may be that the court's push for expanding its remit and for hard clarity on complex questions is misguided and counterproductive. In some cases, it is okay, even just, to keep to the narrow path, take it case by case.

STUDENTS ARE WRONG

Protests against appointment of a Muslim faculty member in Sanskrit department in BHU are regressive and disturbing

IN 2017, THE churn in Banaras Hindu University (BHU) mirrored the conflicts between students and university authorities in institutions of higher education across the country. The protests then were sparked by an alleged incident of eve teasing but soon became about the larger issue of discrimination based on gender, caste and class. Like elsewhere, BHU's students were demanding that the university become a more equal and open space. The BHU was at the forefront of the anti-colonial struggle and the early efforts to build a modern India, and the students were keeping that legacy alive. Over the last week, however, a section of students from the Sanskrit literature department have displayed an attitude that goes against the grain of all BHU has stood for.

Students of the Sanskrit literature department have been protesting the appointment on November 6 of Firoz Khan as an assistant professor. Khan holds a BA, BEd, MA and PhD from Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan in Jaipur and was appointed to the post in line with the University Grant Commission's guidelines. But he cannot teach at the department, according to the protestors, because he is a Muslim. The vice chancellor and other university authorities have said that Khan's appointment cannot be rescinded on the grounds the students are demanding. But what of the students themselves? Sanskrit is not, as they appear to believe, the province of "Aryans", but rather, the means to a rich store of historical and philosophical knowledge that belongs to no single community or religion, but to all. The fact that Sanskrit scholarship in India has widened to a point where people from every community are involved in its study and growth ought to be a matter of pride.

In various periods in India's history, the university has been a contested space. There are now, in India's public universities, a plethora of voices from hitherto marginalised groups that often make the powers-that-be uncomfortable. Students have, by and large, demanded that the university become a more egalitarian space — in terms of representation, access and protocols and practices in hostels. To insist that people from a particular religion not be allowed into a department of one of India's most prestigious universities is a demand to make it a space more regressive than society at large, not less. Hopefully, the students and scholars at the Sanskrit department will soon course correct.

THE LOST SCHOLAR

Vashishtha Narayan Singh's work has applications in varied areas including quantum mechanics

IN THE EARLY 1960s, JOHN L Kelley, the head of the mathematics department of the University of California, was visiting the Patna Science College. He was in the principal's room when a mathematics teacher rushed in with a complaint about a student who was disturbing his class. The youngster's fault was that he had asked difficult questions. Kelley's curiosity was aroused and in the meeting that followed, the student, Vashishtha Narayan Singh, had impressed the American scholar into inviting him to the UCB. There is more than one version of this story. Many stories of Singh's brilliance are apocryphal. However, his 1969 PhD dissertation, "Reproducing Kernels and Operators with Cyclic Vector," is one of the most referred works in the field. But in less than a decade, this brilliant mind was lost to academia. His troubled life came to an end on Thursday.

Born to a family of modest means in Vasantpur village in Bihar's Ara district, Singh acquired a reputation for quizzing his mathematics teachers at school. Patna University decided to bend its rulers when it was felt that the syllabus system was holding the prodigy back. Singh was allowed to appear for the final year BSc examination when he was still in his first year. He topped. The American sojourn followed soon after.

After his PhD, Singh worked at NASA for about three years. His research has applications in areas ranging from computer graphics to quantum mechanics. Singh chose to return to India at the height of his scholastic prowess and worked at the IIT Kanpur, TIFR, Mumbai and the ISI, Kolkata. But his mind had also begun wandering into realms unknown. In 1976, not yet 35, he was diagnosed with schizophrenia. He is known to have scribbled equations in notebooks that admirers would get for him, which would be kept under lock and key. Are there traces of his erudition waiting to be uncovered?



RAJAT KATHURIA AND CHAVI ASRANI

THE EARLY LOGIC of public provision of telecommunications services in India was justified on grounds of market failure and employment creation. Market failure meant the private sector would either not be interested in provision especially in far flung rural areas or monopoly conduct would flourish unchecked in areas it did serve. The widespread distrust of the market and private enterprise obliged the government to supply telecommunications services. And in the absence of a meaningful social security architecture, the department of telecommunications (DoT) along with other public sector enterprises, became employers, not only of "last resort" but also of "first choice". The security of a government job and its associated benefits are enticing even today, even though the economy is vastly different and private enterprise is truly established.

The natural monopoly character of telecommunications has been decidedly undermined by wireless technology. Accordingly, ownership is no longer the best way to achieve multiple government objectives, if ever it was. There is ample evidence from India and the world that suggests government ownership dulls incentives and therefore, development and distributional objectives are better achieved through independent regulation and the law of contract.

The arrival of independent regulation in 1997 in the form of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and private sector participation meant the government could easily vacate this space without hurting its development objectives. To be fair, the government did incorporate BSNL in 2000 to supply services in India except for Delhi and Mumbai, which have been served by the MTNL since 1986. The change formally created a PSU in telecom but functioning, process and culture was largely inherited from the parent department.

Often, the argument is made that in choosing between a private and public sector monopoly, the former would be abusive and extractive while the latter benign. And thus, if ever the sector inched towards monopolisation, either by design (read cartelisation) or market circumstance (read aggressive and disruptive competition), the public sector would provide the much needed countervailing power. One cannot imagine either BSNL or MTNL succumbing to become part of a private sector led cartel, just as one cannot visualise the nature of the competitive threat they would present in case pri-

The revival plan for BSNL and MTNL does not inspire confidence

Worried about the future of the public sector entities, the government has crafted a revival plan, including a merger of BSNL and MTNL. In management jargon, the merger could potentially unlock synergies, but unfortunately there appear none on the telecom horizon. The return on capital employed for the two PSUs has been consistently negative, and manpower costs account for 60 and 80 per cent of their revenues respectively, compared to about 5 per cent for private operators.

vate sector ran amuck.

The beginning did, however, inspire confidence. In the three years following BSNL's incorporation, it became the country's leading telecom operator commanding a market share of about 85 per cent in provisioning of fixed-line services, over 17 per cent in mobile services and 25 per cent in internet services. But, over time, its fundamental weaknesses, overstaffing, lack of market responses and cumbersome procedures have rendered it an also ran. The market share of BSNL has dwindled to about 10 per cent, while MTNL has a market share of about 7 per cent in two of India's most lucrative circles. If preservation of competition is the objective, it is a task best performed by the sector and economy wide competition regulator, and not by artificially supporting a public sector entity. It seems to be a rather extravagant route to maintaining competition.

Another argument made in support of the public sector is service provisioning in remote areas. To BSNL's credit, it did serve areas which private sector did not. But BSNL's rural market share has dwindled from over 25 per cent in 2008 to less than 8 per cent in 2019, while the rural market has been growing. A robust telecom PSU, another argument suggests, could be of strategic value especially in periods of calamities. Once again, it seems a rather expensive route to maintain strategic services when the same could be provided by private players under threat of regulatory injunctions.

How does the public sector survive with market disruptions and technology shocks becoming the norm rather than the exception in telecom? Public sector is at best geared for stasis and the telecom sector is anything but that. Adding to the technology disruptions are policy flip-flops that went from being pro-public sector to either neutral or even hostile. Private entrants had long argued for a level playing field with the public sector, while the latter complained they could not compete with one hand tied behind their back. Both were right from their standpoints, but asymmetric policy in favour of the public sector was hard to maintain. Thus, the public sector was persuaded to pay license fee and for spectrum, just like others did, some of which they did not want. In 2016, the entry of Reliance Jio coincided with intense tariff competition, and subsequently, a sharp fall in interconnection user charges (IUC) affected the entire telecom industry. Public sector operators already bleeding were hit badly.



KHALED AHMED

ON NOVEMBER 9, Prime Minister Imran Khan got together with thousands of Sikh pilgrims to inaugurate the Kartarpur Corridor. Prime Minister Narendra Modi thanked Pakistan for opening up the route to the last resting place of the great Sikh founder-guru, Nanak Dev, in accordance with an agreement reached between the former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and former Indian statesman-PM Atal Behari Vajpayee in 1999. The Sikh yatris were visibly touched as they heard PM Khan speak of the "opening up borders for free movement and trade with India".

Things looked good till the Indian media "revealed" the presence of a group of "Khalistani" agents at Kartarpur. That meant the corridor was actually a conspiracy to undermine India's integrity by luring the Sikhs away. On the Pakistani side, the hounded opposition thought of the "betrayal" of "Kartarpur" after Modi "annexed" Kashmir. But the people at large didn't bite and were happy to receive more pilgrims. Imran Khan covered his head as he paid tributes to Guru Nanak Dev.

The "largest gurudwara in the world" was thought of by Imran Khan and the chief of the Pakistan Army General Qamar Javed Bajwa. The impressive gurudwara came about in 10

CORRIDOR OF CONCILIATION

Kartarpur presents an opportunity for normalisation of India-Pakistan ties

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months because the army took charge of it and built it in record time. If the army is behind the project, is it, therefore, a conspiracy to alienate the Sikhs of Indian Punjab from India?

Or is General interested in "cooling the eastern front" because his challenge from the "western front" is too big for the Pakistan Army to handle? India kills Pakistani troops on a permanent basis on the Line of Control (LoC), but the new development is that Afghanistan too kills Pakistani troops across the wire-fence Pakistan has erected on the challenged Durand Line. The odds on the western front are enormous: The hostile elements include the Taliban (Afghan and Pakistani) backed by al Qaeda which is fully entrenched in Afghanistan, and the Islamic State whose appeal for the Pakhtun youth is increasing.

Pakistan has tried diplomacy against the removal by India of Article 370 from the Constitution. The world has reacted negatively to the abuse of human rights in Kashmir but Pakistan has failed to get the world, including the Islamic world, to condemn the "annexation" of Kashmir by India. What Pakistan has learned is the fact that under the Simla Agreement the world will "not decide" the dispute of Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

Pakistan is under pressure. It is economically handicapped by the stringency of the conditionalities of the IMF and threatened with sanctions from the Forward Action Task Force (FATF), ironically presided over by China whose China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) requires peace in the region and possible participation in the trade route by India with whom China enjoys a two-way trade of \$80 billion. After the exit of the US from Afghanistan, Pakistan faces uncertainty across a border it has failed to control. Is it time for an India-Pakistan "normalisation" that once looked real under Prime Minister Vajpayee?

There was a time when India as a status quo power wanted Pakistan to join talks on bilateral "normalisation". Pakistan stuck to "the precondition of Kashmir" which it now acknowledges is not a realistic policy option. It thought it could compel India to come to the table under pressure from "jihad". But this so-called jihad slumped towards the end of the 1990s and began to hurt Pakistan. The Kartarpur Corridor is the door of opportunity for both countries.

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NOVEMBER 16, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT is expected to free some 40 non-Americans and American women, who are among the hostages in the US embassy in Teheran. The foreign minister, Bani Sadr, said a decision would be taken "very soon". Among the hostages, in addition to 62 Americans, are nationals of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Korea and Italy. They are believed to be employees of the embassy. CBS News reported that Bani-Sadr told its correspondent, Randy Daniels, that "all women and blacks would be freed very soon". Bani Sadr did not say exactly when this would take place, Daniels reported.

BAHUGUNA IN A SPOT THE INITIAL EUPHORIA following H N Bahuguna's decision to join the Congress (I) was somewhat diminished with the Shahi Imam of Jama Masjid refusing to endorse the CFD decision. The Imam, Syed Abdullah Bukhari, was said to be sore that Bahuguna had ignored him and his 15-point programme while discussing the modalities of merger with the Congress (I). Bahuguna had a long meeting with the Imam last night. Since the latter insisted that Mrs Gandhi first give a separate assurance to him on the 15-point programme, the CFD leader postponed his last night's scheduled meeting with the Congress (I) president.

ZIA ON KASHMIR PAKISTAN PRESIDENT GEN Zia-ul-Haq said that Pakistan would hold talks on Kashmir with the Indian government to be formed after the Lok Sabha elections, Radio Pakistan reported. He said in Muzaffarabad in occupied Kashmir that some progress had been achieved towards the normalisation of relations between the two countries, but complete normalisation would be possible only after a solution of the Kashmir issue. Zia said in the past India had agreed to hold talks on a settlement of this issue. Zia spoke of his country's desire for "peace and friendship" with all countries, in particular, with its neighbour.

Education, ours and theirs

BJP has still not realised its ambitions of rewriting history at national level, but in the states, has been more effective in transmitting its version of Indian history to the next generation of learners



CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT AND PRADYUMNA JAIRAM

UNION HOME MINISTER Amit Shah, while speaking at a recent seminar in Banaras Hindu University on the 5th century emperor, Skandagupta, declared: “Putting together our history, embellishing it and rewriting it is the responsibility of the country, its people and historians”, suggesting that there are different ways to write the history of India and that professional historians had not done their job properly so far.

One of the government spheres in which the sangh parivar has always shown interest is the teaching of history, not only because it contributes to defining the national identity, but also because the *parivar* believes the version of the past portrayed by secularists does not reflect reality.

Shortly after Narendra Modi’s rise to power, in August 2014, the RSS formed a committee, the Bharatiya Shiksha Niti Aayog, to “Indianise” the education system. It was headed by Dinanath Batra, who had specialised in rewriting Indian history according to the canons of Hindu nationalism. In 2010, he had filed a civil suit to ban Wendy Doniger’s *The Hindus*, which he felt gave Hinduism a bad image. Batra also pressured the University of Delhi to remove from its syllabus an essay by A K Ramanujan — *Three Hundred Ramayanas* — that contradicted the Hindu nationalist idea that there was a single version of the epic.

At the same time, Batra, long-time general secretary of the sangh parivar’s Vidya Bharati, devoted most of his energy to combating perceived errors in history textbooks written by secular authors. In his 2001 book, *The Enemies of Indianisation: The Children of Marx, Macaulay and Madrasa*, he listed 41 major flaws that reflected the historic tropisms of the Hindu nationalists: First, the idea that the Aryans came from another part of the world in ancient times because the Hindus could only be sons of the soil; second, all the glories attributed to ancient India in its epic poems are an accurate reflection of historical reality; third, the Muslim invasions opened the darkest chapter in Indian history, starting with the destruction of Nalanda University in the 12th century up until the end of the Mughal empire; and fourth, the standard account of the freedom movement ascribes too much importance to Gandhi and Nehru to the detriment of Hindu nationalist heroes. These serious flaws have all been attributed to the secularist or Westernised nature of history textbook authors.

The second point was particularly emphasised by the leading Hindu nationalist historian, Y Sudershan Rao, who was appointed by the Narendra Modi government in summer 2014 to head the Indian Council of Historical Research. Rao views history and mythology as being the same thing and believes that historiographic research should focus on identifying the locations where the “events” described in the epics took place. This mixing up of history and mythology has become common since



C R Sasikumar

2014. The then culture minister Mahesh Sharma said in 2018: “I worship Ramayana and I think it is a historical document.”

The textbooks put out by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), which can be used in schools affiliated with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), have been extensively rewritten. According to *The Indian Express*, between 2014 and 2018 1,334 changes were made to 182 textbooks put out by the NCERT between 2005 and 2009.

However, the scale on which Hindu nationalists are rewriting history can be most clearly gauged at the state government level. Take Rajasthan, where the revision of the history curriculum, and changing of narratives formed an integral part of policy at the highest levels of government. In fact, when the BJP was in power, the education minister, Vasudev Devnani, was quite candid on how he wanted the history textbooks to be rewritten. For him, the focus of teaching should be on imparting nationalism, and he asserted that the textbooks “would remove the chapters on the greatness of Akbar and include the heroics of Maharana Pratap”. This led to a process of regionalising the history of the nation, wherein Pratap would become the central protagonist of the Medieval period. Devnani went a step further when he had the textbooks change the outcome of the Battle of Haldighati, fought between Pratap and Akbar. As the historical record points to a stalemate, the BJP narrative “altered” this, to portray a victory for Pratap, in Devnani’s eyes “fixing an aberration”.

Devnani’s opinions reflected in the textbooks released in 2017. He remarked that the new textbooks would ensure “no more Kanhaiyas are born in the state”, a reference to the former JNUSU president who had been accused of sedition. Thus, nationalism became the cornerstone of the new Rajasthan history textbooks. This was depicted through a hagiographical account of Hindu rulers, which focused on their early lives, territorial exploits, and differences in personal de-

These textbooks revisited the prioritisation of individuals associated with the freedom struggle. In these, the first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, is completely omitted from the Class 8 textbook, while B R Ambedkar, is classified as a ‘Hindu social reformer’, in a bid to sanitise his fight against caste. In fact, the textbooks argue that Ambedkar’s efforts were similar to those of Dayanand Saraswati, Mahatma Gandhi and the RSS founder K B Hedgewar. Ambedkar’s more radical contributions such as the Mahad Satyagraha, or his conversion to Buddhism are omitted altogether.

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Besides, these textbooks revisited the prioritisation of individuals associated with the freedom struggle. For instance, the first prime minister of the nation, Jawaharlal Nehru, has been omitted from the class 8 textbook, while B R Ambedkar is classified as a ‘Hindu social reformer’, in a bid to sanitise his fight against caste. In fact, the textbooks argue that Ambedkar’s efforts were similar to those of Dayanand Saraswati, Mahatma Gandhi and RSS founder KB Hedgewar. Ambedkar’s more radical contributions such as the Mahad Satyagraha, or his conversion to Buddhism are omitted altogether.

Finally, the most celebrated “freedom fighter” is Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, the founder of the Hindutva ideology. He figures in every history textbook from class 8 to 12 as someone “whose contribution to the cause of independence cannot be described in words”. Deified status is further exemplified by describing him as a “great patriot, great revolutionary and great organiser”. The usage of the term “great” is thus once again the monopoly of certain protagonists in the BJP textbooks.

Thus, for the BJP, the teaching of history is linked to the prioritisation of certain communities and individuals in order to foster a particular spirit of nationalism among school students. While Batra has still not yet realised his ambitions at the national level, in the states, the party has been most effective in transmitting its version of Indian history to the next generation of learners.

Will the Congress government re-rewrite the history textbooks of Rajasthan, or is the Hindu nationalist version bound to prevail? And if one more version of India’s history is produced, in the context of the political narrative in India today, will it have any impact on the next generation of learners?

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WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“Over and over, the Republican members of the House Intelligence Committee attempted to cast the hearings as a sham, a Democratic plot to remove the president.” — THE NEW YORK TIMES

Separated at the seam

Ayodhya verdict offers justice for some, but not fairness for all



SHAH ALAM KHAN

I WAS A 22-year-old medical student when a group of thugs climbed the dome of the Babri masjid in Ayodhya and reduced it to a grey pile of rubble on December 6, 1992. Having been brought up in a liberal democracy, I was devastated at this blatant brutality and violation of the Constitution, and that too with the tacit collusion of the state. It was painful, probably because it happened in an India which believed in the virtues of liberty, secularism and pluralism.

As we ascended in our national quest to achieve the goals of neo-liberal economics, India evolved. And we lost ourselves to more trysts with bigger brutalities and even bigger national tragedies which claimed our consciousness. We became aloof to the sufferings of the poor, the marginalised, the underprivileged and minorities. We kept on erecting more and more tombstones in the cemetery of that liberal democracy, which we had decided to once nurture when we became independent in 1947. In evolutionary terms, we did lose our tails, but in the bargain we developed fangs full of poison for the deprived masses of the land.

On November 9, a closure happened for one of the tragedies which had marred our consciousness. The Ayodhya verdict, given by a bench of five judges of the Supreme Court including the Chief Justice of India, hopefully, brought an end to this long-standing dispute. The unanimous verdict pronounced that the disputed land in Ayodhya will go to a government-monitored Trust to build a temple, and the Muslims will get a separate five-acre piece of land in the city at some “prominent” site. Although it is still in its early days, the verdict is being hailed as prudent and practical. There is little resistance and mention of the fact that the verdict, in a way, has vindicated the brutality which was unleashed on the disputed structure in 1992. If, in 1992, there were whispers of correcting the wrongs of the past, in 2019 there are rumblings that the past stands corrected.

The India in which I grew up was, by and large, ashamed and felt guilty of doing what it did to the Babri masjid in 1992. Having said that, even at that time a fringe celebrated the demolition of the mosque. However, though that fringe had political faces and common men as supporters, they

did not get the kind of acceptance they had wished for. There were momentary political gains for many, but there was a general resistance to the idea of hatred. In 2019, that fringe has taken centre-stage. They now rule our consciousness. They decide what is wrong and, more importantly, what is not. Hatred is acceptable. The evolution from demolishing century-old structures to breaking human skulls is complete. Lynching of fellow citizens, bail to proven thugs like Babu Bajrang and Maya Kodnani, detention of human rights activists, demands for awarding the killers of Gandhi, bail for the killers of Dalits in Khairlanji — we have definitely come a long way. The tortuous route that the republic has taken to arrive at where we rest today is exceptionally unique. In a way, it is our tryst with destiny, as claimed by Nehru in the famous midnight speech. It is never easy to defeat destiny.

As a common Indian, I am happy that the Supreme Court judgment has brought closure to a long-standing dispute which vitiated the atmosphere of the country for so long. But, as a liberal in a democracy and citizen of the broader world, the ache of the judgement’s arbitrariness is like a thorn in my heart. The idea of justice is based on the perception of fairness. John Rawls, in his seminal work, *A Theory of Justice*, said that all people have a claim to as much freedom as is consistent with everyone else having an equal level of freedom. This is an important concept towards understanding both justice and freedom. According to him, freedom and equality can be integrated and, thus, justice can be presented as fairness. With this verdict of the Supreme Court, I am not sure if justice can be outlined as per Rawls’s definition. Justice and fairness seem to be separated at the seam in this case. This open seam, like an open vein, can bleed a society white. Justice as fairness for just a few, can erode societal norms.

We should respect the judgment of the Supreme Court without trying to fit it into the landscape of justice and fairness as explained by Rawls. It is a closure of something perniciously erosive to the idea of India, the idea to which we all owe our allegiance. To be honest, our worry lies not in this verdict, but the verdicts which can come in the future. It is not a time to celebrate or mourn this judgment. It is a time to be alert to the idea of justice, to the idea of inclusion, to the idea of democracy and, most importantly, to the idea of peace. In the words of the Dutch philosopher Baruch Spinoza, peace is not the absence of war, it is the presence of justice.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ABOUT DEMOCRACY

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘A verdict, a test’ (IE, November 15). I want to ask a question — what is the writer’s criteria for being a nationalist? He holds that those who did not predict that the BJP would win the general elections and did not support the party do not qualify as nationalists. Can questioning the government and not supporting the popular opinion in a country be reason enough for being called anti-national? Have we become so intolerant that anyone who questions the government is said to be acting against the nation? If only the BJP and its allies are nationalists, what is the purpose contesting elections? We need to keep the importance of dissent in view in re-examining the idea of Bharat.

Chinmay Jain, Delhi

BUDGETS, SECURITY

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Beyond the mandate’, (IE, November 15). The idea of a separate mechanism for funding defence and internal security definitely deserves wider consultation and the Finance Commission must have a say on this subject. A dedicated corpus for defence procurement and police modernisation will ensure that the security is not subjected to the annual budget cycle. A dedicated stream to fund defence and internal security would also distribute the financial burden evenly across a period of time.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata

A DEAD HORSE

THIS REFERS TO the report, ‘SC rejects Rafale plea’ (IE, November 15). It is evident that Rafale has boomeranged on the Congress. The party should now refrain from flogging a dead horse. The party has plethora of issues to criticise the government. The economy in dire straits, there is acute joblessness and the environment is worsening. The country’s major opposition party needs to ask the government if it has

LETTER OF THE WEEK

NO ECONOMISTS

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Experts, dissent and the economy’ (IE, November 8). There are two basic problems in implementing author’s suggestions. In today’s world there are no economists who have the requisite expertise but are politically and ideologically neutral. The second problem is, economists are expert in devising various solutions after the horse has bolted away. No economist worth his salt had predicted the 2008 meltdown. Lastly, economists are never known to give practical and precise advice. Their craft lies in beating around the bush while sounding profound.

HN Bhagwat, Chiplun

delivered on any of its promises. Post Ayodhya verdict, the BJP’s jingoism should ebb as the common man is feeling suffocated with the overdose of nationalism.

Deepak Singhal, Chennai

LESSON FOR BJP

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Winning and losing’ (IE, November 13). The Maharashtra and Haryana assembly election results signal that no party can claim a permanent place in the states. Unemployment problem is a burning issue in every state. The government’s failure to curb this problem has reflected on the BJP’s reduced numbers in the two states. This has given an impetus to parties like the Shiv Sena to break away from the NDA fold. There is a lesson for the BJP to manage its relationship with the allies.

Dilip Kumar Dutta, Midnapore



GAURAV BHATIA

SC as unifier-in-chief

Supreme Court’s Ayodhya verdict has strengthened democracy

ON NOVEMBER 9, the Supreme Court delivered a historic verdict on the Ram Mandir issue, which was under litigation for more than seven decades. Finally, the judgment put to rest the competing claims of two opposing sides — for the construction of a Ram temple and the rebuilding of the Babri masjid respectively.

It is a unique judgment for the manner in which it has been authored and delivered. The 1045-page judgement, and its addendum, does not mention the name of the author of the judgement — it has been signed by all the five judges. The regular practice of the Supreme Court is that every judgement — whether majority, concurring or dissenting — carries the name of the author. The verdict was pronounced on a Saturday, which is again unusual as it was not a regular working day. And, the judgement becomes more efficacious, since it is a unanimous one by all the five judges constituting the bench.

The Supreme Court while deciding this contentious issue strictly went by the evidence placed on record, the testimony of witnesses, the ASI report and travelogues. The judgement makes it clear that all faiths and religions are to be respected equally.

To the credit of the bench, the judges always patiently heard both sides, maintained rectitude to uphold the dignity of the Court, even when there were multiple occasions when the counsels for the Sunni Waqf Board

made scurrilous remarks, and tried to browbeat it.

The Supreme Court firmly rejected the prayer of the Sunni Waqf Board opposing the its five-day a week hearing plan. It also decided to exercise restraint for the larger public good when a lawyer, acting unprofessionally, tore a map handed over by the counsel for the Hindu side. During the course of the hearing, in December 2017, a request was made to the Supreme Court to defer the matter till the completion of the 2019 Lok Sabha election. Senior lawyers even went to the extent of threatening to walk out of the Court room, if their prayers were not accepted: This was completely blasphemous and against the traditions of the Supreme Court. However, the Court showed exemplary restraint here too.

Eventually, the Supreme Court, on the basis of clear evidence held that, “the worship by the Hindus in the outer courtyard continued unimpeded” and “their (Hindus) possession of the outer courtyard stands established together with the incidents attaching to their control over it.”

As regards to the inner courtyard, the Court stated that, “there is evidence on a preponderance of probabilities to establish worship by the Hindus prior to the annexation of Oudh by the British in 1857.” It was also recorded by the Court that “The Muslim side offered no evidence to indicate that they were in exclusive possession of the inner

structure prior to 1857 since the date of the construction in the sixteenth century.”

The Court set aside the Allahabad High Court judgement and held that “Three-way bifurcation by the High court was legally unsustainable. Even as a matter of maintaining public peace and tranquillity, the solution which commended itself to the High Court is not feasible. The disputed site measures all of 1500 square yards.”

The Court noted that, “dividing the land will not subvert the interest of either of the parties or secure a lasting sense of peace and tranquillity.”

It is evident that in the present case justice was clearly delayed, if not completely denied. The real delay was caused at the trial stage, as litigation which was going on since 1950 was finally adjudicated by the Allahabad high court on September 30, 2010. Whereas, in a relatively shorter span of nine years, the Supreme Court was able to deliver this historic verdict.

The main reason why it took the Supreme Court nine years to finally decide the matter, has more to do with the procedural aspects — like the completion of pleadings and translation than the lack of will on part of the Supreme Court to finally decide on it. What added to the delay was the lackadaisical approach of the earlier state governments of Uttar Pradesh in assisting the Supreme Court registry in getting approximately 14,000 pages translated

in time. These relevant pages were translated within a short span of five months by the newly elected government led by the present chief minister, Yogi Adityanath. As a result, the matter was decided expeditiously.

Significantly, in the interest of justice, the Supreme Court also directed that a suitable plot of land measuring five acres be handed over to the Sunni Waqf Board, either by the Central government or the state government. The Nirmohi Akhara was also granted appropriate representation in the Trust/body to be formed by the Central government.

Finally, it augurs well for our democracy that both sides had the patience to wait for decades for this historic verdict. All parties exercising patience displayed that unity in diversity is the inherent strength of our democracy.

It is important that in a democracy governed by the rule of law, every action undertaken by a citizen or a community has valid legal sanctity. This judgment ensures that the construction of a temple at Ayodhya will also have complete legal sanction. It will be apt to say that the Supreme Court, with one stroke of the pen, has strengthened the democratic fabric of our country. It has played the decisive role of “Unifier-in-Chief”.

The writer is senior advocate, Supreme Court of India, and national spokesperson, BJP

TOP OF THE WORLD



Roger Stone

US
Poll interference probe: Stone found guilty

Washington: Roger J Stone Jr, a former aide and long-time friend of President Trump, was found guilty on Friday of obstructing a congressional probe into Russia's interference in the 2016 election. Stone, 67, was charged with lying to the House Intelligence Committee, trying to block the testimony of another potential witness and concealing reams of evidence. Prosecutors claimed he tried to thwart the committee's work because the truth would have "looked terrible" for both the president and his campaign.

BOLIVIA
Morales calls for United Nations' mediation

Mexico City: Bolivia's Evo Morales on Friday called for the United Nations, and possibly Pope Francis, to mediate in the nation's crisis following his ouster as president in what he called a coup d'etat that forced him into exile in Mexico. In an interview with *The Associated Press* in Mexico City, Morales claimed he is in fact still president of Bolivia since the country's Legislative Assembly has not yet accepted his resignation, which he presented Sunday. "If they haven't accepted or rejected (his resignation), I can say I am still president," he said.

TURKEY
Govt detains four mayors on terror charges

Ankara: Turkey's state-run news agency says police have detained four mayors over their suspected links to Kurdish rebels, as part of an ongoing crackdown on the country's pro-Kurdish party. Anadolu Agency said the mayors of the towns of Savur, Derik and Mazidagi in Mardin province and the town of Suruc in Sanliurfa province were detained along with some 20 municipality officials on Friday. The mayors were elected into office in March.

RUSSIA
Broadcaster accuses FB of censorship

Moscow: The chief of Russian state-funded broadcaster RT on Friday said Facebook was deliberately blocking posts from its documentary channel, accusing the social media giant of "censorship". "They have been limiting the audience for our documentaries for over a month on Facebook," Margarita Simonyan wrote on her Telegram social networking account. "Nobody can see the posts." "Our guys have asked the moderators what they did wrong, but Zuckerberg's moderators are silent," Simonyan wrote of Mark Zuckerberg.

INTIMIDATION, SAY IMPEACHMENT PANEL MEMBERS

Ex-envoy witness says feel threatened by Trump, he attacks her on Twitter

Shocked, appalled, devastated: Marie Yovanovitch on transcript of Ukraine call

MICHAEL D SHEAR, PETER BAKER & CHARLIE SAVAGE
WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 15

PRESIDENT TRUMP on Friday denigrated Marie L Yovanovitch, the former United States ambassador to Ukraine, even as she testified in the impeachment inquiry about how she felt threatened by Trump, leading Democrats to accuse him of trying to intimidate a witness in real time.

"Everywhere Marie Yovanovitch went turned bad. She started off in Somalia, how did that go?" Trump wrote, as-sailing her on Twitter to his 66 million followers and adding that "It is a US President's absolute right to appoint ambassadors."

The president's insults came as Yovanovitch told the House Intelligence Committee in powerful and personal terms of the devastation and fear she felt earlier this year, as she was targeted first by Mr. Trump's allies and later by the president himself during a phone call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine. Democrats said Trump's onslaught amounted to an attempt to threaten Yovanovitch, who is still a State Department employee, and



Marie Yovanovitch arrives to testify before Congress, Friday. NYT

EXPLAINED
Another potential charge for panel

THE VIEW that Trump's tweets denigrating Yovanovitch amount to witness intimidation could provide another charge for the House panel to pursue impeachment. Earlier, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi had also suggested that bribery could be another charge against Trump. However, a Republican lawmaker has dismissed the charge, saying that the envoy would not have known about Trump's tweets had they not been read out during the session, and thus, they cannot be seen as an intimidation attempt.

other potential witnesses against cooperating with the inquiry, a tactic that they said could itself be impeachable. Removed from her post as ambassador to Ukraine, NYT

Yovanovitch said she was bereft when she came under fire in the spring from Rudolph W Giuliani, the president's personal lawyer, and his eldest son, but even more stunned in September when she learned that Trump himself had told another foreign leader that she was "bad news" in his now-famous July 25 phone call with Ukraine's president, and said she would "go through some things."

Representative Adam B Schiff, Democrat of California and the chairman of the Intelligence Committee, interrupted Yovanovitch to read the president's tweet and ask her what she thought. A tight smile on her face, she appeared momentarily uncertain how to respond.

"It's very intimidating," she said. She then paused, searching for words. "I can't speak to what the president is trying to do, but the effect is to be intimidating." Schiff responded in a stern tone that, "Some of us here take witness intimidationp very, very seriously."

Representative Jim Himes, Democrat of Connecticut and a member of the Intelligence Committee, said that Trump's attacks on Yovanovitch amounted to "clear witness tampering" that could be cited in an article of impeachment. NYT

TRUMP ASKS SC TO BAR RELEASE OF HIS TAX RETURNS

President Trump has asked the Supreme Court to bar his accounting firm from turning over eight years of his tax returns to prosecutors, in what could yield a major ruling on the limits of presidential immunity

Jay Sekulow, a lawyer for Trump, said a federal appeals court had committed a grave legal error in allowing the accounting firm to provide the tax records

Trump's lawyers argued that he was immune from all criminal proceedings and investigations so long as he remained in office

Even if some federal probes may be proper, the petition said, the SC should rule that state and local prosecutors may not seek information about a sitting president

Iran not calling for elimination of Jews, says Khamenei

REUTERS
DUBAI, NOVEMBER 15

IRAN IS not calling for the elimination of the Jewish people, but believes people of all religions should decide Israel's future, Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Friday.

"Calling for the elimination of the state of Israel does not mean the elimination of the Jewish people," Khamenei told officials and participants at an Islamic conference in Tehran, according to his official website. "It means that the people of Palestine — be they Muslim, Christian or Jewish — should choose their own government." Khamenei, the ultimate authority on Iranian domestic and foreign policy, criticised Western powers for pressuring Tehran over its nuclear programme.

PROTESTS RESURGE IN IRAQ

Iraqi demonstrators try to pull down a concrete wall during ongoing anti-government protests in Baghdad. Iraqi medical and security officials say one protester was killed and over 40 were wounded in overnight clashes. Reuters

CHINA SAYS BRITAIN FUELLING PROTESTS

Hong Kong foreign secretary 'attacked' in London

AGENCIES
HONG KONG, NOVEMBER 15

THE CHINESE and Hong Kong governments condemned on Friday an attack by a "violent mob" on the city's justice secretary in London, the first direct altercation between demonstrators and a government minister during months of often violent protests.

Secretary for Justice Teresa Cheng, who was in London to



Protesters with bows in Hong Kong on Friday. Reuters

promote Hong Kong as a dispute resolution and deal-making hub, was targeted by a group of protesters who shouted "murderer" and "shameful".

A statement by the Hong Kong government said Cheng suffered "serious bodily harm" but gave no details. The Chinese embassy in the UK said Cheng was pushed to the ground and sustained a hand injury.

"If the British side does not change its wrong practices, and continues to add fuel to the fire,

sow discord and instigate others, and make false countercharges, then it will bring calamity on itself," foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said at a regular press briefing.

In a separate statement, the Hong Kong government said, "The secretary denounces all forms of violence and radicalism depriving others' legitimate rights in the pretext of pursuing their political ideals, which would never be in the interest of Hong Kong and any civilised society."

ONLY ONE CONDITION: THEY MUST NO LONGER LIVE WITH THEIR ATTACKER

In Brazil, dentists give victims of domestic abuse a new life

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
RIO DE JANEIRO, NOVEMBER 15

ANA CLAUDIA Rocha Ferreira suffered domestic abuse at the hands of multiple partners, dating back to when she was just 15 years old. The violence took a mental and physical toll.

"I only had four teeth left in the front. I was ashamed to go out," she explains.

Rocha is one of millions of women who are victimized by their partners in Brazil. In nearly all of the cases, men target the women's faces and teeth, in order to diminish their femininity and feelings of self-worth.



Women hold pictures of victims of domestic abuse. Reuters/Ifle

Rocha was one of the lucky ones. She got new confidence — and a new smile — thanks to Rio de Janeiro dentist Armando Piva,

who is part of a non-governmental network of volunteers rebuilding the teeth, and the lives, of battered women.

Rocha says the dental work was like a "dream" and changed her life. But before her brilliant white grin — emphasized by bright red lipstick — was restored, Rocha went through some grim times.

"The assaults began when I was just 15 years old, and I was pregnant with my first daughter," explains the young black woman, who works at a graphic design firm — and already has four grandchildren at age 39.

"He started punching me. I left him. But afterward, the fa-

ther of my second daughter also started hitting me. My teeth fell out one after another," she recalls.

Rocha, who lives in a slum in Rio's vast Sao Cristovao area, says that in the favelas, "men say they like to beat up their woman so no one else wants her. They leave their mark on her face." She didn't leave her second abusive partner because she didn't have the money to do so. She also couldn't go home to her mother, who kicked her out at a young age.

Her mom's history was similar — she was beaten all of her life and did not have one tooth left, Rocha recounts.

IN COLD NUMBERS

11 MILLION

The number of Syrians — over half the country's estimated population — in need of humanitarian aid, as per the UN humanitarian chief. He said the UN and other groups are reaching an average of 5.6 million people a month

SRI LANKA VOTES TODAY

On eve of polls, the mood among key minority groups: 'Promises not kept'



ARUN JANARDHANAN
NOVEMBER 15

AS OVER 15 million Sri Lankans are set to vote for the new President on Saturday, by picking one of 35 candidates from the longest-ever ballot paper, the decision of the country's minority Tamils will be crucial. The Tamil communities and other minority groups had a significant role to play in the 2015 poll victory of Maithripala Sirisena against the incumbent Rajapaksa regime, leading to questions about where their votes will go this time.

According to about a dozen Tamil voters who spoke to *The Indian Express* on the eve of polling, the situation has changed in the last five years of the Sirisena regime. There is voter unhappiness against the Tamil National Alliance (TNA), a party that represents Tamils, and there have been calls to boycott elections.

While a majority of Sinhalese voters had favoured Rajapaksa in the 2015 elections, a major factor that contributed to his defeat was the massive support of minorities for Sirisena. While the Gotabaya Rajapaksa camp is confident of retaining 47.6 per cent of the Sinhala Buddhist votes that they received in 2015, many are unsure of the level of support that ruling United National Party (UNP) candidate Sajith Premadasa will receive.

M A Sumanthiran, TNA

Teen opens fire in California high school, killing two students

NEW YORK TIMES
SANTA CLARITA, NOVEMBER 15

FRANTIC PARENTS texted with teenagers barricaded in classrooms. Others offered shelter to students fleeing their high school in this sleepy suburb north of Los Angeles on Thursday. It was the latest example of a wrenching sequence that has become a recurring nightmare for families in America.

This time it was a little after 7.30 am when a young man opened fire at Saugus High School in Santa Clarita, killing two students and wounding three others before turning the gun on himself, authorities said.

The 16-year-old suspect was said to be in grave condition after shooting himself in the head. Law enforcement officials said that he was a student at Saugus High School, and that Thursday was his birthday. The students who died were a 16-year-old girl and a 14-year-old boy; the other victims were identified as a 14-year-old girl, a 15-year-old girl



Gotabaya Rajapaksa (right) at a Tamil temple

spokesperson and parliamentarian, said the promises made by President Sirisena and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe had not been fulfilled.

When asked about the mood in northern Sri Lanka, a war-ravaged region, Sumanthiran said the TNA supported Sajith. "There is enthusiasm among voters. But I am not sure if the same mood of Tamils in 2015 exists still. One Tamil party has boycotted the election. I admit people are not satisfied with TNA, even though they are aware of certain things we have managed to do for them. And the wounds haven't started healing yet," he said.

Former parliamentarian M K Sivajilingam, one of the presidential candidates, claimed Tamil people will not prioritise Sajith or Gotabaya. "And definitely Sajith will get more votes in the north. If Eastern province will favour Gotabaya, northern province together will give no upper hand for Sajith unlike last time," he said.

"Those who won that election are seen at the home of the same Rajapaksa now. Rajapaksa bagged maximum Sinhalese votes and still got defeated due to the wrath of minorities," he added.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

MAJOR SHOOTINGS

APRIL 16, 2007

A gunman slaughters 32 people and kills himself at Virginia Tech, a university in Blacksburg

DECEMBER 14, 2012

A man shoots his mother, then kills 20 children and six adults before killing himself at Sandy Hook school in Connecticut

FEBRUARY 14, 2018

A former student at a school in Florida, opens fire with a rifle, killing 17 students and educators

and a 14-year-old boy. Little is known about a motive or the suspect, whom police declined to name because he is a minor. Medical staff had transferred him to a hospital before police determined he was the suspect and not a victim.

With giant hoop earrings swinging from her ears, and drawing attention to her face, she says she is very happy: "Never again will I accept being hit."

Piva says that more than 1,000 women have received treatment so far. The attackers' wish is to destroy the woman's desire to smile. And we see that the majority of these women have lost more than half of their upper teeth."

Thais de Azevedo, a 70-year-old transgender woman who received implants two years ago, says, "You have no idea what it's like to live without teeth." When I got my new teeth, it was amazing just to eat an apple."

GOLD

₹38,875

RUPEE

71.78

OIL

\$62.80

SILVER

₹45,375

*Indian basket as on November 14, 2019

SECTION 227 OF INSOLVENCY & BANKRUPTCY CODE NOTIFIED

Resolution of financial service providers via NCLT mechanism under IBC gets go ahead

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE CENTRAL government has paved the way for resolution of financial service providers (FSPs) through the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) mechanism under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). The Ministry of Corporate Affairs, on Friday, notified Section 227 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency and Liquidation Proceedings of Financial Service Providers and Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2019 to provide “a generic framework for insolvency and liquidation proceedings of systemically important FSPs other than banks”.

As a result of this move, resolution process of some non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), including DHFL, is expected to gather pace. As of now, the resolution process of DHFL has been stalled due to differences among various creditors such as banks,

EXPLAINED
E. Relief for lenders of NBFCs hit by liquidity crunch

LENDERS DID not have the option of taking a financial service provider for insolvency proceedings to the NCLT under the IBC so far. With the government on Friday notifying the Section 227 of the Code, however, a “generic framework” has now been provided for insolvency and liquidation proceedings of FSPs other than banks.

With the financial sector reeling under a liquidity crisis for several months now, Friday’s move is expected to bring some relief to banks as liquidation of heavily-stressed NBFCs can now be initiated.

bondholders and mutual funds.

Under Section 227 of the IBC, the government can notify FSPs or categories of FSPs for the purpose of insolvency and liquidation proceedings. A statement issued by the government said that the rules will apply to “such FSPs or categories of FSPs, that are notified by the central government under

Section 227 from time to time in consultation with appropriate regulators, for the purpose of their insolvency and liquidation proceedings.”

The note, however, said that the special framework provided under Section 227 of the Code for FSPs will serve as an interim mechanism to deal with any exi-

gency, pending introduction of a full-fledged enactment to deal with financial resolution of banks and other systemically important FSPs. “The special framework under Section 227 of IBC shall not apply to banks,” said the statement.

Last week, *The Indian Express* reported that the government is set to notify regulation under Section 227 of IBC, in a bid to start resolution of FSPs through NCLT mechanism under the Code. Till date, no financial institution could be taken for resolution to the NCLT under the IBC. However, with the rules under Section 227 of the Code now getting notified, the existing consortium of lenders and the existing resolution professional can take the FSP or the NBFC to the NCLT for resolution.

Sources say that once banks take an FSP for resolution to NCLT, cases filed by separate creditors against the debtor company will stand nullified, thereby, paving the way for faster resolution.

Section 227 of IBC states, “Notwithstanding anything to the

contrary examined in this Code or any other law for the time being in force, the Central government may, if it considers necessary, in consultation with the appropriate financial sector regulators, notify financial service providers or categories of financial service providers for the purpose of their insolvency and liquidation proceedings, which may be conducted under this Code, in such manner as may be prescribed.”

Dewan Housing Finance Corporation (DHFL) — with loan outstanding of around Rs 78,000 crore (as per the debt resolution plan in July 2019) — has been facing liquidity pressure since the IL&FS crisis hit the NBFC sector in September last year. A series of debt defaults by IL&FS had spiralled into a broader liquidity crisis for the markets, putting pressure on several NBFCs. DHFL has been facing severe liquidity issues since September last. Facing stress to honour its debt repayments, it started raising funds and also selling its subsidiaries.

Essar Steel takeover: ArcelorMittal gets Supreme Court nod

AASHISH ARYAN
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

AFTER A lengthy litigation process that lasted 835 days, the Supreme Court on Friday gave the final approval to ArcelorMittal’s plan for Essar Steel India. In doing so, the apex court also set aside the July 4 judgment of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), which redistributed the funds from ArcelorMittal nearly equally between the financial and operational creditors.

“The NCLAT judgment which substitutes its wisdom for the commercial wisdom of the Committee of Creditors and which also directs the admission of a number of claims which was done by the resolution applicant, without prejudice to its right to appeal against the aforesaid judgment, must therefore be set aside” a three-judge Bench headed by Justice Rohinton Nariman stated.

The corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP) of Essar Steel shall now proceed in terms of the resolution plan submitted by ArcelorMittal, wherein the latter had proposed to pay Rs 42,000 crore to all creditors of the corporate debtor, the three-judge bench said in its 168-page judgment.

Reiterating the importance of the Committee of Creditors (CoC), the apex court said that neither the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), nor the NCLAT “has been endowed with the jurisdiction to reverse the commercial wisdom of the dissenting financial creditors and that too on the specious ground that it is only an opinion of the minority financial creditors”. The SC judgment is likely to come as a major relief for banks and other secured financial creditors who were vehemently opposed to the NCLAT’s decision

SC SETS ASIDE NCLAT JUDGMENT

■ The Supreme court set aside the July 4 judgment of the NCLAT, which redistributed the funds from ArcelorMittal nearly equally between the financial and operational creditors

of “equality for all” approach.

In their pleadings before the SC, the banks had said that if the courts indeed accepted the “equality for all” approach, the banks would “be incentivised to vote for liquidation rather than resolution, as they would have better rights if the corporate debtor was to be liquidated rather than a resolution plan being approved”.

The NCLAT had, in a judgment on July 4, held that though it was approving the resolution plan submitted by ArcelorMittal, the distribution of funds as envisaged by the resolution applicant was faulty and thus, needed to be changed. It had then said that of the Rs 420,00 crore, the financial creditors would get around Rs 30,030 crore, while the operational creditors would get around Rs 12,000 crore.

Following the judgment, Essar Steel — which had so far put up a spirited fight against ArcelorMittal’s plans to enter India — issued a statement welcoming the latter into the country. “We wish ArcelorMittal and Nippon Steel the very best on their entry into the Indian market. They are acquiring a world-class facility in a market that has a long runway for growth” a spokesperson for the company said.

SC finds ex-Ranbaxy promoters ‘guilty of committing contempt’

PRABHARAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE SUPREME Court Friday found former Ranbaxy promoters Malvinder Singh and Shivinder Singh “guilty of committing contempt” in a case filed by Daiichi Sankyo to block them from selling stake in Fortis Healthcare, a company previously controlled by them. It gave the Singh brothers “one chance” to purge themselves by depositing with the court Rs 1,170.95 crore each within eight weeks, in which case it “may consider dealing with them in a lenient manner” while imposing a sentence.

The verdict deals another blow to the brothers, who have already been arrested over allegations of corporate fraud and are still embroiled in a Rs 3,600-crore arbitration enforcement case by Daiichi in the Delhi High Court.

It also adds to the ongoing woes of minority shareholders in Fortis and Malaysian healthcare group IHH Bhd, which has been unable to initiate an offer for additional stake in the hospital group after its initial acquisition. This is because the apex court has, on its own, initiated a contempt case against Fortis and several others, blocking any open offers in the

The court has also initiated a contempt case against Fortis Healthcare, potentially blocking IHH from completing its takeover of the hospital chain

company until February 3.

According to the apex court, the Singh brothers and directors of Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd as well as Indiabulls Ventures Ltd “knowingly and wilfully” violated or disobeyed orders passed between August 11, 2017 and February 23, 2018. The orders involved directions to maintain the status of the pledged and unencumbered shares in Fortis.

Fortis, along with the Singhs and companies controlled by them, had also “wilfully violated” the court’s order in December 2018 that ordered that “status quo” with regard to the sale of controlling stake in the hospital chain to IHH be maintained. “... Issue notice to them returnable for 03.02.2020 asking them to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt,” stated the SC in its order on Friday.

SC decision will lead to faster NPA resolution: SBI Chairman

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

STATE BANK of India (SBI) Chairman Rajnish Kumar said Friday the Supreme Court judgment on Essar Steel India will lead to faster resolution of stressed assets with the Committee of Creditors (CoC) getting the “ultimate discretion” on distribution of funds.

“This much awaited judgment also settles numerous points of law under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) which were tested in various courts. This should significantly reduce the scope for long drawn litigations under IBC and would eventually lead to faster resolutions of stressed assets,” Kumar said.

“The Supreme Court has upheld that the ultimate discretion on distribution of funds is with the CoC. It has held that secured and unsecured financial creditors are differentiated when it comes to amounts to be paid under a resolution plan, together with what dissenting secured or unsecured financial creditors are to be paid.

“It has been held that the CoC can distribute amongst the secured financial creditors as per their commercial wisdom as CoC is not restricted from classifying creditors as financial, operational, secured or unsecured,” he added. The apex court decision is expected to result in faster distribution of funds among lenders.

On Friday, the apex court gave nod to ArcelorMittal’s resolution plan for Essar Steel. Though the ArcelorMittal takeover of Essar Steel was decided several months ago, the repayment to lenders was held up as distribution of funds among various classes of lenders was challenged in the SC.

It demanded the presence of the Singhs, firms controlled by them, directors of Indiabulls and Fortis in court on February 3.

Indiabulls has also been given the opportunity to purge itself for possible leniency in sentencing by depositing within the same eight-week period the value of 12.25 lakh shares held in Fortis as on August 31, 2017. The total value of these shares is “approximately” Rs 17-18 crore, an Indiabulls spokesperson told *The Indian Express*. “In compliance of and out of respect for the orders of the honourable court, we are immediately depositing the said amount,” the spokesperson added. IHH is waiting for the written judgment from the SC before taking a decision. “Thereafter, the group will consult with its advisors on its next course of action,” the company told *The Indian Express* in an email.

It had infused over Rs 4,000 crore for 31.1 per cent stake in Fortis last year, but was unable to initiate an open offer for an additional 26 per cent as the SC had stalled the process. Emails to RHC Holding Pvt Ltd, controlled by the Singhs, as well as separate holding firms of the brothers, remained unanswered by press time Friday. Queries to Fortis Healthcare also did not elicit a response.

Insolvency regime for personal guarantors to corp debtors from Dec 1

New Delhi: The insolvency regime for individual guarantors to corporate debtors will be in force from December 1, according to the Centre. The provisions for resolution for individuals under the IBC is being implemented in a phased manner.

On Friday, the Corporate Affairs Ministry said the provision pertaining to personal guarantors to corporate debtors would come into force from December 1. The Code provides for a market-driven and time-bound resolution for stressed assets.

A case is taken up for resolution under the law only after approval from the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

In October, Corporate Affairs Secretary Injeti Srinivas said personal insolvency regime would be fully operational in one year. PTI

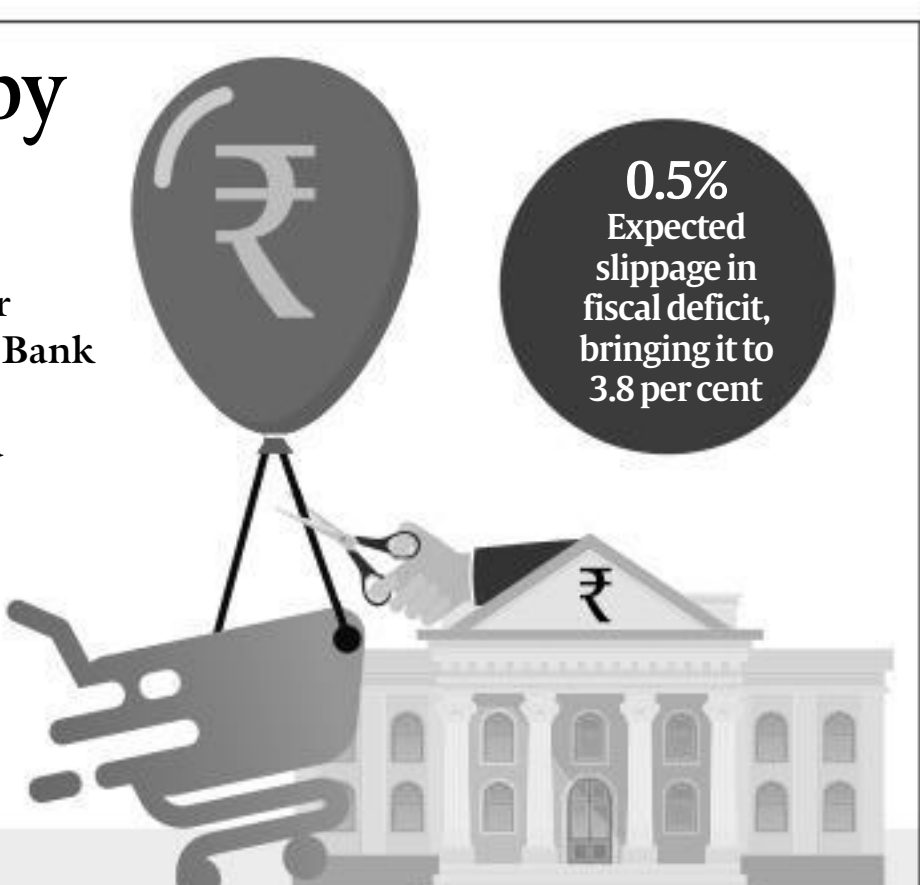
‘RBI to cut rates by 40 bps by Feb despite high inflation’

Headline inflation is bound to rise further to 5 per cent for November, but despite the pinch in price rise, the Reserve Bank will go for two consecutive rate cuts on growth concerns, brokerage Bank of America Merrill Lynch (BofAML) said

0.25%
Expected cut in repo rate by Reserve Bank of India in December, according to analysts at BofAML

0.15%
Follow-up cut in lending rates expected to be brought by RBI in February

4.7%
Growth projected for September, on gross value added basis, as against 4.9 per cent in June



DIFFERENT FACTORS CAUSING INFLATION: The higher inflation will be driven by base effects or lower inflation in the year-ago period when the same number had dipped to 2.2 per cent, and some pressure on onion prices

LIMITED NON-FOOD, NON-FUEL INFLATION: The “fundamental drivers of inflation remain weak”, which have resulted in the non-food and non-fuel core inflation getting limited to 3.3 per cent in October as against September’s 3.7 per cent

AGFLATION TO BE UNDER CONTROL: Agflation will also be in check going forward on well-stocked rivers which should water a bumper winter sowing and the minimum support price hikes are also small

ADDITIONAL NEED FOR MONETISATION: Funding the 0.8 per cent of GDP corporate tax rate cut will likely need additional direct or indirect monetisation

Legislative changes to hike insurance cover for bank deposits from current ₹1L likely in Winter Session: FM

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE GOVERNMENT is planning to make legislative changes in the upcoming Winter Session of Parliament to raise insurance cover on bank deposits from Rs 1 lakh at present and bringing multi-state cooperative banks under the purview of banking regulations, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said Friday.

The Centre has also held discussions with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to check whether the confiscated properties of promoters of HDIL can be given to the central bank, in order to provide some relief to depositors of Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative Bank, she said.

When asked about the stress in the telecom sector, Sitharaman

said, “I want no company to shut operations. I want everyone to be up and running. We want the economy to have a good number of companies in business and flourish in their business. Not just telecom sector, my wish is that all companies in all sector(s) be able to do business, service their market customers and survive. So with that approach, the Finance Ministry has always been talking and in telecom too that’s the approach we have taken.”

Two major telecom companies, Vodafone Idea and Airtel, have posted a combined quarterly loss of about Rs 74,000 crore as they were hit by statutory dues after a recent Supreme Court ruling.

The FM also said that the Committee of Secretaries (CoS), appointed to deal with financial problems being faced by telecom companies, has drafted some



ON TELECOM SECTOR:

■ The FM said that not just the telecom sector, her wish is that all companies in all sectors be able to do business, service their market customers and survive

rules but “has not taken a final decision yet”. Days after the apex court ordered telcos to pay as much as Rs 1.42 lakh crore in past statutory dues, the government had set up the CoS under the

Cabinet Secretary to suggest measures to mitigate financial stress in the sector last month.

The Centre is also looking at issues in the banking sector and has called a meeting with banks next week to assess their lending to the NBFC sector. Sitharaman said the Ministry has sought disaggregated data from RBI and banks regarding their funding to AAA-rated NBFCs and NBFCs rated below AAA, along with funding details for AAA-rated NBFCs, and investment-grade NBFCs.

On the recent announcement to form a Rs 25,000-crore fund for more than 1,600 stalled housing projects, Sitharaman said four real estate companies from three cities — Mumbai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad — have approached for the bailout. More companies are likely to approach the nodal agency for taking benefit of this

window from next week, she said.

Earlier this month, the government approved a Rs 25,000-crore fund to help complete over 1,600 stalled housing projects, including ones that have been declared NPAs or admitted for insolvency proceedings, in a bid to boost growth by steering consumption in real estate and associated sectors. The Alternative Investment Fund comprises of Rs 10,000 crore coming from the government and the remaining being provided by state insurer LIC and SBI.

On the fiscal scenario amid slowing revenues, the FM said that no welfare schemes will be curtailed despite low revenues and she expected GST numbers for November to be “good”. She said the Centre is responding to challenges and is hopeful the economy will grow at a better pace in the second half of the fiscal.

Current slowdown ‘episodic’: NK Singh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

FINANCE COMMISSION Chairman N K Singh on Friday said the current economic slowdown is episodic and expressed hope that sluggishness will not continue for long.

India’s economic growth hit a six-year low of 5 per cent in the first quarter of the current fiscal. It is estimated that the growth may further slip to below 5 per cent in the second quarter and overall the economy is likely to register a less than 5 per cent expansion for the full fiscal.

“I do not regard that the current economic sluggishness is something that the country is going to experience for too long. I remain optimistic that the current slowdown is as much as anecdotal, episodic as much as cyclical and structural,” he said

“I remain optimistic that the current slowdown is as much as anecdotal, episodic as much as cyclical and structural”

NK SINGH

CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMISSION

at an event here.

He, however, stressed that India should continue with both structural and cyclical reforms.

On the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the Finance Commission Chairman said that global economic structure is changing, but India is not at a disadvantage.

It is inherent that India was better off in a multilateral world than in a bilateral world, he said, adding that the country should continue to strengthen multilateral activity, but should also keep its own interests in mind.

Earlier this month, India decided not to join the RCEP, the proposed mega trade deal of nations, as negotiations failed to address New Delhi’s concerns. Pointing out that India improved overall budgetary resources to the health sector, he said there is scope for further improvement especially on the financing side.

The Finance Commission had constituted a group to study the health sector to holistically examine best international practices for the health sector and seek to benchmark framework to these practices for optimising benefits keeping in mind local issues.

The Commission is also evaluating the existing regulatory framework in the health sector and examine its strength and weaknesses for enabling a balanced yet faster expansion of the health sector keeping in view India’s demographic profile.

‘Consumer spending report on hold over data quality issues’

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE declined for the first time in four decades in 2017-18, led by a decline in consumption spending in rural areas, even as an increase was seen for urban areas, a *Business Standard* report said quoting a yet to be released government survey.

Reacting to the media report, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) said it was noted that there was a “significant increase in the divergence in not only the levels in the consumption pattern but also the direction of the change when compared to the other administrative data sources like the actual production of goods and services” and hence, in view of the data quality issues, it has been decided not to release the Consumer Expenditure Survey re-

sults of 2017-2018.

The MoSPI is separately examining the feasibility of conducting the next Consumer Expenditure Survey in 2020-2021 and 2021-22 after incorporating all data quality refinement in the survey process, it said, adding that the Advisory Committee on National Accounts Statistics has also separately recommended that for re-basing of the GDP series, 2017-18 is not an appropriate year to be used as the new base year.

“We would like to emphatically state that there is a rigorous procedure for vetting of data and reports which are produced through surveys. All such submissions which come to the Ministry are draft in nature and cannot be deemed to be the final report,” the Ministry said.

Officials said the report was never placed before the National Statistical Commission (NSC), which is the final approving body for the release of surveys con-

“... significant increase in the divergence in not only the levels in the consumption pattern but also the direction of the change when compared to the other administrative data sources like the actual production of goods and services”

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

ducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO), though the findings of the survey were discussed in a meeting of the Working Group earlier in July. As per the ‘Key Indicators: Household Consumer Expenditure in India’ survey conducted by the NSO, the average monthly spending by an individual reportedly declined by 3.7 per cent to Rs 1,446 in 2017-18 from Rs 1,501 in 2011-12.

The survey, conducted between July 2017 and June 2018, found that rural expenditure declined to Rs 1,110 in 2017-18 as against Rs 1,217 in 2011-12, including spending on food. Urban areas recorded an increase by 2

per cent in the same period.

Non-food spending also recorded a decline in rural areas, with spending on these items having fallen by 7.6 per cent during the survey period, while urban spending on these items went up by 3.8 per cent. Rural areas spent Rs 580 on food in 2017-18, nearly a 10 per cent decline from Rs 643 in 2011-12, while in urban areas, it rose marginally from Rs 943 in the previous survey to Rs 946 in 2017-18.

Among food items, spending on cereals and substitutes declined by 20.4 per cent in rural areas, while in the urban parts, it decreased by 7.9 per cent. Sugar, salt

and spices also saw a lower expenditure in rural areas by 16.6 per cent, and by 14.2 per cent in urban areas. Economists said the trend of lower expenditure on cereals has been seen for some years, but overall lower spending on food is a concern, probably a fallout of the cash crunch in the economy post-demonetisation and rollout of the GST.

“Cereals were being substituted by better quality items, but the concern here is that the overall spending on food went down. Rural economy which runs mainly on cash saw the impact much more than urban economy, which among higher income levels is a non-cash economy,” Pronab Sen, country director for the India Programme of the International Growth Centre and former Chief Statistician of India, said. He added it is worrying that though the survey was ready for the last 6-7 months, it was not put up to NSC for clearance.

WTO: US not complying fully with India steel dispute ruling

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GENEVA, NOVEMBER 15

A WORLD Trade Organization (WTO) panel ruled on Friday that Washington had failed to fully comply with a five-year-old ruling in a dispute over import duties on Indian steel products. India first filed its complaint at the WTO in 2012, after Washington imposed duties of nearly 300 per cent on imports of products including carbon-quality steel pipes, after complaining that Indian steel manufacturers were benefitting from unfair subsidies.

The global trade body then ruled in 2014 that the duties constituted a breach of global

The WTO's Dispute Settlement Body rejected several charges by India but found that the US had "failed to comply with the recommendations and rulings of the DSB in the original dispute"

trade rules, and ordered Washington to bring its practices into line.

But India complained that Washington was failing to comply with that ruling and asked the WTO to weigh in again.

In the ruling on Friday, the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body rejected several charges by India but found that the US had "failed to comply with the recommendations and rulings of the DSB

in the original dispute."

"We recommend that the United States bring its measures into conformity with its obligations," the ruling said.

The WTO polices global trade accords in an effort to offer its member economies a level playing field.

Its panels can authorise retaliatory trade measures by the wronged party if its rival fails to fall into line.

Sept quarter: RCom posts ₹30,142 cr loss

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

RELIANCE COMMUNICATIONS on Friday posted a consolidated loss of Rs 30,142 crore for July-September 2019 due to provisioning for liabilities after the Supreme Court ruling on statutory dues.

The company, which is going through insolvency process, had made a profit of Rs 1,141 crore in the corresponding three months a year ago. During July-September 2019, the company set aside Rs 28,314 crore on account of provisioning following the Supreme Court order on calculation of annual adjusted gross revenue (AGR) of telecom companies.

The apex court last month upheld the government's position on including revenue from non-telecommunication businesses in calculating the annual AGR, a share of which has to be paid as licence and spectrum fee to the exchequer. Total liability on telecom operators after the SC ruling is estimated to be around Rs 1.6 lakh crore, of which Rs 1.33 lakh crore due has to be paid by the companies that are operational.

AT \$26.38 BILLION IN OCTOBER

Exports decline 1.11% on low shipments of key products; trade deficit narrows

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

INDIA'S MERCHANDISE exports contracted for the third month in a row, dropping 1.11 per cent to \$26.38 billion in October from the same month last year despite a growth in exports of major products like engineering goods and gems and jewellery.

The decline is mainly due to a drop in shipments of petroleum products, plastic and linoleum, readymade garments, cotton yarn and rice. However, the decline in October was less than the over 6.5 per cent drop reported in September and 6 per cent in August.

Imports in October also reduced 16.31 per cent to \$37.39 billion from \$44.68 billion, nar-

Services exports grow 7%

New Delhi: Services exports in September 2019 were \$17.54 billion (Rs 1,25,090.78 crore) registering a positive growth of 7.05 per cent in dollar terms, vis-à-vis September 2018.

Services imports in September 2019 were \$11.10 billion (Rs 79,151.87 crore) registering a positive growth of 11.56 per cent in dollar terms, vis-à-vis September 2018. Trade Promotion Council

of India Chairman Mohit Singla said the figures reflect global slowdown, which has led to the slackening of demand, which is also seen in fall of imports.

"I am sure in the next few months efforts taken by the government will show results and export incentives by the government will have a positive rub on India's exports," Singla said. **PTI**

Petroleum product shipments dropped 14.6 per cent to \$3.62 billion from \$4.24 billion. Plastic and linoleum exports contracted 10.96 per cent to \$642.31 million from \$721.39 million in October 2018. Shipments of readymade

garments of all textiles dropped 2.11 per cent to \$1.11 billion from \$1.13 billion, cotton yarn exports dropped over 6 per cent to \$855.49 million, while rice shipments dropped 29.52 per cent to \$320.19 million from \$454.30 million.

At the same time, exports of products like engineering goods, electronic goods, gems and jewellery, drugs and pharmaceuticals and organic and inorganic chemicals increased in October from the same month last year.

Exports of engineering goods grew 1.22 per cent, while gems and jewellery shipments increased 6.02 per cent. Drugs and pharmaceuticals shipments increased over 12.5 per cent to \$1.70 billion from \$1.51 billion in October 2018.

According to Federation of Indian Export Organisations

(FIEO) president Sharad Kumar Saraf, trade tensions and rising protectionism has caused this drop in exports.

"Sluggishness in the economies across the globe coupled with the trade war between US-China, Brexit and developments in Iran, Turkey, Iraq and other Gulf countries has continuously unsettled the slowing world economy which has further escalated the problem," he said.

"The downside risks still remain and the projections for the near future depends on a return to more normal trade relations among countries. The currency volatility, softening of commodities prices including crude prices have also led to the decrease in exports of petroleum, which is a major constituent of India's exports," he added.

Vodafone Idea, Airtel surge up to 27% on hopes of floor price

Trai chief clarifies telecom dept hasn't approached regulator for views

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

TELECOM STOCKS on Friday surged up to 27 per cent after reports suggested that the telecom department may fix a floor price for data and voice tariffs, notwithstanding huge losses reported by two leading players for the July-September quarter.

Vodafone Idea shares surged 31.86 per cent to Rs 3.89 in day trade on BSE. Later, the scrip shed some of the gains to close up by 24.75 per cent at Rs 3.68.

On the National Stock Exchange, the stock soared by 32.2 per cent to Rs 3.90. It settled at Rs 3.75, up 27.12 per cent. Bharti Airtel jumped gained 9.74 per cent to touch intra-day high of Rs 398 apiece. After shedding some gains, the stock settled 8.42 per cent up at Rs

393.20. During the day, the scrip rallied 9.93 per cent to Rs 398.50 on the NSE. It closed at Rs 396, up 9.24 per cent.

Telecom regulator Trai, however, clarified that the telecom department has not yet approached it for its views on floor price for tariffs.

"We have not received anything," Trai chief R S Sharma said when asked if the Department of Telecom (DoT) has approached Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) for its opinion on floor price or minimum tariff fixation for mobile services.

Vodafone Idea on Thursday reported a consolidated loss of Rs 50,921 crore - the highest ever loss posted by any Indian corporate - for the second quarter ended September 30, on account of liability arising out of the Supreme Court order in the adjusted gross revenue case.

CBIC: Have not asked for GST on salaries paid to CEOs or employees

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE CENTRAL Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) on Friday clarified that salaries are not subject to GST, and said that department has not demanded any tax on salaries paid to chief executives or employees. It was responding to media reports.

"CBIC emphasised the GST law position which clearly states under Section 7(2) read with Schedule III of the Central Goods and Services Act, 2017 (CGST Act) that the salaried services by an employee to the employer shall be treated neither as a supply of goods nor as a supply of services," a statement said. It added salaries as such cannot be subject to GST, and no notice has been issued to any companies demanding GST on salaries whatsoever.

Experts said that under GST, salaries paid to executives by the head office is considered to have been paid by all the branch offices of the organisation situated in different states in lieu of services. **FE**

Response from govt over relief has been consistent: Vodafone Idea MD & CEO

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

A DAY after Vodafone Idea (VIL) reported a loss of Rs 50,922 crore, the company on Friday did not comment on how it proposed to fund the liabilities of Rs 44,000 crore that have arisen after the Supreme Court's ruling on the adjusted gross revenue matter.

The company's chief financial officer Akshaya Moondra in response to a query during its analyst call on Friday on funding the

AGR related dues said the company "will wait for the decision of the government on this front".

VIL's MD & CEO Ravinder Takkar said the company would like to see a moratorium over spectrum payments, reduction licence fees to help in the areas of GST blockage, as well as a few other things, which would reduce levies on the sector.

Takkar said that the committee of secretaries (Cos) formed by the government are close to making some recommendations. "We understand that they are getting

very close, and they have met several times. So we're looking forward to hearing that," he said. He added that the response from several engagements with government over providing relief to the stressed sector, have been "consistent".

"They have said to us that they want to see three private players and one public player in this sector," he said. He added that the Cabinet Secretary and officials of the concerned ministries that VIL has met have expressed that they want the sector to be healthy. **FE**

18 employees at airlines, airports fail alcohol test, says regulator

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

AVIATION WATCHDOG DGCA on Friday said 18 people, including staff from airlines, have tested positive for alcohol since introduction of breath analyser examination for such people from October 1.

The breath analyser examination has been put in place for Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs), communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) personnel, aircraft maintenance, aerodrome operation people, fire and rescue personnel, and vehicle drivers, including those of catering and refuelling vehicles.

Besides, it is applicable for ground equipment operators, ground handling personnel and flight dispatcher.

At present, breath analyser test for these personnel is carried out at Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Cochin, Lucknow and Guwahati airports. "In the month of October, we had 14 such cases of BA (Breath Analyser) positive and till date, four such cases during the month of November," the Directorate General of Civil Aviation said.

DGCA gives more time to IndiGo, GoAir for modifying P&W engines

PARTH KHATAU
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

MORE THAN two weeks after the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) instructed IndiGo and GoAir to make modifications on the Pratt & Whitney (P&W) engines that power their Airbus A320neo and Airbus A321neo aircraft, the aviation watchdog released an update stating both airlines have been making steady progress in the task.

On November 1, the DGCA issued an ultimatum to the two airlines in the wake of multiple technical snags leading to mid-air engine shutdowns and emergency landings to ensure modifications are made to one of the two engines powering their aircraft or face groundings.

A statement from the DGCA on Friday said, "The current position has been reviewed and we are happy to note that the airlines have made substantial progress with regards to the directives issued on October 28 and October 29. GoAir has so far placed modified engines on 9 aircraft out of 13 while IndiGo has placed modified engines on

On November 1, the DGCA issued an ultimatum to the two airlines to ensure modifications are made to one of the two engines powering their aircraft or face groundings

15 aircraft out of 23."

Even though all aircraft haven't yet been flying with one modified engine, the DGCA says the 'onerous nature of the task and availability of such engines' is an issue, giving the airlines five extra days to carry out the order, with November 24 being the revised deadline.

The deadline given to IndiGo to ensure all their Neo aircraft to be flying, with both modified engines, however, stays at January 31, 2020, failing which the airline faces grounding of its aircraft.

A source said, "IndiGo has a bigger fleet and hence it's harder for it to ensure engine modifications to be made in time. They cannot afford to see aircraft grounded during peak season."

'Alibaba gets strong demand for \$13.4 bn Hong Kong IPO'

REUTERS
HONG KONG, NOVEMBER 15

ALIBABA'S ORDER books for its \$13.4 billion Hong Kong share sale have already been covered "multiple times," sources with direct knowledge of the matter said on Friday, as the e-commerce group kicked off its campaign for the secondary listing in the city gripped by protests.

The Chinese e-commerce giant plans to list its shares in Hong Kong from November 26, where it is hoping to raise up to \$13.4 billion, and it is marketing the deal to investors around the world.

The sources said potential investors had been told that the

"quality of demand is high" and that there "continues to be very strong feedback" about the deal.

An Alibaba spokeswoman declined to comment.

Pricing of the shares for institutional shareholders will be set on November 20, a prospectus lodged with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange shows. Retail investors will not pay more than HK\$188 per share. In a first for the Asian financial hub, Alibaba said the listing would be fully automated and paperless to reflect its environmental standards. Investment bankers, however, said the move avoided a potential publicity nightmare of investors queuing at banks to place stock orders while protests raged around them.

OPEC+ faces 'challenge' from competitors: IEA

REUTERS
LONDON, NOVEMBER 15

THE ORGANIZATION of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies face stiffening competition in 2020, the International Energy Agency said Friday, adding urgency to the oil producer group's policy meeting next month.

"The OPEC+ countries face a major challenge in 2020 as demand for their crude is expected to fall sharply," the Paris-based agency said in a monthly report.

The IEA estimated non-OPEC supply growth would surge to 2.3 million barrels per day (bpd) next year compared to 1.8 million bpd in 2019, citing production from the United States, Brazil, Norway and Guyana.

US retail sales rebound; manufacturing falls

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 15

US RETAIL sales rebounded in October, but consumers cut back on purchases of big-ticket household items and clothing, which could temper expectations for a strong holiday shopping season.

The report from the Commerce Department on Friday pointed to a moderate pace of consumer spending that probably remains sufficient to offset some of the drag on the economy from a downturn in the industrial sector.

"Consumers are easing off their spendthrift ways from the second quarter and are adopting more prudent attitudes, perhaps still nervous over trade tensions and the slowing of hiring - though that still remains robust," said Robert Frick, corporate economist

MODERATE PACE OF CONSUMER SPENDING

■ The report from the Commerce Department on Friday pointed to a moderate pace of consumer spending that probably remains sufficient to offset some of the drag on the economy from a downturn in the industrial sector

■ Retail sales rose 0.3 per cent last month, lifted by motor vehicle purchases and higher gasoline prices

■ Consumer spending increased at a 2.9 per cent annualised rate in the third quarter

at Navy Federal Credit Union in Vienna, Virginia.

"Should these trends continue we will be facing a not-so-merry holiday shopping season."

Retail sales increased 0.3 per cent last month, lifted by motor vehicle purchases and higher gasoline prices, reversing September's unrevived 0.3 per cent drop, which was the first decline in seven months. Economists

polled by Reuters had forecast retail sales gaining 0.2 per cent in October.

Compared to October last year, retail sales advanced 3.1 per cent.

Excluding automobiles, gasoline, building materials and food services, retail sales increased 0.3 per cent last month. Data for September was revised lower to show the so-called core retail sales slipping 0.1 per cent instead of be-

ing unchanged as previously reported. Core retail sales correspond most closely with the consumer spending component of gross domestic product.

The dollar fell against a basket of currencies. US Treasury prices slipped. US stock were slightly higher. Consumer spending, which accounts for more than two-thirds of the economy, increased at a 2.9 per cent annualised rate in the third quarter. It is being supported by the lowest unemployment rate in nearly 50 years and has helped to blunt the hit on the economy from the White House's 16-month trade war with China.

The US-China trade war has led to a decline in capital expenditure and a recession in manufacturing. Other data on Friday from the Federal Reserve showed manufacturing output tumbling 0.6 per cent in October.

BRIEFLY

Re-consider Haldiram offer: NCLT to lenders

New Delhi: The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has directed the lenders of Kwalitiy Ltd to re-consider the revised Rs 145-crore offer by Haldiram Snacks to acquire the debt-ridden dairy firm.

Sebi system to map UCC with demat account

New Delhi: Sebi on Friday put in place a mechanism for stock exchanges and depositories to map the unique client code (UCC) with the demat account of a client.

India planning '1 Nation, 1 Pay Day: Gangwar

New Delhi: To safeguard the interest of workers in formal sector, particularly working class, the Centre is planning to introduce 'One Nation, One Pay Day' system, Labour Minister Santosh Gangwar said on Friday. **PTI**

Duesmann to be new Audi chief

Frankfurt: Volkswagen said Friday Markus Duesmann would take the helm at high-end subsidiary Audi, also joining the group-wide executive board.

Ex-Apple execs form firm to take on Intel, AMD

San Francisco: Three of Apple Inc's former top semiconductor executives in charge of iPhone chips have founded a startup, NUVIA Inc, to design processors for data centers, aiming to take on current industry leaders Intel Corp and Advanced Micro Devices Inc. **REUTERS**

Govt will be forced to slash spending: Crisil

Mumbai: With little headroom for fiscal expansion given the falling tax collections, the government will have to cut its expenditure, said DK Joshi, chief economist at rating agency Crisil. The fiscal deficit target of 3.4 per cent of GDP is likely to slip, Joshi said.

RCap defaults on bond repayments

New Delhi: Reliance Capital on Friday said it has defaulted on interest and principal obligations on bonds due on November 15. On September 20, CARE downgraded the company's entire outstanding debt to default "CARE D" rating. **PTI**

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Saatvik S/o Naresh Kumar Bansal R/o 108-109, G/F, Pocket-14, Sector-24, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Saatvik Bansal 0040519930-3

I, Raj Kumar S/o Krishan Chandra Bawa R/o-1029, Block-39, DDA Flats, Kalkaji, Delhi-110019 have changed my name to Raj Kumar Bawa. 0040520557-5

I, Dana Yadav D/o Devi Singh R/o- G-224 Beta-2, Greater Noida, has changed my name from Dana Kumari Yadav to Dana Yadav for all purposes. 0040520480-4

I, hitherto known as NV NANJUN DESHWARA son of Shri S Vishwanath, employed as Col PP (C&T) in DGPP, IHQ of MoD (Army), Sena Bhawan, New Delhi-11 residing at Flat Number GF-005, Sumukha Opal Apartment, P.J. Nagar 5th Phase, Bengaluru-560078, Karnataka have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as NV NANJUNDESHWARA. 0040520497-1

I, Yog Bala W/o Om Prakash Batra R/o H-204, Pearl Court, Ramprastha Greens, Sector-7, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, UP-201010 have changed my name to Preeti Batra. 0040520535-1

I, Wasim Ahmad S/o Bhure Ali B-268, R/o-Street No-2 Mandawali Fazalpur, Delhi-110092. Have changed my name from Waseem Ahmed to Wasim Ahmad. for all future purposes. 0040520610-4

I, Vivekanand Sharan S/o Late Sita Sharan Chaurasia R/o Flat No.1, Building-3 Aster Tower Vatika City Sohna Road Sector-49 Gurugram, Haryana, have changed my minor son name from Chaithanya to Chaithanya Chaurasia, DOB 27.11.2003 for all purposes. 0040520530-1

I, Vinod Choudhary S/o Ram Karan Choudhary R/o 17/3734, Raigar Pura, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005, have changed my minor son's name from Lovesh to Aakash Choudhary for all future purposes. 0040520471-1

I, Vineet Prasad S/o Shio Shanker Prasad R/o Flat No.06142, ATS Advantage, Ahinsa Khand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, UP, have changed my name to Vineet Ranjan Prasad. 0040520535-3

I, Vijendra Yadav S/O Late Shri Raj Singh R/O-109, Village- Naharpur, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Vijender Yadav. 0040520627-3

I, Ujjawala Nandwani W/o Amarnath Nandwani R/o D-150, New Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-110060 have changed my name to Veena Nandwani. 0040520535-2

I, Subhash S/o Raghubir Singh R/o-B-5/459 & 460, 2nd, Floor, Sector-5, Rohini, New Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Subhash Singh. 0040520568-1

I, Shilpy Shanker D/o Mr. Daya Shanker R/o House No. X/1454, Gali No.-4, Rajgarh Colony, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi, informs that my name Shilpy Shnker or Shilpy both are of same person. I will make use of my name Shilpy Shankar for all future purpose. 0040520481-1

I, Simran Kour Nayyar, D/O Mr. Rajinder Pal Singh Nayyar, W/O Mr. Harmeet Singh, R/O-S-391 Greater Kailash Part-2, New Delhi-110048, informs that I Have Changed My Name To Simran Kaur. That Simran Kour Nayyar, Simran Nayyar And Simran Kaur Are The Name Of One And The Same Person And That is Myself And In Future I Shall Be Known By My New Name As Simran Kaur, For All Purposes. 0040520610-7

I, Shehnaz Ali W/O Asad Ali R/O- J-10 Abul Fazal Enclave-1 Jamia Nagar Okhla Delhi-110025 Have Changed My Name To Shahnaz. 0040520582-7

I, Shahnaj Begum W/O- Mohammed Ajjur Rahaman R/O-J-106, Azad Apartment, 111, I.P. Extension, Delhi-110092. Have Changed My Name To Shahnaz Begum. 0040520627-1

I, Seetu W/o Krishan Saharan R/o House No-17/A, B-Block, Nanda Enclave, Gopal Nagar, Najafgarh Delhi-110043 Have Changed My Name to Seetu Saharan. 0070683750-1

I, Seema Lakhera spouse of No.4089838 Rank NK Name Sandeep Lakhera presently residing at Vpo-kalligad, TEH- Lansdowne, Distt-Pauri Garhwal, (UK)-246155, have changed my name from SEEMA LAKHERA to SEEMA DEVI for all future purpose and vide affidavit date-14/11/2019, before notary public. 0040520610-6

I, Ratnesh Srivatava S/o Rajdhari Lal Srivastava R/o- Sunshine Apartment, E-33, Flat-101, Vishwas Park, Uttam Nagar, N.Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Ratnesh Srivastava. 0040520480-1

I, Falguni Sarkar spouse of No.14857631Y Sep/MT Kanchan Sarkar, residing of Village- Sujal, Post Office-Tilna, Tehsil- Raiganj, District-Uttar Dinajpur, PIN-733128 (WB) have changed my name from Falguni Sarkar to Falguni Barman, vide affidavit dated 15-Nov-2019. 0040520472-1

I, Priyanka Srivastava D/o Mahesh Srivastava R/o-WZ-17/A Third Floor Left-Side Tihar-Village Tilak-Nagar ND-110018. changed my name to Priyanka Srivastava. 0040520582-2

I, Poonam Sachdeva W/O Charan Jeet Sachdeva R/O H.No-18861, Aravali Vihar, Sainik Colony, Sector-49, Faridabad, Haryana, informs that my previous name Punam Rani in school record, Now I changed my name from Punam Rani to Poonam Sachdeva for all future purposes. 0040520610-9

I, Pooja Tyagi D/o Shri Chand Karan R/O House No-967, Sector-3, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010. Have changed my name from Pooja Tyagi to Pooja for all future purposes. 0040520532-1

I, Nitin Chandra Tripathi S/O Sh. Gopal Dutt Tripathi, R/O 1192, Shiv Ganga Apartment, Mewar College, Sector-4B, Vasundhra Distt. Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, that have changed my son's name Viraj Rai Tripathi to Viraj Tripathi and in future he will be known as Viraj Tripathi for all purposes. 0040520473-1

I, Nishu Gupta, W/o. Sanjeev Kumar, R/o, B-53, Aruna-Park, Shakarpur-Extn., New Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Nisha Gupta. 0040520557-7

I, Narendar Kumar Singh S/O Vijay Raj Singh R/O-Flat.No.005, Plot.No.11, Block-B, Sadhawan, Sec-11, Dwarka, Delhi-110075, have change my name to Narendar Singh for all future purpose. 0040520627-4

I, Munni Devi W/o Anil Singh R/O A-159, Gali No.4, Pooja Dairy, Agar Nagar Meetha Pani, Prem Nagar-3, Kirari Suleman Nagar, have changed my name to Indrawati Devi for all purposes. 0040520475-1

I, Mohit Attri S/o Virander Singh Attri R/O-312, Sector-14, Jaipuria-School, Vasundhra-Ghaziabad, have changed my name from Mohit Attri to Moahit V Attri, for all purposes. 0040520610-3

I, Mohammed Yousuf S/O Jama' Alsaleh R/O 387, Sahil Apartment, 3rd Floor, Street No.17, Zakir Nagar, Okhla Delhi-110025. Have Change My Name To Mohammed Yusuf. 0040520610-1

I, Mazahir Mazhar S/O Mazharul Islam R/O House No-1549, Sector-8, Faridabad, Haryana-121006. Inform Given Name- Mazahir And Surname- Mazhar. 0040520627-5

I, Manvi Saluja D/o Dheeraj Saluja R/O-192 Gate No.3, Ram Vihar Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Manvi Saluja for all purposes. 0040520582-9

I, Laxmi Path Jain S/O Nami Chand Bengani R/O-F-3, B.271 Ramprastha Chander Nagar Ghaziabad UP-201011. Have Changed My Name To Laxmi Pat Bengani. 0040520582-6

I, Km Monika D/O Pravech Kumar Sundriyal R/O-D-1c/22A Janakpuri West Delhi-110058 Have Changed My Name To Monika Sundriyal. 0040520582-5

I, Khakasha Anjum W/O Mohammed Yusuf R/O 387, Sahil Apartment, 3rd Floor, Street No.17, Zakir Nagar, Okhla, Delhi-110025. Have Change My Name To Kakhkashan Yusuf. 0040520610-2

I, Khairwa Nita Hawasingh D/o Hawa Singh, R/O-533, Adhyapak-Quater, Dabri, Hanumanagarh, Rajasthan-335503, have changed my name Nita Khairwa, for all purposes. 0040520582-10

I, Ilyas S/o Israh Ahmed R/O-C-135, Welcome Seelampur, Garhi Mendu, Delhi-110053. have changed my name to Ilyas Ahmed. 0040520557-10

I, Harsh s/o Shashi Mahajan R/o K-28A, K-Block, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Harsh Mahajan Permanently. 0040520582-8

I, Gopal Singh S/O-Harswarop Singh R/O-House.No-D-14, New Sanjay Amar-Colony, Vishwas-Nagar, Delhi-110032, Have Changed My Daughter's Name Janki To Payal, For All Future Purposes. 0040520627-6

I, Gurleen Kaur Sahni D/o Gurdeep Singh Sahni R/o-B-9, Shamnagar, Tilak Nagar, N.Delhi-18 have changed my name to Gurleen Kaur. 0040520582-3

I, Dwarkanath Sanjiv Kaul, S/O Dwarkanath Kaul R/O-22 Siras-Road, DIF-Qtub Enclave Phase-III, Gurgaon Haryana-122002, Changed My Name To Sanjiv Kaul. 0040520582-1

I, Dharamvir Bhat S/o Keshram Bhati R/O-B-208, Sector-46, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301. have changed my name to Dharamvir Singh Bhati. 0040520557-9

I, Chandan Varma S/o Sh.Ashok Verma R/o-2/61, New Market, Sadar-Bazar, Delhi Cantt, New Delhi-110010-have changed my name to Chandan Verma. 0040520627-2

I, Chanchal S/o Sh. Nathu Ram R/o 91, Type-II, Laxmi Bai Nagar, New Delhi-110023, have changed my name Chanchal to Abhinav for all future purposes. 0040520523-1

I, CHIME YESHI S/O Mr.NGAWANG GYALTSEN R/o-Village & PO-Mahendragada, TRS Camp-5, House.No.346, Distt-Gajapati, Odisha, has Written My Previous Name as CHIMEY YESHI in My Identify-Certificate Bearing No-Y0083672 and My Correct Name is CHIME YESHI as per Documents and Wants to add My Correct Name CHIME YESHI in my I.C. 0040520464-1

I, Bhupender Singh S/o Chandan Singh Bisht R/o H.no-3, B-block, Gali no. 45, Kaushik Enclave Burari, Delhi-84, have changed my name to Bhupender Singh Bisht for all purposes. 0040520466-1

I, Shakeel Ahmed S/o Salimuddin R/O-G-72, Jamianagar, Albufazal Enclave, Okhla, Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Shakil Ahmed. 0040520582-4

I, Bharti Roy R/o 42 SFS shakti khand 2, indirapuram, ghaziabad, uttar pradesh 201014 have changed my name to Seema roy 0070683733-1

I, Aslam S/o Mohd Islam R/o-L-113A, Dilshad Garden, Near Mohand Dairy, Jhilmil, Delhi-110095 have changed my name to Mohammad Aslam. 0040520557-8

I, Asif Ahad W/o 301, 3rd Floor Jeevan Apartment, Okhla Village, Jamia Nagar Delhi-110025 Have Changed My Name to Asif Ahad Var. 0070683749-1

I, Ashwani Chaudhary S/o Girish Chandra Chaudhary R/o 69, Gali no.11, Vipin Garden Extn, DK Mohan Garden, Delhi-59, have changed my name to Ashwani Kumar Chaudhary for all purposes. 0040520581-1

I, Anju Singhal W/o Moolchand Singhal R/O-E-60, Khajoori Khas, Main Karawal Nagar Road, Delhi-110094 have changed my name to Anjana. 0040520557-6

I, Vikas Sharma S/o Sh.Chhote Lal R/O 282, Street No.6, West Guru Angad Nagar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Vikas Kumar for all purposes. 0040520468-5

I, Varsha W/o Sh.Jitender Gureja R/O Flat No.D-1003, Heritage Max, Sector, Sector 102, Gurgaon Dwarka Expressway, Gurgaon, Haryana have changed my name to Monica Gureja for all purposes. 0040520468-4

I, Tarun Kumar S/o Late Sh.Rajinder Kumar Sharma R/O C-39, Shakti Nagar Extension, Ashok Vihar Phase-3, Delhi-110052 have changed my name to Tarun Sharma for all purposes. 0040520468-1

I, Tarlochan Singh Sabhikhi S/O Haveli Singh Address-8663 Roshanagar Road Bhar Ghar Malkangari Delhi-110007., Changed My Name To Trilochan Singh. 0040520557-4

I, Suraj Pal S/O Late Sh.Ganga Saran R/O Flat No.2103, Sapna Gar C.G.H.S. Ltd., Plot No.6B, Opp. Bharat Petroleum Petrol Pump, Sector-11, Dwarka Sector-6, New Delhi-110075 is also known as S.P. Kher. Both names are of one & the same person. 0040520468-2

I, Sunil Yadav S/o Sanjay Yadav R/o Narayanpur, Lilapur, Jakhania, Ghaziapur, UP-233224, have changed my name to Aanand Kumar Singh Yadav. 0070683739-1

I, Pankaj Kumar Jha S/o Sh.Shyam Narayan Jha R/o F-235, Inder Enclave, Phase-II, Above SBI ATM Kirari, Suleman Nagar, North-West, Delhi-110086 declares that my minor son Kanishk Jha correct & exact date of birth is 07-03-2007 instead of 07-03-2008. 0040520468-6

I, Jagdamba D/o Sharda Devi R/O 5, Satyanand Colony, Satbari Delhi-110074, have changed my name to Jyoti 0070683736-1

I, Dibble Malik W/o Sandeep Malik R/o Plot No-49, B-Block, Jai Vihar, Najafgarh, Delhi-110043, have changed my name to Dimple Malik 0070683734-1

I, Deepika Dhaiya W/O Saurabh Sanwal R/O-203 Pocke-24 Sector-24 RohiniDelhi- 110085 Have Changed My Name As Deepika Sanwal. 0130013562-1

I, Anita W/O Naresh Nagarwal R/O-C-1/972 Madangir New Delhi-110062, have changed my name from Anita to Anuradha Nagarwal, permanently. 0040520557-1

I, Amarjeet Singh Alagh S/O Kirpal Singh, Add-C-213, Vikasputi, New Delhi-110018., changed my name to Amarjeet Singh. 0040520557-3

I, Pankaj Kumar Tyagi S/o Om Parkash R/O-H-59, Karampura Delhi-15, have changed my name to Pankaj Tyagi. 0040520557-2

I, Ajay Kumar S/O.M.L Sachdeva R/O-WZ-25, D-3, Ist-floor, Gali.no.9, Krishna-park, Tilak-Nagar, New Delhi-110018. Have changed my name to Ajay Sachdeva, for all purposes. 0040520610-5

I, Santosh Kumari Spouse of M.W.O Samar vir Kapoor Resident of w no-7, Defence Avenue, P.O Sujanpur Tehsil And Distt Pathankot, Sujanpur (Rural) Sujanpur, Gurdaspur, Punjab-145023 have changed my name from Santosh Kumari to Santosh Kapoor vide Affidavit dated 07/10/2019 before Distt. Defence Services welfare office Pathankot. 0070683741-1

I, Manbhari Devi W/o Sanjeev Maan R/o-H.No.G-28,Gali.No.2, M.B.Extension,Badarpur Border, New Delhi, have changed my name to Neeraj Maan for all future purposes. 0040520480-3

I, Minakshi Pathak W/o Lalit Mohan Pathak R/o-H.No.140608,Aman Tower-14,JP Aman,Jaypee Greens,Sector-151, Noida,U.P., have changed my name to Meenaxi Pathak for all future purpose. 0040520480-2

LOST & FOUND

My Electronics & Communication Diploma 2013, Roll No. 304614 all marksheets were lost to, Gurman Singh S/o Paramjit Singh R/O-E-940, Saraswati Vihar, Delhi. if found please contact 9994390112 0050158394-1

It is notified for the information that my original Pass Certificate of Secondary examination of year-2012, Index No. T/2458/101 issued by the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations has been actually misplaced. Finder contact Sushmita Ojha at- 9625902148. 0040520627-7

PUBLIC NOTICE
Under the instructions and on behalf of my client namely Smt Sarvati W/O LT Zile Singh R/O 425 Chirag New Delhi Publicly disowned his son namely Mr. Rakesh S/O LT Zile Singh and his wife Mrs. Kavita from all their movable and immovable properties for future due to their bad behavior and ill treatment and my client seavour all their relation with her son and daughter in Law in future my client will not be responsible for any act and conduct and if any of person deal with them they will be responsible for the same and my client will not be responsible for any act conduct etc.
Sd/-
K.S. Sharma & Madhavi Singh (Adv)
Ch. No.481,
Lawyers Chambers Block,
Saket Court, New Delhi
Mob: 9711177564, 9013432920

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby notified to my client, SMT. PUNITA MALIK W/O RAJPAL MALIK R/O 424, AMBEDKAR P.O. KULU DISTT. HARYANA SOUTH-WEST, DELHI-110022 hereby declaring/ disowning her son namely SUMIT MALIK from her properties (movable or immovable) situated at Delhi or outside of Delhi from her bad acts committed by him to my clientess and harassing them since long to my clientess and he is not under the control of my clientess. My clientess and her family members have also severed all their relations from him and my clientess shall not be responsible for his act and deeds since today. The persons dealing with him shall be responsible for his own acts and deeds.
Sd/-
K.S. Sharma & Madhavi Singh (Adv)
Ch. No.481,
Lawyers Chambers Block,
Saket Court, New Delhi
Mob: 9711177564, 9013432920

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform General Public that my client Shri Chander Batra S/O Shri Jawahar Lal Batra, R/O 391, G.F. Patel Nagar West, Delhi-8 is intending to purchase property bearing No. 5/13, WEAT-1, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005 by his own Shri. Satish Kumar Khandelwal, Sh. Sudhir Kumar Khandelwal and Smt. Gargi Gupta. Anybody having objection to the above deal or interest in the above said property may file objections to the office of undersigned within ten days. Sd/-
(VKRAM BAWEJA) ADVOCATE
Ch. No. 447-48, Civil Wing,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054
M. No. 981107664

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General Public is hereby informed that my client Shri Virendera Pal Singh Son of Shri Vijay Pal Singh, Aged About 56 years who is presently residing at Flat No. B-428, P.T.S. Colony, Malviya Nagar, S.O. South Delhi 110017 have severed all his relations & disowned his son Shri Pankaj Rajara from all his moveable / immovable properties due to his disobedience. My client shall not be responsible for his acts in future.
Ms Astha Rathor, Advocate
Y-79, Civil Side, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client Ravinder Prasad S/o L.L. Man Mohan Prasad & Mrs. Komal Devi W/o Mr. Ravinder Prasad, Both Resident of House No.14, Gali No.3, Panchsheel Enclave, Near Balar Chowk, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, have disclaimed, disowned and detested their son Mr. Krishan Prasad, his wife Mrs. Anshu Singh, their daughter Anshika and their Child to be born out of this wedlock, from all sorts of our movable and immovable properties and assets and have also severed the blood relations from them, due to their their attitude and shall not be held liable to any offence or mischief, if any, committed by one of them at any stage of their future. Anyone entering into any sort of transactions, if any, with them, shall do the same at his/her own risks, costs and consequences.
Vaibhav Sinha (Advocate),
Ch. No.422, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is brought to the knowledge of the General Public that my clients Shri Dharmender Dabas son of Shri Surender Dabas R/O No. 76-A Village and Post Office Kanjhawla, Delhi-81 went for mutation in revenue record of Delhi in respect of property Industrial plot no. 508, land measuring 68Sq.yards., out of Khara No 143/508 situated in the extended old dora of village kanjhawla, Delhi-110081 on the basis of will dated 20.02.2019 executed by Shri Sheel Singh S/o Shri Prihiti Singh R/O No. 668, Udan Pana, Main Chingh Wali Ghali, Village Kanjhawla, Delhi-81 who had expired on dated 17.08.2019. If anybody have any objection, claim any other right or unregistered documents executed by Late Shri Sher Singh he/she may produce it before revenue authority/Consolidation Officer/Tesildar (Kanjhawla), Distt. North-West Kanjhawla, Delhi within 15 days from today, thereafter the same (if any) will be treated as null and void.
Sanjay Rana (Advocate)
Plot No.15, Nr. SDM Office, Kanjhawla, Delhi-81

PUBLIC NOTICE
This notice is being issued for general public that my client Shri S. Amit Kumar Mittal S/O Srinivas Mittal R/O Ind. C-178 Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad disowned all the relations with his sister-in law Smt. Alka Mittal W/o Sh. Ajay Kumar Mittal due to temperamental differences from very long time.
Further my client Sh. Amit Kumar Mittal will not be liable for any past, present or future act, omission of Smt. Alka Mittal.
Sd/-
Y. D. Sharma
Advocate
Delhi High Court
Enrol. No. D/24 19/06

CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

PUBLIC NOTICE
General public is hereby informed that my clientess Smt. Mala Sharma W/o Late Puran Chand Sharma R/o Flat No. E-100, Block-E, Pocket-3, Bindapur, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 do hereby disown and debar her son namely Rajy Sharma from all her movable and immovable properties with immediate effect because he is out of control of my clientess, due to his bad habits and misbehaves with my clientess. Anybody dealing with him shall be doing so at his/her own risk, cost and responsibility, my clientess will not be held responsible for any of his act and deeds.
Sd/- B.B.N. DEO, ADVOCATE
SR-118, Campus, Janakpuri, N.Delhi-58

PUBLIC NOTICE
All concerned are hereby informed through this Public Notice that my client namely Sh Vinod Kumar Garg S/o Sh Prabha Wati R/o B-39, Peepal Road, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, D.K. Mohan Garden, West Delhi, Delhi-110059 has disowned and debarred his son namely Sh Anoop Garg, Aged about 37 years and his wife namely Sneha Shwama Garg W/o Sh Anoop Garg both residents of the above given address from all their moveable and immovable properties and severed all his relations with them as the above said son and daughter in law of my client are totally out of their control and used to misbehave, torture, harass and quarrel with him and my client shall not held responsible for any of their acts, deeds and things whatsoever and if anyone deals with them, shall deals at their own risk, costs and consequences.
Sd/-
ARJANA JHA & RAJESH KUMAR (ADVOCATES)
Ch. No. 505 LAWYER'S CHAMBER BLOCK DWARKA DISTRICT COURT NEW DELHI 110075

LOST & FOUND
My Self Dr. Suresh Kumar Anand S/o Late Jaggan Nath R/o- A-678, Palam Vihar, Gurugram, Haryana has lost original property papers of DDA MIG Flat allotted to him no. B-20, F-1, Dilshad Garden, Delhi-95 i.e. Demand and Allotment Letter, Possession Letter, NOC for Electricity & Water Connection. NCR has lodged in Local Police Station. If found may be return to him on above mentioned address. Any body if in issuing the same will be prosecuted as per law.

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF SH. RAJ KUMAR P.O. MACT 01 (WEST) TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI ROOM NO.266
Proclamation Requiring Attendance of Defendant
Order 5, Rule 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure).
Suit No. CIV DJ-567/18
R.S. BAGGA STEEL SHUTTERING PVT.LTD. VS GKP INFRACON PVT. LTD.
To, Defendant
MS GKP Infracon Pvt. Ltd. Through its director Sh. Thakur Ratish Mahesh R/o: 252-E, Third Floor (Front), Sant Nagar, East of Kailash New Delhi-110065
The Defendant Above Named.
Whereas you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 26-11-2019 the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte. Given under my hand and the seal of the court, this 07 day of November, 2019.

IN THE COURT OF SH. RAJ KUMAR P.O. MACT 01 (WEST) TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI ROOM NO.266
Proclamation Requiring Attendance of Defendant
Order 5, Rule 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure).
Suit No. CIV DJ-568/18
R.S. BAGGA STEEL SHUTTERING PVT.LTD. VS GKP INFRACON PVT. LTD.
To, Defendant
MS GKP Infracon Pvt. Ltd. Through its director Sh. Thakur Ratish Mahesh R/o: 252-E, Third Floor (Front), Sant Nagar, East of Kailash New Delhi-110065
The Defendant Above Named.
Whereas you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 26-11-2019 the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte. Given under my hand and the seal of the court, this 07 day of November, 2019.

IN THE COURT OF SH. RAJ KUMAR P.O. MACT 01 (WEST) TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI ROOM NO.266
Proclamation Requiring Attendance of Defendant
Order 5, Rule 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure).
Suit No. CIV DJ-569/18
R.S. BAGGA STEEL SHUTTERING PVT.LTD. VS GKP INFRACON PVT. LTD.
To, Defendant
MS GKP Infracon Pvt. Ltd. Through its director Sh. Thakur Ratish Mahesh R/o: 252-E, Third Floor (Front), Sant Nagar, East of Kailash New Delhi-110065
The Defendant Above Named.
Whereas you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 26-11-2019 the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte. Given under my hand and the seal of the court, this 07 day of November, 2019.

Office of the Superintending Engineer Construction Circle (E/M), U.P. Jal Nigam 4/4 Sanjay Palace, Agra-282002
Letter No. 988/NVIDA/181 dated :13.11.2019
Short Term E-Tender Notice
Digitally signed e-bids are invited, U.P. Jal Nigam for the execution of "SITC and 3 months trial run/ maintenance of SCADA System of Mainpuri Re-organization W/S Scheme Phase-I & Phase-II under AMRUT Programme" from eligible, reputed and experienced bidders. Detailed E-bid documents will be available for download from 18.11.2019 by 03:00 P.M., Pre-Bid Meeting on 22.11.2019 at 03:00 P.M., submission of e-bid till 27.11.2019 upto 05:00 P.M. and opening of e-bid on 29.11.2019 at 12:00 P.M.. EMD required of Rs. 2.00 Lacs & E-tender Cost is Rs. 10000+GST. Details are also available on U.P. Govt. e-procurement portal <https://etender.up.nic.in> & U.P.N. website www.jn.upsc.gov.in.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY Notice Inviting Tender
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Lucknow invites Open tender through E- tendering system on behalf of President of India invites sealed open tender in Two packet systems from Advertising Agencies in prescribed proforma to permit three years contract of advertising rights for commercial publicity at Various Station of Lucknow Division, payment of EMD and Tender Fees is paying through net banking or payment gateway. Details of stations & Tender notice no., Reserve Price, EMD and Cost of bid document are as under :-
S. No. 1. Tender Notice No. :- 28-2019-GKPAdivt-Zone5, Description of works: Commercial Advertisement Right at GORAKHPUR Circulating area (zone-5) For 03 years, Estimated Value for 01 year (Reserve price in Rupee) :- Rs. 42,58,868/-, Cost of Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs) through/ online payment :- Rs. 2,55,600/-, Cost of Tender Documents (Non-Refundable) (In Rs) through/ online payment :- Rs. 5000/-, Date and Time of Closing of Tender :- Up to 14:00 hrs on 17.12.2019, Date and time of Tender Opening :- Up to 15:00 hrs on 17.12.2019/Validity of Tender: 60 Days, Period of contract :- 03 years, Web Site Address :- www.ireps.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE
This notice is being issued for general public that my client Shri S. Amit Kumar Mittal S/O Srinivas Mittal R/O Ind. C-178 Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad disowned all the relations with his sister-in law Smt. Alka Mittal W/o Sh. Ajay Kumar Mittal due to temperamental differences from very long time.
Further my client Sh. Amit Kumar Mittal will not be liable for any past, present or future act, omission of Smt. Alka Mittal.
Sd/-
Y. D. Sharma
Advocate
Delhi High Court
Enrol. No.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

16 NOVEMBER 1971



MAJ HARPAL SINGH GREWAL, VRC

L/NK CYRIL TOPPO
SEP RAMA SHANKERPANDEY
SEP RAM NATHRAI

Maj H S Grewal,VrC, commanding a Rifle Company of 8 BIHAR in the Eastern Sector was tasked to neutralise a well fortified enemy post from which effective fire was brought down on our positions. As the assault commenced, the Company came under heavy fire. MajGrewal was injured, but continued to press home the attack. His personal example inspired his troops to continue the assault till success was achieved. He, along with three Jawans made the ultimate sacrifice. Today, on the 41st anniversary of their martyrdom, we, the fraternity of the Veer Biharis, salute them.

THE BIHAR REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

MARTYRS OF CISF ON 16TH NOVEMBER



HC/GD H S TIWARI
SCCL BELAMPALL/
16 NOV-2007



HC/GD S S ROY
BIOM BACHELI
16 NOV-2011



CT/GD RAJU
NUKALA
BIOM BACHELI
16 NOV-2011

CISF proudly remembers the supreme sacrifice of these brave-hearts. On this day, they laid down their lives at the altar of duty while fighting with LWE outfits. Their courage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the force. The force will remain eternally indebted to them for their noblest deeds.

NMDC Limited

(A Government of India Enterprise)
DONIMALAI COMPLEX, PO - Donimalai, Pin-583118
Taluk-Sandur, Dist-Ballari, Karnataka

CORRIGENDUM Dated 04.11.2019
Tender Enquiry No. CE/W/13(566)/2019 dated 03.10.2019

Name of Work	Last date & time of download/ sale and submission of tender document Up to 15.00 Hrs. and for opening of Part-I by 15.30 Hrs.
"Repair and Maintenance of Indoor Sports Court and Gym Rooms at Donimalai Township"	As per Original Tender 04.11.2019
	Amended as 03.12.2019

Other terms/Conditions/clauses etc. of tender document will remain unchanged. The details of tender document can be viewed / downloaded from our website www.nmdc.co.in

Date: 16.11.2019 For and on behalf of NMDC Limited
Dy. General Manager (Civil)

SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EX. ENGINEER (M)-II/NGZ,
OPPOSITE KARGIL APARTMENT, SECTOR-12, DWARKA,
NEW DELHI-110078

PRESS NOTICE FOR TENDER
Dated:- 08.11.2019

NIT No. EE M-II/NGZ/TC/19-20/13

Online percentage rate tenders are invited by EE (M)-II/NGZ on behalf of Commissioner/SDMC from the registered contractors of MCD of appropriate class. Tenders will be received as per time table and will be opened at 15:30 HRS on 29.11.2019 in the office of Division EE (M)-II/NGZ. Validity of rates will be 05 Months from the date of opening of NIT and in case of negotiation from the date of negotiation. All details of Revision, Clarification, Corrigendum, Addendum, Time Extension etc. if any in respect of these tenders will be uploaded on SDMC website only & will not be published in newspapers. It is responsibility of the firms/bidders to update themselves about the tender through the website. SDMC is not responsible for any information is not available on website.

Last Date of Download of Tender Document i.e. 27.11.2019 15:00 HRS, Last Date of Bid Submission i.e. 27.11.2019 15:01 HRS, Last Date deposition of Tender Cost & Earnest Money D.D. i.e. 29.11.2019 15:00 HRS and Opening of Financial Bid i.e. 29.11.2019 15:30 HRS.

The detail of tender Line No. 1 can be seen from website of SDMC <https://www.tenderwizard.com/SOUTHDMCETENDER>.

Executive Engineer
Division (M)-II/NGZ

Ro.No. 104/DP/South/2019-20

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.

(A Navratna Undertaking of Govt. of India)
(CIN : L63011DL1988GOI030915)

Regd. Office : CONCOR Bhawan, C-3, Mathura Road, Opposite Apollo Hospital,
New Delhi-110 076; Phone : 91-11-41673093-96; Fax : 91-11-41673112

Website : www.concorindia.com

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

CONCOR invites E-Tender in two packet system of tendering for the following work:

Tender No.	NO. CONHR/92/5/2019/2
Name of Work	CONCOR Directors & Officers (D&O) Liability Insurance Policy
Estimated Cost	Rs. 8.10 Lakhs Plus GST Per Annum
Completion Period	1 Year (Further Extendable by another 1 Year on mutually agreed terms)
Cost of Tender Document & EMD	Nil
Tender Processing Fee (Non-refundable)	Rs. 1,128/- (inclusive all taxes & duties through e-payment)
Date of Issue of Tender (online)	16.11.2019 (11:00 hrs.) to 02.12.2019 (upto 15:00 hrs.)
Last Date & Time of submission of Bids(On line)	02.12.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.
Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bids	02.12.2019 at 16:00 hrs.
Date & Time of opening of Financial Bids	To be notified separately

For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc. and other terms and conditions, please refer to detailed tender notice on the website www.concorindia.co.in. The complete tender document can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL only. Further, Corrigendum / Addendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website www.concorindia.co.in and www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Dy.General Manager (P&A)

Kempegowda INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SENGURU

Name and Address of the entity seeking EOI:
BIAL Project Office,
Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
Bengaluru 560 300
Web: www.bengaluruairport.com

NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

BIAL intends to carryout strengthening and upgradation of the existing airside runway, taxiway pavements and development of new facilities including associated infrastructure at Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (the "Project").

BIAL invites interested applicants to submit their EOI to carry out the work and successfully hand over the Project. Consortium/ joint venture participation is not permitted.

Information on the EOI can be obtained from the BIAL website www.bengaluruairport.com (<http://www.bengaluruairport.com/ourBusiness/tender.jspx>). Bidding for this Project is through e-tendering. Applicants shall register on <https://www.bialtenders.com/> as per the e-Tendering instructions provided with the Information Document.

Applicants shall view/ download the EOI document from <https://www.bialtenders.com/> from 1400 hrs IST on November 16, 2019 to 1600 hrs IST on November 27, 2019. The EOI must be submitted online at <https://www.bialtenders.com/> on or before 1700 hrs IST on November 27, 2019.

Addendum, if any, to this EOI shall be made available on the BIAL website and <https://www.bialtenders.com>

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

No. SNT-JP-19R-2019-20 Dt: 13.11.19
DRM (S&TY North Western Railway/ Jaipur, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders from registered tenderer/bidders for the following work. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids online up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. (1) Name of work with its location: Telecom work in c/w development of RINGUS & SIKAR stations as Adarsh & religious tourism stations in JP division. (2) Tender Value: ₹ 2600977.40/- (3) Earnest money to be deposited (EMD): ₹ 52000/- (4) Tender submission & closing date & time on website: 09/12/2019, Upto 15:00 Hrs. (5) Website particulars & Notice board location: www.ireps.gov.in DRM office/NWR/ Jaipur. 1198-DE/19

Please join us on [f](https://www.facebook.com/NWRRailways) [i](https://www.instagram.com/NWRRailways) [y](https://www.youtube.com/NWRRailways) [NWRRailways](https://www.linkedin.com/company/NWRRailways)

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE No. IZN/ Elect/OT/06/2019 Dt. 11-11-2019

E-Tender are invited by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G)/ North Eastern Railway/Izatznagar for & on behalf of the President of India for the following work:-

S.No.:-1, Description of work: Electrical work in connection of renovation of staff canteen, Ladies room, RPF barrack and renovation of office of engineering & account & control, miscellaneous repairs to officer chamber along with other miscellaneous work including strengthening of boundary wall in DRM office at Izatznagar and improvement of RPF barrack at Izatznagar, Dohna station for crossing station work. Details: Approximate tender value in Rs.: ₹ 26,88,342.66, Earnest Money in Rs.: ₹ 53,800.00, Cost of tender paper in Rs.: ₹ 3,000/-, Date & time of closing E-tender: 20-12-2019 at 15:00 hours. Completion time from the date of issue of letter of Acceptance: Six Months.

• Manual officers are not allowed against this tender and such manual offer received shall be ignored.
• The tender can be viewed at web site <http://www.ireps.gov.in>.
• The tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital signature certificate & must have registered on IREPS portal.
• Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate in e-tendering. • All relevant papers must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering.
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G) CPRO/Vidyut-85 Izatznagar

About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955

Do not smoke Bidi/Cigarette in train.

MAHARASHTRA STATE RURAL LIVELIHOODS MISSION

5th Floor, CIDCO Bhavan, South wing, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai-400614, Ph: 022-27562552 / 54

E-Tender Notice No. 2019 MSRLM 508802.1
Selection of Agency for Erection of Hangers, Octonorm Stall and other ancillary services for Mahalaxmi Saras - 2020 Exhibition

Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission (MSRLM) invites tenders for Selection of Agency for Erection of Hangers, Octonorm Stall and other ancillary services for Mahalaxmi Saras - 2020 Exhibition. Interested bidders who qualify as per the eligibility criteria mentioned in the tender document, may submit their bids online on <http://mahatenders.gov.in> latest by 30/11/2019 upto 6.00 PM. If there is any change in tender requirement/ dates will be published on <http://mahatenders.gov.in> and www.umed.in

R. Vimala IAS
Chief Executive Officer
Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD

E-Tender Notice Allahabad Division

E-Tender No.-ALD-Sig-96-2019-20
Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer / Coordination / North Central Railway / Allahabad, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite E-TENDER on prescribed form for the following work up to 12.00 hrs. on the opening date. The details of the Tender are as under:-

S No.	Tender No.	Name of work	Approx. Cost of work (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Cost of Tender Form (₹)
1	96	"Interlocking of level crossing gates No. 19 at Lusa station in Chunar-Chopan section of Allahabad division."	3705536/-	74100/-	3,000/-

Completion Period: 03 Months. **Date of closing of tender:** 06.12.2019.
2. Availability of tender form: Tender forms are available on www.ireps.gov.in. **3. Earnest Money to be deposited:** The prescribed amount of Earnest Money as mentioned above must be deposited along with the tender form Online through Internet Banking or Online Payment gateway only. The tenderer (s) should note that, in any case, the Earnest Money in any other form than specified above shall not be acceptable. Tenders without earnest money shall be summarily rejected. **4. Time & place of opening of tender:** Tender will be opened through E-tender at office of Divisional Railway Manager, Allahabad on or after pre determined date at 12.30 hours. In case tender opening date happens to be holiday, Tenders will be opened on the next working day. **5. Validity of offer:** 45 days from the date of opening. **6. Right of Railway to deal with tender:** Railway administration reserves the rights to postpone/modify or to cancel the tender without assigning any reasons.

[f](https://www.facebook.com/northcentralrailways) North central railways [i](https://www.instagram.com/northcentralrailways) @CPRONCR 1645/19 FA

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

On Behalf of President of India, Sr.DOM/MB, invites E-Tenders against Tender No. 1-T/Vehicle/TTs/MB Division/2019. Bidders will be able to submit their/original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Sl.No. : 1. Name of work:** Hiring of Multi Utility Road vehicle (Type : Scorpio, Boloro, Jeepay) for Sectional Traffic Inspectors (1-HW, 1-LR, 1-NBD, 1-MB (MT) & MB (BL), 1-HPU, 1-BE(W), BE(E) & BE(BL), 1-CH, 1-RAC, 1-HRI & 1BLM total 10 vehicles) for the purpose of attending traffic and safety related duties like attending derailments and other accidents at sites and day to day inspection, coo-ordination meetings with Civil Authorities / Railway officers etc on round the clock on monthly basis from authorized permit holders for local journey / travel at Moradabad as well as other parts of UP, Delhi, Uttaranchal, Haryana, Chandigarh, NCR of Delhi with minimum running of 2500 Kms per month for Two years. **Approx. Value of work in Rs. :** Rs.91,83,046.32/- **Contract period in years :** 2 years (24 months). **Earnest Money :** Rs. 1,83,700/- **Cost of the Tender form :** Rs. 5,900/- **Date & time of closing of tender :** Tender will be closed at 15.00 hrs. on 10.12.19. **Date & time of opening of tender :** Tender will be opened at 15.30 on same day. Tender forms can be see/download from N.Rly's web site www.ireps.gov.in on internet. **Tender Notice :- 1/TT/Vehicle/TTs/MB Division/2019**
Dated: 15.11.2019. 3679/2019

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H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
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CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 | www.uttarakhandajalvidyut.com

E - Tender Notice

Office of Executive Engineer (M&G), Kulhai Power Station, invites online bids from interested parties for following work.
Tender no.: 16/EE (M&G)/Kulhai/2019-20, Supply& fixing of HT XLPE (Cross Linked Polyethylene) Cables for Kulhai Power Station
Estimated Value of work Rs. 34,50,000/- (GST Extra)
Earnest Money Rs. 86,250/-
Tender Document Fee Rs.2360/- (GST inclusive)
Date of availability of Tender document 15.11.2019, 10:00 Hrs.
Last date of submission of bids on website 07.12.2019, 17:00 Hrs.
Last date of submission of hard copies of bids 10.12.2019, 15:00 Hrs.
Date of opening of tender 10.12.2019, 16:00 Hrs.
For fuller further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal <http://uk.tenders.gov.in>.
चक्रक. 647 रो 14.11.2019

Executive Engineer (M&G), Kulhai

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

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

Notice Inviting e-tenders

The Chief Engineer, Technical Services Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, North Site, BARC, Trombay, Mumbai- 400 085, on behalf of the President of India invites online rate tenders on two bid system for following work :-
NIT No. BARC/TS/152/2018-19. Name of work – Augmentation of Air conditioning plant (High Side) at Boiler House-TSD, BARC, Trombay, Mumbai-400085.; **Estimated cost** – ₹ 4,40,00,000/-; **Earnest Money** - ₹ 8,80,000/-; **Period of completion** – 18 months for the item No.-1 to 33 of Schedule B of the tender. Thereafter Tender will be operated for 3 years. (2 years warranty + 1 year Comprehensive Annual Maintenance - item No. 34); Last date and time of submission of bid - 24.01.2020 (14:00 Hrs.)
The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the Website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE or www.barc.gov.in

Changes if any, in the above scheduled date etc. will be notified only in the website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE.
Contact for assistance / clarifications 24x7 @ 9969395522 Shri Rudresh, e-mail: rudresh.tenderwizard@gmail.com Chief Engineer

CHHATTISGARH RURAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT AGENCY VIKASH BHAVAN, CIVIL LINES, RAIPUR (C.G.)

E-Procurement Tender Notice

NIT No.468/TC-T/CGRRD/2019 Dated:-13/11/2019

Chief Engineer (Tender Cell), CGRRDA, Raipur on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh invites the bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Rural Roads & Consultants for Bridge & Survey, Study , Detail Investigation and Preparation of Detail Project Report for Rural Roads Under PMGSY for as below mentioned work as per B.O.Q. from the eligible contractors / Firms registered with unified registration system(e-registration). Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement:

S.No	NIT No	District	Work Name	Rate invited
03	468	Sukma	PMGSY 2018-19 Balance work	Percentage Rate Tender
02	465	Bijapur	DPR Consultant (Bridge)	Percentage Rate Tender

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.

Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on our website <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> for 14.11.2019 & onwards. In future any related corrigendum would be seen in the notice section of the website

Chief Engineer (Tender Cell)
Chhattisgarh Rural Road Development Agency
Civil Lines, Raipur (C.G.)
E-mail:-pmgsyrcd@yahoo.co.in

23531

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.

SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX No. 0172-5041812-13 www.verka.coop

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Section-A : e Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items –

Sr No	Name of the Item	Qty/ Contract Period	Consignee/Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/Downloading of e-tenders online	Last Date & Time of Submission of on-line e-tenders	Date & Time of opening of e-tenders
1.	Bulk Milk Cooler (BMC)	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Head Office, SCO No. 153-155, Sector 34A, Chandigarh. Ph No. 0172-5041812-13	200/-	1,30,000/-	18.11.2019 From 11:00 AM	02.12.2019 Upto 04:00 PM	Technical Bid 03.12.2019 at 11:00 AM
2.	Rice Husk	2000 MT	Verka Hoshiarpur Dairy 01882-238157, 239938.	500/-	1,50,000/-	16.11.2019 From 05:00 PM	30.11.2019 Upto 05:00 PM	02.12.2019 at 10:30 AM
3.	Hiring of Car (Sedan-Honda Amaze, Maruti Swift etc.) is required for Marketing purpose.	1 No.	-do-	500/-	5,000/-	16.11.2019 From 05:00 PM	30.11.2019 Upto 05:00 PM	02.12.2019 at 10:30 AM
4.	Disposal of Old Bardana (Jute Bags/Kattas/ Plastic Kattas)	7-10 Lacs from 01.01.2020 to 31.12.2020	Verka Cattle Feed Plant, Ghania -Ke -Banger Ph No. 01871-266741	100/-	30,000/-	21.11.2019 From 11:00 AM	06.12.2019 Upto 12:00 PM	06.12.2019 at 01:30 PM
5.	Hiring of Insulated vehicles for supply of packed milk and fresh milk products in Bathinda city and surrounding Districts of Bathinda Milk shed area	5 MT-2, 03 MT-1, 01 MT-9. Period of Tender Contract 01.01.2020 to 31.12.2020	Verka Bathinda Dairy 0164- 2214825, 2212825	500/-	50,000/-	20.11.2019 From 02:00 PM	11.12.2019 Upto 05:00 PM	Technical bid 16.12.19 at 2 PM Financial bid 20.12.19 at 2 PM
6.	Supply of Veterinary Medicines	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Ludhiana Dairy. Ph No.0161-5203350, 5203353, 52033338	500/-	50,000/-	18.11.2019 From 11:00 AM	02.12.2019 Upto 12:00 PM	Technical bid 03.12.19 at 11 AM Financial bid 06.12.19 at 11 AM
7.	Outsourcing of all activities of city supply despatch dock	Annual Rate Contract with extension upto 3 months	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	18.11.2019 From 11:00 AM	09.12.2019 Upto 11:00 AM	Technical bid 10.12.19 at 11 AM Financial bid 13.12.19 at 11 AM
8.	Seed Grader for Grading of Fodder Seeds. Capacity, 5 MT/hour	01 No.	The Punjab State Cooperative Milk Producer's Federation Limited Verka Cattle Feed Plant, Bhattian (Khanna) Ludhiana, Punjab.	500/-	20,000/-	18.11.2019 From 4:30 PM	03.12.2019 Upto 10:00 AM	Technical bid 04.12.19 at 11 AM Financial bid 04.12.19 at 12 PM
9.	Supply of Gearbox with motor for Horizontal milk storage tank agitators.	12 Nos.	Verka Jalandhar Dairy Ph No. 73555-56749, 73556-01750.	500/-	30,000/-	20.11.2019 From 11:00 AM	12.12.2019 Upto 12:00 PM	13.12.2019 Upto 3:00 PM
10.	Repair & Modification of Milk Silo (cap. 60KL)	4 Nos.	-do-	500/-	1,00,000/-	18.11.2019 From 11:00 AM	12.12.2019 Upto 12:00 PM	13.12.2019 Upto 3:30 PM

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debit/credit card for getting registered for e-tendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, Internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our E-Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970284 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e- tendering please visit website eproc.punjab.gov.in.

Note:- Tender processing Fee is Non- Refundable.

Section-B : Sealed Tenders are hereby invited on the prescribed Performa for the purchase of following items:-

Sr No	Name of the Item	Qty/ Contract Period	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Last Date & Time of Submission of Tenders form	Date & time of receipt & opening of tender form
i.	Selection of Agency for: Publication of Newspaper Advertisement in English Newspapers only. Designing and Finalizing Designs for Advertisements in Newspapers other than English. Media Buying for English Newspapers only.	Two Years	Verka Head Office, SCO No. 153-155, Sector 34A, Chandigarh. Phone Number: 0172-5041812-13	Nil	50,000/-	04.12.2019	06.12.2019

21 BODY & MIND

Little girls are sweet and boys tough. Now flip that

Misogyny is like the polluted air we breathe day in and day out — it is everywhere



IMAGINE
BY SHELJA SEN

THERE IS a lot that has been said and written about bringing up gutsy girls — who refuse to be defined by their gender, who demand equality and speak up to have their voices heard. However, not much is written about the role of parents in bringing up these gutsy girls. I am going to try to do that, not as an attempt to blame or shame anyone but for all of us to come together and take collective responsibility in making our world more equitable, free of gender violence and misogyny. I have heard many parents, particularly dads, claim, “I am not a misogynist, but I do think girls’ roles are very different from boys’, and it is best we accept this truth.” Part of me gets riled, but a large part is just amused at this contradiction. Prejudices and gender biases such as these sow the seeds of misogyny early on in children’s minds and lives.

Looking at it from a wider lens, I believe none of us can claim not to be a misogynist. It is like the polluted air we breathe day in and day out in our homes, schools, public spaces, movies, literature, advertisements, news, TV programmes — it is there everywhere. It is our choice as to how much we become aware of it, opt into it and perpetuate it, or mindfully opt out of it as a deliberate practice.

1. Let’s start by becoming more mindful of our language — just observe the words we use to praise little girls — “gentle”, “nice”, “sweet” and the ubiquitous “good girl” — and for boys — “strong”, “tough”, “brave”. The way we talk to our children become their inner voices and the way we talk about them become their life stories. Think of the life stories we are building for our children through words that they start internalising. Language is also the thread that builds the discourse around identities. If girls are only “gentle”, “nice” and “sweet”, then their identities get restricted, and obviously, then they need protection from men who are “tough” and “strong”. And if boys are mainly “tough” and “strong”, they do not have much scope to show their vulnerabilities, to be “gentle” and/or “nice”. Such are the warped and restricted dichotomies we set up for our children from a very young age.

2. Misogyny has a tendency to show up



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

when we are least aware. It comes through in our sexist jokes and a flippant comment: “So sad that they had another daughter” or “It is high time she got married, otherwise what will happen to her!” Maybe it might come through in the way men in the family talk to the women in the house, the subtle power dynamics — what gets to be said, by whom, with what authority and what are its effects. Children are witness to it constantly. I met a 10-year-old boy whose parents had brought him to me with a concern that he was very abusive towards his mother. When we started chatting, he turned to me and said, “Why is it a problem when I say this to

Mumma? Papa talks to her like this all the time?”

3. We catch glimpses of gender biases in our homes in so many ways — the gendered toys we buy for our children (dolls for girls and cars for boys), the colours they wear (pink is only for girls, of course), the activities they pursue (dance for girls and sports for boys, arts for girls and science for boys). You might say that there is a possibility of personal preference and agency in these choices, but you will be surprised as to how much it is influenced by what we as adults want our children to do.

4. It still amazes me that so many young

girls I meet measure their value by how worthy boys regard them to be. I wish very early in their lives, girls could learn that boys have their own failings and frustrations which they might, inadvertently, unleash on the girls they meet. That is how power works in gender relationships — when men feel inadequate, they take it out on women, and when women feel inadequate, they take it out on themselves. I was in awe of this 11-year-old I met who told me that a boy in her class called her “Fatso”, to which she retorted firmly with a steely glare, “Keep your shit to yourself, otherwise you will regret it.” He never tried messing with her again.

5. That brings me to another critical issue — our girls and their bodies. It horrifies me to think of the pressure we put on our girls to be of a certain body type (skinny) and looks (fair and lovely). It is heartbreaking to see little girls, as young as nine, talk about how they are teased at school for being overweight or dark-skinned, or badgered at home to “eat less” or not play sports as that would make their skin darker. We all need to have more conversations at home and in schools on how one body types and colour of skin do not define beauty, and build cultures where body-shaming is unacceptable.

6. When we talk about gender differences, typically the issue of safety comes up and I hear parents saying, “We cannot let her go out on her own/so late/dressed like that/to these places.” I understand their concern, but my worry is that it often takes moralistic undertones and carries on way beyond teenage

years. As a young girl shared with me, “Everything I do, say, wear is always up for inspection whereas my brother can get away with anything just because he is a boy!” How unfair is that? Also, rather than just making girls responsible for their safety, we also need to have more conversations with boys on what they can do to make this world safer for girls.

7. More than anything, we need to stop seeing our children through the lens of binaries — he/she, girl/boy; we need to give them more freedom to claim identities that are not restricted by gender. Where gender preference, transitions or sexual orientation are not an issue. Now some of you might raise your eyebrows at this radical idea, but if you have young people over the age of 15 in your family, be aware that some of these conversations might have already started among them and you may have some catching up to do. They are already dismissing these binaries and maybe it is time we did the same.

I like the way writer and feminist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie puts it, “The problem with gender is that it prescribes how we should be rather than recognising how we are. Imagine how much happier we would be, how much freer to be our true individual selves, if we didn’t have the weight of gender expectations.”

(Dr Shelja Sen is therapist, writer and co-founder of Children First, a child & adolescent mental health institute) write to shelja.sen@childrenfirstindia.com

DIET DIARY

Eating protein for muscles? Watch out!

It needs to be understood how much protein is really needed and if excesses are safe



BY ISHI KHOSLA

BALANCING PROTEIN INTAKE	
Intensity of Physical activity	Gm of protein/kg body weight
Sedentary	0.8
Strength training (maintenance)	1.2-1.4
Strength training (muscle gain)	1.6-1.8
Endurance training	1.2-1.4
Weight training	1.4-1.8

IF YOU thought eating proteins will help you build muscle, think again! Protein shakes, protein powders and supplements being pushed to unsuspecting youngsters in gyms with promises of biceps and triceps may do more harm than good. It needs to be understood how much protein is really needed and if excesses are safe.

Many are under the impression that consuming a high protein diet will increase muscle mass. Athletes, like non-athletes, should consume 10-20 per cent of their daily kilocalories from protein. The recommended daily allowance for protein is 0.8 g of protein per kg of body weight.

Needs might be higher (1-1.5g/kg body weight) for periods of intense training, strength training (for weightlifters and bodybuilders) or weight restricted athletes, but there is little evidence that indicates a need for larger amounts. Assuming that they eat a nutritionally balanced diet, most athletes have no need for extra protein, except perhaps during periods of intense training.

Research suggests that the quantity of dietary protein needed to achieve maximal protein deposition is 1.5 g/kg body weight and that the limiting factor for muscle protein deposition is energy intake, not protein.

Therefore, athletes who wish to increase muscle mass should meet their energy requirements first through adequate intake of carbohydrates (60 per cent of total calories) and then check if they have met their protein requirements.

The fact is that it is weight training and not eating extra protein that is key to building and strengthening muscles. The only way to build bigger, stronger muscles is to exercise them.

To fuel heavy weight training, the

body needs extra calories, especially from carbohydrates.

According to recommendations, 500 kilocalories per day results in nearly half a kg increase in lean body weight per week during a resistance training programme.

If excessive amounts of protein is consumed, the extra calories will simply be stored as fat or burned.

It can also lead to overtraining of the kidneys and long-term metabolic problems.

A balanced diet meeting calorie requirements with adequate servings of legumes, pulses, dairy, nuts or animal food meets the daily protein needs of most adults.

It should also be noted that high protein diets containing meat and high fat dairy products may deliver an increased percentage of kilocalories from fat. For this reason, athletes should be advised to select sources of high protein foods that contain low amounts of fat, such as skim milk, low fat yogurt, lean meats, fish and poultry, beans, legumes and egg whites.

Commercial supplements may be a convenient means for some busy athletes to secure additional protein in the diet. Many of these products contain high quality protein, such as milk, whey, egg or soy protein; provide a balanced mixture of protein, carbohydrate and fat for additional calories and may also contain supplemental vitamins and minerals.

Although these products do not contain all the nutrients of natural foods, they may be useful adjuncts to a balanced diet.

Author is a clinical nutritionist and founder of www.theweightmonitor.com and Whole Foods India



JANE E BRODY

ABOUT A decade ago, Michael Valenti of Woodstock, New York, suddenly developed severe pain in the lower right side of his abdomen. He had a slight fever and thought he had appendicitis. So did his doctor, who sent him to the emergency room, where an MRI revealed not appendicitis but diverticulitis, an infection in an outpouching of his colon he never knew he had.

The attack came “out of the clear blue,” Valenti told me, and was especially confusing because the vast majority of diverticular pouches and resulting infections develop in the sigmoid colon located in the left lower abdomen.

Diverticulosis, as the diverticular pouches are called, is very common in Western countries, where the typical overly refined diet is low in fibre, and the risk of developing it increases with age, reaching 60 per cent by age 70. Unless the pouches are discovered in the course of an unrelated exam, like a colonoscopy, most people with diverticulosis don’t know they have it.

However, the pouches can trap food residue as it passes through the colon and become perfect breeding grounds for bacteria. As a result, about 20 per cent of people with diverticulosis will develop diverticulitis, an inflammation and infection that if not adequately treated can result in dangerous abscesses, perforation of the colon and peritonitis.

Some people with diverticulosis also have chronic repeated bouts of gastrointestinal symptoms like abdominal pain, bloating, constipation and diarrhoea, symptoms that mimic those of irritable bowel syndrome.

For Valenti, who said he had no prior intestinal symptoms, a potent antibiotic and days on nothing but clear liquids cleared up the infection, and he was told at the time to avoid eating nuts, seeds and foods like blueberries, strawberries and crackers with seeds. One-quarter to one-third of patients with diverticulitis have recurrent episodes, and two years ago Valenti became one of them. Again, he recovered on antibiotics and



How fruits, grains protect against Diverticulitis

Our diets are overly refined. Eating more whole fruits, especially apples, pears and prunes, can help our digestive health

clear liquids.

Then last spring he had a third attack. In between the last two episodes, the advice to avoid nuts and seeds was debunked. This time the doctor advised Valenti to increase his intake of fibre, but failed to tell this 69-year-old meat-and-potatoes lover what he should eat to avoid yet another attack and its potentially serious complications.

Hearing this, I sent Valenti a recently published article documenting the dietary habits and risk of diverticulitis among more than 50,000 midlife women in the *Nurses’ Health Study* who were initially free of intestinal disease and were followed for two dozen years. During that time, 4,343 of the women developed diverticulitis, with the highest risk of the disorder occurring among those who consumed the least amount of dietary fibre.

Most protective, the study found, was fibre from fruits and cereals. Eating more

whole fruits (as opposed to sauces and juices) and especially apples, pears and prunes resulted in the lowest risk of developing diverticulitis. Fibre from vegetables, beans and lentils was

also associated with a reduced risk of the infection. Each additional daily serving of whole fruits lowered the risk by 5 per cent, and women who consumed nearly 10 gm of cereal fibre each day were 10 per cent less likely to develop diverticulitis than those who ate the least, about 3 gm. A half-cup of Kellogg’s All-Bran cereal, for example, has a whopping 10 gm of fibre, whereas three-fourths cup of cooked oatmeal has only 3 gm, and a cup of Cheerios, Valenti’s favourite, also has 3 gm of fibre.

In the *Nurses’ Health Study*, insoluble fibre, such as that found in bran cereal, was more protective than soluble fibre in foods like black beans. Avocados, sweet potatoes and broccoli are good sources of both kinds of fibre.

In an earlier study among nearly 44,000 male health professionals, fibre from fruit and vegetables, but not cereal, was linked to a reduced risk of diverticular disease.

Valenti, who admitted that “I don’t eat as much fruit as I should”, said he now knows he must do better if he wants to remain healthy.

Meanwhile, his wife, Linda Brewer, who also hopes to head off yet another attack and who recently learned she had borderline diabetes, has adapted the couple’s at-home menu to include plenty of fibre-rich whole grains and more salads, vegetables and legumes. White rice, white pasta and white bread are no longer served and rarely eaten.

Low-fibre diets reduce the volume and water content of the stool. This predisposes to constipation that in turn increases pressure within the colon that can weaken the muscles of the colonic wall, resulting in a herniation, or diverticular pouch.

An imbalance in the bacterial population of the colon may account for the influence of dietary fibre on the risk of chronic inflammation in the colon even without the development of diverticulitis, researchers at Yale University School of Medicine suggested. They reported in *Therapeutic Advances in Gastroenterology* in 2013 that a low-fibre diet changes the composition of bacteria in the colon, resulting in a significant increase in anaerobic microorganisms. They suggested that probiotics may help to restore a healthier population of bacteria in the gut.

Ideally, the benefits of dietary fibre in preventing diverticular disease and resulting infections should be tested in well-designed clinical trials, which are unfortunately too costly and difficult to perform.

In lieu of a more definitive study, the wise consumer would act on the basis of existing evidence from extensive epidemiological research. Decades of studies have suggested that we should all be consuming a fibre-rich diet, and not only for intestinal health.

A high-fibre diet can help reduce the risk of heart disease and diabetes and make it easier to maintain a healthy weight. The soluble fibre in beans and oats, for example, may help to lower blood levels of artery-damaging LDL cholesterol. In people with diabetes, soluble fibre helps to control blood sugar levels. And because fibre-rich foods are more filling than low-fibre ones, they can enable you to eat less and stay satisfied longer. They also tend to have fewer calories than in the same volume of low-fibre foods.

The National Academy of Medicine’s recommended daily intake of fibre for adults aged 50 or younger is 38 gm for men and 25 gm for women; for adults 51 and older, it is 30 gm for men and 21 gm for women. Check the nutrition information on packaged foods or consult a list like that found at MedlinePlus.

NYT

SHORT COURSE

[0-20 YEARS]

Wash your hands in bathroom to guard against E. coli infection



WHILE IT’S important to wash your hands carefully after handling raw chicken, it may be even more important to wash them after going to the bathroom. The most dangerous antibiotic-resistant strains of E.coli, called ESBLs, are transmitted not through food, according to new research, but through contact of human faeces with human mouths. British researchers have found that one multidrug-resistant strain of ESBL-E.coli, ST131, responsible for a mortality rate as high as 35 per cent in humans, was found in more than 60 per cent of human blood-stream infections, but was extremely rare in live animals and non-existent in foods. The study is in *Lancet Infectious Diseases*. NYT

[20-30 YEARS]

Omega-3s show little or no benefit for depression, anxiety



SOME STUDIES, and many ads, suggest that omega-3 supplements are helpful for improving mental health. But a systematic review of research has found the supplements are probably ineffective in treating or preventing depression and anxiety. The analysis, in *British Journal of Psychiatry*, included long-term trials of omega-3 fatty acid supplementation. Omega-3s are found in fatty fish like salmon and other foods. Neither length of treatment nor size of dosage demonstrated effectiveness. The review included 32 randomised trials testing supplements of omega-3, linoleic acid and polyunsaturated fatty acids with 41,467 participants. NYT

[30-50 YEARS]

Poor sleep may be bad for your cardiovascular health



CHINESE RESEARCHERS used data on 4,87,200 people between 30 and 79 years of age. The participants reported on frequency of three symptoms of poor sleep: difficulty falling asleep, daytime sleepiness and early morning awakening. The study is in *Neurology*. The scientists followed the group for an average of 10 years, during which there were 1,30,032 cases of cardiovascular disease. After adjusting for several factors, they found difficulty falling asleep was associated with a 9 per cent increased relative risk for cardiovascular disease, early morning awakening with a 7 per cent increased risk, and daytime sleepiness with a 13 per cent increased risk. NYT

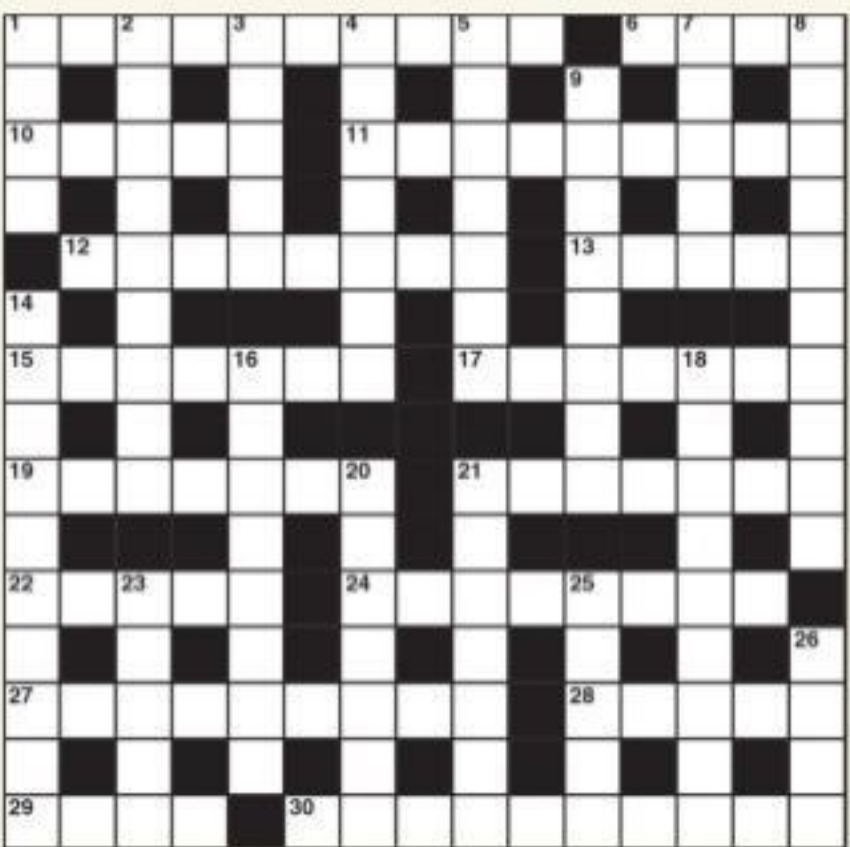
[50+ YEARS]

Another reason to take BP drugs: Lower dementia risk



CONTROLLING BLOOD pressure in middle age may reduce the risk for dementia. Pooled data from six large observational studies suggests that antihypertensive medicines may lower risk for Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia. The review is in *Lancet Neurology*. The studies involved more than 31,000 participants older than 55, with follow-ups ranging from seven to 22 years. In all, there were 1,741 diagnoses of Alzheimer’s disease and 3,728 cases of other dementias. Among the 15,537 people with high blood pressure, those using antihypertensive medicine had a 12 per cent reduced risk for dementia and a 16 per cent reduced risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease. NYT

CROSSWORD 3964



- ACROSS**
- 1 Decline to leave rubbish for removal (6,2,2)
 - 6 Counterfoil seen in the ashtray (4)
 - 10 Her calling is a dangerous one (5)
 - 11 Turns round and ejects a sailor (4,5)
 - 12 In turn I've become idle (8)
 - 13 He goes round a short way in a hurry (5)
 - 15 Falling behind in providing winter insulation? (7)
 - 17 Joined by a sailor - or the parson (7)
 - 19 Enormous disaster struck it (7)
 - 21 Contempt for a futile action (7)
 - 22 Not left straight (5)
 - 24 No varieties in the numbers crawling (3,5)
 - 27 She makes hot claret (9)
 - 28 Correct men in the finish (5)
 - 29 In paradise this was the third son's name (4)
 - 30 Clearly determined to provide a good reception (7,3)
- DOWN**
- 1 No work remains (4)
 - 2 Badly torn in a fray that lasts for days (9)
 - 3 Sound of icons breaking (5)
 - 4 Haute cuisine sauce? (7)
 - 5 They carry away the waste from fish cleaners (7)
 - 7 They may be used to make a stool (5)
 - 8 Comparatively good times when gambling takes place? (6,4)
 - 9 These priests may lead the masses (8)
 - 14 Kitchen accessories subsequently put into bundles (5,5)
 - 16 Any in let out, naturally (8)
 - 18 Gloomy supporters will if their team's doing badly (9)
 - 20 Rattle made by vibrating teeth of ratchet (7)
 - 21 They should know how to prepare a good meal (7)
 - 23 General accord (5)
 - 25 Entertainment means there's a great time after work (5)
 - 26 An entrance I'd turn in at (4)

Solutions Crossword 3963: Across: 1 Dessert, 5 Poses, 8 Freelance, 9 Rue, 10 Read, 12 Tenement, 14 Eroded, 15 Avenue, 17 Addition, 18 Isis, 21 Tub, 22 Transport, 24 Clear, 25 Endless. Down: 1 Defer, 2 Sue, 3 Eels, 4 Tandem, 5 Preserve, 6 Sergeants, 7 Sheathe, 11 Avoidable, 13 Testator, 14 Elastic, 16 Morale, 19 Sites, 20 Used, 23 Ode.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

You're liable to shy away from social engagements or emotional risks. It seems as if what will suit you most now are discreet get-togethers, peace and quiet. Above all you need to feel loved. You draw your strength from partners' goodwill, sympathy and support.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Today is the day that Mercury, which signifies your deepest thoughts and imaginings, adopts a new set of alignments. This is an astrological way of saying that, before you turn a corner, you would do well to pause for a moment and take stock and also take an extra look at the details.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You have been more prone than most people to vague suspicions and strange imaginings. However, I believe that from now on all mysteries will be cleared up and most of your questions answered. You should be relieved that a partner's opposition has now subsided.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Stick up for yourself. You ought to be ringing the changes with increasing confidence and determination. Everything you do at the moment, however personal or trivial, will stand you in good stead when the planetary whirlwind picks up speed again in a few weeks.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Shopping sprees are on the agenda thanks to the Moon's relationship with Mars. You don't have to take partners' assertions as the absolute truth - make a few waves and insist your ideas are taken into account. You might also find yourself footing the bill for a social outing.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Much the same advice applies today as yesterday - relax and indulge yourself. There's plenty of scope for fun, so please don't succumb to the general mood of selfishness or make unnecessary emotional demands on partners. If you're tempted to argue over a principle then stop and think: you might just be wrong.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Your traditional ways of doing things have proved remarkably effective. If there's a Libran motto, it must be 'first among equals'. You are cleverly able to give the illusion that everyone's interests are being respected while in fact you're getting your own way. Clever old you.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

You seem to have a much better idea of the reasons for recent upsets than other people. The Moon is defending your interests, teaching you that it is all right to be a sensitive Scorpio. For once, the world should be marching in step with you, and you should be the one who calls the tune.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

The Moon, planet of emotion, is linking up with Mars, ruler of active change. Even long-established ties or associations have to alter in some way, and you must realise that there is simply no point in endeavouring to turn the clock back. You have to face the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

At a time when some people still seem determined to argue, you can either enter the fray or remain aloof. Either way, try to prove by your statements and actions just how spiritually advanced and mature you are. Travel stars look just fine. Trips to sentimental places will please.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

There is no earthly reason why you should be the one to fork out when other people are short of cash. Still, seeing as this is an extravagant moment, you may as well spend money where it's needed. If you're entertaining friends, then your plans may require bribe trips or extra phone calls.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You suspect someone of betraying your trust, but you may have misread the situation. Although you are the most loyal and staunchest of companions, you won't stick around for long if you're not appreciated. And I can think of no good reason why you should.

JUMBLED WORDS

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

Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to _____ to the town gossip - Will Rogers (4,4,6)

DAERR



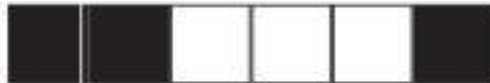
BEILLT



MOORS



ERVPUY



SOLUTION: DERRAN, LITELY, PURVEY, LITELY. Answer: Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to litely to the town gossip - Will Rogers

SUDOKU 4031

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 4030



DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

E-Tender Notice

Attention for Local Road Transport of Rly. Materials to be Transported by Road.

DLW/Varanasi has invited E-tender for on behalf of President of India for entering into Road Transport contract for various types of transport vehicles for transportation. 1. **Tender No.:** Sale - 19002-R 2. **Tender Opening date :** 03.12.2019 at 15:30 hrs. 3. **Estimated cost of total premium will be:** Rs. 6.56 lakh. (GST inclusive) +/- 25% 4. **Duration of contract:** One year from the date of placement of contract which can be extended for further 06 months (six months) in 02 Installments of 03 months each. **Note:** Only E-offers will be accepted for which vendors must have class III digital signature and Registration on IREPS website. **P.R.O/DLWS-102** **Form Principal Chief Material Manager**

f / dieselocoworks "Website :- www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in"

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23 REVIEWS

CINEMA & MUSIC



Her for Her

CHARLIE'S ANGELS
★★★

Director: Elizabeth Banks
Cast: Kristen Stewart, Ella Balinska, Naomi Scott, Elizabeth Banks, Patrick Stewart, Djimon Hounsou

WHEN THE world is at stake, you really don't have to make it too complicated so as to ramp up the danger quotient. That's the strength of this *Charlie's Angels* reboot, in which women bond, women lead, women cry, women save, and women load their guns with tranquillisers, to keep the blood and gore limited, even as they follow the breadcrumbs to save the world.

Director, co-screenwriter Banks also stars in this light, breezy story, which while making a slow start and sagging in the middle, finishes with a decent flourish. The message for female empowerment, in a franchise that was slammed for sexism when it first appeared as a TV series, is not laid thick either. The film's true motto is that Angels come in all forms, a global sisterhood that is out there for the tapping.

While Kristen Stewart is her sulky self in the beginning, and you fear that her seeming resentment towards almost everything will lie like a wet blanket over proceedings (which frankly can only be pulled off if those caught up in it are having fun), she gets into the act with gusto later. This time, Charlie's three Angels are as different as they come, and mostly muscular and lithe. The bisexual Stewart's leanings are also broadly hinted at. Scott's Elena is the damsel-in-distress sort, but the source of her power ultimately is her mind. Balinska is more sure-footed from the beginning about what the film expects of her Angel.

Banks stages most fights well, and there is an innovative scene when the Angels break into a high-security building for a device some very bad guys are after.

Next time, and there may be a next time, keep it a little shorter and keep it a little faster.

SL

Reality Check

JHALKI: EK AUR BACHPAN
★★

Director: Brahmananda S Singh
Cast: Aarti Jha, Goraksh Sakpal, Govind Namdeo, Sanjay Suri, Divya Dutta, Tannisha Chatterjee

DOCUMENTARIAN BRAHMANANDA S Singh gets some things quite right in *Jhalki: Ek Aur Bachpan*. Like the colour of its little Jhalki's straw brown hair. It remains the same, uncombed, entangled, carrying its UP village with it, even after at least one good wash. That hair tells the problems with this film as good as any: its imagination is limited to the atmospherics; its characters (and some very good actors) flounder about.

Inspired by Kailash Satyarthi, his Bachpan Bachao Andolan and "true events", the film has a clear enough brief — from a UP village a middleman routinely takes children to the town for labour, offering their parents money, fending off their anxious

queries with small gifts such as an LED torch. Jhalki is determined not to let her younger brother meet the same fate, and so follows him to Mirzapur town when that happens. There she goes looking for him, as the officials let her down and a journalist comes to her rescue, through the labyrinthine hovels of the town's carpet-weaving industry.

If the story is tailor-made for tears, Singh doesn't try to spare any. However, the film leaves one unmoved due to its cardboard characters, but for the spunky Jhalki, her brother Babu (Jha and Sakpal, respectively), and her village. Where the film is most heartbreaking is in its realisation of the desperation of poverty — when it is not busy romanticising it. It layers the very soil of Jhalki's home, it underlines her deepest fears, it keeps her awake at night and makes her grow up too early, it allows her to be thankful that her alcoholic father is not turning out her brother as yet, it explains Jhalki's belief of the Collector as raja (her understanding of the world coming from an ani-

MOTHERLESS BROOKLYN ★★★

Director: Edward Norton **Cast:** Edward Norton, Bruce Willis, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Alec Baldwin, Cherry Jones, Willem Dafoe, Bobby Cannavale

In the City's Shadow



SHALINI LANGER

THE TALENTED Ed Norton spent a decade developing the award-winning Jonathan Lethem novel by the same name. Fortuitously though, there couldn't have been a better time for Norton's film. The film's high-ranking New York public official, Moses Randolph, is clearly based on the man credited with building that city in real life, Robert Moses. However, Rudolph could well be based on two other men who have come to represent that city now — whose role, on top of it, is central to the ongoing impeachment proceedings in the US — Donald Trump and former New York mayor Rudy aka Rudolph Giuliani.

Unlike the 1990s setting of the novel, the film is based in the 1950s, when the effects of the recession and WWII are yet to wear off, creating fertile territory for men like Rudolph, who pit themselves as leaders of action rather than of words. As Alec Baldwin, whose flourish lends an extra sheen of angry righteousness to Rudolph puts it, it's him or "the goody-goody progressives with their paralysing ideals". He

isn't "above" the law, but "ahead" of it, Rudolph explains, for once he has given the city "what it needs", laws mould themselves to it.

In his zeal to build bridges, highways and housing, the ones being forced to make way are the poor and Blacks. That makes Rudolph a villain in many eyes, and leading from the front are another city official, Horowitz (Jones), and her aide, lawyer Laura (Mbatha-Raw). Norton plays private detective Lionel, who suffers from Tourette's Syndrome (the film doesn't have a name for it, unlike the novel, and leaves Lionel explaining his tics and itches throughout). Lionel gets interested in Rudolph after his mentor, Frank (Willis), is shot investigating something that leads up to the powerbroker.

Director/screenwriter/actor Norton gets the mood of the 1950s right, as he does the despair of New York's condemned colonies. Laura's adoptive father runs a jazz club, lending the film some soulful music. The four men, including Lionel, running Frank's detective agency now seem truly bound by their secrets and ghosts, carried over from a past that in-

cludes war and shared life at a strict Catholic orphanage.

Norton has an impressive cast that turns up even for bit roles, including Willis, while Norton himself is in superlative, if indulgent, form as the man who has been seeking answers all his life — encumbered by his own mind, which he once dubs an "anarchist".

The film itself though is laboured, its mysteries not as dense as it would like to believe. Corruption, power, unelected officials, big money, small people, and murder don't shock any more. Plus, rather than exploring absolute power — but for two passionate speeches by Rudolph — the film veers into a much lamer scandal in comparison. This is a significant departure from the book, among others.

However, as Horowitz puts it, what's the point if one "doesn't call out things as they are". Especially when, in words of another character, played by Dafoe, it's easy to overlook such things, in the comfortable notion that "we are in a democracy... How bad could things be?"

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mated folk tale, that is the film's tallest leap of imagination), it inhabits the living quarters of the boys at the carpet-weaving unit, it can't speak its name outside closed rooms where a man leads a small boy after caressing his cheek, and it lingers in the grateful smile of parents who see the middleman as a godsend. However, even as it acknowl-

edges much of it, including what the rich and powerful pass off as their "generosity", it keeps coming back to that straw hair (Satyarthi himself remains almost unseen). Jhalki the girl goes far — including scarily roaming the streets of Mirzapur at night. *Jhalki* the film, released on Children's Day, does not.

SL



DVD & BLU-RAY

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★★★★

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Race to the Finish

FORD V FERRARI
★★★★

Director: James Mangold
Cast: Christian Bale, Matt Damon

ANDREW AMSAN

TEST DRIVER and engineer Ken Miles (Christian Bale) is trying to cope with the fact that he doesn't get to drive a car he fine-tuned because he does not fit the image of a Ford driver. Henry Ford II, the eldest grandson of the founder of the automobile giant, is staring at huge losses in the early '60s.

An image makeover is deemed necessary to revive the company, and hence it is decided to take the motorsports route.

But there is one hurdle, Ford doesn't make sports cars. Ford doesn't have a racing team. A window opens in the form of rivals Ferrari, who are running extremely low on resources. But the deal fails and Enzo Ferrari, the boss of the Italian company, isn't very graceful in his words to his American rival.

Ford is desperate to avenge the humiliation and decides to do something outrageous: Build a race car in 90 days and take on multiple-time winners Ferrari at the 24 Hours of Le Mans — the Tour de France of car racing.

Ford ropes in car designer and former racer

Carroll Shelby (Matt Damon), and Miles, a short-tempered, stubborn engineer, is the anointed one to dethrone the Italians.

Damon and Bale's gripping performances ensure the movie doesn't end up becoming only a contest between two businessmen with inflated egos. Miles lets you into his mind where you see his love, fascination, passion and admiration for the super cars.

James Mangold, who directed the superhero movie *Logan* in 2017, brings back the good-ole '60s feel to the two-and-a-half-hours movie. The storyline is extremely simple, and even people with little or no knowledge of professional racing should find it engaging.

It's a great relief that the movie, unlike most sports films, features no montages and hazy flashback scenes. It's all in the moment. The biggest challenge for any movie based on real-life incidents is to keep the audience hooked as the eventual outcome is no secret, and *Ford v Ferrari* manages to do that, thanks to its lead characters. Your heart is bound to race as Miles hits those tight corners, you will feel a rush of blood when Shelby takes those bold decisions from the pit stop, and at the end of the movie, you'll realise, it is not all about winning.

It's about answering your calling. How do you find your calling?

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Home Alone

HOUSE ARREST (NETFLIX)
★★★

Director: Samit Basu and Shashanka Ghosh
Cast: Ali Fazal, Shriya Pilgaonkar, Jim Sarbh



CAN YOU ever imagine not stepping out of your house for a discernible period of time, come what may? Even when your car is being stolen? And no this is not part of a higher scientific/lifestyle experiment, nor are you doing this consciously. One day led to another, and the house door became a *lakshman rekha*. In *House Arrest*, we meet Karan, played by Ali Fazal, who has not stepped out of his home for — wait for it — nine months. He works out of his home through Skype, waters his plants, and yes, whips up lavash wraps in a jiffy. All coercion, methods and tricks, including those by his best friend, JD (Jim Sarbh), to get him out of the house have failed. He uses the system around him, the help, the maid, the watchmen to facilitate his hermit-like existence. There is also an annoying pink-wearing-pink-talking neighbour Pinky, who walks all over Karan. There is a pink faux fur covered suitcase in the mix, along with supremely clear and detailed holograms. Things pick up when Saira (Shriya Pilgaonkar), a journalist who is intrigued by his life choices, lands on his door and wants to write a story on him. Saira thinks Karan is a practitioner of Hikikomori, a Japanese lifestyle trend where young adults decry society and go into a self-imposed exile. But Karan affirms that his exile is not deliberate and he is living

well without the need to interact.

Spanning 24 hours, the film touches upon themes like mental well-being, cost of the rat race, and why do we, at times, need to just step back, and yes, smell the coffee. The film, written by novelist Samit Basu, is high on the details, and we see the quirks of the characters come out in subtle ways. He is obsessed with order and precision, and has a thing for old motion sensor video games.

Karan's house deserves a special mention. A typical train house of Delhi has been converted to a wonderful living space, replete with quirky artwork and pleasing aesthetics and design. But which guy keeps his house this clean, we wonder, and so does a visibly baffled Saira.

Set in Delhi, the film sounds like Delhi but the dialogues and the banter could have been more engaging. Fazal passes off as an urban, suave former banker, but there are times when we see him slip into a Mirzapur twang. The performances don't uplift the screenplay and a few things jar. Saira plays a journalist who is there to interview him but neither does she take notes nor switches on her recorder.

The film is a one-time watch, on a lazy evening. And yes, don't accept any strange packages from your over friendly neighbour who has a towering bodyguard on call. **EM**

Tried, Tested and Failed

MARJAAVAAN
★

Director: Milap Zaveri
Cast: Sidharth Malhotra, Riteish Deshmukh, Tara Sutaria

EKTA MALIK

IF ONLY *Marjaavaan* was the name of a time capsule whose main aim was to fill you in on everything that was tried, tested and failed from the Eighties. But no such luck, this is a film set in present day Mumbai, and we had the misfortune to watch it first day first show. Just three minutes into the film and you realise this is not a tongue-in-cheek parody of the problematic film decade, but rather a loud, half-hearted attempt to recreate and celebrate it with dialogues like *main maarunga toh mar jayega, doosra janam lena se dar jayega*, uttered by local goon Raghu (Malhotra), as he beats up a whole army of bad guys. Sporting a bandana and a jacket, Raghu is the right-hand man of local water mafia Narayan Anna (Nasser) — we are reminded of Anna (Nana Patekar) from *Parinda*, minus the gravitas and nuanced layers of the character. Now Narayan has groomed Raghu, an orphan as his right-hand man, and showers him with affection and love deserving of a son he never had. But wait, Narayan does have a son, a three-foot-tall-one at that. Enter Riteish Deshmukh as



Vishnu, humming *Teri galliyaan* from *Ek Villain*, the last outing of Deshmukh and Malhotra, where they were pitched against each other. So it turns out, Vishnu has always sought daddy dear's approval to no avail. The rivalry between Vishnu and Raghu is the core of the cringeworthy two-hour plus saga. While *Ek Villain* worked to some end, this one has a paper-thin plot and well, nothing else.

Every trope from the Eighties is in play — the poor orphan who owes everything to his mafia boss, a prostitute with a heart of gold, and a doe-eyed, smiling heroine Zoya (Sutaria) who will change the way the wayward hero looks at this crime-infested world.

Because yes, it's 2019 and the only job that women have is to reform men. There is a twerking-heavy, gyrating remix number by Norah Fatehi as well, which starts with the lines *kal meri shaadi hai, par aaj raat azaadi hai*. The entire cast talks in one liners, with the idea of eliciting whistles and claps, but none of the lines land.

The gravity defying stunts and dialogues like *tashan se jashan manayenge; teen foot ke jism se do takke ki zindagi* do nothing but make you cringe. You again check your phone, if per chance you have entered a different time and space quantum. No luck. Again.

The director tries to weave in current issues like communalism and the Kashmir problem, but nothing sticks.

Malhotra tries to play the angry lover who can take on an army alone, but sadly this trope has been perfected by so many actors that Malhotra's performance seems like a sad parody. Sutaria, as Malhotra's lady love and as someone who has suffered from the situation in Kashmir, is too perfect with her flawless nude makeup and blow-dried hair to be believable. Also, what is the super-talented Suhasini Mulay doing in the film?

Marjaavaan could perhaps be used as a new drinking game, where you raise your glass whenever a melodramatic or a rhyming one liner is delivered. You will get drunk in the first half hour itself. Guaranteed.

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Flight of Fancy

MOTICHOOR CHAKNACHOOR
★★★

Director: Debamitra Biswal
Cast: Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Athiya Shetty, Vibha Chibber, Bhumi Dube

WHAT CAME before, Nawazuddin Siddiqui or Athiya Shetty? In the answer to that may lie a key to understanding this film, which is a good enough comedy within the circle of its two families and their many side characters, but is astonishingly regressive in how it treats its men, women, marriage, looks, age, even dowry.

Shetty plays a girl called Anita, better known as Ani, whose only ambition in life is to somehow settle abroad — the easiest route being marriage. One motivation for this is her friends who have done likewise and who now flood her timeline with pictures of their new lives.

Siddiqui plays Pushpinder, the son of Ani's neighbour, who is pushing 40, works in Dubai and who is, presumably, a virgin given his desperation for a bride.

While it's clear from the start that this one and one will eventually equal two, the



film goes out of its way to underline how mismatched the two are, in all departments: Ani is 20-something, tall, fair, beautiful; and Pushpinder is everything but a dream partner for her. There are other, more basic reasons why this marriage seems horribly wrong, but those you know will eventually resolve themselves. To kill any lingering surprise, the film rushes through each of its potential climaxes in remarkably anticlimactic manner.

The regrettable part is that *Motichoor Chaknachoor*, in parts, hits the nail right on the head. In the limited world and vaulting desires of its Ani, in the fascination that a visa holds for middle-class India, in what it means to be the parents of a girl and of a boy, in the way it dresses its characters through

a mild, consistent winter pairing shawls with saris and socks with parted big toes with slippers, and even tackling head-on the discomfort of a tall woman and a shorter consort.

However, holding marriage as the be-all and end-all of life itself, the film keeps returning to this central theme. It's hard to believe that a woman who walks into a jewellery shop with Rs 4 lakh in cash can't find a way to go abroad on her own. *Queen* did it many years back. Pushpinder questions this desire that Ani defines as her "ambition", asking her to go abroad on her own merit if that's what she wants.

Ambition isn't a word one often hears in Bollywood — even Hollywood for that matter. Sure enough, they never finish that talk.

SL

Mayank 2.00

A few years ago, Agarwal changed his approach from compulsive shot-making to batting time, it's paid rich dividends

SRIRAM VEERA
INDORE, NOVEMBER 15

“DO YOU love batting?” Mayank Agarwal was taken aback by the question from his childhood coach RX Murali. “Yes, yes, I love it, obviously,” he nodded. “Then why are you spending so much time sitting in the dressing room?” questioned Murali. The chat dates back to the time when Agarwal would hit a sparkling 30-40 and get out to a flashy shot and warm the chair in the change room.

None of the weary Bangladeshi bowlers and fielders would have asked that question to Agarwal on a day he ransacked them for 243 runs and propelled India to 493 for 6 — a lead of 343 runs. Murali was all smiles in Surat, talent-spotting for an IPL team at the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 tournament, as he kept track of Agarwal's progression from 100 to 150 to 200.

“I remember telling him, ‘if you like batting then keep batting, there are men paid to field the ball all day long, bowl all day long and you are paid to bat all day long — why would you let this dream go and instead be satisfied with a small score?’ I remember telling him that if a batsman gets 12-15 good days in a season and he should make each of those days count. Really count,” Murali told *The Indian Express* by phone.

As far as Murali is concerned, the importance of a big double hundred against Bangladesh goes beyond the lack of venom in the attack. It was more about how self-driven, focussed, and in control Agarwal remained during the course of a long knock. The bowling wasn't strong enough but the question was whether India would take their foot off the pedal. They didn't, as Agarwal and Ajinkya Rahane soaked up the early loss of Cheteshwar Pujara and Virat Kohli, who was out for a rare duck, trapped in front of the wicket by Abu Jayed's gentle in-dipper.

Those who have tuned in to the last few run-laden seasons from Agarwal might not realise it but there was a time when the talented opener was gripped with self-doubts. Since his teenage days, shot-making wasn't a problem; his ambition for big scores was. But since the runs kept coming almost easily, he never quite graduated mentally to the next step.

When runs stopped coming in domestic cricket, coupled with the fact that his friends and peers from Karnataka and the domestic circuit started to go past him — some breaking into the Indian team and a few making India A — he began to fret.

“The self-doubts did cause me worries but it was also a sign that he now cared. And he wanted to change his approach,” said Murali.

Rebuilding career, brick by brick

The path ahead was clear: the focus shouldn't be on shots but the number of balls faced in a match. The practice hours in Bangalore lengthened. A check list was drawn. Was the technique good? By and large it was, but they realised the defense had to be tightened up. And the ability to take singles and rotate the strike. “Even in matches, his focus then changed to counting the number of singles. We had a number in mind: at least 30 singles. And instead of counting the number of fours, he started to count the singles.” Incidentally, on Friday, he had 51 singles.

Not that it led to things changing overnight. The coach and the player discovered that the mental tiredness would set in which would trigger problems in shot selection.

“So, I would make him train in the nets when he was really tired. Say after he had already played for a few hours, then take him into an intense net session. What that did was it helped him discover for himself the mistakes that crept in. It could be a foot movement, or the kind of shots he played, or trouble in watching the ball carefully. So, when he discovered it for himself, the solution was easy.”

It then was carried on into match situations. “Now he was aware when the first sign of



MAYANK AGARWAL GREAT AGAIN

Agarwal gestures towards the dressing room after bringing up his double hundred against Bangladesh on Friday. It was his second double ton in four matches. *BCCI*

■ **TWELVE** is the number of innings taken by Mayank Agarwal to score two double-centuries in his Test career. He is second fastest to the feat after compatriot Vinod Kambli, who took just five innings to register two double tons in 1993. Mayank reaches there faster than batting's ultimate yardstick Sir Donald Bradman whose second double came in his 13th innings.

■ **Indian batsmen** have now scored four double hundreds in the last four Test matches. Agarwal's 215 in against SA in Vizag was followed by Virat Kohli's 254* in Pune, before Rohit Sharma struck 212 in Ranchi. In 2016-17, India had three successive Tests with a double-centurion. Kohli and Karun Nair reached the mark in the last two Tests against England. Kohli then followed it up with another double against Bangladesh.

the mistake comes. When you can spot it quickly, you can solve it as well. That was what all those long training did. It wasn't just him hitting balls mindlessly but these were the things we worked on. So, it isn't a surprise that he scores big hundreds these days.”

It was the breezy start to his cricketing career, that in hindsight, led to a sense of complacency in Agarwal.

“When he was 17, he had played for India U-19 and got everyone's praise about his shot-making ability. That led to him focussing more and more on hitting the ball and settling for scores far less than what he was capable of. Things started to turn in his early 20s. It was then that he started to see his friends go past him. He began to wonder what he wasn't doing right, and later when big scores didn't come, he started to question himself — but he got out of it and decided to do something about it,” Murali says of the 28-year-old.

His friends and former teammate Robin Uthappa says Agarwal had “started to criticise himself a bit too much when he was down. And he was a very restless character too. That combo hurt him then”.

The all-round mental development began a few seasons ago and it has been recorded in sports pages extensively — from *vipassana* to self-help books, from meditation to getting a routine to help him calm down.

“The main focus for us has been the first

hour of play. His calming routines help him stay in the moment then and focus on each ball. Once the hour passes, it becomes a sort of auto-pilot. Everything is smooth and natural,” the coach says.

Bangladesh would agree as the sixes kept coming — eight in all — as he started to size up and swing. The boundary riders didn't matter as he started to scythe away. “I am an aggressive batsman and I back myself. If I am batting and if I feel the bowler landing in my half or flighting, I definitely plan and attack,” Agarwal would later say.

His coach though reckons we are yet to see the real Agarwal, even after 28 fours and 8 sixes.

“He is a wonderfully attacking batsman, capable of so much more. I would say he is still evolving. Right now, the focus is how to play long knocks without losing concentration.”

And if at all his mind wandered on Friday, his captain Virat Kohli was out there, reminding him to carry on. When he reached the hundred and 150, Kohli would put up two fingers, signalling a double hundred. Once that arrived, Kohli wanted a triple, but as it would turn out, Agarwal ended up holing out at 243.

Once he gets back to the hotel, Agarwal lands on a virtual island and starts gunning down other people on PubG. Hunting down daddy tons in the day, immersing himself in virtual bloodbath in the evenings — just another day in the life of a Test opener.

SCORECARD » Ind vs Ban

1st Test | Indore | Toss: B'desh

B'DESH 1ST INNG **150 IN 58.3 OV**

IND 1ST INNG **493/6 IN 114 OV**

M Agarwal c Jayed b Miraz **243**
(330b, 28x4, 8x6)
R Sharma c f Liton b Jayed **6** (14b, 1x4)
C Pujara c sub (Saif) b Jayed **54** (72b, 9x4)
R Jadeja not out **0** (2b)
V Kohli lbw b Jayed **86** (172b, 9x4)
A Rahane c T Islam b Jayed **60** (76b, 6x4, 2x6)
R Jadeja not out **12** (11b, 2x4)
W Saha b Ebadat **25** (10b, 1x4, 3x6)
U Yadav not out

■ **Extras:** (lb 1, nb 3, w 3) **7**
■ **FoW:** 1-14 (Rohit, 72 ov), 2-105 (Pujara, 29.5 ov), 3-119 (Kohli, 31.5 ov), 4-309 (Rahane, 85.4 ov), 5-432 (Agarwal, 107.3 ov), 6-454 (Saha, 110.5 ov)

■ **Bowling:** Ebadat Hossain 31-5-115-1, Abu Jayed 25-3-108-4, Tajjul Islam 28-4-120-0, Mehidy Hasan Miraz 27-0-125-1, Mahmudullah 3-0-24-0

Bangladesh needs to change team structure: Coach Domingo

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
INDORE, NOVEMBER 15

BANGLADESH CRICKET needs a paradigm shift in culture just like the current Indian team, which can now rely on its pacers to win Test matches even at home, said coach Russell Domingo.

Domingo was the South Africa coach in the Test series of 2015 where India's spinners wreaked havoc on rank turners to defeat the Proteas. But this Indian team doesn't have to rely on spin-friendly tracks to get the desired results, feels Domingo.

“There's no doubt that in the past that India backed themselves to win at home on spinning pitches. Now I don't think that's the

‘India no longer rely on spinners. They will prepare good wickets and back their fast bowlers to do the business.’

case. I think they are backing themselves against any team on good pitches. There's definitely a mindset shift,” said Domingo.

“It is something that Bangladesh also needs to do by trying to develop fast bowlers, prepare wickets that help fast bowlers. India no longer rely on spinners. They will prepare good wickets and back their fast bowlers to do the business,” he said.

Bangladesh missed a third seamer and Domingo feels that the “structure needs to change” if they want to do well in this format.

“The structure of the team needs to change. It is very hard to play with two seamers. We definitely need to find a third seamer who can bat. There's Saifuddin but he is struggling with injuries.”

Winning only 13 odd wins in nearly 20 years of Test cricket isn't a great record, said Domingo.

“They have won 13 Test wins in 115 matches. It has been happening for a long time. I need to discuss these things with the selectors and captain, and plan a way forward. Otherwise the results are going to be the same,” he said.



Ajinkya Rahane made 86 off 172 balls. *PTI*

He would play the sherpa to the mountain trekker Agarwal. A few balls after he survived a close DRS while trying to paddle sweep offie Mehedy Hasan, Agarwal once again tried to turn to square against the same bowler. It was a risky shot, Rahane would shout out advice from the non-striker's end. With his bat, he would show

Agarwal that the way to play the offie was straight, not square.

Rahane got out just 14 short of his hundred, it's a knock that the half-filled Holkar Stadium wouldn't remember after Agarwal's 200. But in the dressing room, they never forget a batsman who took the score from 119/3 to 309/4.

Rahane, India's safety net back on firm ground

SANDEEP DWIVEDI
INDORE, NOVEMBER 15

EARLIER THIS year while India's World Cup team in England was struggling to find a dependable No.4, Ajinkya Rahane wasn't too far from the action. Not part of the World Cup squad, he was Hampshire's overseas player for the season. He would turn up for World Cup games where he would meet the television pundits — mostly former players he had played with. They would tell him how he was the answer to India's middle-order batting blues. Rahane, those close to him say, would shrug his shoulders and give a weak smile.

His big soppy eyes would get more mournful, the perpetually sorry expression would get grimmer.

Of late, Rahane's look has changed. Today at the Holkar Stadium, he walked in to bat with his collar turned up. The gloom seems to have lifted, from his face and his career.

During his innings of 86, and his 190 run-partnership with Mayank Agarwal, he was light on his feet. The unburdening of his mind is a possible reason, his friends want you to believe. “He had a mental block about his place in the side, there was also a feeling that he had no backers. All that is changing now,” says one of them.

Before this Test, Rahane was at a press conference. There was a twinkle in his eyes.

While in England during the World Cup, when his county stint wasn't going too well

after the great start, Rahane was told that Sourav Ganguly was looking for him. The former India captain wasn't yet the BCCI president, but the Delhi Capitals mentor.

When Rahane met Ganguly, he was told about the Delhi IPL side's plans to sign him up. Captials, after falling at the final hurdle in their first IPL season, were looking for experience. Rahane fitted the bill. Ganguly's endorsement of him as a T20 player softened the ODI blow, it also gave him the much-needed confidence for Test matches.

At Capitals, he would be playing under his junior in the Mumbai dressing room, Iyer, but the nod from one of India's sharpest and most influential cricketers helped.

It was around the same time that Rahul Dravid was settling as the National Cricket Academy (NCA) director. Over the years, Rahane has considered Dravid his mentor. The two were inseparable at Rajasthan Royals. Off and on when Dravid would take time out to talk to Indian batsmen, Rahane, along with Cheteshwar Pujara, would eat the brains of India's most successful No.3. During the 2014 England tour, when Dravid was India's batting consultant, Rahane had scored his famous hundred at Lord's.

With the heavy Mumbai monsoon disrupting his training before the home series against South Africa and Bangladesh, Rahane made a habit of packing his bags and boarding a flight to Bangalore. Those at the NCA say, Rahane and Dravid would be seen hav-

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At No.5 in Tests, Rahane provides a much-needed cushion to the Indian batting line-up. He allows the batsmen before him to play their natural game. The three strokemakers in the Top 4 — Rohit Sharma, Mayank Agarwal and Virat Kohli — can be aggressive while Cheteshwar Pujara can be an accumulator. The assurance that a batsman with 10,000 plus first class runs at 40-plus average, is to follow, is a stress buster for others. It also allows the team management to pick the extra fifth bowler.

At Indore, India were at 119/3, Virat Kohli was out for a duck, and the home dressing room was a shade nervous. The Bangladesh new ball bowler Abu Jayed Rahi had taken all the wickets. With his sharp swing and precise off the pitch moment, he had got Pujara and Kohli in the morning session.

Rahane, soon after his arrival on the pitch, would disrupt his rhythm by stepping out of the crease. Rahi would bowl short to peg him back. But this was no ordinary No.5, and Rahane, with his balanced stance, would rock back and cut him.

Beats World no 2 Djokovic for the first time since 2015 to qualify for the last four of the ATP Finals

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