+ **≻ c m y k** 

### **TABLOID IHE ASIAN AGE** No body doubles for Parineeti **NEW DELHI WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2019** Chopra PEOPLE Epstein scandal WORLD America Calls to remove US police lets Sikhs wear **Prince Andrew as** articles of faith at work to

www.asianage.com

RNI No. 57290/94, Regd No: DL-SW-05/4189/15-17

university chancellor



Actress Elizabeth Hurley attends an event at Alice Tully Hall in New York on Monday. — AFP

### **Police files two FIRs against JNU** students after stir

New Delhi: The Delhi Police lodged two FIRs on Tuesday in connection with the protest by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) students over hostel fee hike, even as the students' union demanded that no administrative or legal action be taken against the protesters. The issue also resonated in the Lok Sabha with Opposition members describing the alleged police action as "suppression of voice." Full report on Page 13

### **Cong dominates**

**Rajasthan civic poll** Jaipur: The Congress in Rajasthan has registered impressive victories in urban local body polls, winning 11 of 17 municipal councils. The Bharatiya Janata Party was able to win only three municipal councils in the Rajasthan local body elections. Full report on Page 2

### **MAHA IMPASSE** Sena summons MLAs

### with Aadhaar, clothes Meet called at Uddhav residence, Matoshree

SONU SHRIVASTAVA MUMBAI, NOV. 19

MLAs have been told to carry their Aadhaar and PAN With the political impasse in Maharashtra showing no sign of ending, Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray Tuesday sum-moned party MLAs to discuss the next course of action at his residence, Matoshree, on Friday. The MLAs have been told to carry their Aadhaar and PAN cards as well as five sets of clothing as they would be required to stick together for the next

A Sena MLA from the Marathwada region, requesting anonymity, said, "We have been told that we might need to prothat we might need to present ourselves before the governor should the Sena decide to stake claim to form the government with the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and

Congress' support." The legislators, howev-er, have not been told

where they will be cor-

According to sources, this could well be a ploy

by the Sena to reassure their MLAs that the

party's talks with the

regarding government

formation are on "right

track". The Congress and the NCP have still not

Congress and

ralled after the meeting.

Aadhaar and PAN cards as well as five sets of clothing as they would be required to stick together for the next few days According to sources, this could well be a ploy by the Sena to reassure their MLAs that the party's talks with the Cong and NCP regarding government formation are on 'right track'

confirmed their support for a Shiv Sena-led government, which has led to uneasiness in the saffron party.

When contacted, former Congress legislator from Sillod Assembly con-stituency, Abdul Sattar, who joined the Sena just before Assembly election, confirmed that Sena MLAs had been summoned to Mumbai. Meanwhile, Shiv Sena

spokesperson Sanjay Raut and NCP chief Sharad Pawar met for 15 minutes at the latter's 6, Janpath, residence in

nationals from other

parts of the country have

to possess an ILP to visit

**3** N-E 'inner line' states may be out

NCP

New Delhi on Tuesday. This was the second meeting between the Sena leader and NCP chief this week.

Mr Pawar — after meet-ing Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Monday - had said that he did not discuss the Shiv Sena or government formation in the state with Mrs Gandhi. However, the Sena is certain that no party can form the government without them in Maharashtra and is willing to wait for the Congress and NCP's decision. Mr Raut has also said that talks with the Congress and NCP "are on the right track". In New Delhi, the Sena

spokesperson said that a Shiv Sena-led govern-ment would come to power in Maharashtra.

Asked about Republican Party of India's (RPI) chief Ramdas Athawale's proposed "formula" to end the deadlock in the state — a three-year term for a BJP chief minister and two-year term for Shiv Sena — Mr Raut thanked Mr Athavale and asked him not to worry about the Sena.

Asked if he had been given a deadline of first week of December for the government to be formed Turn to Page 4

**Didi refuses** copter, gov to travel by road again



honour Sandeep Dhaliwal

Union home minister Amit Shah (above) with BJP leaders Jagat Prakash Nadda, Dharmendra Pradhan, Jitendra Singh and Arjun Ram Meghwal after the BJP parliamentary party meeting at Parliament House in New Delhi on Tuesday. Congress president Sonia Gandhi (right) and former PM Manmohan Singh pay tributes to former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on her birth anniversary in the Central Hall of Parliament on Tuesday. <u>— РТІ</u>

Vol. 26 No. 274 32 PAGES ₹5.00

# LS ruckus over Gandhi SPG cover

'Revenge politics' putting their lives at risk, say Congress members

**10-YR-OLD SAFARIS FOR GANDHIS** 

AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

> Furious with the government's move to downgrade the security cover provided to the Gandhi family, Congress mem-bers in the Lok Sabha raised the issue for the second consecutive day and accused the Narendra Modi-led BJP government of playing "revenge poli-tics" that was putting their lives at risk.

Congress MPs rushed to the well of the House while raising slogans – "Please stop revenge poli-tics", "End dictatorship", "PM hosh mein aao" They were accompanied by MPs from the National Conference and the DMK. Since Congress members' notice of adjournThe Gandhi family is no longer being driven around in bulletproof Range Rover SUVs but have been provided a lot humbler, non-bulletproof Tata Safaris that are nearly 10 years old. This big change in security detail comes as the government has downgraded the security offered to Sonia Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi.

The high-end Range Rover SUVs that were allotted to Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi were heavily armored against multiple weapons and could also withstand grenade attacks

Hour. Minister of state for parliamentary affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal tried to stop Mr Chowdhury, saying he cannot raise the issue in the Zero Hour since he had not given a notice in this regard. Upset with this, the Congress and DMK MPs which has been assigned the task of protecting Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and her family following withdrawal of the SPG cover is all set to raise a special unit for the same. PAGE 2

> Priyanka Gandhi were using Range Rovers with Ballistic Resistance and Rahul Gandhi was using a Fortuner.

> There were reports that the CRPF has requested SPG to the allow armoured vehicles for the Gandhis, but there has been no response yet.

The family was given SPG cover after former

Prime Minister Rajiv

Gandhi was assassinated

by LTTE terrorists on May 21, 1991. Government

sources have attributed

the downgrade to a lower **Turn to Page 4** 

Lanka Prez

Gotabaya to

meet PM in

SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI

will

India

Delhi Nov. 29

**CRPF** special unit to protect family New Delhi: The CRPF,

### Taliban release two

Western hostages

Kabul: Two Western hostages, one American and one Australian, were freed by the Taliban after more than three years in captivity in a prisoner exchange that could spur resumption of negotiations to end the Afghan war. Full report on Page 11



It's all because of Nehru... let's change the name!



Rainfall: Nil Forecast: Cloudy sky

VEATHER

Max: 26°C

**Min:** 19°C

RH: 59%



Vikari: Dakshinayana Tithi: Kartika Bahula Ashtami till 1.38 pm Star: Magha till 8.01 pm Varjyam: 8.40 am to 10.11 am and 3.29 am to 4.59 am (Thursday) Durmuhurtam: 11.39 am to 12.23 pm Rahukalam: 12 noon to 1.30 pm

SUNSET TODAY 5.28 PM SUNRISE TOMORROW 6.48 AM **MOONRISE TOMORROW 23.47 AM** MOONSET TODAY 12.40 PM

### of CAB purview

### Move likely to divide Northeast

MANOJ ANAND GUWAHATI, NOV. 19

Amit Shah, claimed they

had been assured the

CAB will not be applica-

ble in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and

Mizoram, which have the

Inner Line Permit (ILP)

system. These states come under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation (BEFR) 1873,

LALIT K. JHA and HARINDER MISHRA

WASHINGTON/JERUSALEM,

In a major policy shift, the

Trump administration

has said that it no longer

believes the Israeli settle-ments in the West Bank

are illegal, asserting that

the previous opinion that

inconsistent with interna-

tional law has not helped

the peace process in the Middle East.

Pompeo made

announcement

Secretary of state Mike

Monday, drawing praise

from Israelis and condem-

nation from the Palestinians. "After care-

------

the

on

structures were

which Indian

under

NOV. 19

such

In a clear move aimed at temporarily. dividing northeastern states, at least three hill states having the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system Pleading anonymity, a BJP MP from the region said they had met the home minister to apprise may be exempted from him about the anguish of purview of the Citizenship dment) Bill. (Amen-Though the CAB issue did not figure at the meet-

people over the bill. The proposed exemption for Arunachal Pradesh. Nagaland and Mizoram from the CAB may also ing of the business advitrigger a fresh controversory committee of the sy as many states of the Lok Sabha, a delegation of senior BJP MPs from region have been agitating for an ILP system. In 2018, the Manipur Northeast states, which met Union home minister

Assembly passed the Manipur People's Protection Bill that seeks to expel people who or whose forefathers were not living in the state before 1951. In order to quell the growing demand for the ILP, the Meghalaya government recently passed an ordimaking nance Turn to Page 4

AGE CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA, NOV. 19

who



refused helicopter by the Mamata Banerjee government, will travel 500 kms by road to attend a function on the request of CPM's Domkal MLA, Anisur Rahaman. in Murshidabad.

This is the second time the governor's request was not accepted within a week amid his clash with the ruling party. On Tuesday, the Raj Bhavan said, "There was a request made to the state government to provide helicopter for this visit... However, the response from the state government has been that the helicopter would not be available... in that situation, the governor will be visiting the place by road.'

ment motion on the with-drawal of the Special Protection Group (SPG) cover to the Gandhi family was rejected by Speaker Om Birla, party's leader in the House Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury

danger. raised the issue in Zero

walked out of the House in protest Mr Chowdhury said that

bullet-proof vehicles, the withdrawal of SPG cover of Gandhis "is a serious Gandhi family, once among the most protected people in the country, have been provided with issue and their life is in Earlier this month, the 10-year-old Tata Safaris. Under SPG protection,

SPG cover for Congress president Mrs Sonia Sonia

## RS ticket may trigger fresh war between Scindia, Diggy

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY BHOPAL, NOV. 19

A fresh face-off between the Madhya Pradesh Congress' "traditional rivals", Digvijay Singh and Jyotiraditya Scindia, is looming large with the Rajya Sabha elections due in April 2020. Both leaders have land-

ed virtually at the crossroads of their political careers after their defeat in the last Lok Sabha polls and appear desperate to enter the Upper House to boost their sagging politi-

ing the Obama adminis-



cal careers. The two leaders may end up vying for the party ticket for a single Raiva Sabha seat for various reasons, although three seats are due to fall vacant in MP in April 2020.

The Congress, with 115 MLAs in the 230-member Assembly, can elect one

member comfortably, while the Opposition, with 107 MLAs, is also in a position to elect one member to the Upper House easily. An election appears likely for the third vacant seat.

Gandhi, her son Rahul

Gandhi and daughter

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra

was withdrawn and they

were placed under the Z-

plus security cover pro-vided by the CRPF. Delhi

Police is in charge of con-

trol of access to the resi-

dences of Sonia Gandhi

Also, instead of special

Gandhi

and

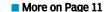
and Rahul Gandhi.

Sources said Mr Scindia, who has been sulking ever since he lost the chief ministership to Kamal Nath after the Congress rode to power in MP, virtually riding piggyback on the former's charisma in the 2018

Assembly elections, may see the denial of a Rajya Turn to Page 4

> at a WikiLeaks conference in Stockholm in August 2010 accused the

unprotected sex with her while she was sleeping. She said she had previously repeatedly refused to have unprotected sex with him. The statute of limitations in the case was to expire in August 2020. Assange has always denied the allegation. Assange, 48, has been held at a top-security British prison since April. -AFP





29, with New Delhi swift-

ly extending an invitation to him on Tuesday in person through external affairs minister S. Jaishankar in Colombo. The minister, who rushed to Sri Lanka on a two-day visit starting Tuesday, met the Sri Lankan President and conveyed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "message of a partnership for shared peace, progress, prosper-ity and security" while expressing confidence that under Mr Rajapaksa's leadership, India-Sri Lankan ties would reach "greater heights". He also tweeted that the Sri Lankan President had accepted Mr Modi's invitation to visit India on November

The reference to "security" by India is again being seen as signifi-cant. Sri Lanka had suffered terror attacks ear-lier this year and had **Turn to Page 4** 

administration is revers-

Israel settlements in West Bank not illegal: US

Calling the establishment of civilian settlements inconsistent with inter-

national law hasn't advanced the cause

of peace... Trump administration is reversing the Obama administration's

approach towards Israeli settlements – Mike Pompeo, US secy of state

US decision latest of 'unceas-

ing attempts to replace international law with the 'law of the jungle' **—Saeb Erekat,** chief Palestinian negotiator

#### tration's approach towards Israeli settlements," he told reporters. Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu praised the decision, saying "the US adopted an important policy that rights a historical wrong when the Trump administration clearly rejected the false claim that Israeli settlements in Judea and Samaria are inherently illegal under

international law. The US decision was the of "unceasing attempts to replace international law with the 'law of the jungle," Erekat, the chief Palestinian negotiator said.



over a 2010 rape allegation, even though they found the plaintiff's claim

\_\_\_\_

"credible". "My assessment is that all investigative measures that can be taken have been taken. But... The evidence is not strong enough to file an deputy prose-Marie ters. on was launched after a Swedish



Assange Australian of h a v i n g

More on Page 11







not per se inconsistent with international law," he said. "Calling the



establishment of civilian settlements inconsistent with international law latest

indictment,' Saeb

woman who met Assange

**Rural development minister Narendra** Singh Tomar says more than 90% land records computerised in 23 states

WEDNESDAY | 20 NOVEMBER 2019 | NEW DELHI

**Nation** 



**Cong dominates Rajasthan civic poll** Party wins 965 out of 2,105 wards in urban local bodies, leaving BJP trailing at 736

A lot of processes need to be followed to do away with President's rule

> — Sanjay Raut, **Shiv Sena leader**



### **Govt avoids reply on**

Ratna to Savarkar

New Delhi: The government on Tuesday avoided a direct reply on whether it has taken steps to confer Bharat Ratna on Sangh Parivar idealogue Veer Savarkar but said recommendations for the country's highest civilian award are received regularly from various quarters. Union minister of state for home Nitvanand Rai told Lok Sabha that no formal recommendation for giving Bharat Ratna is necessary. "Recommendations for award of Bharat Ratna is received regularly from various quarters. However, no formal recommendation for conferment of Bharat Ratna is necessary. The decisions regarding Bharat Ratna are taken from time to time," he said in a written reply.

### **MP MLA accuses**

neta of threatening

Shivpuri: A Madhya Pradesh BJP MLA has accused a Congress minister in the state of threatening him during a meeting on Monday over a suggestion to name a medical college after Mahatma Gandhi instead of late Madhavrao Scindia. State food and civil supplies minister Pradyuman Singh Tomar, however, termed the allegations of Kolaras BJP MLA Virendra Raghuvanshi as "baseless". Raghuvanshi said he had suggested that a local medical college be named after Mahatma Gandhi instead of late Congress leader Madhavrao Scindia during a meeting of the district planning committee.

### **Cong MLA injured** in lathi-charge

Thiruvananthapuram: A Congress MLA was allegedly injured when police used lathis to disperse the party's state students wing mem bers who tried to take a march to the Assembly on Tuesday demanding an independent probe into the alleged moderation marks scam of the Kerala university. The legislator, who was trying to pacify the students, was injured along with Kerala Students Union state president K.M. Abiiit and at least 10 others when police used lathis to prevent them from moving towards the assembly. - PTI

#### Jaipur, Nov. 19: The ruling Congress on Tuesday secured control over 20 local government bodies out of the 49 where elections were held last week in Rajasthan, with the BJP results translated into cle-ar majority for the Con-gress in 20 of the 49 ULBs. reaching the majority mark in only six.

The Congress won 965 out of the 2,105 wards in the urban local bodies, leaving the BJP trailing at 736, according to the results declared by the

state election office. The Bahujan Samaj Party won 16 wards, the could muster support from independents to control nine or 10 other CPI(M) got three and the Nationalist Congress Party two in the elections municipalities, apart from the ones where they emerged as clear winners. Chief minister Ashok held on Saturday, the first municipal polls since the Gehlot said the results

**Congress-NCP** 

meet to discuss



Congress workers celebrate in Beawar on Tuesday after party's victory in the municipal elections. – PTI

were as expected. "It is a matter of happiness that people have given a mandate consider-

AGE CORRESPONDENT

Facing criticism from

some quarters over the new "military uniform" of

the Rajya Sabha marshals,

Chairman M. Venkaiah

Naidu on Tuesday informed the Upper House that the Secretariat

has been asked to revisit

The first day of the win-

the change in uniform.

NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

ing the performance of the he government," reporters.

told Apart from 20 urban bod-

ies which went to the Congress, it claimed it is in a position to form the boards in about 10 more with the help of independ-

"This is a resounding victory of the Congress in the urban local bodies election. Out of 49, the Congress will form boards in about 30 municipali-ties," Deputy chief minis-ter and Pradesh Congress

"Our leaders and workers worked tirelessly for the last seven months and its result is that people have reposed their faith in the Congress," he said.

Naidu orders review of

cure specialised armoured vehicles for the VIP which now also includes former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Sources said that for the copying and wearing time being SPG is providof military uniforms ing its vehicles for both by non-military per-Dr Singh and the Gandhi sonnel is illegal family. But eventually these will be replaced by CRPF's own armoured

vehicles.

a visit.

Meanwhile, in a commu-

nication route to all states

and UTs through the

Union home ministry, CRPF has said that since

it has the advance securi-

ty liaison for these VIPs,

it would need support of

the state police also in intelligence gathering and other security and

administrative protocols before these VIPs visit

there respective areas for

also assist the Chair in organising the desk and bringing up order papers. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh had sought to raise a point on the marshals' new uniform on the first day but was not allowed by the Chair as

# **CRPF** to raise 1 more unit for Gandhis' cover

AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

Central paramilitary force, CRPF, which has been assigned the task of protecting Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and her family following with-drawal of the Special Protection Group (SPG) cover is all set to raise a special unit for the same. The force has also writ-

ten to all states and Union Territories (UTs) about new security protocols for the Gandhi family and has sought home ministry's permission to raise another battalion for the VIP security unit. Gandhi family's SPG maps security cover has been replaced with a Z-plus security to be provided by the CRPF. It has also sought permission to pro-Earlier, the same exer-

cise was being conducted by the SPG. All state and UT police security divisions have been told in detailed about the 'yellow book', which details the

security procedures. In addition all 28 VVIP security bases of the CRPF across the country will also assist in this exercise. Apart from the Gandhi family, Dr Singh and his wife Gursharan Kaur, the newly procured armoured vehicles by RPF will also be used for home minister Amit Shah

who has a high threat perception too. As of now CRPF provides security cover to about 57 VIPs. Though initially the CRPF plans to raise one battalion for additional security duties

but this could be increased to two as the forces has already deployed about 700 personnel to provide cover to the Gandhi's, Dr Singh and his wife. CRPF has four battalions roughly around 4,000 personnel in its special unit for VVIP

### Parl passes Jallianwala Bagh Bill Paves way for ouster of Cong prez as permanent member of trust

#### AGE CORRESPONDENT India got its independence NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

Parliament on Tuesday

not because of the effort of any one particular political party but because of passed the Jallianwala the efforts and sacrifices Bagh National Memorial made by its people.

bill would end the political colour. which the trust had.

The government

asserted that the

nanimity" and recognise the Congress party's con-tribution to the freedom struggle. The Jallianwala Bagh



Tapir Gao

massacre occurred on

As per the laid down security procedures, a CRPF unit will reach the location to be visited by the VIP to co-ordinate security duties.

# Sonia Gandhi

PAGE

Priyanka





THE ASIAN AGE

ent candidates.

Committee president Sachin Pilot said.

tie-up called off AGE CORRESPONDENT Selfishness is NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

### bad: RSS chief There was no breakthrough in the Maharashtra impasse on Tuesday. A meeting with the Congress scheduled

on Tuesday to further discuss the possibility of government formation in Maharashtra was called off due to pre-occupation of Congress leaders with Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary events, NCP leader Mr Nawab Malik sides will face loss if they "are going to fight over a matter"

meeting be postponed to Wednesday. The two sides have deputed leaders for holding talks on a possible alliance.

Accordingly Mallikarjun Kharge, Ahmed Patel and Congress general sec-retary K.C. Venugopal besides some state lead-ers and Praful Patel, Sunil Tatkare, Ajit Pawar, Jayant Patil of the NCP were to meet to explore the possibility of an alliance with the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra.

chief Sharad Pawar had met the Congress president Sonia Gandhi for the second time on Monday. But the result remained inconclu-

#### Nagpur, Nov. 19: In a veiled reference to the recent Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-Shiv Sena fallout over differences on government formation in Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said that both

said. He said Congress lead-ers requested that the both of them will face loss if they are going to fight over a matter," he said.

"Everyone knows that selfishness is a bad thing but very few people give up their selfishness. Take the example of the country or of individuals," he added. These sharp com-ments from the RSS chief came while addressing an event in Nagpur on Tuesday morning. Shiv Sena and BJP part-

ed ways after the conflict power-sharing. over -ANI

Maharashtra,

'Everybody knows that

The BJP, which won the maximum 105 seats in the 288-member House. declined to stake claim to the form government, as its alliance partner Shiv Sena (56) refused to lend support. The Shiv Sena and the NCP (54), too, couldn't muster requisite num-The Uddhav bers. Thackeray-led party reached out to the NCP and the Congress, which has 44 MLAs, for government formation after the BJP refused to accept its demand for sharing the

marshals. But, we have received some observations by some political as well as some well-mean- ment of proceedings and

the the 250th session of uniform at Parliament the Upper House, marshals, who assist the Session in New Delhi on Chair during proceedings, Tuesday. wereseen in a new blue uniform instead of the safari suit or bandgalas and the turban. ... The Secretariat of the Rajya Sabha, after consid-

ering the various suggesdecision," informed Mr tions, have come out with Naidu. Other than assisting the a new dress code for the Chair, two march ahead of Chairman the announce the commence-

to

illegal.

-PTI

been "a very significant change" in their attire. Some former Army officers have also criticised the new uniforms for marshals, terming them as

ter session of Parliament, which also happened to be A marshal in the new during its ongoing Winter ing people. So, I have decided to ask the secre-

tariat to revisit the same, and then take a conclusive

the House was taking up obituary references. The Congress leader however, continued speaking on the issue and insisted that there has

### **GOOGLE DROPS APP PROMOTING SECESSION**

Chandigarh: Google has removed the anti-India mobile app '2020 Sikh Referendum' from its Play Store after the Punjab government took up the matter with the IT giant, an official said on Tuesday. The app is not available anymore on Google Play Store for mobile phone users in India, a Punjab government spokesperson said. "Sikhs for Justice", a group based abroad and banned by India, has been lobbying for Punjab's secession through its "2020 Sikh Referendum' campaign. Punjab chief minister Amarinder Singh has accused Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence of being involved in the campaign. Earlier this month, he asked state government officials to approach Google and also coordinate with central government agencies to ensure that the new app is pulled out. A notice under section 79(3)B of the Information Technology Act was sent to Google on November 8. seeking removal of the app created by "ICETECH". The app asked mobile users to register themselves, in an apparent attempt to show support for secession. A government statement said a website, "yes2khalistan", was also launched for the same purpose. – PTI

as both the parties had decided to meet again. The Shiv Sena had

reached out to both the parties to extend support to it. Responding to the call, the Congress had sent a three member delegation to Mumbai to first speak with its pre-poll ally, the NCP.

INSIDE INDIA

phones, LS told

said that Section 69 of the

Information Technology

Act, 2000, empowers the

central government or a

state government to inter-

cept, monitor or decrypt or

cause to be intercepted or

monitored or decrypted,

any information generat-

ed, transmitted, received

or stored in any computer resource in the interest of

the sovereignty or integri-

ty of the country. "This power of intercep-

tion is to be executed as per the provisions of law,

rules and SoPs. Such case

is approved by the Union

home secretary in case of

central government and by

the home secretary of the

state concerned in case of

the state government," he

said in a written reply to a

question.

-PTI

In the last week, the parties have been discussing over the Common Minimum Program (CMP). chief minister's post.

(Amendment) Bill, 2019, which seeks to remove the Congress president as the permanent member of the Trust running the national memorial in Amritsar. Rejecting the arguments of the Congress against the bill and also its request to withdraw the bill, which was passed by the Lok Sabha during the last budget session, the government and the treasury benches reminded the Opposition party that

The Rajya Sabha passed the bill with a voice vote. The government asserted that the bill would end the political colour, which the trust earlier had. Congress's Pratap Singh Bajwa, who initiated the

discussion in the Upper House after culture and tourism minister Prahlad Patel moved the bill, called the amendments in the bill as "cynical" and said no one can under-

**Birla takes note** 

of Rahul absence

New Delhi, Nov. 19:

Taking note of Congress

leader Rahul Gandhi's

absence from the House,

Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla on Tuesday said he had wanted to give Mr Gandhi a chance during

"Rahul's question was listed for the Question

Hour and I wanted to give

him a chance had he been

present," Mr Birla remar-

ked when K. Suresh got

up to speak during Zero Hour from Gandhi's seat.

case for sending the bill again to the standing

citizenship should not

deprive, people of hav-

ing surrogacy... because there could be cases

where an Indian women

or man married to a for-

eign citizen not residing

in India," he said. The bill provides that

the commissioning par-

ents or the couple must

citizens

-PTI

Indian

be

'(Not having) Indian

committee.

Question Hour.

Jallianwala Bagh or the Independence movement. He also demanded that the country's highest civilian award, Bharat Ratna, for revolutionary freedom fighter Bhagat Singh. The Congress member said PM Narendra Modi on the 250th session of the Upper House wanted Opposition to show large heartedness and it is the time that the mine the history of the government shows "mag-

Congress

April 13, 1919 when abou with 1,500 people gathered at the the garden to oppose the Rowlatt Act were indis-criminately fired upon at the orders of military officer General E.H. Dyer. Calling the massacre as the "black chapter", TMC's Sukhendu Sekhar Ray urged the government to not concentrate on removing people from the Trust but to include martyrs' family members in the Trust.

# Akali leader in Punjab shot dead, legs chopped off

'No political motive behind killing'

Batala (Punjab), Nov. 19: A local Shiromani Akali Dal leader was allegedly shot dead and then his legs were chopped off following an altercation with his neighbour in Punjab's Gurdaspur district, police said on Tuesday.

Senior Batala Superintendent of Police Opinderjit Singh Ghuman ruled out any political motive behind the killing of Dalbir Singh Dhilwan, 51, who was the vice president of the Gurdaspur unit of the SAD and also a two-time village head.

The incident occurred at Dhilwan village in Dera Baba Nanak area on Monday evening, police said. Dalbir Singh and his neighbour, Balwinder Singh, had earlier entered into a verbal spat over the hiring of a servant. A compromise was reached between both of them with the help of villagers on Monday, the SSP said. But when Dalbir Singh and his son was having a walk on the outskirts of the village on Monday

One of the accuseds pumped six bullets into **Dalbir Singh and**chopped off his legs with a sharp-edged weapon.

evening, Balwinder Singh's two sons, Major Singh (25) and Mandeep Singh (24), waylaid the man, according to the police.

One of them pumped six bullets into Dalbir Singh. Then Balwinder Singh chopped off the victim's legs with a sharp-edged weapon, police said. Dalbir Singh was taken to a hospital, where he was

declared brought dead, police said. A case has been registered against three accused and six unidentified persons under Section 302 (murder) and other relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Arms Act, the SSP said. The accused are absconding and several teams have been formed to trace them, the police said. -PTI

### MP: Don't allow next Doklam in Arunachal

New Delhi, Nov. 19: Please don't allow the next Doklam in Arunachal Pradesh as China has encroached more than 50 km of land of the state, BJP member Tapir Gao claimed in Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

Whenever the president, prime minister, defence minister or home minister visits the state, objections are raised by China, he said raising the issue during Zero Hour. He said China raised

objections by conducting an official press conference when defence minister Rajnath Singh visited Tawang area of the state on November 14, 2019. "I request the House and media to voice protest against this," he said.

"If a repeat of Doklam takes place, it will hap-pen in Arunachal Pradesh because China has encroached 50-60 km of the state," he claimed. Troops of India and China were locked in a 73-day stand-off in Doklam near Sikkim last year after the Indian side stopped the building of a road in the dis-puted area by the Chinese Army.

Indian troops intervened to stop the road as it posed a security risk to Chicken Neck, the narrow corridor connecting India with its north-eastern states. The standoff ended on August 28, 2017 following a mutual agreement under which China stopped the construction of the road and India withdrew its troops -PTI

The speaker asked Suresh to move to his designated seat and contin-BJP MP Sunny Deol with MoS parliamentary ue. As per the LSa schedaffairs Arjun Singh Meghwal arrives for the ule, question number 28 BJP parliamentary party meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. — PRITAM BANDYOPADHYAY was listed against the name of Gandhi. —*PTI* on Tuesday.

### 'Relax 5-yr marriage norm in surrogacy bill

recommenda-

**New Delhi, Nov. 19:** and was moved for con-Cutting across party lines, Rajya Sabha in the Rajya Sabha by members on Tuesday health minister Harsh demanded relaxation of Vardhan earlier in the conditions in the surro-

The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill 2019, which seeks to ban com-

tions by a standing committee were incorporated in the draft law. Participating in the debate, BJP leader Suresh Prabhu made a



mercial surrogacy, was passed by the Lok Sabha in the Monsoon Session



#### Political engagement



Political engagement should resume in J-K sooner than later, says BJP leader Ram Madhav



THE ASIAN AGE

WEDNESDAY | 20 NOVEMBER 2019 | NEW DELHI



The Union government has funded the development of Bihar in all the sectors

> — Nikhil Anand, **Bihar BJP leader**



### Aussie thrashed by K'nataka villagers

Bengaluru: An Australian national was thrashed by villagers near Badami in Bagalkot district for allegedly misbehaving with a local woman, police said. The tourist, aged about 35, was allegedly in an intoxicated state when he was found misbehaving with women at Konkanakoppa village on Monday night, they said. The villagers have then thrashed him by tying him to an electricity post, the police said. The foreigner W.K. James from Melbourne is currently undergoing treatment at a private hospital. He was said to be on a visit to Badami, a historical tourist destination after which he went to the Konkanakoppa. about 15 km from where the incident occurred. - PTI

### **MP Cong releases** new Nath b'day ad

Bhopal: A fresh advertisement sans "low points" in 38year-long political career of chief minister Kamal Nath was on Tuesday issued by Madhya Pradesh unit of Congress in the wake of controversy erupted over the ad released by the party on the occasion of his 73rd birthday on Monday. The latest advertisement has highlighted Mr Nath's achievements in his political career and found no mention of "low points" in his life that also featured in the first advertisement released on Monday, causing huge embarrassment to him. State law minister P.C. Sharma has blamed the advertising agency handling the matter.

### No bidders for **Igbal Mirchi flats**

Mumbai: The auction of two plush properties of late gangster and drug trafficker labal Mirchi here was cancelled on Tuesday due to lack of proper bids, an official said. The ministry of finance's office did not got proper bids for the two flats, leading to cancellation of their auction, he said. These flats belonging to Mirchi, a close associate of global terrorist Dawood Ibrahim, are located in a building named Milton Apartments on Juhu Tara Road in suburban Santa Cruz (West), he said.

### J&K curbs impinge on freedom of press: FFMP

#### AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

The

Media

personal liberty.

that the blackout of the

communication facilities

was "unconstitutional", the FFMP said that the

communication restric-

tions directly impinge on the freedom of the press

because without access to

Foundation for Professionals (FFMP) on Tuesday said that the mobile and internet services were an essential part of life and the over 100 days long communication blackout in the J&K just before the abrogation of ernment official, however, Article 370 and the bifurcation of the state into two Union Territories was violative of the freeacross the board. dom of press including Telling a bench of Justice N.V. Ramana, Justice R. Subhash Reddy and Justice B.R. Gavai

(UTs).

telecom services, journalist can't contact their sources or editor. Intervening in the peti-tion filed by Anuradha Bhasin — the managing editor of the Kashmir Times challenging the communication blackout the Foundation for Media Professionals said that "Even today, due to continued suspension of internet services, many newspapers and maga-zines are unable to pub-

lish their web edition and this substantially reduces their circulation. Aunradha Bhasin has moved the top court invoking its jurisdictions under Article 32 of the Constitution for the protection and the enforcement of the fundamental rights including free

speech and expression. The top court is hearing a number of petitions including by senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, Asifa Mubeen and Mohammad Aleem Syed arising from the current situation in the state.

# Net services make 'selective' return to J&K

### Journalists yet to gain access, govt officials hint all broadband subscribers may benefit soon

#### YUSUF JAMEEL SRINAGAR, NOV. 19

The authorities in Jammu and Kashmir have begun to restore Internet service in the Valley through broadband on fixed phone lines. But apparently the subscribers are being picked up for this "favour" only in a piecemeal way. Whether media persons are going to benefit too is not clear yet. A senior gov-

indicated that the service might be made available to the broadband subscribers tures. Kashmir-based journalists and other media persons and organisations have been caught in a very difficult and challenging situation since August 5 when the Centre stripped J&K of its special status under Article 370 of the Constitution and split it into two Union Territories

#### Internet and both mobile and landline services were snapped a night before as part of compete communication blackout in a slew of tough measures initiated by the government in anticipation of wide-spread turbulence in the erstwhile state over its contentious move.

Apart from adversely affecting medical fraterni-ties, students, travel organisations, trade start-ups, online services and others, the blockade reduced majority of media persons virtually into useless crea-

However, about a week later the government set up a facilitation centre for the media persons at a hotel in summer capital Srinagar which made access to internet possible. Yet it was a restricted and insufficient kind of an arrangement as only four desktops connected with an internet leased line con-

**'PIECEMEAL' RESTORATION** The authorities in Jammu and Kashmir have begun to restore Internet service in the Valley through broadband on fixed phone lines. But apparently the subscribers are being picked up for this favour' only in a piecemeal way board

nection were available for over two hundred local and visiting media persons, leaving most of them high and dry.

Subsequently, the number of access points was increased and since the centre has been shifted to the summer headquarters of J&K's department of information and public relations along Srinagar's Residency Road compara-

Whether media persons are going to benefit from the government move is not clear yet. A senior government official. however, indicated that the service might be made available to the broadband subscribers across the

tively better internet facility is offered to media persons. The staff of the department work too hard and overtime for the comfort of media persons. In the meantime, landline and mobile phone services were also restored in the Valley fully and partially, respectively.

But, on the other hand, the government has lately embraced several bizarre

methods to discount and invited to the press confereven run down independent journalists and other media persons including those duly accredited by its own Information Department. They are not being invited to cover important official functions nor do top administration and security forces officials solicit their queries. One senior police officer on being contacted by the correspondent of a national news magazine to obtain information on an issue he was writing on retorted by saying "Why should I waste my time for

your story?" In contrast, "media persons" with dubious credentials are being encouraged to take the limelight for obvious reasons. A case in point is the recent visit of European MPs, drawn mainly from far-right parties. With a couple of exceptions, only this brand of socalled media persons was

ence four members of the delegation held before ending their two-day visit. The same group of media persons had earlier been introduced to the visiting lawmakers as the members of Kashmiri civil society.

PAGE 3

The swearing-in ceremony of J&K's newly appointed lieutenant governor Girish Chandra Murmu on the lawns of Srinagar's Raj Bhawan on October 31 was also restricted to few chosen faces in Kashmir's media fraternity. Routinely, it is a few known national TV channels whose Valleybased reporters are entertained by government offi-cials and security forces' top-brass.

Some reporters who wrote stories critical of the policies and actions of the government and various other official agencies and the police had to cope with tough situations in the recent past.

Kiran Bedi, V. Narayansamy

Pudu CM:

Kiran Bedi

seems like

Hitler's sis

Puducherry, Nov. 19:

Escalating his long-run-ning feud with Lt

Governor Kiran Bedi

she

Murmu stresses on digital delivery of J&K services

#### AGE CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, NOV, 19

At a time when communication blockade in the Valley has been lifted only partially, Jammu and Kashmir lieutenant gover-Girish Chandra nor. Murmu, on Tuesday asked the Union Territory's general administration department (GDA) to advise all departments to update all government websites with latest information and content by Friday. He further asked the GDA to come up with delivery of "citizens" services' via mobile application also to strengthen the public service delivery mechanism.

According to an official handout, the LG passed these directions during a series of meetings he December. He further chaired to review the func- called for 100 percent biotioning of Information Technology and Science and Technology departments held at the Civil Secretariat in winter capital Jammu.

Earlier, Bipul Pathak, principal secretary to Lt. Governor (administrative secretary, information technology and science and technology departments) gave a detailed presentation on the overall functioning and structure of the IT and Science and Technology Departments and several initiatives being undertaken by the said departments.

The LG stressed upon the officers to prioritise e-Court programme besides updating CPIS and make it functional fully

NAYEAR AZAD

PATNA, NOV. 19

after

the

**RABINDRA NATH** 

CHOUDHURY

BHOPAL, NOV. 19

with a unique style.

student and a volunteer,

was currently seen pas-

sionately persuading people to follow traffic

rules 'religiously' with a

unique style involving a

little shaking of legs and

movement of hands

resembling sign lan-

She has become a

social media sensation

when a video clip featur-

ing her exploits in

YouTube has gone viral.

Her dancing moves in

busy traffic square of

Indore city appear to be

leaving positive impact

on the people, creating

an identity as "Queen of

guage.

metric attendance system to track attendance of the employees at secretariat. Mumu entrusted Mr upon the officers to prepare a UT-led model for implementation

BharatNet to connect Gram Panchayats across J&K through high speed fibre optical network for taking up with government of India. While reviewing the func-



Defence minister Rajnath Singh is greeted by Major Ishwar Lal during a wreath-laying ceremony at INA marker in Singapore on Tuesday. Major Lal had served the Indian National Army under the leadership of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

#### over her style of functioning, Chief Minister V Narayanasamy on Tuesday said she "appears to be sister of German dictator Adolf Hitler" and his blood pressure "shoots up' whenever she negates Cabinet decisions. Mr

Narayanasamy, who has been at loggerheads with Bedi over her style of functioning since being appointed to the post in the Union Territory, alleged she was rejecting decisions of the elected government and "unnecessarilv" interfered with routine governance.

'She is functioning like a dictator and

appears to be sister of

Hitler," he told workers

of the ruling Congress

at the birth anniversary

celebration of late

prime minister Indira

Gandhi in the party

Mounting a sharp attack on the former IPS

officer, he said she was

"standing in the way" of

each and every decision

office here.

German dictator Adolf



### **RAJINI, HAASAN MAY JOÍN HANDS** FOR TN WELFARE

Chennai: Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan have enacted myriad characters on screen. but it now seems the two titans of Tamil filmdowm will join hands for the state's welfare if their remarks are any indication, triggering speculation about a new political alignment in Tamil Nadu. The first pitch was made by Haasan who on Tuesday backed superstar Rajinikanth over his comments describing chief minister K. Palaniswami coming to the top post as a wonder, saying it was a "not a criticism but the reality." Haasan also said that he would join hands with Rajinikanth for Tamil Nadu's welfare. Raiinikanth also echoed similar views when reporters sought his reaction. If a situation arises wherein me and Kamal have to join hands for the welfare of people of Tamil Nadu, we will surely come together,' Rajinikanth said. Rajinikanth, who has announced he would launch his political party to contest the state Assembly elections due in 2021, was responding to questions from reporters on Haasan's remarks earlier. While backing Rajinikanth's comments on CM K. Palaniswami, which have drawn the ire of ruling AIADMK, Haasan said he would "travel together" with his contemporary for Tamil Nadu's welfare. - PTI



Central Industrial Security Force personnel salute retired canines posted with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation during a felicitation ceremony in New - PTI Delhi on Tuesday.

## **Railway Board** shrunk from 200 to 150 officers

#### ANANYA SENGUPTA NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

In a long-pending move aimed at enhancing efficiency, the strength of the Railway Board has been cut down from 200 to 150 with director-level officials and above transferred to zones, according to a government order.

The transfer orders of these 50 officials were issued on Monday, sources said. "This is part of the Prime Minister's vision of less bureaucracy. Less government, maximum governance. These officials have gone where their work will effectively most utilised," a senior official said. The transferred officers are from across railway cadres — 10 each from IRSE and IRTS, seven from IRAS. six from IRSME, five each from IRSEE and IRSSE, three each from IRSS and IRPS and one from RPF. The plan was first moot-

ed in 2000 by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government, which recommended right-sizing of the apex decision making body of the national transporter. PTI had last month reported that the railway ministry was mulling restructuring the railway board, a move which was

part of railway minister Piyush Goyal's 100-day agenda and a top priority for present Railway Board

Chairman V.K. Yadav. Restructuring of the Railway Board was also recommended by the Bibek Debroy Committee on Indian Railways in 2015. The panel said in its report that the Indian Railways centralised structure and departmentalisation was adversely affecting the railways' work culture and narrowing its approach to department-specific goals. "It has always been seen that the railways, including the Railway Board, was overstaffed. This was adversely affecting the efficiency of the organisation," an official said.

The official added that there had been no serious attempts to review the exact number of staff actually required by the railways for efficient functioning as well as financial viability. Restructuring of the Railway Board is just the beginning of an overhaul of the ministry,

sources indicated. In a recent meeting with senior officials of the ministry, Mr Goyal instructed Mr Yadav, Board members and general managers of zones to review staff.

-PTI

But, the BJP which has ence emerged been JD(U)'s alliance part JD(U)'s renewed demand for the special status and central government funds issue

the national level.

for the state has raised the political temperature in Bihar. The situation arose JD(U) MP Kaushalendra Kumar raised the issue in the Parliament on Monday. He said that Bihar's per capita income is lower than national average. Therefore, keeping in mind Union the provisions of the Bihar Reorganisation Act 2000, the recommendations of 14th Finance down Commission and the Rajan Raghuram Committee, special support is required to bring back-ward states like Bihar to assess the development

ner in Bihar since July 2017 has a different view on the Talking to this newspa-per, BJP spokesperson Nikhil Anand said, "The connotation of special status may seem attractive but the double engine government has done a lot more for Bihar in terms of special packages and developmental initiatives. The funded the development of

government has JD(U) leaders believe that Bihar meets the criteria because of its poor infra-structure. They said that Bihar in all the sectors. As per the present norms laid by the Finance the "the special status cate-Commission, special status gory will help Bihar get tag to any state in the future seems a difficult task. If we pragmatically

various tax concessions which may attract investments and industries"

Bihar has not seen any

JDU-BJP differ-

Kumar raised the

after JD(U) MP

Kaushalendra

Parliament on

issue in the

Monday

effort to woo industrialists Market observers are of the view that the situation deteriorated after liquor companies were forced to shelve their production and expansion plans after the ban was imposed in the state in April 2016. The state has been looking for an option to make up for the revenue loss to the tune

despite Nitish Kumar's

big-ticket

of ₹5000 crore due to liquor prohibition since 2016. The Opposition parties on Tuesday criticised the JD(U) for raising the issue for political gains during

of the ministry. "Whenever I get the files back from Bedi Assembly elections sched without her nod to our uled to be held in 2020. decisions my blood pres-Hindustani Awam Morcha sure level shoots up and (HAM) chief Jitan Ram I get irritated," the chief Manjhi was the first to minister said. react on the issue.

investment

-PTI

#### **NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Notice Inviting Tenders Name of work and its location : 30-Elect-28-T-2019-20-E3 Electrical work in connection with i) Renovation of dialysis, male/female changing room, ultrasound room, x-ray registration room at Northern Railway Central Hospital New Delhi. ii) Providing oxygen & vacuum pipe line with accessories in almost all beds bat NRDH in the section of SSE/W/TH under ADEN/E-III Approx cost of the works in : Rs 13.64 lacs Address of the office: Sr Divil Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. Earnest Money : Rs.27300.00 Date & time of submission of tender: 16.12.2019, 15.00 Hrs. Opening of tender : 16.12.2019, 15.00 Hrs. Website & notice board: www.ireps.gov.in& Sr. Divil. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. Store and the state of the state of the state of the submission of tender : 16.12.2019, 15.00 Hrs. Opening of tender : 16.12.2019, 15.00 Hrs. Website & notice board: www.ireps.gov.in& Sr. Divil. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

Serving Customers With A Smile

#### CAN FIN HOMES LTD. Above Rewari Co-operative Bank Near Hanuman Mandir Sohna Road, Dharuhera- 123106 PH: 01274-242381 / 297604 Can Fin Homes Ltd M.: 7625079165 E-mail :dharuhera@canfinhomes.com CIN: L85110KA1987PLC008699

### [Rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE

[FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY] Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Can Fin Homes Ltd, Dharuhera Branch, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 26.06,2019 calling upon the Borrower/s Mrs. Sushila W/O Mr. Rakesh Kataria , Mr. Rakesh Kataria S/O Mr. Phool Kawar Kataria, Guarantor/s Mr. Dinesh Verma S/o Mr. Raj Kumar Verma to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 9,55,838.00 (Rupees Nine Lakh Fifty Five Thousand

Eight Hundred and Thirty Eight Only) as on 25.06.2019 with further interest, expenses and other charges thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower/s, guarantor/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the The borrower's, guarantor's naving failed to repay the amount, horden's hereby grien to the borrower's, guarantor's and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **15th day of November of the year 2019**.

The borrower/s, guarantor/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Can Fin Homes Ltd, Dharuhera Branch for an amount of **Rs. 9,55,838.00** (Rupees Nine Lakh Fifty Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Eight Only) as on 25.06.2019 with further interest, expenses and other charges thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of

the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets **DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY** 

All the part and parcel of Property i.e. House No. 922/1, Gali No. 3, Khasra No. 2903 (0-2- Ashok Vihar-1, Gurugram. District Gurugram, Owned by Mrs. Sushila W/o Mr. Rakesh Kataria with following boundaries: - East : Road, West : Other Property, North : House of Ram Kumar, South : House of Mukesh Kumar

| Date : 19.11.2019 | Authorised Officer |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Place: Dharuhera  | Can Fin Homes Ltd  |

Shubhi Jain in action

MP girl volunteer sways to

tune in traffic on Indore roads

traffic island of Indore"

in the city for her. "I feel elated when people tell me that they have started wearing helmets and seat belts after being reminded by her in the traffic", Ms Jain told

newspaper this on Tuesday. Ms Jain was inspired by the famous traffic cop of Indore Ranjeet Singh

who made headlines in the national and international media for regulating traffic by dancing around.

"Singh sir's boot is too

long to step in. I have a passion to make aware people about traffic rules for their personal security", the managestudent, who ment hailed from city of Bina in MP, said.

She has created her own style of regulating traffic.

"I am a sports woman. Hence, agility comes naturally to my style. It is a mix of break dance and acrobatics", she describes her distinct of regulating style traffic.



need of Bihar, the double engine government is doing more than what it could after getting special status for the state.

Special status stirs JDU-BJP 'rift'

### Tackling pollution



Confident that IITs, NITs will find solutions to address pollution issue, says President Ram Nath Kovind

THE ASIAN AGE





The SC judgment in the Babri Masjid title suit is by no means complete justice

> Asaduddin Owaisi, **AIMIM chief**



### School van driver, 2 others rape girl

Raigarh: A 14-year-old tribal girl was raped allegedly by three men, including her school van driver, in Chhattisgarh's Raigarh district, the police said on Tuesday. One of the accused was arrested on Monday, a day after the incident, it said. The incident took place when school van driver Santosh Gupta (42) took the victim along with him on the pretext of going on a picnic, which he claimed, would be attended by other students, an official here said. He then took her to Laripani Dam and raped her with another accused Pushpam Yadav. Gupta then took the girl to Birsingha village where he and the third accused, Sanjay Paikra, raped the minor in a hut. – PTI

### **Teenager killed**, 8 hurt in UP clash

Pratapgarh: A teenager was killed and eight others were injured after rival groups clashed over a pathway in the Mandhata area here on Tuesday, the police said. The incident took place in the afternoon in Usrapur village under the Mandhata police station area, it said. There had been a longstanding dispute over a pathway in the village. On Monday afternoon, two rival factions clashed and attacked each other using sticks, resulting in the death of a teenager and iniuries to eight people. the assistant auperintendent of police said. - PTI

### **Odisha says no to** ganja cultivation

Bhubaneswar: Cultivation of

cannabis will continue to remain illegal as the state government did not give permission for the same. excise secretary Sushil Lohani informed on Tuesday following a meeting held at the state secretariat here. Speaking to media persons, Mr Lohani said even as several industrial companies had sought permission for ganja cultivation in the state due to its medicinal values, the law department has rejected the proposal. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of the excise secretary.

SC WILL HEAR

MARATHA QUOTA

PLEAS JAN. 22

New Delhi: The Supreme

January 22 to commence

hearing a batch of pleas

challenging the constitution-

al validity of a Maharashtra

Marathas in education and

jobs in the state. A bench

comprising Chief Justice

S.A. Bobde and Justices

parties to complete the

advocate Arvind Datar,

parties opposed to the

the Maharashtra law

appearing for one of the

Sanjiv Khanna and Surya

Kant, meanwhile, asked the

pleadings in the case. Senior

quota for Marathas, said the

matter required a hearing as

breached the 50 per cent ceiling on reservation put by

the apex court in its the Mandal judgment. "We can refer it (matter) to a

Constitution bench only

after being convinced of

the plea," the bench said.

adding that the petitions

Earlier on July 12, the apex

court had decided to exam-ine the constitutional validi-

would be now listed for

hearing on January 22.

ty of the Socially and

Educationally Backward

Classes Act, 2018 granting

reservation for Marathas in

state. The top court, howev-

education and jobs in the

er, had refused to stay the

upholding the statute with

some modifications. - PTI

Bombay high court order

law granting reservation for

Court on Tuesday fixed

# **Odisha malnutrition rises,** needs urgent intervention'

### No. of kids suffering from severe 'wasting' up from 5.2 to 6.4% in 10 yrs

As many as 66%

of kids with severe

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO

Tuesday.

BHUBANESWAR, NOV. 19

acute malnutrition The malnutrition problem who consumed in Odisha, especially in rural areas, is a public locally-produced therapeutic food health emergency and under the Bal requires urgent interven-Sanjeevani scheme tions, experts working in the field of child nutrition showed positive told this newspaper on response to the

treatment protocol As per the National Family Health Survey-4, the total number of under-"Malnutrition is a sociofive children in Odisha cultural problem which suffering from severe can create major setbacks wasting (severe acute malfor India. Odisha's diluted nutrition or SAM) has public accountability, poor increased from 5.2 per access and control over cent to 6.4 per cent in the food and livelihoods' entilast 10 years. As a result, tlement programmes like the state is leading to high Targeted Public Distributrates in malnutrition, ion Programme, ICDS poor health and hunger. (Integrated Child Devel-

### NIA will host counter-terror exercise for 'Quad' nations

AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

The National Investigation Agency will organise a two-day workshop on different aspects of militancy for the "Quad" countries -India, the US, Japan and Australia. The event would be held on November 21 and 22 at the agency's headquarters in the capital.

This the first time that the "CT-TTX" (counterterrorism table-top exercise) is being organised among the Quad nations, which will deal with regional and global issues related to common security interests. The basic purpose behind the initiative is to ascertain response of security agencies in view of increasing glob-al terror threats and explore more possibilities for enhanced cooperation amongst partici-

pating countries. Officials claimed the move will also help all participating nations to asses the response sys tems to terror incidents that exist in other member countries. The exercise also aims to further improve the interagency cooperation between different counter-terrorism and other agencies of Quad countries. The Quad countries dialogue was launched in 2007 following which the first ministeriallevel dialogue among the members was held in

opment Services), Supplementary Nutrition Programme and Mid-Day Meal programme and National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme have not generated the desired impact on curtailing mal-nutrition," Mrudula Phadke, a renowned child health expert and senior adviser to National Rural Health Mission, said.

In Odisha, community workers like the accredited social health activist, anganwadi and auxiliary nurse midwife play a central role in treating children with SAM. While the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) have been effective in treating children with complicated SAM, their cumulative efficiency may be in ques-

tion. Scientific evidence shows that almost 90 per cent of SAM cases are uncomplicated and can be treated through community-based management (CMAM), adds Dr Phadke. SAM children, as the experts pointed out, have a much higher risk of death. They can develop complications that can be fatal if untreated. "SAM children without

complications can be treated in the community. They need special therapeutic food with fine particle size. As many as 66 per cent of the children with SAM who consumed locally-produced therapeutic food under the Bal Sanjeevani showed positive response to the treatment protocol," she adds.



**Nation** 

#### AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday attached assets worth ₹21.96 crore under the anti-money laundering law in an alleged corruption case pertaining to the widening of the NH-74 in Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

According to a statement issued by the ED here on Tuesday, the provisional order for attachment of the assets has been issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, (PMLA). The 2002attached properties belong to special land acquisition officers, land owners, farmers and middlemen.

The assets include agricultural and industrial land, commercial plots and buildings located in

#### The assets include agricultural and industrial land, commercial plots and buildings located in Dehradun and **Udham Singh Nagar** districts of U'khand and Rampur district in Uttar Pradesh

Dehradun and Udham Singh Nagar districts of Uttarakhand and Rampur district in Uttar Pradesh. Deposits in 11 bank accounts and mutual funds have also been attached, said the ED. The ED said it initiated the probed under the PMLA in the case on the basis of an FIR and chargesheet filed by the Uttarakhand Police against Dinesh Pratap Singh, revenue officials, farmers and middlemen.

Mr Singh and Anil Shukla, officials working in the capacity of competent authority of land acquisition then, entered into a conspiracy with other public servants, farmers and middlemen for misappropriation of government funds by granting compensation at non-agricultural rate, the ED said. The compensation at

non-agricultural rate is much higher than the agricultural rate, it said. "The higher compensa-tion was paid on the basis of back dated order passed under section 143 of the Uttar Pradesh Zamindari and Land Reform Act, 1950 for changing the land use from agriculture to nonagriculture and subsequent back dated entries in revenue records and documents, " it said.

### **Rawat briefs Rajnath** on situation in Siachen AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

Army Chief Gen. Bipin Rawat on Tuesday apprised defence minister Rajnath Singh about the ground situation on Siachen, where an avalanche claimed the lives of four Army personnel

and two porters. "Raksha Mantri Shri @rajnathsingh spoke to the Chief of Army Staff, General Bipin Rawat, regarding the tragedy in Siachen. CoAS has app-rised RM of the ground situation in Siachen," the defence minister's office tweeted.

The defence minister had also expressed anguish over the death of the Army personnel and civilians.

"Deeply pained by the demise of soldiers and porters due to avalanche in Siachen. I salute their courage and service to the nation. My heartfelt condolences to their families," Mr Singh families,"

seeks assault case hearing tweeted. An Indian Army's patrol party consisting 7, by which Mr Lodni's of eight personnel was conviction and the twostruck by an avalanche year jail term in the asson Monday at around 20,000 feet in northern ault case has been stayed. "We have filed a caveat Siachen Glacier. The rescue teams from (to prevent an ex-parte order). We have sought the nearby posts were hearing alongwith the rushed to the location for rescue work. All state government's petition. We are expecting the eight personnel were date of hearing to be fixed in a day or so," Mr Lodhi's pulled out of the avalanche debris. However counsel and former advodespite best efforts, four cate general Purushendra soldiers and two civilian porters succumbed to extreme hypothermia.



Congress interim chief Sonia Gandhi, former PM Manmohan Singh and party leader Ghulam Nabi Azad greet BJP leader L.K. Advani after paying tribute to former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on her birth anniversary at the Central Hall of Parliament - PRITAM BANDYOPADHYAY House in New Delhi on Tuesday.

# Big B, Rajini set to kick off 50th star-studded Iffi today

#### NITIN MAHAJAN PANJIM, NOV. 19

The inauguration of the 50th International Film Festival of India (Iffi) on Wednesday is set to see an unparalleled ceremony as

Bollywood superstar Amitabh Bachchan and

expected to participate in will be the opening film at the event scheduled to the festival.

place between take November 20-28 in Goa. Music legend Ilayaraja is scheduled to perform on November 27.

"In all, 90 all-India premiere of foreign films will be held in this period of which 24 films are Oscai

Iffi 2019 will showcase over 200 films from 76 countries, which includes **MP BJP leader moves SC**, 26 feature films and 15 non-feature films in the Indian panorama section. John Bailey, cinematographer and former president

New Delhi, Nov. 19: The The 18-coach-IRCTC on Tuesday signed long luxury train an agreement with the has 44 guest rooms Karnataka State Tourism that can accommo-Development Corpor-ation (KSTDC) to refurdate 84 guests. bish the state's Golden It covers tourist Chariot train and restart attractions in Karnataka and Goa.

its operations from March next year. The 18-coach-long luxury train has 44 guest makes losses. Don't keep rooms that can accommohigh fares, have competidate 84 guests. It covers tive rates. Sit together and tourist attractions in resolve any differences Karnataka and Goa. (that may) arise between IRCTC and KSTDC," Mr

The train's operations were stopped in March Ravi said. last year due to low occu-He said the Karnataka government and the KSTDC had operated and The agreement between the Indian Railway Cater-ing and Tourism Corporamaintained the Golden Chariot since its incep-

Pact signed to revive

Golden Chariot train

tion (IRCTC) and the tion in 2008 and it was the KSTDC was signed at a only luxury train in south ceremony here in the presence of minister of state for railways Suresh Angadi, minister of tour-India. ism of Karnataka C.T. Ravi and Railway Board chairman V.K. Yadav. "Ensure that no train

pancy rate.

Mr Yadav expressed con-fidence that the IRCTC and the KSTDC will successfully operate and market the Golden Chariot for domestic and international tourists.

South Indian movie leg end Rajnikant will attend the event.

The feat of getting India's two greatest movie icons has been achieved by the organisers after much effort and the inauguration is the most highprofile ever in the fivedecade-old history of the international event. Apart from the two leg-

singer ends, several big names from the Indian and foreign film industry are

nominated," sources said. Pictures A star-studded selection of films and ceremonies await film buffs in this film festival. years edition of Iffi. The inaugural event will be hosted by director and

producer Karan Johar. Music composer and Shankar Mahadevan will also perform at the opening ceremony. Director Goran Paskaljevic's Despite the Fog — an Italian drama —

of the Academy of Motion Årts and Sciences, will head the international jury of the Part of the jury are French filmmaker Robin Campillo, also on the

Cannes 2019 international jury, Chinese filmmaker Zhang Yang, Scottish filmmaker-writer and cinematographer Lynne Ramsay and Bollywood fi eminent filmmaker Ramesh Sippy.

New Deini, Nov. 19: BJB leader Prahlad Lodhi, who was recently disqualified as Madhya Pradesh MLA after being convicted in a 2014 assault case. has filed a caveat in the Supreme Court saying that he too be heard when the appeal of the state government is taken up

for hearing. The Madhya Pradesh government has filed an appeal against the high Kaurav said. court order of November

— PTI

persecution.

engaged in

#### Sena calls MLAs with Aadhaar

■ Continued from Page 1

in Maharashtra, he told a news agency, "It takes time to form a government... You need to go through a lot of processes when it comes to President's rule.'

Speculation that a Sena-NCP-Congress is not a done deal was fuelled by Mr Pawar's baffling response to reporters asking him about the Shiv Sena's claim about talks with the NCP — "Really?"

Amidst confusion over the post-poll alliance with the NCP, there have been reports about some Sena lawmakers wanting to go back to the NDA fold.

# Lanka Prez to meet PM in Delhi

■ Continued from Page 1 failed to prevent it despite intelligence advance warnings from New Ďelhi. But the other interesting aspect remains New Delhi's security concerns, particularly regarding the issue of the earlier movement of Chinese submarines in Sri Lankan waters a few years ago.

Mr Jaishankar tweeted: "President @GotabayaR has accepted PM @narendramodi's invitation to visit India on 29th November. A warm meeting with Sri Lanka President @GotabayaR. PM @naren-Conveyed dramodi's message of a

that under his leadership, #IndiaSriLanka relations would reach greater heights. Mr Jaishankar's swift visit is being seen as extremely significant, given China's increasing influence in Sri Lanka over the years and the perceived proximity of the Rajapaksa brothers to China earlier. It may be recalled that during the

presidency of the current President's brother Mahinda Rajapaksa earlier, Sri Lanka had grown extremely close to China.

speech at his swearing-in, saying his nation would maintain friendly ties with all countries, and be neutral in matters involving international powers in order to stay out of conflicts

On Sunday, Mr Gotabaya Rajapaksa assured India he would work closely with it to ensure "development and security", during a phone call made by Mr Modi to congratulate him on his spectacular electoral win. Mr Modi

southern neighbour.

## CAB purview...

■ Continued from Page 1 Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan because of registration on entry mandatory for visitors religious who intend to spend more Sources than 24 hours in the state. process said the govern-The ordinance will ment was working on the become an amendment to bill and the Centre is considering introduction of the Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security Act the Overseas Indian Card 2016, which was previous-(OIC) in the bill for the ly applicable only to ten-Hindu Bengalis and othants from outside the state. Under the law, "entry-exit points" will be ers who apply for citizenship under the CAB. There is also a proposal to set up along the border change the cut-off date. with Assam, the only state The cut-off date in the last with which Meghalaya bill was December 31, 2014. Sources did not rule shares an internal border. The CAB, which has out the possibility of generated much heat in another round of consultations on the Citizenship the region, proposes to provide relief to those (Amendment) Bill, which who have fled neighbouris set to lead to huge like countries protests across the region.

# LS ruckus over Gandhi SPG cover

Continued from Page 1 threat perception for the family.

The SPG protection given to Sonia Gandhi and danger," Rahul Gandhi family is not Chowdhury. an ordinary protection. After the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi it was decided that the Prime Ministers and their families will be given SPG pro-tection... Vajpayeeji had allowed Special Protection Group protection for the said. Gandhi family. From 1991-2019, NDA came to power

twice but their SPG cover

was never removed. What But my friends on the rulis the provocation now to ing side are ignoring the withdraw their SPG cover. gravity of the situation. Sonia Gandhi's life is in The ruling party has not argued Mr extended the security to BSP MP from Amroha Kunwar Danish Ali, TMC's Saugata Roy and the DMK MPs also joined tion," in to support Congress on T.R. Baalu. this issue. "This family has lost two PMs due to assassinations," Mr Ali

"Any smart man and wise man would put out the spark at the sight of it.

The commandoes are sta tioned at the residence of the protectee and travel with them whenever they leave the house.

The SPG, formed after madam Gandhiji on the the assassination of Indira Gandhi in1984, was ground that there is no threat perception. Here there is a threat percepinitially expected to prosaid DMK leader tect the Prime Minister of India. Rajiv Gandhi's SPG A crack force of 3,000. cover was removed after the SPG not only offers he was out of office, but

commando protection, it following his assassinaalso has uniformed agents tion Sonia Gandhi and her who conduct an advanced children were given SPG recce of places the proprotection in view of a tectee is expected to visit. high threat assessment.

RS ticket may trigger fresh war Continued from Page 1 Sabha ticket to him as the final straw, provoking him to decide on his future

political course. Mr Scindia's followers feel he has been given a short shrift in the party with his demand for the post of Pradesh Congress Committee president, being cold shouldered by the Congress leadership for the past one year. CM Kamal Nath also holds charge as PCC president.

Besides, his loyalist minship has found itself in a isters in the Kamal Nath team have been given a Catch-22 situation to nom-

inate any one of the two raw deal, much to Mr leaders as the party's choice for the first RS Scindia's dismay. The seat. Neither of them want to be nominated for the second seat as it will not only go for election, but also trigger an ego clash between them", said a senior Congress leader who sought anonymity. The three Madhya Pradesh Upper House

will end in April are I hat . Tha and Satyanarayan Jatiya (both BJP) and Digvijay Singh (Congress).

recent outburst by state forest minister Umang Singar, considered a staunch loyalist of Mr Scindia, against former CM and influential factional leader Digvijay Singh, was said to be outcome of the running feud between Mr Scindia and Mr Singh Mr Singar accused Mr Singh of blackmailing ministers in the Kamal Nath government.

"The Congress leader-

partnership for shared peace, progress, prosperi-News agency reports from Colombo earlier had then invited Mr

### ty & security. Confident Monday had indicated Mr Gotabaya Rajapaksa had delivered a measured

#### Rajapaksa to visit India, and the invitation had been accepted. During the presidency of Mahinda Rajapaksa a few years ago, Chinese submarines were found moving in Sri Lankan

waters and India expressed its concerns at that time. India is hoping to stave off any renewed pronounced pro-China tilt now by Colombo through a policy of active engagement with Sri Lanka. New Delhi is undertaking development projects in the island nation, India's maritime



News+



#### Man strides on moon again

Space Centre, (Houston) : more Americans strode the moon today after an astonishing bull's eye landing on the dusty Ocean of Storms to set up a lunar scientific station powered by a nuclear generator.

The exultant astronauts, Charles 'Pete' Conrad and Alan Bean, stepped out of the Intrepid landing craft after a voyage of more than a quarter million miles and spotted their target — a 1967 Surveyor robot — not more than 180 metres away. (Conrad and Bean returned to their ferry craft. Intrepid after spending nearly four hours walking about the lunar surface.)

The 39-year-old Conrad, American's shortest spaceman, hummed as he worked and as he made the last long step down the ladder he wisecracked: "That may have been a

small on for Neil (Armstrong) but it's a long

one for me." Reuter adds: "I feel great," Conrad kept saying. Bean joined him on the moon half-an-hour later,

lowering his visor against the dazZling sunlight and exclaiming with delight at the sight of shining glass beads sparkling on the lunar ground.

But a disappointment followed for viewers on the ground, who had followed the early stages of the moon walk by colour television.

Soon after Bean got down the ladder, the TV camera failed and no amount of juggling with it by the astronauts changed the scene — a bright light at the top, with most of the screen blacked out in

Bean said the plastic cord leading into the camera seemed to have melted in one section.

The astronauts' most important task was setting out the five experimental devices in the scientific station called ALSEP (Apollo Lunar Surface Experiments Package) expected to send back vital information about the moon's environment for more than a year.

# Ayodhya judgment a win-win; let's use it to progress, prosper

### A.K. Merchant focus

In this turbulent period of history, the world is in need of a unifying vision of our true nature as human beings and of the kind of world in which we would want to live. What else will rescue our country and indeed, the whole world, but efforts of countless people of goodwill who each make the welfare of humanity their principal concern?

ever has the question of communal harmony and social integration in our country raised such a wide range of emotions as the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya Ram Temple and Babri Masjid. The vast majority of diverse peoples in the country have welcomed the judgment and would peacefully bring whatever tasks are on

hand to logical fruition. The fact that it has taken us such a long time albeit painful and at times even violent provides a great learning that we the peo-ple of India are capable of upholding the spirit of *"vasudhaiva kutum-bakam*" despite the myriad diversity our entire social milieu.

now

Having been involved with the manifold goals of promoting interfaith dia-logue and religious harmony it has been repeateddemonstrated that humanity has a common origin like the fruits of one tree and the leaves of one branch.

Alas, it is fear, suspicion and hatred externally imposed on the society that provide the fuel and feed the flame of commu-nal disharmony and conflict. Lasting harmony between heterogeneous communities can only come through a recognition of oneness of humankind, a realistion differences that that divide us along ethnic and religious lines have no foundation. Just as there are no boundaries drawn on the earth to separate nations, distinctions of social, economic, ethnic and religious identity imposed by peoples are artificial; they have only benefited those with vested interests. On the other hand, naturally occurring diverse regions of the planet, or the country, such as mountain and plains, each have unique benefits. The diversity created by God has infinite

value, while distinctions men and women, worked imposed by man have no substance Thankfully, the Court's decision has created a winwin situation for both the communities. In like manner, let other issues plaguing the nation and preventing the whole country from prospering and pro-gressively evolving be taken up. For, within the people of each ethnic group or culture lies an important piece of the human experience. Each has something to contribute to the larger society. "Consider the flowers in a garden: Though differing in kind, colour, form and shape, yet...this diversity increases their charm, and add to their beauty." The unity of peoples that our founding leaders, both

towards during the struggle to achieve independence should be made a bedrock principle of our education system. Every child born could become a light to the world and at the same its darkness depending how he or she is nurtured. No child is with any prejudices or tendency for violence; it is the behaviour of adults and immediate environment that moulds the child to think, speak and act in particular ways. If the exposed to negative behaviour and instilled with prejudices than obviously it never learns how to live happily with those who have a different background. On the other hand, the child is surrounded with positive atmosphere

The court's decision has created a win-win situation for both communities. In like manner, let other issues plaguing the nation and preventing the whole country from prospering be taken up.

and taught to appreciate diversity and differences as an inherent aspect of the Creator's cosmic design there would be no difficulty in forging genuine friendships and contributing to the good of all. It is still not too late, the hope is expressed that India, a confluence of many civilizations and cultures can become a model

of communal and religious harmony. Responsibility falls equally on the majority or higher castes who must trade their "sense of superiority" and often "patronising attitude" for genuine friendship" and "close association", and minorities, be they religious communities, ethnic groups, or castes, must demonstrate "readiness to forget the past" and eliminate "every trace of suspicion" resulting from a long period of "grievous and slow healing wounds"

There are so many urgent challenges facing our nation, actually the whole world; we cannot afford to continue "business as usual". Greta Thunberg made an impassioned and inspired inquiry before world leaders at the United

2019 Climate Nations Summit: "How dare you continue to look away?" In this turbulent period of human history, the world is in need of a unifying vision of our true nature as human beings and of the kind of world in which we would want to live. What else will rescue our country and indeed, the whole world, but efforts of countless people of goodwill who each make the welfare of humanity their principal and dominating concerna

PAGE 5

The writer is the secretary and executive trustee, Temple of Understanding India Foundation, and trustee, National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of India and Lotus Temple



Residents buy newspapers to read about the Supreme Court's verdict in the Ayodhya title suit the morning after the ruling

# Earth Heroes green barren hill and champion Bharatpur's birds

### Usha Rai

#### meanwhile

The Royal Bank of Scotland in association with the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums has decided to recognise a 72-year-old activist who has created a peacock sanctuary on a barren hill in Ganjam, Odisha, and a retired forest official who has turned out to be a saviour for Bharatpur's migratory birds

ramila Bisoyi, a feisty 72-year-old, is a first time MP and president the Federation of SHGs (self-help groups) and an active member of the Mission Shakti move-ment in Odisha. She is also known for regenerating a forest over 20 to 25 years and creating a peacock sanctuary on dry, barren Pakidi Paharia (hill) which formed the backdrop of her vil-lage, Chermaria, Aska block of Ganjam district. Her activism has led to her becoming the BJD MP of Aska.

At the state level, Pramila has been felicitated and feted, receiving the Prakruti Bandhu and Prakruti Mitra awards. Recently, she received the Royal Bank of Scotland's lifetime achievement award for reviving water bodies, stopping the poaching of wild peacocks and for conservation.

There was always a water problem in our village, says Pramila. Our hillock Pakidi was barren and dry. It was extreme-ly hot in the summer months and women's lives were tough. In 2001, Pramila formed a SHG and long before the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, she began a movement against open defecation. Since male members in the local bodies were not listening to the women's demands for toilets, she asked the women in the SHG to get after their husbands to construct toilets. NGO Gram Vikas came in to assist with the toilets. The women did their own Gandhigiri and today there are toilets in every home with overhead tanks and 24 hours running water. United, the women appealed to

the government to provide them the linkage to banks and this was another accomplishment. Women began contributing ₹40



Nesting owls in Bharatpur

a month to the SHG and put ₹30 nitv in their bank accounts for agriculture and other needs increased their and bargaining power.

Buoyed by their confidence in getting toilets, the women decided to take on the challenge of greening the barren hill and restoring as well as creating new water bodies. The pond on top of the hill was the first to be repaired and restored. Sand bags were placed along the boundaries of the pond and rain water trapped inside it. The forest was first created at the foothills by keeping on planting saplings year after year. Two other water bodies were created with streams flowing into them. The water and forests attracted elephants, jackals, sambhar

peacocks from poachers, their numbers multiplied and today there is a peacock sanctuary in the area. With the regeneration of forests and water bodies,

Pramila Bisoyi's dreams for her village are fast becoming a reality. Women drop food for the peacocks as they trudge through the jungles, singing the many songs they created about forests, water and peacocks. They ensure the area remains from poaching and free encroachments.

Pramila is just one of the seven people who received the RBS Earth Heroes Awards. The others are Bholu Abrar Khan from Bharatpur, Dimbeshwar Das of Assam, Ela Foundation of Pune. Aishwarya

protecting the Maheshwari of UP, S. Sathish of wild Tamil Nadu and Jalaluddin Baba of Kashmir. Bholu Abrar Khan, who won

the Green Warrior Áward, has just retired from the Indian for-est service but he was Keoladeo Ghana National Park, Bharatpur's tourist guide par excellence. Though he got into the forest service when he was barely 20 and became the biologist of KNP Eco-Development Committee, he moved to the sanctuary when he was just eight to live with his father, the continental food chef at Shanti Kutir, the forest guest house. While the father enticed tourists with his mouthwatering cuisine, Bholu fell in love with the sanctuary and its myriad birds. He learnt about the resident as well as migratory



Bholu Abrar Khan



#### Pramila Bisoyi

winged creatures from the great ornithologist Salim Ali, when he visited the park to ring the birds. Bholu was barely 14 years old. He would carry the basket in which the birds caught were kept for ringing before they were released again in the wild. At Salim Ali's insistence he would carry a note book and pencil and made his own notes about the birds he saw. But Salim Ali also insisted that Bholu should attend school regularly and complete his studies. It was only after school hours that he was allowed to accompany Salim Ali in the Park. Bholu recalls with nostalgia

how he showed the great master the nesting place of a mottled wood owl during their forays in the park. Salim Ali asked him to count and record the number of

birds he saw. The monsoon the season was bird watchers delight. There were 10,000 painted storks in the park, 30 to 40 nests on one tree. Salim Ali taught him how to count birds in the water and also the number of nests of vultures- this was way before the decimation of nature's scav-engers due to ingesting the drug, Diclofenac, used for treating cattle.

Married at just 18 years of age he decided to get into the forest service so that he could continue to live in the lap of nature and service of birds. Bholu also learnt about water management of Keoladeo park, reported on new species sighted and taught

the rickshaw-walas of Bharatpur as well as PhD schol-ars and others about the birds of the national park. He assisted Sir David Attenborough as well as Belinda Wright to get the shots of fishing cats, birds etc for their films. He took myriad photographs of birds, otters and other species, recorded bird sounds and even today helps in water management of the park. The park today gets its water from the Chambal river and there is perennial shortage of water, so vital for the trees as well as the birds of the park, says Bholu Khan.

Abrar Khan's favourite bird is the owl. There are 10 species of owls and some of them actually speak, he says. The dusky brown owl never makes its own nests. It lays its eggs in the nests of other birds. Every time I discover a new owl's nest, I get as excited as a kid getting his first cricket bat. Eyes glinting, he pronounces "Keoladeo is my soul!"

Mr Kishan Reddy, Union minister of state for home affairs, pointed out that by recognising and rewarding those working towards environment conservation, RBS was creating a value cycle that will spur more people to take greater responsibility to mitigate climate change and con-serve earth."

The writer is a veteran journalist based in New Delhi





and wild deer. With the commu-









### MIND POWER

### INDIRA GANDHI JAMES A. GARFIELD

Happiness is a state of mind, you know. I There are men and women who make the world don't think you are permanently happy. better just by being the kind of people they are



THE ASIAN AGE

**20 NOVEMBER 2019** 

# Govt backlash intensifies against the idea of JNU

rotesting peacefully, even in a group, is an inherent democratic right, but our police clearly believes otherwise. This was evident on Monday when a large body of JNU students, marching peacefully to Parliament on the opening day of its Winter Session to present their demands — which have been making national news lately — were thrashed by the police. What does it say about the quality of the direction given to them? Surprisingly, in Parliament, no party raised the matter.

JNU is India's foremost university in terms of the quality of its knowledge production. Its research is acknowledged internationally. This year's Economics Nobel has gone to a JNU alumnus, who in his time on the campus was once sent to Tihar Jail (along with others) for protesting. Not long ago, the Cabinet Secretary, foreign secretary, and the chiefs of the country's internal and external intelligence agencies, were former JNU students. The present finance minister and the foreign minister also went to JNU, besides the leader of one of the two Communist parties in Parliament. JNU is also likely to be the only university in the country where the library overflows with students even after midnight, and there is waiting.

In sum, as a centre of learning, this university is worth nurturing on the lines on which it has grown. Ideally, higher education policy in the country should be The family income of aimed on similar lines instead of letting a moribund body like UGC bureaucratically the median JNU

student is likely to be student herself is non-English medium school background, dents. and from the remotest rural communities

dictate the form and content of curricula. in the lower middle JNU's most attractive feature is a long-standing culture of restless intellectual, class or lower, and the political and artistic debate, not street violence, dadagiri, or goonda-style politics likely to be from a common on other campuses. Another key feature is the nurturing of personal and intellectual freedoms by teachers and stu-

> And yet, since 2014, the government and the ruling party have made every effort to malign JNU and dismantle the structures -

the rules, regulations, facilities, teaching and research requirements, and eligibility levels for teachers and students — that have sustained it. This is being sought to be done through a vicechancellor who is widely seen to behave like an unbridled commissar. To inculcate militarist nationalism, a tank was once proposed to be placed on campus.

The family income of the median JNU student is likely to be in the lower middle class or lower, and the student herself is likely to be from a non-English medium school background, and from the remotest rural communities. Here the value systems of the entire world, including the ideologies and grammar of current Indian politics and government, are sought to be closely interrogated. Is this the cause of the BJP establishment's antipathy towards the very idea of a place like JNU? The protests over hostel rates is the trigger for the massive students' agitation. The real cause is the severe curtailment of freedoms of every kind, most notably academic.

## Plain sailing for govt in House

t was a flaccid start to Parliament's Winter Session, with some Opposition parties in the Lok Sabha ritualistically demanding to know why their colleague Farooq Abdullah was not present in the House. This was evidently a baiting tactic to revive a discussion on Kashmir, but with the Opposition unable to bring gusto to the proceedings, the government swatted away the charge of the ultra-light brigade with ease.

The Congress is clearly preoccupied with other issues, like the political developments in Maharashtra which might yield government formation there at the BJP's expense. Its former chief Rahul Gandhi, who is now capable of pungent interventions in the House, was absent, apparently not back yet from his meditation tour. This itself says much. The government faced no trouble on any count, but the alarm is grow-

ing over the economy. After creating fear and panic over its promise to apply the National Register of Citizens to every state, the government renewed its commitment to bringing the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, a necessary accompaniment to the NRC in furtherance of the communal agenda. The Opposition parties gave few hints in the Lok Sabha that



# For UK, Brexit likely to be end of a dream

Sunanda K. Datta-Ray Reflections

n just over three weeks, Britain will face its most important election since 1945 when Clement Attlee became Prime Minister, healed the ravages of the Second World War and created the proud welfare state. Given the boisterous Johnson's one-Boris point programme Brexit, or exiting the European Union — the voting this time will affect relations with con-tinental Europe, the shape of the country that was once Great Britain, and a vision of the global

future Boris Johnson's dra-matically phrased "do-or-die" deadline for leaving the EU has been extended from October 31, 2019 to January 31, 2020 giving him time to counter opponents with-in and outside the Conservative Party's ranks. His own political career may not survive Nor the elect can another hung Parliament be ruled out. Even if an overwhelming majority of the new Parliament rejects a nodeal Brexit or fails to approve of the deal that Boris Johnson negotiates, Britain may crash out by default. As this column has noted before, there is also a real danger of the United Kingdom breaking up. Scotland might go its own way while Protestant-majority Ulster might sink its religious differences to move towards some form of unification with the Republic of Ireland whose Indian-origin Prime Minister, Leo Varadkar, has set a new level of liberalism for a Roman Catholic nation. Opinion polls show Boris Johnson's Conservatives lead with 41 per cent support com-

pared to Labour's 29 per cent, and 16 per cent for the Liberal Democrats led by a gutsy 39-year-old Scotswoman, Jo Swinson, who has Swinson, who already rejected the notion of supporting Labour's enigmatic Jeremy Corbyn. Similarly rebuffed by Johnson, Nigel Farage, Brexit Party whose enjoys six per cent sup port, has agreed not to put up candidates in any Conservative-held constituency to show that like Barkis, he is still willin'. However, opinion polls are never fool-proof. Despite similar predictions when Theresa May, the last Prime Minister, called an election in 2017, she didn't get a majority. Her Brexit plan was voted out no fewer than

three times. Boris Johnson's pitch is to blame Parliament for not keeping to his deadline and project himself as the people's champion battling the establishment to prevent it thwarting the public will as expressed in the June 2016 referendum. That ignores his own arrogant manoeuvres to bypass Parliament and its laws, but he must reckon with Mr Farage and Ms Swinson. While the Brexit Party is wooing hardcore Leavers, the Lib Dems have joined smaller groups like the Greens and Wales's Plaid Cymru under the "Unite to Remain" banner. Together, they might Mr rob Johnson of Conservative majority. Many voters are fed up with Brexit. Many don't want the hassle of another referendum. Their focus is domestic, with the main reason for opposing the EU being

the haunting fear that

divorce becomes final. membership does not Many more con-tentious issues will have allow them to be masters in their own home. The to be sorted out at the argument is that on its end of January 2020, when we will know whether Britain will leave the EU without a deal or if the new own, Britain can export more to the United States, China and India than if it is shackled by agreements negotiated by Brussels on behalf of Parliament approves a 28 member countries. deal. If so, the terms of that deal will be rele-It is also argued that the British are histori-cally committed to the

vant. But whatever hap-pens, it is difficult to understand the buoyan-cy with which Mr Johnson and Mr Farage free market whereas Europe's regulatory framework is intended to protect workers' rights. This explained Britain socking ayout paint the future in the rosiest of hues. They seem to have forgotten Britain seeking exemp-tion from the social chapter of the EU treaty, that Japanese and French car manufacturwhich it signed in February 1992. There ers have threatened to reconsider their present are other historical, ecoplans for production, nomic and cultural dif-ferences, but the British some even warning that a no-deal exit might public's principal objec-tion was that EU memforce them to reconsider their future in Britain. bership meant the unin-On top of that, other countries which are aware that Britain needs hibited entry of working-class Europeans like an agreement more than the legendary Polish plumber. Their English they do can afford to set conditions and play for time. US President equivalents feared they would be jostled out of Donald Trump's report-ed expectation of American access to the jobs, government housing and schools for their children, with immi-grants placing an intol-British market for agrierable strain on all cultural products like social services. hormone beef and chlo-

Two facts testify to the rinated chicken, which superiority of Britain's attractions. Up till the end of September, more are now banned in Britain, and of being allowed to buy parts of

### LETTERS **MODI'S SIGNALS**

Speaking at a special discussion to mark the 250th session of the Rajya Sabha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Today, I want to appreciate two parties, NCP and BJD..." Then after a pause reminiscent of Yudhisthira's "iti gajo" in the Mahabharata, Mr Modi said: "Every political party including mine should learn from them." So is the Shakuni of Indian politics trying to win over Sharad Pawar to his side for a renewed bid to muster the numbers in Maharashtra?

Bidyut K. Chatterjee Faridabad, Haryana

### DON'T DESTROY JNU

**WE HAVE** to pay through the nose for subsidising comforts and facilities enjoyed by our politicians. Can't we expect in return a subsidy in education for our own children? It is a shame the way the Jawaharlal Nehru University students are being treated for demanding a rollback of hiked hostel fees so that they can pursue their higher studies. Students said only two of five boarders can afford the hiked fees. Remember, JNU is known world over for its high quality of education. It is the alma mater of Union ministers, bureaucrats, social scientists and even a Nobel laureate. It is a success model that we must nr ve and the NHS should also be strive to replicate. borne in mind. In any Sujit De case, it will take five to Kolkata

they plan to mount a challenge. The Rajya Sabha's 250th session was inaugurated on Monday and

Prime Minister Narendra Modi seized the opportunity to urge the government's opponents to eschew tactics that block discussion and deliberation. Thankfully, former PM Manmohan Singh gave a rejoinder with pithy points, saying the deliberative aspect of Parliament depended greatly on parliamentary committees, where members usually engage in open discussions. He regretted that in the 16th Lok Sabha, only 25 per cent of bills were sent to committees for discussion by the government, against 71 per cent in the 15th and 60 per cent in the 14th Lok Sabha.

#### THE ASIAN AGE

T. VENKATRAM REDDY

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than 1.8 million EU, Economic European Area and Swiss nationals had applied to remain in Britain after Brexit. At the same time, most of the 1.2 million UK citizens who live in continental Europe are pensioners who have opted for the least expensive domicile. They are worried about access to the free medical facilities they enjoy as British subjects once the

a dream. The scanty sil-**Opinion polls show** ver lining to that cloud Boris Johnson's is that the new Parliament might **Conservatives lead** decide on a second refer with 41 per cent endum, and that British compared to Labour's voters might then 29 per cent, and reverse their verdict. 16 per cent for the But that is a very distant Liberal Democrats led hope by a gutsy 39-yearold Scotswoman, Jo Swinson

### **BOOST FOR BEIJING**

APROPOS THE EDITORIAL, "Sri Lanka comes full circle with Gota win" (Nov. 19), Gotabaya Rajapaksa's "tough guy" image has played a big role in his victory in a polarised presidential election. China's growing clout in the Indian Ocean, in which Sri Lanka is strategically located, threatens to undermine India's geopolitical interests. With pro-Beijing Gotabaya now in charge, New Delhi must be careful. S.S. Paul

Chakdaha, West Bengal

Every Monday the best letter of the week wins ₹500. Email: letters@asianage.com Else, send to Jawaharlal Nehru National Youth Centre, 219 Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi 110002



### Imran's PTI, PML-N must brace for long, hard journey

he crises took considerable time to build up and very little for the final countdown. After a "million" marches spread over weeks and months, the dharna phase of the Azadi March lasted less than two weeks. Likewise, the curtain finally came down on the PML-N's legal troubles, which had been building up and compounding for months on end — though it is perhaps the end of an act and not the play. For, the soap opera called poli-tics in Pakistan is like an American television series, which should have ended after the second season but has been stretched out, ad infinitum. And now that the drop scene is over, everyone is claiming victory. The Sharifs have been able to secure Nawaz Sharif's right to travel without having to sign an indemnity bond while the PTI is arguing that the undertaking given to the court is far stronger than the bond the government was asking for. Even enthusiastic supporters of one or the other are weighing down on their side having emerged victorious.

But if only politics were so simple. There is the unfortunate tendency of our political parties to expect deus ex machina to resolve intractable

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problems rather than opt for a negotiated compromise. (Dues ex machina was a plot device used in Greek plays to resolve seemingly hopeless situations; usually a god would appear out of nowhere to provide a solution.) In our politics, the courts have been given this role

This is as true of the PML-N as it is of the PTI. Back in 2016, when the PTI was preparing for a second protest/dharna in the wake of the Panama scandal, the PML-N — without a mark on its back unlike 2014 did its best to stop Khan with all the might of the state. Containers, arrests, tear gas at Banigala, nothing was spared; the restraint of 2014 was missing as was the threat of the gov-ernment being sent home. Khan also proved stubborn as his workers camped out on his hilltop home. Neither side showed any flexibility.

The judiciary back then appeared to act like deus ex machina by accepting an earlier rejected petition to take suo motu notice of the Panama story. The rest is history.

This time around proved no different; the inability of the government and the PML-N to resolve the matter through negotiation left no option but for the court to provide a middle

way. It is noteworthy that each time - in 2016 and in 2019 - the verdict threw up no surprises. it was assumed/predicted that the verdict would end the impasse and it did.

However, this practice should end; and it will only do so once the politi-cal parties realise that letting go of the initiative (and the power to decide) is a sign of weakness and not strength. It simply reflects a lack of maturity as well as of decision-mak-ing power in political parties. For eventually, the initiative (and power) rests with the forces willing to take the decision, even if means compromising for the moment. As the PML-N learnt to its loss, there is no room for a political settlement once the decision is taken elsewhere; the courts eventually ended up disqualifying Nawaz Sharif. The PTI later paid a similar price.

Moving on, however much the ver-dict is being interpreted as a win-win situation, both parties will suffer adverse effects. Initially, when the former premier was given bail, it seemed he would be flying out of the country within days. Naeem ul Haq's and Ijaz Shah's statements indicated this. But the reaction of the 'young Turks', led to a change of heart; the

indemnity bond was conjured up in the hope to pass the buck.

10 years to clinch trade

may not find it easy to

attract investments dur-

The real regret is not economic. It is political

and philosophical. A European Union of

which Britain is a mem-

ber could have signalled

hope of future harmony

for a fractured world.

Brexit means the end of

The writer is a senior

journalist, columnist

and author

Britain

might

agreements.

ing that period.

But despite this, the PTI will be reminded time and again of its posturing on accountability and its track record on high-profile prisoners — because there are chances that Nawaz Sharif is not going to be the only one being set free in the coming days. The PTI better brace itself for a long, hard ride — as should the PML-N. Nawaz Sharif's illness may have precipitated his travel but the party will not find it easy to deflect talk of a deal; the maulana's march; the lacklustre PML-N participation; Maryam Nawaz's bail; the production orders of some PML-N leaders; the support from the PML-Q as well as the chairman Senate will lead many to speculate about a backroom deaľ.

This perception will be strengthened if Maryam Nawaz, at some stage, applies for and is allowed to join her father; this possibility was being discussed when he was first released on bail though it has died down since. Already, there is talk of how Shahbaz Sharif's narrative has once again prevailed over his elder brother and niece. The latter two's silence, which is being attributed to Nawaz Sharif's illness, is adding to

-

this perception. It is notable that Maryam Nawaz was missing when Shahbaz Sharif held a press conference on Thursday. But as the PML-N deals with its first family's legal and personal battles, the spotlight will return to Khan in the meantime, who, according to observers, is in trouble once again, as he was earlier when he had changed his finance team. Clearly, since then he had gained some strength which he once again has been deprived of.

Another way of looking at the issue is that conflict within this relationship is inevitable and will keep cropping up again and again. But this friction, which will be ongoing, has not reached the point of a breakdown - in fact, some are predicting that the next point of conflict will be Punjab. Hence, it may be too soon to speak of Khan's departure or his being replaced. A fragile government, with a razor-thin majority in parliament needs a strongman to keep it in place; if not Khan, who else can it be? Expecting a second-tier PTI leader to do this, is nothing more than wishful thinking, for the moment.

By arrangement with Dawn













### Word SPY UNDERBUS RIGHTEOUS INCIVILITY

To discredit, blame, or dispose of an | The practice of disrupting usual civil patterns for the ally or colleague, for personal gain | sake of moral conviction



# Is a State apology in order for the abolition of privy purses?



s the din on the recent abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A ebbs with the assertion of its "temporary" proviso, another constitutional abrogation, entailing the privy purses in 1971, remains largely forgotten. Pre-Independence, there were 565 princely "states" of a feudatory nature that were officially recognised by the British Raj that included British India and these native "states". About 117 of these "states" were accorded gunsalutes that ranged from three to 21, depending on the warrant of precedence setting their prestige, as assessed by the size, revenue, antiquity and other considera tions. The largest of these was the 21 gun-salute of Jammu & Kashmir which included the regions of Gilgit, Baltistan, Ladakh and Poonch — with an area of 84,471 square miles, mak-ing it substantially larger than modern day European countries like Greece, Portugal or Hungary. These "states" had partial sovereignty and were ruled by their rulers who had a subsidiary alliance agreement between their independent "state" and the British paramountcy. This allowed some of the larger "states" to retain state military forces that were often requisitioned as part of the imperial service troops, and they partook action in the world wars. The unparallelled heroics of the Jodhpur and Mysore Lancers in attacking German and Turkish defences in the Mediterranean town of Haifa is recognised as the last great horse cavalry charge in

history Pre-Independence, these princely "states" accounted for 48 per cent of the area and about 28 per cent of the total population, and manag-ing their integration into the Dominion of India (or Pakistan) became an immediate challenge. From the Indian side, Sardar Vallahbhai Patel, aptly described by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru as "the builder and consolidator of new India", along with V.P. Menon who was the secretary of the newly-created ministry of states to overlook the herculean task of accession, undertook the same. From invoking patriotism, cajol-ing, reasoning, alluding to anarchy for failure to join, to even coercive means - all possible tact were deployed. The tireless efforts tested the patience, negotiation skills, persuasive powers and even decisiveness in tricky situations like Junagadh, Hyderabad and so on. To make the deal palatable, the duo initially required the princely states to accede only on the three

The privy purse was defined under Articles 291 and 362 of the **Constitution that** guaranteed a fixed tax-free sum to the former princely rulers and their successors, to be charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

The privy purse was defined under Articles 291 and 362 of the Constitution that guaranteed a fixed tax-free sum to the former princely rulers and their successors, and this was to be charged on the Consolidated Fund of India. While the total cost to the Indian exchequer was about six crores in 1947, it had come down progressively to about four crores annually, by the time it was suddenly abolished. Sardar Patel himself had realised the enormity of the sacrifice when he passionately spoke for the rulers: "Let us place ourselves in their position and then assess the value of their sacrifice. The rulers have now discharged their part of the obliga-tions by transferring all ruling powers by agreeing to the integration of their states. The main part of our obligation under these agreements is to ensure that the guarantee given by us in respect of the privy purses are fully implemented. Our failure to do so would be a breach of faith and seriously prejudice the stabilisation of the new order." Importantly, Sardar Patel noted that just the cash received from the rulers of just the Madhya Bharat region alone, if invested, would generate enough interest to honour the entirety of privy purses, to all the rulers! Subsequent politics of independent India would bear its own instincts, insecurities and morasses that often led to the convenient

demonisation of the erstwhile rulers and the ostensible urge to build an "egalitarian social order", positing this sovereign commitment as an unnecessary drain. Much of the political angst had to do with the fact that most of these rulers were driven towards C. Rajagopalachari's Swatantra Party, which had become a major political opposition by then. In 1971, the 26th Amendment to the Constitution of India was made stating, "the privy purse is abol-ished and all rights, liabilities and obligations in respect of privy purse are extinguished and accordingly the ruler or, as the case may be, the successor of such ruler, referred to in clause (a) or any other person shall not be paid

THE ASIAN AGE

any sum as privy purse". In one stroke, the word given by Sardar Patel and constitutionally committed as a sovereign guarantee was suddenly abolished. Today, questions of such privileges, titles and "purses" are frowned upon and ridiculed — but the question is of constitutional guarantee, morality and above all, the honour of the sovereign promise. In any case, the democra tic throes were negating the feudal spirit, financial burden or even the societal relevance of these erstwhile rulers, but to renege on the commitment is tantamount to betrayal of trust. Today the resuscitation of the same may rightfully seem anachronistic, impractical and even unwarranted as much water has flown under the bridge, but it would do well for the government to introspect and acknowledge the wrong of back-tracking on a constitutional commitment, and at least recognise the role of the former rulers towards the building of today's India.

Severe to very poor: Air quality is a metaphor for political leadership to the very mob with a

Sharad Pawar.

cal

Maharashtra

The Shiv Sena has run

ideology. The outfit shored up by militant

middle-caste Marathas

was actually set up by

the Congress, as a cat's-

paw against the influ-

ence of Brahmin-led communist unions that

Mumbai's business cap-

tains. The strike-break-

ing Sena conjured differ-

ent enemies in stages

and is currently posi-

tioned as anti-Muslim

and anti-Dalit. Its volun-

teers confessed to taking

part in the demolition of

the Babri Masjid in 1992.

about this Congress-

NCP-Shiv Sena project, though it is still on the

anvil, is that it follows

the supreme court's judgement on the Ayodhya dispute, which

rather controversially assigned the piece of

land where the Hindu

mob razed the 16th-cen-

tury mosque against the

supreme court's orders

What's

troubled

significant

greatly



purred by an unexpected breeze, the quality of air in Delhi 'improved' from 'severe' to 'very poor'. Some improvement, you would say, but do tarry a little.

The Delhi Met Bureau may have actually made a deeply philosophical observation with its imagery applicable to several facets of life these days. The intrigumetaphor of ing zement hetween imnr

mandate to build a tem-ple to Lord Ram there. Many Hindus worship Ram as the god-prince of Ayodhya, but only the BJP and its linked groups seem to know the precise spot where he came into the world. There was a time when Among other regres-sions, Nehru's Congress the Congress government under Manmohan Singh told the apex court tartly that though Ram is talking to the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra where they could come was worshipped across together along with the Nationalist Congress the country and Muslim poets including Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) of former chief minister Iqbal had written paeans to him — there was no scientific evidence he Following recent state actually existed. Be that elections, which the BJPas it may, the Congress is Shiv Sena had fought now fully on board with the temple project, which is not surprising together, the BJP's numbers in the new assembly

at all. Ever since the commu-

ternal attair and communications, and then offered the guarantee of privy purses in lieu of surrendering existing rights and culminated in the signing of the Instruments of Accession. As part of the promise the rulers gave up control of their lands, institutions, cash balances and even 12,000 miles of railways, without any compensation, other than the guarantees of the privy purse. It is important to remember that a lot of these rulers were immensely popular, progressive and commanded the respect of their people, who could have swung in their favour had they tried to be difficult. While today the geo-graphical, political and emotional entity and imagination of a composite "India" is only natural, the sacrifice of many of the rulers of "states" who were given an option to join either of the two nations or remain independent, is unbe-knownst to most citizenry.

matters of defence e

The writer is a retired lieutenantgeneral and a former lieutenantgovernor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry

#### severe and very poor cer-tainly applies to extant political choices in a large number of locations Take Pakistan, where the PPP is compelled to

swear by Z.A. Bhutto as a great liberal even though he heaped misery on a minority community in a moment of communally inspired political opportunism. And Nawaz Sharif is the preferred symbol of the nation's hopes for a democratic recovery having conjured images of a Taliban-style amirul momineen replacing the country's elected prime minister.

As for Imran Khan, he im president in Sonia continues to flirt with Gandhi. It has the numsome kind of liberation bers with the NCP to wean Shiv Sena away theology given his abiding faith in the Muslim from the BJP by offering it greater share in the clergy. As for the generals, they trump everyone by merging the options power structure. But should it morally do so? into a seemingly irreon fascist principles with versible order of things. a pernicious anti-Muslim and anti-Dalit

Transpose the irony of self-limiting choices on American politics. Is it not true that Obama was to Libya what Bush was to Iraq and Clinton was to Yugoslavia? To the American voters, however, these former icons define all that they can choose from. The slightdifference est in demeanour and style becomes the critical inflection. Elizabeth Warren, or whoever gets to lead the Democratic challenge against Donald Trump next year, thus needs to fight not just Trump but the ghost of his predecessors to progress from choosing between severe and very poor.

In this regard, the choices for Indians have been even more notably stifling. It seems as though the 'Good' has been removed as an option from a Clint Eastwood movie, leaving only the 'Bad' and the 'Ugly' to battle it out.

dwindled. In Haryana too, in Delhi's neighbourhood, Modi's party nists parted ways with lost seats, but it co-opted the Congress party in the the services of a discredwake of Indira Gandhi's emergency rule, the Congress has veered ited legislator to cobble a wafer-thin majority. The closer to the Hindu right. BJP had earlier sought the man's arrest for This was a leading factor in Mrs Gandhi's hurried alleged rape but it is now beholden to him for criticalculations that led her support. to misjudge the mood in The Congress has no role in Punjab where she weighed in against the the ugliness of the moment and needs to alienated Sikh community with military might. just watch the BJP choke on its own muck.

The consequence was disastrous for India even though in the short run It is significant that in and Haryana Modi's appeal Rajiv Gandhi did win an didn't work. And this unprecedented landslide, happened despite the seen as a sympathy vote Congress grappling with over his mother's assasits own severe crisis as it sination bv her bodyguards. limps on under an inter-Sikh Thousands of Sikhs were slaughtered in Delhi by mobs that were encouraged by the Congress party's backroom cosi-ness with the Hindu right.

Ăs for Maharashtra, there is nothing new or even surprising about the Congress and the NCP coming close to the Shiv Sena even if they pretend to be wary of its pronounced fascist tag. One needs only to flick off the dust from the Justice Shri Krishna Commission report on the 1992-93 anti-Muslim violence in Mumbai in the wake of the Ayodhya outrage. The commission cited direct evidence to illustrate complicity between the Shiv Sena, sections of the police and the Congress government of the day were together who named by the report, the reason why they jointly buried it. Not unlike the William Delhi Met, Shakespeare's witches may have been pointing to a similarly deep universal reality as they sang in unison: "Fair is foul and foul is fair. Hover through the fog and filthy air.

> By arrangement with **Dawn**

# The strength of a remorseful heart



"Best and happiest of all, the time before him was his own, to make amends in!

> – Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol

he aim of spirituali-ty is to make man fully conscious of his true innocence. This journey from ignorance to enlightenment begins with the realisation that unconscious. one is Accepting one's ignorance is first rung on the ladder in the quest for truth.

Among the early lessons in this quest is the realisation of one's follies and

admission of wrongdoing. It nudges man to resolve to make amends for his sins. The second step, regret, can be the psychological catalyst for change towards returning to one's better self or to improve one's prior self. Regret helps us focus on both the past and the future, being honest of what was so that

one can become who one really can be. A sincere apology is a way to the truth.

Spiritual doctors emphasise that an appropriate amount of guilt for our erroneous actions can help put us back on the righteous path. Proclamations of remorse serve not only to assuage the offended party but are also offered in the hope that the life of the penitent can return to normality as quickly as possible.

In religious terms, repentance is a prerequisite for divine forgiveness

and mercy. For Jews and Muslims, the focus is on God's desire for us to repent before pardoning us unconditionally. In repentance, we must experience genuine remorse for the wrongdoing and positive acts.

then convert our penitential energy into The Creator has placed a unique volitional quality

in man's psyche and that is what is called 'repentance". This special feature is particularly prominent in people who hold a firm belief in God and his scriptures. The Quran extols the repentant in these words: "God will change their evil deeds into good deeds.' The Greek term for

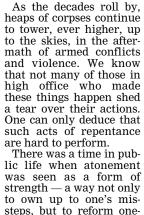
repentance in the New Testament is metanoia, or "a change of heart". It is not equivalent to mere remorse, which must pre-cede it. Repentance is central to Judaism too. Jews even dedicate the 10 days between the Jewish New Year and the holiest day of the year, Yom Kippur the Day of Atonement to repentance.

True repentance should not be a mere momentary spasm of remorse and a matter of expediency, but it must influence and leave its mark in terms of Mantra

character, action and life. Mourning for mistakes does not bring transformation; it merely gives consolation. True repentance leads to a life change which is based upon a real transformation. True repentance is evidenced not only by a change of heart, but by a change of action. When a person is tempted to do the wrong thing and then, confronted by the same situation again, does the right thing, he or she is said to have truly repent-

lic life when atonement to own up to one's mis-steps, but to reform oneself. With repentance getting confused with humiliation, remorselessness has become an act of resistance and defiance a point of pride.

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### VR game

Nearly three years after announcing it would build three full-length VR games, Valve Software announced Half-Life: Alyx



THE ASIAN AGE

# US failing to stop China from stealing research

Washington, Nov. 19: The US government has failed to stop China from stealing intellectual property from American universities and lacks a compre-hensive strategy for deal-ing with the threat, a congressional report concluded on Monday.

The report says the FBI should be more effective and consistent in warning colleges and universities about the threat of Chinese economic and industrial espionage. It also says agencies that award research grants or provide visas for scientists don't do enough to monitor or track the recipients, and says universities themselves must do a better job identifying foreign funding sources and conflicts of interest among scientists on their campuses.

The problem is especially urgent, says the report from the Senate's from the Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, because billions of dollars in taxpayer-funded research have "contributed to China's global rise over the last 20 years" and to its goal of being a world leader in science and technology by 2050. "As American policy makers navigate an increasingly complicated relationship with China, it is not in our national security interest to fund China's economic and military development with taxpayer dollars," the

The report is the most recent government study to analyse Chinese intellectual property theft on college campuses and to scrutinise the shortcomings of government agencies in addressing the problem. It focuses on Chinese programs that recruit scientists with access to cuttingedge technology in the US and incentivise them to research for Beijing's gain and even to steal the work American academics. of

In recent years, the report says, the programs have been exploited by scientists who have downing participants in them absent full disclosure of loaded sensitive research files before returning to

### **HUAWEI DOWNPLAYS IMPACT** FROM FRESH US EXTENSION

Washington, Nov. 19: "have a substantial Huawei Technologies has dismissed a new 90-day impact on Huawei's business either way' "This decision does not extension by the Trump administration allowing change the fact that Huawei continues to be treated unfairly either," US firms to continue doing business with the Chinese company as making little difference,

the Chinese firm said. The extension comes as repeating that it was being unfairly treated. the United States and China try to resolve a US regulators are crafttrade war that has lasted ing rules on telecommu-nications firms that pose for more than a year, with Huawei one of its national security risks. most visible targets. But after adding Huawei Beijing reiterated on

Tuesday that it hopes Chinese companies will be treated fairly. "We urge the US to stop abusing export controls to discriminate against the firms of another country in the name of national security, and to stop politicizing a trade problem," Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said on Tuesday.

– Reuters

the terms and conditions of membership. The most prominent of

the programs, known as the Thousand Talents Plan, has gone underground amid heightened US scrutiny, with some Chinese government websites deleting online refer-ences to it. But it's contin-

Participants are asked to sign legally binding contracts that include nondisclosure agreements and that make clear that Chinese institutions will retain the rights to at least some of the intellectual property created by the

propriation of funds. -AP

SNAPCHAT TO

POLITICAL ADS

FACT-CHECK

mat, appearing with the newest first rather than algorithmically to try to won't sell ads to users. appeal to their interests. The platform says it will never sell user data and relies Currently, WT:Social has over on "the generosity of individual 200,000 members donors" rather than ads. To stop misinformation,

WT:Social will rely on the Those who do sign up are added to a waiting list and goodwill of users to police the asked to invite others, site. The approach sounds a lot or choose a subscription like Reddit. payment.

Jimmy Wales

They will see the articles shared

by their network in a timeline for-

# **US to seek answers on Google healthcare deal**

Google acquires CloudSimple

ect to modernize healthcare while giving the internet titan access to millions of people's med-Energy and Commerce Committee leaders sent let-

ters to the chiefs of Google and its partner in the project, US health systems nonprofit Ascension, request-ing to be briefed by December 6. California-based internet giant last week

San Francisco, Nov. 19: A

US congressional commit-tee on Monday asked for a briefing on a Google proj-

ical data

The

patient care.

revealed a project codenamed "Nightingale," evi-dently in tribute to Florence Nightingale, whose nursing work during the Crimean War in the 1850s is credited with turning such work into a pro-fession. "We are happy to cooperate with any questions about the project,"

Google said in response to an *AFP* inquiry. "We believe Google's work with Ascension adheres to industry-wide adheres to industry-wide regulations (including HIPAA) regarding patient data and comes with strict guidance on data privacy, security, and usage." Google has made no secret of its work with health care providers on

health care providers on computing tools to improve

(Bengaluru, Gurugram and Pune), and its investors include Mayfield, Redpoint and M12 (Microsoft's venture fund).

isation technology, is headquartered in Santa Clara, US. Founded in

> agreement, and patient data cannot and will not be combined with any Google consumer data, Shaukat said.

Google disclosed little about what it is testing in Project Nightingale as it competes to be the pre-ferred platform for patients and care providers.

Shaukat. "To be clear: under this arrangement, Ascension's data cannot be used for any other purpose than es we're offering under the

Rich Sanzi said. He added that many enterprises are using VMware in their on-premises environments

"This acquisition builds on our existing partner-ship with CloudSimple that we announced earlier this year, allowing us to accelerate a fully integrated VMware migration solution with improved support for our cus-tomers," Google Vice-President (Engineering)

loads: business applica-tions such as ERP and CRM; databases such as Oracle and SQL Server; development and test environments; virtual desktops; and reporting and analytics systems.

public with further information about Project Nightingale, this initiative raises serious privacy concerns," the committee said in letters

"Longstanding questions related to Google's commitment to protecting the privacy of its own users' data

#### raise serious concerns about whether Google can The cloud team works conduct with dozens of healthcare be a good steward of patients' personal health information." The US service providers on technology to analyse medical data and make it readily available to patients and Office for Civil Rights in treating them, the Department of Health according to the company. and Human Services is "While we appreciate your efforts to provide the

Ascension and Google.

also reported to be looking into the project. — *AFP* into the project.

-PTIreport says.

### **COUNTRIES LIKELY TO EMERGE AS MAJOR CYBERTHREATS IN THE 2020s** IN THE WAKE OF CONFIRMED MALWARE ATTACK IN KUDANKULAM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AND ATM NETWORKS IN INDIA BY STATE-

Apple Insider. According to the report, the ipdate, iOS 13.2.3, was rolled after less than two weeks from the last update. 11 days to be precise. While minor in nature, the update fixes the encryption problem in the inbuilt Mail app. The latest update also fixes the problem related that prevented apps from downloading information in the back-ground. The update, however, doesn't mention any fixes for security issues.



SHORT TAKES

### NOW, STREAM FOR FREE ON **AMAZON MUSIC**

Bengaluru, Nov. 19: Amazon said on Monday it has introduced an ad-supported free version of its music streaming service Amazon Music, taking on rival Spotify which has nearly 140 million users for its free version.

Amazon offers paid plans for its music service starting at \$9.99 per month and it is also part of its prime bundle. The company launched a free version of its music service for Alexa users on Echo devices in September.

Spotify, the world's most popular music streaming service, also offers a "freemium" model that includes a free adsupported version along with a paid ad-free version at \$9.99 per month.

However, Apple Music offers only paid subscription service for \$9.99 per month and accounts for nearly a fifth of the paid music streaming market, according to Counterpoint Research. - Reuters



### **APPLE ROLLS OUT UPDATE** FOR iOS 13

#### AGE CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 19

Apple can't seem to catch a break from the bug-riddled iOS 13. Now, the tech giant has rolled out yet another update that deals with bugs in Mail, Files and Notes apps, reports

**NEW SOCIAL MEDIA ALTERNATIVE** 

Wikipedia founder Jimmy

Wales recently launched a new

social network, WT:Social, that

Deal includes moving data and analytics to a private server

New Delhi, Nov. 19: Google has acquired US-based CloudSimple for an undisclosed amount, a move that will help the

tech giant further strengthen its cloud business. CloudSimple, which allows companies to run computing workloads that are based on VMware's server virtual-

2016, it has offices in Ukraine and India

The collaboration with Ascension includes moving data and analytics to a private, secure cloud hosted by Google.

Ascension could also use Google computing tools to allow employees to communicate and collaborate securely in real time from different sites, according to a post by Google cloud industry products and solutions president Tariq

for providing these servic-

to run a variety of work-Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

The countries in West Asia tend to

home-grown talent

American-made goods. Its 90-day license extensions aim to minimise disruption for its customers, many of which operate networks in rural America. Huawei said Monday that the latest extension would not

to an economic blacklist

in May, the US Commerce

Department has allowed

it to purchase some

China, filed patents based on US research, lied on grant applications and failed to disclose money they'd received from Chinese institutions.

ty," the report states.

igating threats, the U.S. government must provide

effective, useful, timely

and specific threat infor-

mation and tools to count-

er the threats." The report takes aim at

the lack of transparency

in how the programs are

run, recommending that

agencies that distribute

research grants stop fund-

"The US academic community is in the crosshairs of not only foreign competitors contend-ing for the best and brightest, but also of forued operating. eign nation states that seek to transfer valuable intellectual capital and

steal intellectual proper-"As the academic community looks to the federal government for guidance and direction on mit-

researcher in the US. The report singles out multiple agencies for criticism, saying for instance that the National Science Foundation — which funds about a quarter of all federally funded basic research at colleges and universities — has taken insufficient steps to vet grantees and avoid misaptheir

In the iOS 13.2 update, it had introduced the support for Deep Fusion photography and the AirPods Pro.



### **FB ROLLS OUT ITS OWN MEME APP WHALE**

AGE CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 19

In a quiet manner, Facebook, entered the meme-making business last week with the launch of Whale app.

According to a report on *The Verge*, which cites *The Information*, the app is currently only available on the Canadian App Store, where its listing says it can be used to edit your own photos or images from a library of stock photos. The user can then share their creations on social media platforms such as Instagram and Messenger.

The app's listing confirms that it's been developed by Facebook's New Product Experimentation (NPE) team, which was set up earlier this year to develop new experi-mental apps for the social media giant.

NPE is also credited with releasing two other apps called Bump and Aux.

Since the dawn of web, countries such as Russia, China, Iran and North Korea have been engaging in and Isro campaigns against Western targets.

Even Western governments are spending big on their own cyber-espionage expertise too of course, and one of the most high-profile cyberattacks, the Stuxnet worm used against the Iranian nuclear project, was led by the US.

However, the more worrying trend is that the threat of state-backed hackers is likely to grow even more over the next decade as a new set of countries are keen to use the same tactics as some of their larger and more power-

ful rivals.

that the true spectrum of cyber operations are cognitive as deterrence in cyberspace could be extremely bizarre and challenging. One of rising contenders

Cybersecurity experts say

those

among the state-backed hackers is APT 32, also known as OceanLotus. It is a group working out of Vietnam that appears to work on behalf of the interests of its government.

In Pakistan, the Gorgon Group isn't just only evolving techniques, but also playing a balancing act between performing nation-state based activity and more traditional cybercrime.

In West Asia, Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) hacking groups are increasing the use of malware to target journalists and human-rights activists in the region.

Since the Shadow Brokers leak that released some of US National Security Agency's secret tools into the wild, new techniques and tools are rely heavily on expertise from outside contractors, becoming available to hacking units outside of the big four. Thus, but it's not beyond the it's only going to get easier for realms of possibility that their knowledge could be absorbed by smaller players to grab a piece of the cyber pie.

BACKED ACTORS FROM NORTH KOREA, WE TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE WELL-KNOWN NATION-STATE HACKERS AND UPCOMING ONES.

Some of these tools have already been used in offensive operations.

Till date, much of the state-backed hacking still takes the form of cyber espionage -attempts to steal data on government personnel or on expensive defence projects. Sometimes this data is used by the governments themselves. sometimes it is passed on to businesses within their own countries.



#### But not all state-backed hackers are after industrial secrets. The US has, for example, regularly warned that the networks that control much of its critical infrastructure including financial systems and power grids – are probed for vulnerabilities by foreign governments and criminals. This could

be seen as nations

for future more

ers may be interested in creat-

ing physical effects by digital means

bringing down a power grid or

forcing open the doors of a dam at

where cybercrime tips over into

cyberwarfare.

the wrong time, for example. This is

dangerous incidents.

Worse, nation-state hack-

doing the ground work

San Francisco, Nov. 19: Snap on Monday con-firmed that it checks political ads at Snapchat to make sure they are not deceptive or misleading and thus enforce its ban on such material. The strategy seems to be a middle ground between Facebook's controversial tolerance of proven lies in political ads and Twitter's decision to ban them all

together. We subject all advertising to review, including political advertising," Snap chief executive Evan Spiegel said in a ctory, publiched by story published by *CNBC.* "And I think what we try to do is create a place for political ads on our platform, especially because we reach so many young people and first-time voters we want them to be able to engage with the political conversation, but we don't allow things like misinformation to appear in that advertising.

Snap policies prohibit political ads that are deceptive or misleading, with an in-house team reviewing such paid messages to make sure they don't break the rules.

Twitter last week said its ban on political ads will exempt "causedbased" messages on topics related to social or environmental issues.

The San Francisco based messaging plat-form plans to bar all paid political messages starting November 22, while addressing concerns expressed by activists for social causes.

"Ads that educate, raise awareness, and/or call for people to take action in connection with civic engagement, economic growth, envi-ronmental stewardship, or social equity causes are allowed," Twitter said. -AFP

### New coating in toilets helps cut down on water While millions experience water scarcity, 141 bn litres are used solely to flush toilets

Washington, Nov. 19: A novel bacteria-repellent coating could dramatically reduce the amount of water needed to flush a toilet, which usually requires six litres, scientists say. The research was pub-

lished in the journal Nature Sustainability on the eve of the World Toilet Day being observed on Tuesday. The researchers noted

that while millions of global citizens experience water scarcity, every day, more than 141 billion

litres of water are used solely to flush toilets. "Our team has developed a robust bio-inspired, liquid, sludge- and bacteriarepellent coating that can essentially make a toilet self-cleaning," Tak-Sing Wong, a professor at Pennsylvania State University in the US, said in a statement.

The liquid-entrenched smooth surface (LESS) coating is a two-step spray that, among other applications, can be applied to a ceramic toilet bowl, the



researchers said. The first spray, created from molecularly grafted polymers, is the initial step in building an extremely smooth and liquid-repellent foundation, they said. "When it dries, the first spray grows molecules that look like little hairs, with a diameter of about 1,000,000 times thinner than a human's, Wang said in a statement. While this first application creates an extremely smooth surface, the second spray infuses a thin only a fraction of the

layer of lubricant around those nanoscopic "hairs' to create a super-slippery surface, the researchers explained. "When we put that coating on a toilet in the lab and dump synthetic faecal matter on it, it (the synthetic fecal matter) just completely slides down and nothing sticks to the toilet," Wang said. With this novel slippery surface, the toilets can effectively clean residue from inside the bowl and dispose of the waste with water previously needed. The researchers also believe that the coating could last for about 500 flushes in a conventional toilet before a reapplica-

can take hours to cure, the two-step less coating takes no more than five minutes. The researcher's experiments also found the surface effectively repelled bacteria, particularly the ones that spread infec-

tion of the lubricant layer is needed. While other liquid-infused slippery surfaces

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- RYAN OLSON VP (threat intelligence), Unit 42

tious

diseases

The technology could be

used within waterless toi-

lets, which are used exten-

sively around the world,

the researchers said.

"Poop sticking to the toilet

is not only unpleasant to

users, but it also presents

serious health concerns,'

Wong said. However, if a

waterless toilet or urinal

used the LESS coating, the

team predicts these types

of fixtures would be more

appealing and safer for

widespread use.

unpleasant odours.

and

-PTI

# FINANCIA ш <sup>2</sup>Chronicle

WEDNESDAY | 20 NOVEMBER 2019 | NEW DELHI

NZ sets national interest clause in investment

India vulnerable to oil, capital inflow shocks: Reddy **Overleaf** 



### quick Asset quality of public sector banks improves in Q2 Pvt banks stay in profit, to prolonged trouble **PSBs return to losses** %

#### FALAKNAAZ SYED MUMBAI, NOV. 19

than-expected earnings for the September quarter, with many showing an improvement in operational performance and marginal deterioration in

banks' earnings have been impacted by the one-time deferred tax asset (DTA) write-downs, the retailfocussed banks reported better profitability. In contrast, most public sector banks continued with the 35 per cent corporate tax regime, and therefore, no adjustments were required in DTA.

the deferred tax rate.

MADHUSUDAN SAHOO NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

It may be bad news for

consumers as the govern-

ment has estimated that

there may be a drastic 26

per cent fall in onion out-

put in the kharif and late-

the

SANGEETHA G

of

CHENNAI, NOV. 19

The government has initi-

ated a programme for

long-term management of

non-communicable dis-

Ministry of Ayush in col-

Health & Family

laboration with Ministry

Welfare has implemented

a project — Integration of

Ayush (Ayurveda) with

National Programme for

Prevention and Control of

Cancer, Diabetes, Cardio-

vascular Diseases and

Stroke (NPCDCS) pro-

gramme — in a few identi-

usage. It has also devel-

oped AYUSH-QOL-2C for

improving quality of life

fied districts.

management

a release.

eases using Ayurveda.

The employment growth has slowed down in the last two years, to 3.9 per cent in 2017-18 and 2.8 per cent in 2018-19 as the core industries have seen a negative growth in hiring, a Care Ratings study said. The study is based on a set of 1,938 companies. The study revealed that aggregate headcount increased at 3.3 per cent annually between 2014-15 and 2018-19.

INDICATORS

40,469.70

11,940.10

3,121.29

71.71

92.75

79.36

61.30

+6.473

+1.800 -0.442

39,028 328

+0.46

+0.47

-0.02

-0.19

-0.46

-0.35

+8.39

-1.83

-0.062

Sensex

Nifty 50

S&P 500

Dollar (₹)

Euro (₹`

Pound Sterling (₹)

Gold (10gm)\* (₹)

Brent crude (\$/bbl)\*

IN 10-Yr bond vield

US 10-Yr T-bill yield

\* As of 9:30 pm IST

Employment

growth slowed

in last two years

### Carlyle sells 3% stake in SBI Life for ₹2,800 crore



Carlyle Group divested 3 per cent stake in SBI Life Insurance for over Rs 2,800 crore through an open market transaction.

# Banks reported better-

asset quality. While corporate private While the asset quality

recorded a net loss of Rs of the public sector banks 727 crore during the July-(PSBs) showed improve-September 2019 quarter, ment, they recorded a net loss during Q2FY20 after after having recorded a net profit in the first quarhaving recorded a net ter of FY20. The net profit profit in the first quarter of the private banks declof FY20. The net profit of ined 1.7 per cent sequentially in Q2FY20 and stood the private sector banks at Rs 7,076 crore against a contraction of -33 per cent (PVBs) recorded a marginal decline, mainly on account of the changes in recorded in Q2FY19.

The gross non-perform-According to a study by Care Ratings of 37 scheding assets (GNPA) of PSBs contracted by -10 per cent uled commercial banks (18 sequentially and stood at

Onion to remain a tear-jerker,

govt sees 26% fall in output

**MIXED FARE** GNPA of private banks grew from ₹185,027 crore to ₹191,191 crore, up

3.3% GNPA of PSBs contracted by -10% and stood at ₹727,296

crore for Q2FY20 public sector banks and 19 private sector banks). their overall aggregate net

Rs 727,296 crore for Q2FY20 as compared with Rs 807,937 crore in Q2FY19. The GNPA ratio profit during Q2FY20 stood at Rs 6,348 crore as for the PSBs stood at 11.6 against a net loss of Rs per cent for the quarter 3,918 crore in the corre-sponding quarter in the previous year. The PSBs under review against 13.5 per cent in Q2FY19. The PSBs have been witnessing a marked decline in their stressed assets over the past couple of quarters. The GNPA of private

banks grew from Rs 185,027 crore during Q2FY19 to Rs 191,191 crore in Q2FY20 i.e. by 3.3 per cent. The GNPA ratio for the PVBs, however, witnessed a slight moderation from 5.9 per cent in Q2FY19 to 5.4 per cent in Q2FY20. The PVBs with greater exposure to corpo-

#### rate loans are now in the process of recognising

an increase in stressed assets. PSBs reflected muted loan growth while guiding for better trends

so does Federal Bank and IndusInd Bank. We will recommend hold for Bank of Baroda till it gets a new chief and for PSBs mergers to get over," said Asutosh K Mishra, head of research, Institutional Equity at Ashika Group. Both the PSBs and PVBs

at 12.9 per cent and 20.4 percent, respectively, during the September 2019 quarter.

# NBFC health check points

DIVYA PATIL NOV. 19

The health of shadow banks remained weak last month as a credit crisis continued to sting.

Among four indicators compiled by Bloomberg *News* covering areas including liquidity and share performance, three were stuck in the same position as the previous month, with two at levels

indicating weakness. Another gauge showed total outstanding debt increased at 50 financial firms and other companies impacted by the crisis, as banking-system liquidity remained buoyant given the central bank's monetary easing.

To be sure, the absolute amount of outstanding debt wasn't at alarming levels, and access to credit markets for healthier financiers could help get money flowing more effi-ciently again — just what the flagging economy needs. But if more troubled borrowers continue to add rather than pare borrowings that could prolong the crisis.

Authorities have taken more steps recently to help the shadow bank sector, which plays a vital role in getting money to everyone from small merchants to property tycoons. Some

New Delhi, Nov 19:

v odarone Idea on tai

India's debt gauges stagnate The credit crisis among non-bank lenders continues, keeping financing costs elevate Bank Liquidity Outstanding Bond Spreads Shares Hit Index Score: 6 Debt Score: 5 by Crisis Score: Score: 4 0ct Jan 0ct 0ct Sources: Data compiled by Bloomberg, Bloomberg Economics Note: Score calculated by normalising the deviations of current value from yearly average, Score for liquidi index reflects changes to methodology since last month's report.

observers see an extended battle, as the nation's slowing economy complicates those efforts. Moody's Investors

Service recently warned that a prolonged credit squeeze among financiers may worsen, just as S&P Global Ratings said risks of contagion are rising in the financial sector. The premium that investors demand to hold shadow lender bonds over sovereign notes is persistently high and a custom gauge of shares of 20 financial firms and other companies impacted by the crisis remained sluggish.

To help creditors recov er their money quickly from troubled shadow lenders, government last week unveiled insolvency

Telecom stocks soar on tariff hike news

with massive

gains for the second con-

secutive day this week on

Tuesday, as Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel

rules. The more than 15-

month-old credit crisis has choked economic

growth to its slowest pace

in six years and company

defaults on rupee bonds

are at a record high.

Dewan Housing Finance

Corp. and Altico Capital India Ltd. are among

lenders that defaulted this year, adding to the risk-off sentiment in

local markets. The scores attached to

each of the indicators

have been calculated by

Bloomberg by normalis-

ing the deviation of the

latest value of the indica-

tor from its yearly average

and have been assigned on

a scale of 1 to 7, with 1

implying weakness and 7

– Bloomberg

showing strength.

#### on **RAVI RANJAN PRASAD** MUMBAI, NOV. 19 Beaten down frontline

"Like other operators, ve will also work with

tion process for revision in telecom tariffs.

Reliance Jio on Tuesday In a statement said it will increase Tuesday, Jio said that the mobile phone call and telecom regulator Trai is data charges in the next likely to initiate consultafew weeks in compliance with rules, as it followed the path of Bharti Airtel

nect usage charges.

telecom stocks soared

52.06 lakh tonne. Onion is a seasonal crop with har-vesting period of rabi (March to June), kharif (October to December) and late-kharif (January-March). During July to October, the supply in the market comes from stored

### **RIL stock jumps 34% this year ASHWIN J PUNNEN**

MUMBAI, NOV. 19

Riding on a 3 per cent surge in its stock price, Reliance Industries (RIL) on Tuesday became the first company in India to hit a market capitalisation of Rs 9.5 lakh crore.

The RIL stock jumped 3.3 per cent to Rs 1,508.45, surpassing its previous high of Rs 1.490 touched last month, on October 31, in intra-dav trade. The scrip has climbed 34

their stressed assets. "Asset quality trends have been mixed with ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank reporting betterthan-estimated slippages while Yes Bank reporting

in H2FY20. On the asset quality front, State Bank of India and Indian Bank reported better-than-estimated slippages while Bank of Baroda and Punjab National Bank

continued to report elevat-ed trends," said an Motilal Oswal report. "SBI and ICICI look good

recorded a steady rise in their net interest income

The shares were offloaded at an average price of Rs 938.83 valuing the transaction at Rs 2,816.5 crore. Carlyle Group, through its entity CA Emerald Investment, had acquired 9.2 per cent stake in the life insurer in March.

### Offshore funds, ETFs see \$1.4 bn withdrawal

India-focussed offshore funds and ETFs witnessed a net outflow of \$1.4 billion in July-Sept., making it the sixth consecutive quarter of withdrawal, Morningstar Offshore Fund Spy report said. India-focussed offshore funds and ETFs are a subset of the overall foreign portfolio investor (FPI) flows. Of the total outflows \$1 billion was from India-focussed offshore funds.

### Forbes & Co mulls listing Eureka Forbes

Forbes & Company, a Shapoorji Pallonji group firm, announced plans to list its subsidiary Eureka Forbes to unlock value for shareholders. "The Board of Directors of the company has authorised the management...To evaluate a scheme of arrangement and/ or other appropriate mechanisms to enable an eventual listing of Eureka Forbes with an intention to unlock value in the hands of all the shareholders," it said.

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kharif seasons of this fis cal, impacting both supply and prices of onion across almost all cities in the coming days.

In a bid a tame prices, it is, however, expected that government may extend the ban on onion exports till February as domestic prices have gone up sharply following mass damage of onions due to untimely incessant rains. The government may extend the ban on onion exports till February since domestic prices are still ruling very high," an

agriculture ministry official said. The government said on Tuesday that due to the

Tuesday. fall in production in kharif and late-kharif seasons, the onion prices may go up from the all-India average retail price of Rs 60.38 per kg on November 15. Onion was

sold at Rs 22.84 a kg on the same date last year. "Onion production in kharif and late-kharif seasons of 2019-20 is estimated to fall 26 per cent to

Ayurveda gets a leg-up, now

part of disease management

onions from rabi season, food minister Ram Vilas Paswan said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha on

The government banned onion exports in late September and imposed stock limits to boost domestic supply and check prices. Despite the export ban, onion prices refused to come down, rather it spiked during October and November on limited onion supply, especially in Maharashtra, the country's biggest producer.

per cent vear-to-date, outperforming the Sensex. which grew 12 per cent during the period.

RIL had become the first firm to cross the marketcap of Rs 9 lakh crore on October 18. So far in calendar year 2019, its m-cap has surged by Rs 2.3 lakh crore. Global brokerage Morgan Stanley, while maintaining its overweight call on RIL, announced its bull case target price at Rs

iff hike. Jio, which had the government and comstormed the telecom secply with the regulatory tor with free voice calls and dirt cheap data, had for the first time last month decided to charge phone calls by its users to rival phone networks to compensate for intercon-

Bank, RBI unions differ

on deposit insurance

Jio to increase tariffs

2,000--a potential upside of 37 per cent from current levels-on hope of higher refinery margins, potential telecom tariff hike, bottoming price-earnings cycle, start of gas produc-

regime to strengthen the industry to benefit Indian consumers and take measures including appropriate increase in tariffs in next few weeks," Jio said. --PTT

tion, lower capex and ongoing deleveraging. JP Morgan sees limited telecom tariff hikes by RIL until Jio hits around 50 crore subscribers-which is at least one year away.

most countries raised their

coverage substantially to

all factors into considera-tion, AIRBEA suggested

earlier for the insured

deposit of atleast Rs 10

lakh, covering all types of

deposits of an individual

which we reiterate and

urge the government to

consider, it comes to

tioned." said Ghosh.

principal and interest.

asked

has

Minister

On Monday, All India

Bank Employees' Associ-ation (AIBEA), the oldest and largest bank union

Sitharaman to exempt the

deposits of public sector

banks and commercial banks from Deposit

Insurance Cover. C. H.

Venkatachalam, General

Secretary AIBEA, wrote to

"Year after year, public sector banks and all com-

required to pay huge pre-mium to DICGC but the

Seetharaman,

claim ratio is NIL.

mercial

'In this backdrop, taking

protect bank depositors.

announced plans to raise mobile phone call and data charges. The BSE Telecom Index gained a whopping 8.52 per cent Vodafone Idea shares closed with a 34.68 per cent gain on the BSE at Rs 6.02. The stock had

nigner

gained over 21 per cent on Monday too, leading to over 50 per cent gains in just two sessions. However, the gains have come after massive price erosion, from its 52-week high price of Rs 27.51.

Bharti Airtel gained 7.36 per cent, closing at Rs 439.25 while another Bharti Group company Bharti Infratel gained 10.32 per cent at Rs 250.10. Reliance Jio promoter RIL also closed with gains of Rs 3.52 per cent at Rs 1,509.80.

Stocks of other telecom services providers also gained as Tejas Network shares gained 19.96 per cent, locked in upper circuit at Rs 81.45. Onmobile Global gained 8.38 per cent closing at Rs 35.55. On whether a re-rating of the telecom sector was in progress, analysts were not sure, though the

\$14,000, yet much less than the countries aforemensector has been a laggard for a very long period now. All the three private At present DICGC insures each bank depositor operators are saddled upto Rs 1 lakh for both with huge debt.

Data from sector regu lator Trai showed Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel lost over 49 lakh users in September this year, while Reliance Jio added 69.83 lakh new users to its network. Bharti Airtel lost 23.8

lakh users in September to take its total user base to 32.55 crore. Similarly, Vodafone Idea lost 25.7 lakh users in the month to take its total user base to 37.24 crore. Reliance Jio added 69.83 lakh users in September, taking its total user base to 35.52 crore.

of breast and cervical cancer patients in collabora-tion with the All-India Institute of Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi and St. Jones Medical

Under the programme, In addition to this, CCRAS has validated 82 so far 9,87,446 patients have been screened and 93,117 patients have been enrolled for long-term through Ayurveda interventions. lifestyle modifications and voga. the ministry said in The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic ciency Sciences (CCRAS) has also developed AYUSH-82. a toid arthritis, haemorformulation and has commercialised it for wider

The ministry said to encourage the export of



Medical College (Bengaluru).

classical Ayurvedic formulations and 11 new drugs on more than 32 diseases conditions, lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, bronchial asthma, hypertension, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), iron defianaemia, osteoarthritis, rheumarhoids, computer vision syndrome and obesity.

Ayush products, under

Central Sector Scheme for promotion International Co-operation, incentives are provided to Ayush drug manufacturers, entrepreneurs, Ayush institutions and hospitals for registration of Ayush products with regulatory bodies of dif-

ferent countries. The regulatory bodies named in the release include Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of United States/Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA)/ Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency of the United Kingdom (UK-MHRA)/ and Natural and Non-prescription Health Products Directorate of

Canada (NHPD).

# Kapoor holds just 900 shares in Yes Bank

#### FC BANKING BUREAU MUMBAI, NOV. 19

Private lender Yes Bank on Tuesday said that its promoters Yes Capital, Morgan Credits and Co-Founder and former Chief Executive Officer Rana Kapoor have sold their remaining 0.8 per cent stake in the company. The promoter entities sold 2.04 crore shares in the open market during November 13-14 and now hold 900 shares in Yes Bank.

The bank also disclosed divergence in reporting non-performing of assets (NPAs) at Rs 3,277 crore for 2018-19, in an exchange filing. Kapoor, who had earli-

er likened his holding in the bank to "diamonds" and vowed never to sell it, holds just 900 shares valued under Rs 58,000 at the Tuesday's closing price,

the bank said. The RBI had assessed gross NPAs of Rs 11.159 crore, of which the bank disclosed NPAs of Rs 7,882 crore.

two

tion of coverage. terms, the insurance cov-(DICGC) is a paltry \$1,508, the comparative coverage for other countries is much higher. For instance Russia \$19.210. China \$81.000. Brazil \$64,025, Australia \$18,2650 and global financial meltdown,



of

### A day after the bank unions wrote to the Finance Minister asking it to scrap deposit insurance

FALAKNAAZ SYED

MUMBAI, NOV. 19

cover on bank deposits, the All-India Reserve Bank Employees Association (AIRBEA) has asked the government to raise the insurance cover to Rs 10 lakh from Rs 1 lakh now. Samir Ghosh, General Secretary of AIRBEA, said, "The current limit of Rs 1 lakh continues from May 1, 1993 for more than decades-and-a-half and during the time the value of the rupee has eroded sharply, necessitating immediate augmenta-

Ghosh said that while in India, in current dollar erage provided by Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation the US \$2,50,000. After the 2008







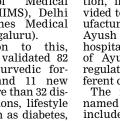
banks are

Finance

Nirmala

saying,







demographic divergence and technology - which are

global and can be resolved

only through cooperation

and concerted action on the

part of all or most coun-

Climate change is where

collective action is inevitable but is becoming

increasingly difficult, the

former RBI Governor said. Demographic divergences

al balance in future as tech-

nological progress is so fast

that the disruptive nature of

technological developments

are so deep that institutions

Further, Reddy said, the

technologies have a tenden-

are seriously affecting

the macro economic

balances and more

importantly the

compulsions to migrate, he said. There is, as yet,

no agreement on

tries.

said.

WEDNESDAY | 20 NOVEMBER 2019 | NEW DELHI

### NZ sets national interest clause in investment

Wellington, Nov. 19: Foreign investors hop-ing to buy New Zealand's strategic assets will now have to convince the government it is in the national interest, officials said on Tuesday, while denying the rules targeted China.

New rules will for the first time give the government power to reject overseas investments in sensitive areas if it decides they could be detrimental to the country, Associate Finance Minister David Parker said.

He said the test would apply to crucial infrastructure including ports and airports, telecommunications and electricity net-works, as well as firms developing military technology or supplying

intelligence agencies. "These powers will be used rarely and only where necessary for protecting New Zealand," Parker said in a state-ment, citing invest-ments that could "pose a significant risk to our national security or public order".

-AFP

### **Central Bank** reports higher ₹6,430-cr loss

New Delhi, Nov. 19: Central Bank of India has reported an increased net loss of Rs 6,430.48 crore for 2018-19 due to NPA divergence after assessment of higher bad loans by the Reserve Bank. The net NPA diver-

gence — the difference between the NPAs reported by the bank and that assessed by the RBI — was at Rs 2,565 crore for 2018-19.

Central Bank of India had reported a net loss of Rs 5,641.48 crore in 2018-19 earlier.

"The adjusted (notional) net profit after tax for the year ended March 31, 2019 after taking into account the divergence in provisioning is (-) Rs 6,430.48 crore," the bank

said. Banks are required to report divergences in their asset classification and provisioning as per Sebi guidelines issued on October 31, 2019. The bank had reported Rs 11,333.24 crore net NPAs during the year while the RBI assessed it at Rs 13,898.24 crore, leaving a gap of Rs 2,565 crore. -PTI

# Insurance claim processing gets easier during calamities Surveyor assessment waived in some cases

#### SANGEETHA G CHENNAI, NOV. 19

In case of certain claims. insurance companies can now entrust loss assessment to people other than licensed surveyors or not make any loss assessment at all. This can make processing of claims faster, especially during times of calamities.

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has exempted claims which have documentary evidence of the value of loss in the form of police reports, short-landing or non-delivery certificates issued by port trusts, Railways or other public or semi-government authorities and those which have certificate for dutiable items from excise authorities and sling loss claims certified by harbour authorities from customary assessment by licensed surveyor. Motor claim on account of

theft or injury/death to third parties and claims under health insurance policies including travel and personal accident covers are also exempted. Claims under Workmen's Compensation/ Benefit



policies under the **Employees** Compensation (Amendment) Act, 2009 and claims under public liability policies, including third party liability, professional indemnity, products liability and personal liability except where liability arising out of property damage or defect to physical prop-erty/goods are involved too

come under the category. "In case of retail health claims, the assessments are based on the submitted doc-uments. For motor claims we have in-house surveyors. However, decision by Irdai will benefit the customers and companies during times of calamities like floods and

cyclones and speed up the processing of claims," said an industry expert.

. General Claims of Average under marine policies and total loss or constructive total loss under agreed value insurance policies or valued policies as defined by Marine Insurance Act also do not need separate assessment, finds Irdai.

Aviation Hull insurance claims and cyber Insurance claims, those under money insurance including cash in transit policies, all risks burglary insurance policies on personal effects and jewellery and those under Race Horses insur-

# India vulnerable to oil, capital inflow shocks: Reddy

recent ance policies and Live-stock insurance policies too are exempted by the regulator. Further, claims with respect to loss or damage to crop, trees, plantations and

forests which are covered by government-sponsored schemes, loss or damage to tea in transit from gardens in India also do not need assessment.

Claims under policies of the nature of Bonds and Guarantees including fidelity guarantees, Bankers' Blanket policies, credit insurance, and those insuring contractual liability, claims in which the amount of claim is determined by recognized and well-established conventions or under agreements as well as claims in which the amount of which has been adjudicated upon or decreed by courts too come under exemption category.

"In case normal commercial claims below a certain claim amount, we do not do an assessment. But, some claims do need to be assessed properly. Irdai has not barred companies from doing so. But this decision has provided more clarity and will make claims processing faster," he said.

MICHAEL GONALVES

PUNE, NOV, 19

Hyderabad, Nov. 19: The developments around China, Iran and the Middle East have the potential to generate two types of shocks — oil price and capital flow — and India is vul-nerable to both, former governor of Reserve Bank Y. V. Reddy said here on Tuesday. Speaking at a programme organised by the Institute for Advanced Studies in Complex Choices (IASCC),

Reddy said there is new 'bi-polar' world with the USA and China leading each block and despite the fact that both the countries have close 'economic integration.'

In a short time at least, there are two financial risks which may arise out of Middle East-Iran or China-USA. The impact is likely to be in two aspects — oil price shock and capital flow. And the country which is most vulnerable to the shocks is India, he said.

"We are most vulnerable to capital account shock. are finding it difficult to cope with these changes," And in fact these are the only two shocks where our external sector is vulnerahe said. ble. We should keep that in mind," he said.

According to him, there cy to cut across the national are three economic chal-lenges- climate change, boundaries sooner than later, he added.

Festive demand drives up PV

retail sales to 11% in October



### **Nifty shows** encouraging up-move signals

The market ended high-er on Tuesday driven by gains in market heavyweights like Reliance Industries (RIL), Infosys and HDFC Bank.

The Sensex ended 185 points higher at 40469, while the Nifty settled 0.5 per cent higher at 11940.

managing the migration that is inevitable. Capital is global but labour is national, he Amongst the broader markets BSE Mid-Cap and BSE Small-Cap, ended on a positive note in range of 0.3-0.4 "Technology is the third most important element that would disturb the globper cent.

**Technical View** 

Sameet Chavan, Angel Broking, said, "Nifty may soon breach the 12,000 mark. The index has finally managed to surpass the first hurdle at 11,900 on a closing basis. The major charioteer for this move was clearly the banking pack, which has been showing some encouraging signs in the past couple of days. The way both Nifty and Nifty Bank have shaped up, the 12,000 level or beyond is not too far for the market. Hence, we remain sanguine and expect the immediate support base to shift higher towards the 11,867-11,802 range.

#### **Market View**

Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services Ltd, said, "Market turned positive due to buoyancy from telecom stocks supported by tariff hike plans. Positive vibes also witnessed in PSU banks having exposure to distressed assets. Gains in Pharma, energy and infra stocks pushed markets higher while losses in Auto, metals and consumer stocks limited the gain. Fear of downgrade in FY20 earnings due to slow pace in consumption

J&K ban caused more than \$1bn loss: KCCI 10.000 crore (\$1.40 billion)

President.

by September, but now exceeded that, said Nasir

Khan, its Senior Vice

appoint an external agency to assess the losses, because it is beyond us,"

said Khan, adding that tele-

coms blackout in the region meant the body

could not reach business

owners by telephone to pre-pare estimates. Instead, it

had to send staff to meet

India's Home Ministry

and local government offi-cials did not respond to

The clampdown has hit

tourism as well as farming,

horticulture and the arts

and crafts that contribute

the most to its export-ori-

at the upper price band, by the selling shareholders.

The selling shareholders include ICICI Lombard Gen-

eral Insurance, HDFC Life Insurance, ICICI Prudential

Life Insurance, The Federal

Bank, Bridge India Fund,

Way2Wealth Securities and

"The net proceeds from

the public offer are pro-

posed to be utilized to aug-

ment Tier-I capital base to

meet Bank's future capital requirements which are ex-

pected to arise out of grow-

th in the Bank's assets, pri-

marily Bank's loans/advan-

ces and investment portfolio

and to ensure compliance

with Basel III and other RBI

guidelines," CSB Bank said.

properties was Rs 33,511 per sq ft in Q3. With this, it

Satellite

Edelweiss

Insurance.

Multicomm,

Tokio Life

I don't see any stability

-Reuters

ented economy.

them and gather details.

requests for comment.

"We'll ask the court to

#### **ZEBA SIDDIQUI** SRINAGAR, NOV. 19

Economic losses in Kashmir have run well over a billion dollars since India revoked its autonomy and statehood in August, the main trade body in the Himalayan region said, adding that it planned to sue the government for damages

India turned its erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir into a federallycontrolled territory, tightening control in a shock move it said would rein in militancy in the region also claimed by neighbouring Pakistan, and promote its development.

But Kashmir the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) said devel-opment was elusive, thanks to a protracted shutdown after people closed markets and businesses as a mark of protest, and for fear of reprisals from insurgents. It estimated economic

### Muthoot Finance acquires stake in IDBI MF SANGEETHA G

#### CHENNAI, NOV. 19

Gold loan company Muthoot Finance has acquired stakes in IDBI Asset Management and **IDBI MF Trustee Company** In a clarification made to the National Stock Exchange on the divestment of its stake in these companies, IDBI Bank said: "The buyer is Muthoot Finance which is a leading gold financing NBFC in India and has approximately 4,500 bran-ches spread across the country. The buyer does not belong to the promoter/ promoter group/group companies". However, the bank did not specify the stake purchased by Muthoot Finance. When contacted, Muthoot Finance refused

Driven by festive demand, retail sales of passenger vehicles increased 11 per cent to 2,48,036 units in October against the same period last year, automobile dealers' body Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations or FADA said on Tuesday. Passenger vehicles sales stood at 2,23,498

units in October 2018. Total sales across categories increased 4

per cent to 17,09,610 units during last month, as opposed to 16,38,832 units reported in the same period last year. Two-wheeler sales increased 5 per cent to 13,34,941 units last month as compared with

12,70,261 units in the year-ago period. Commercial vehicle sales, the barometer of the economy, however, declined 23 per

cent to 67.060 units as compared to 87.618 units in October last year. But three-wheeler sales saw an increase of

4 per cent to 59,573 units last month. 'October retails were in the positive, giv-

'With continued liquidity easing, business appetite of banks and NBFC's have grown and will surely aid the industry in the path ing a much-needed respite to the auto industry, especially to our dealer community, after

ed out.

Kale said two-wheeler inventory has reduced from an alarming level while pas-senger vehicle inventory is also at reasonable levels.

"Commercial vehicle inventory has also reduced, although with retail continuing to be weak further wholesale regulation is required to reach FADA's 21 days recommended levels," he said.

Kale said strong support from banks and NBFC's helped convert the festive mood of the consumer into retails.

### Patanjali posts ₹3,562-cr revenue for Q2

**New Delhi, Nov. 19:** Baba Ramdev-led Patanjali Ayurved on Tuesday said it has achieved a revenue of Rs 3,562 crore in April-September 2019-20, the highest ever in the first half of any financial year.

Haridwar-based The firm has reported a revenue of Rs 1,793 crore in April-June and Rs 1,769 crore in July-September in the ongoing fiscal, a company official said.

"This is the figure of the Patanjali Ayurved and does not indicate of all business. We have done internal reconstruction and some of the product lines, which were earlier handled by the company have been assigned to different companies," he said.

The company had reported a revenue of Rs 937 crore and Rs 1,576 crore in June quarter and September quarter of 2018-19, respectively.

The most remarkable and noticeable thing is that Patanjali Ayurved has made a comeback. It has achieved the highest ever H1 figure in its history," Patanjali spokesperson S. K. Tijarawala told PTI.

for many months here, said Vivek Wazir, who runs a hotel in ormanic "There's too much uncertainty." losses ran into least Rs

CSB Bank IPO

opens on Friday

to comment on the develop ment.

On November 8, the IDBI Bank said that its board had approved sale of its entire stake in IDBI Asset Management.

As on 31 March 2019, IDBI Bank owned 66.67 per cent stake in IDBI Asset Management with IDBI Capital Markets and Securities holding a 33.33 per cent stake, as per reports. The bank has been reportedly planning to divest non-core businesses as it is bur-dened by bad loans.

IDBI Asset Management's total assets under management (AUM) had fallen 16 per cent yearon-year to Rs 6.238 crore in FY19. The company reported a loss of Rs 4.34 crore in FY19 from a year-earlier profit of Rs 8 crore. Revenue from operations fell 25 per cent Yo $\bar{\rm Y}$  to about Rs 60 crore.

Muthoot Finance had raised \$450 million in its maiden offshore bond issue from investors across the US, Asia and Europe in October. "This fundraise will enable us in further diversifying and strengthening our sources of fund-ing," M.G.George Muthoot, Chairman of Muthoot Finance had then said.

months of de-growth. Ashish Kale, President at FADĂ, said.

The festival season saw very good footfalls at dealerships across most of the geographies, the consumer sentiment was positive, and purchase decisions were concluded as used to be during the growth years, he point-

Cashew industry asked to file application for dumping probe

**New Delhi, Nov. 19:** The Commerce Ministry has asked Cashew Export Promotion Council to file an application with Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) to probe dumping of the commodity into India, which is impacting domestic players, an official has said. In a meeting last month on

export performance of the country, the council had raised the matter of dumping of broken cashew into India.

The Cashew Export Promotion Council of India was asked to file an anti-dumping investigation request with the DGTR, the official said.

The directorate is an arm of the ministry which conducts probe related to dumping and significant increase in import of a product.

If it establishes in its probe that dumping and increase in imports are impacting domestic players, DGTR recommends anti-dumping and safeguard duties, respectively. The Finance Ministry takes the final call to impose these duties.

The council's Chairman R. K. Bhoodes said large volumes of semi-finished kernels are being dumped in India from African countries — Guyana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Ivory Coast. The African nations have formed 'African Cashew Alliance' to boost the indus-

try in that continent. The government in June increased sharply the mini-

to recovery as the consumer sentiment strengthens in the coming days," he said. With the auto industry heading into the unknown territory of BS-VI emission norm transition, more needs to be done towards inventory reduction to avoid dealer losses, Kale pointed out.

mum import price for whole

and broken cashew, making

inbound shipments of the

The import price for bro-ken cashew was increased

to Rs 680 per kg from Rs 288

per kg. Similarly, for whole

cashew, it was enhanced to

Rs 720 per kg from Rs 400 per

kg earlier. Below these

prices, imports of the com-

The country produces around 3.5 lakh tonnes of

cashew kernels. The pro-duction and import of raw

cashew is around 8 lakh

tonnes and 9 lakh tonnes,

India exported 84,352 tonn-

es of cashew kernels in 2017-18 as against 82,302 tonnes

as the top five per cent of each market by value. The Prime Global Cities Index is a valuation-based index

tracking the movement in

prime residential prices in

local currency across 45

Moscow led the index in September quarter with

prime home prices rising

by 11.1 per cent over the 12

months to September 2019,

cities worldwide.

-PTI

during previous year.

modity is prohibited.

respectively.

commodity costlier.

demand and industrial growth may consolidate the market in the near term.

- ASHWIN J. PUNNEN

## **Kylie Jenner** sells \$600 mn stake in beauty brand to Coty

New York, Nov 19: Beauty products giant Coty announced on Monday

a deal to Kylie Jenner take majority stake in Kylie Jenner's cosmetics and

skincare company, marry ing Jenner's celebrity prominence with Coty's distribution and commercial prowess

Under the transaction Coty, whose brands include Hugo Boss and Burberry fragrances, will pay \$600 million for a 51 per cent stake in Jenner's company.

Jenner, the youngest daughter of Kris Jenner and Caitlyn Jenner, formerly known as Bruce Jenner, has more than 270 million social media followers and rates as "one of the most influential voices among beauty consumers globally," said a statement from both companies.

She launched the brand in 2015 with "Kylie Lip Kit" and has since added eyeliners, eye shadows, blushes and other items.

"I'm excited to partner with Coty to continue to reach even more fans of Kylie Cosmetics and Kylie Skin around the world,' Jenner said.

-AFP

New Delhi ranks 9th in Knight Frank global index

#### FC BUREAU CHENNAI, NOV. 19

FC BUREAU

MUMBAI, NOV. 19

CSB Bank, formerly known

as The Catholic Syrian Bank, announced its initial

public offering to raise Rs

410 crore in the price band

of Rs 193 to Rs 195 per equi-

ty share of Rs 10 face value. Incorporated in 1920 Kera-

la-based CSB Bank is one of

the oldest private sector

banks in India. The bank

has a presence in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and

The IPO opens for public on November 22 and closes

on November 26. The IPO

consists of fresh issue

aggregating up to Rs 24 crore and an offer for sale of

up to 19,778,298 equity shares worth Rs 385.67 crore

Maharashtra.

New Delhi is 9th fastest growing prime residential market in the world and has moved up one place from last year's ranking.

Knight Frank's Prime Global Cities Index has found average luxury home prices in areas such as Greater Kailash, Vasant Vihar, Anand Niketan, Defence Colony and Green Park rising by 4.4 per cent year-on-year in September quarter of 2019. The weighted average capital value of prime residential

moved up one place in the global ranking in terms of luxury home prices to 9th place. Meanwhile,

\_\_\_\_

Mumbai moved up two places to 28th position and Bangalore slipped five places to 20th "While Delhi and Mumbai have moved up in

their rankings, luxury home prices have remained stable in both the cities in the past three months. Delhi's prime residential market, which is characterised by its tight



supply, had witnessed a March 2019 quarter, leadgrowth of 4.4 per cent in ing to this performance in the Prime Global City Index," said Shishir Baijal, Chairman & Managing Director, Knight Frank India

"In India all the policy initiatives have been focused on boosting the develop-ment of affordable and mid-income housing, which has left the luxury property development a game for well-funded and organised firms to play," he added.

followed by Frankfurt 10.3 per cent and Taipei 8.9 per A prime residential propcent. Seoul was the weakerty is defined as the most est-performing global city desirable and most expenin the year to September, sive property in a given with luxury home prices location, generally defined falling by 12.9 per cent.



### Meddling with polls



Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen says China is interfering in the territory's elections every day as it seeks to damage the island's democracy



US must end its joint exercises with Seoul once and for all

> — Kim Yong Chol North Korean official



### **Erdogan says Syria**

fight to continue Ankara: Turkey is aware that the US support for the Syrian Kurdish YPG militia will not end immediately, President Tayyip Erdogan said on Tuesday, but added that Ankara's battle against the militia it considers a terrorist group will continue. Ankara views the YPG as a terrorist group, linked to Kurdish militants, waging an insurgency on Turkish soil, and has launched three offensives in northern Syria against it. It has been infuriated by the US support for the militia. repeatedly urging its Nato ally to halt its relations with the group. Erdogan said Turkey will continue to battle the YPG until all threats towards Turkey are stopped and every militant is elimi-nated. He added that no plan in the region can be realised without Turkey's consent and support

### Sri Lanka may

face snap election Colombo: Sri Lanka faces the possibility of a snap parliamentary poll, Speaker Karu Jayasuriya said on Tuesday, a day after Gotabaya Rajapaksa took over as the country's President. Rajapaksa, 70, of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) defeated Sajith Premadasa, 52, of the ruling United National Party (UNP) by more than 13 lakh votes. The next parliamentary poll is scheduled only after August 2020. Constitutionally, a sitting Prime Minister cannot be removed unless he resigns. But, following Rajapaksa's victory, the need for a fresh parliamentary election to allow the new President to form his own government has gained ground

**15 killed in China** coal mine blast

# **Call was too peculiar: Witness**

Official overhears Trump's phone call with envoy, to testify tomorrow Physician refutes speculation

Washington, Nov. 19: The phone call state depart-ment official David Holmes overheard between President Donald Trump and ambassador Gordon Sondland lasted just two minutes. But it

won't be easily forgotten.

"I've never seen any-thing like this," Holmes told Trump impeachment investigators, "Someone investigators, "Someone calling the President from a mobile phone at a restaurant, and then having a conversation of this level unscheduled of candor, colorful lan-

guage. There's just so much about the call that was so remarkable that I remem-

health.

health.

The

tions.

ber it vividly." first-hand Holmes' account of the conversa-tion heard over lunch in Kyiv provides a key piece the impeachment inquiry.

He is among the only wit-nesses testifying so far to show Trump personally seeking investigations into Democrats and his potential 2020 rival Joe Biden, that are central to the probe.

A transcript of Holmes' closed-door testimony was released on Monday. Holmes, a political coun-

sellor at the US Embassy in Ukraine, is scheduled to testify publicly on Thursday. what



Donald Trump

Trump, 73, went for an unscheduled physical checkup at a Walter Reed National Military Medical Centre that has given rise was he evaluated or treated for any urgent or acute issues. Specifically, he did not undergo any spe-cialised cardiac or neuroto speculation about his logic evaluations," the President's Physician Dr "The President has not had any chest pain, nor Sean P. Conley said in a memorandum issued by

conversation amounts to bribery. between the President and Trump says he did noththe ambassador came a ing wrong.

day after the July 25 call A whistleblower's comwhen Trump asked Ukraine President plaint about it led the House to launch the Volodymyr Zelenskiy for a impeachment inquiry. favour with the investiga-Holmes joined Sondland and others during the lunch meeting and told investigators Trump was At the time, the Trump administration was with-

talking so loudly he could holding \$391 million in hear the President clearly military aid to the ally in ambassador's say on the

ed, Sir, because, as I said, on Monday. "A full summary of his labs and exam the event itself was so diswill be incorporated into tinctive that I remember it very clearly. next year's report, but the President has consented A transcript was also released late on Monday to me sharing that his total cholesterol is now 165 from an interview with David Hale, the state department's No. 3 offi-(mg/dL), with an HDL of 70, an LDL of 84 and a non-HDL of 95, he said. Conley said primary pre-ventative medical care is cial. lier this month about the

THE ASIAN AGE

something that occurs continuously throughout abrupt removal of the US ambassador to Ukraine, Marie Yovanovitch, who the year and it is not just a delivered chilling testimosingle annual event. "As such I will continue ny last week about her

to monitor the President's health, planning on a more comprehensive examination after the New Year," he said. — *PTI* 

phone. "I then heard President Trump ask, 'So he's going to do the investigation?" Holmes testified.

Ambassador Sondland replied, "He's going to do it," adding that President Zelensky will, quote, 'do anything you ask him Holmes said he didn't

decision publicly take notes of the conversa-Yovanovitch. tion he overheard between

Rules for Sikh cops changed in Houston Houston, Nov. 19: In an honour of fallen Indian-American Sikh police Trump and Sondland but remembers it 'vividly.' Pressed during the closed-session interview about whether anyone helped him recall the details, Holmes said, that wouldn't have been need ed Sir because as L said officer Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal, the Houston

Police Department has changed its dress code policy to allow the minor-ity community members to represent their faith while on duty.

On September 28, Dhaliwal, a 10-year veteran of the Harris County Sheriff's office and its first Sikh deputy, was gunned down while conducting a mid-day traffic stop in northwest of Houston. The 42-year-old trail blazing police officer made national headlines when he was allowed to grow a beard and wear a turban on the job.

"@houstonpolice is now the largest law enforcement agency in TX to adopt a policy allowing officers to wear articles of faith on duty," City of Houston tweeted on Monday.

"Proud to announce HPD (Houston Police Department) will accommodate Sikh officers by letting them wear their articles of faith while on duty - one of the largest police departments in the country to do so. Deputy Dhaliwal taught us all a valuable lesson about inclusion. It was an honour to know him.



Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal

Houston mayor Sylvester Turner tweeted. "Proud to stand with @SylvesterTurner and so many members of our community to announce our policy and get the word out to our greater

community," chief of the Houston Department Art Acevedo tweeted. The Houston Police Department announced that they are changing its

uniform policy to allow officers to wear articles of faith while on duty in order to be more inclusive in honour of the fallen Sikh deputy, Fox News reported.

I'm honoured," Dhaliwal's father, Pyara Singh Dhaliwal, was quoted as saying by the *KHOU* Television station.

Democrats **BORIS TRIES HIS HAND AT BOXING** 



## Sharif out on bail, leaves for London

**INDO-PAK** 

**POSTAL MAIL** 

**SERVICE RESUMED** 

Islamabad, Nov. 19:

Pakistan has resumed

postal mail service with

Îndia, nearly three months after it was sus-

pended in the wake of the

decision to end the spe-

cial status of Jammu and

Kashmir, the Pakistan

reported

media

Tuesday.

to

support

-AP

#### SHAFQAT ALI ISLAMABAD, NOV. 19

Hale was questioned ear-

ouster amid a smear cam-

paign by Trump's lawyer,

As the undersecretary of state for political affairs, Hale said he repeatedly

pushed for a state depart-

ment statement defending

the ambassador, who spent

a 33-year career in the for-

eign service. But that effort failed.

He said secretary of state Mike Pompeo most

likely would have been the

person to make the

not

Rudy Giuliani.

Three-time Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, a month after being released on bail from a seven-year sentence in Al-Azizia case, departed for London on Tuesday for medical treatment.

He was flown in an air ambulance from the Iqbal Allama International Airport, Lahore, accompanied by his brother Shehbaz Sharif.

According to the Pakistani media, the postal mail service with Prior to departure, the inspected doctors Sharif's blood sugar level, India has resumed, but blood pressure and per-formed a CBC test. Upon the parcel service will remain suspended. clearance of all medical tests and doctors' recommendations, the air ambulance took off from the airport. The former premier's medication has been changed for enabling him to travel. Sharif will be shifted to the Harley Street Clinic in London immediately after landing. from Doha.



### **ASSANGE RAPE** INVESTIGATION DROPPED

Stockholm, Nov. 19: Swedish prosecutors said on Tuesday they dropped their have investigation into founder WikiLeaks Julian Assange over a 2010 rape allegation, even though they found the plaintiff's claim 'credible.'

"My assessment is that all investigative measures that can be taken have been taken. But, the

evidence is not strong

Beijing: At least fifteen people were killed and nine others injured in a coal mine gas explosion in north China's Shanxi Province, local authorities said on Tuesday. The incident happened on Monday when 35 miners were working underground at the coal mine in Pingvao County, the Shanxi administration of coal mine safety said. Authorities said that 15 people were killed in the blast "Fleven miners managed to escape," the staterun Xinhua news agency reported

### **ISRAEL CLAIMS TO INTERCEPT 4 SYRIA ROCKETS**

Jerusalem: Israel's air defences intercepted four rockets fired from neighbouring Syria on Tuesday, the army said, prompting reported retaliatory missile strikes against the source of the fire. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the rockets were fired from positions around the capital held by groups loval to the Damascus government. It did not elaborate on which group had launched the rockets or whether there had been any casualties in the retaliatory strikes. The flareup comes after a major escalation in and around Gaza last week following Israel's targeted killing of a commander of Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad, which is allied with Damascus. The killing was accompanied by a second strike, unconfirmed by Israel, on an Islamic Jihad leader in Damascus that killed his son and another person. There was no immediate rocket fire from Syria following that strike. "Four launches were identified from Syria towards Israeli territory which were inter-cepted by the Israeli air defence systems," the Israeli military said in a statement. – AFP

Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson at a boxing academy in Manchester, north-west England, on Tuesday, during a general election campaign trip. Britain will go to the polls on December 12 to vote in a pre-Christmas general — AFP

However, there was no official announcement on the resumption of the limited postal service with India.

enough to file an indict-ment," deputy director of public prosecutions, Eva-Marie Persson, told -PTIAll essential prepara-

three

on

reporters. tions to shift the ailing The investigation was launched after a Swedish Sharif were made, and a 'high-end' air ambulance arrived at the airport woman who Assange at a WikiLeaks conference in Stockholm in August 2010 accused the Australian of having After clashes with cops, HK

unprotected sex with her while she was sleeping. She said she had previously repeatedly refused to have unprotected sex with him.

met

Assange, 48, has been held at a British prison since April after police dragged him out of the Ecuadoran embassy in

London. Swedish authorities closed the rape investiga-tion in 2017, saying it was not possible to proceed as Assange could not be reached. But the case was reopened following his arrest in London.

In September, prosecutors said they had interviewed seven witnesses over the summer in a bid to move the inquiry for--AFPward.

#### Appeal for Identification

General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body Name: Rajkumar, S/c Parshuram, R/o: Unknown, Age: Approx 62 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Gender : Male, Wearing: White colour Kurta & Dhoti was found dead at Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital, Mangol Puri, Delhi on 14.10.2019 at 04:12 P.M. In this regard, DD No. 23-A

dated 14.10.2019 has been lodged at PS Rani Bagh, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this male but no clue has come to light so

Any, person having any information or clue about this male may kindly inform to the following.

SHO P.S., Rani Bagh, Delhi Ph.: 011-27015329, 8750870225 DP/2884/OD/19

Kandahar, Nov. 19: The handed two Taliban Western hostages over to US forces in southern Afghanistan Tuesday, three years after they were abducted, in a swap for three high-ranking insurgent prisoners that could boost peace talks. The exchange

American Kevin King and Australian Timothy Weeks for the militants — including Anas Haqqani, brother to the Taliban's deputy leader — was welcomed by both the United States and the insurgents. US Secretary of State

Mike Pompeo said the releases "give us hope for the success of intra-Afghan peace negotiations, which the United States



hostage video, with the

insurgents going on to say

**Kevin King** 

stands ready to support." King and Weeks, both professors at the American University in Kabul, were kidnapped by gunmen wearing military uniforms in the heart of Afghan capital in August 2016.

**Taliban free 2 Western hostages** 

in swap for 3 top commanders

They later appeared looking haggard in a Taliban

that King was in poor health. On Tuesday morning, they were driven by car to Nawbahar district in Zabul, a southern province bordering Pakistan, an insurgent source told AFP. -AFF

### Bill Gates' new tech venture addresses world climate crisis

Washington, Nov. 19: A technology solution that Gates is backing the project that aims to concan create low-cost, ultra-high-temperature vert sunlight into a process heat using solar source of heat exceedpower and offer an ing 1,000°C by aligning a answer for climate crisis large array of mirrors is in the offing. to reflect sunlight to a target using software.

And the people behind it are the ones who used technology to change the way people lived in 20th century. Reports suggest that

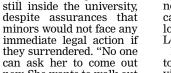
Microsoft founder Bill homes, fuel cars and power factories.

The temperature will be sufficient to manufacture cement without creating greenhouse gases Cement is the world's third largest source of emissions behind oil and The temperature could coal, and its production is go as high as 1,500°C to likely to boom due to urbanisation in developsplit hydrogen particles ing countries and economfrom water to create a fossil-free gas to power ic growth. -Agencies

| NORTHERN RAILWAY                    |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| NOTICE INVITING TENDER              |  |
| Name of work and its location       | 30-ELECT-42-T-2019-20-E3.  |
|                                     | Electrical work in connection with Air-<br>conditioning with other allied works in<br>officers rest house over Delhi Division. |
| Approx cost of the works            | Rs. 106.56 lacs  |
| Address of the office               | Sr. Divil Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.  |
| Earnest Money                       | Rs. 2,03,300.00  |
| Date & time of submission of tender | 18.12.2019, 15:00 Hrs.   |
| Opening of tender                   | 18.12.2019, 15:00 Hrs.   |
| Website & notice board              | www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect.<br>Engineer/General, New Delhi,  |
| 3698/2019                           |  |

Serving Customers with a Smil





his life could be in danger.

He's scared. He's scared

about being arrested by the

Another mother, identi-

fied by her surname Chung, told the *South* 

cops," she said.

now. She wants to walk out freely, and does not believe the police at all," she told the paper. - Agencies



motorcycle. About 100 protesters were trapped in the Polytechnic University a day after students, some tired and fearful of police storming the campus, tried everyone on the campus. again and again to flee, One woman said she had only to be beaten back by spent last night in a park police firing rubber bul-lets, water cannons and near a police cordon as she

students can't leave campus

"I didn't throw Molotovs.

I was here to support the

protest. I don't see any-

thing wrong with it so I

**Hong Kong, Nov. 19:** Anti-government protesters holed up in a Hong Kong authority said. "I just want to leave. I feel very tired," said Thomas, 20.

university were frantically

searching for escape routes

on Tuesday after more

than two days of clashes

with police and dramatic

breakouts by rope and

tear gas.

Tuesday,

waited for news of her adult son, who she said Some 280 injured were came to the campus as a first aider. "I was very taken to hospital on the hospital very worried, worried



Noisy heroes Today's superhero films 'too noisy' and overshot, says Willem Dafoe

# Newsmakers 12 WEDNESDAY | 20 NOVEMBER 2019 | NEW DELHI



There were sparks between Emma Watson, Tom Felton on Harry Potter sets

- Rupert Grint, **English actor** 

**BRIFF** 



named after Idris Washington: A tiny new species of wasp which kills an invasive pest that threatens several crops in India has been named after British actor and musician Idris Elba, researchers say. The parasitic wasp was recently discovered in Guanajuato, Mexico, where it was found to parasitise the eggs of an invasive stink bug, known as the bagrada bug, which is a major pest of cruciferous vegetables. Researchers suggest that the species might prove to be a Heimdall-like "protector" for many crops. - PTI

### **Halle Berry injured**

on set of *Bruised* Los Angeles: Actor Halle Berry was injured on the sets of her upcoming film Bruised. According to NJ Advance Media, the Oscar winner suffered an injury while she was shooting for a fight scene. Her injury has slightly delayed the film, which also marks her feature directorial debut. Berry is also producing the project. **Executive producer Brian Pitt** told the outlet that Berry's injury was "nothing serious". 'She's tired. She needed a break...," he added. - PTI



### **Taylor Swift allowed** to perform her hits

New York: Taylor Swift's former label said Monday that it will allow the global pop superstar to perform some of her early hits at an awards show this month - the latest twist in a months-long public feud over the rights to her first six albums. The Big Machine Label Group released what it called a joint statement with Dick Clark Productions which puts on the American Music Awards - saying they had "reached a licensing agreement" that would allow Swift to sing what she wants at the November 24 ceremony.

THE ASIAN AGE

# 'Not the role model we want'

Students call for Prince Andrew to quit as chancellor of Huddersfield University

**London:** The University of Huddersfield has said it will consult its student body over Prince Andrew's position as chancellor after a panel voted unanimously to lobby for the duke's resignation from the post.

ni and prospective students that this institution cares about their wellbe-On Sunday evening the university had defended the Duke of York, stressed his "long ties" with the institution and praised his "onthusiaem" which ing, irrespective of the status of the alleged perpe-trator," it continued. A spokesperson for the university told the *Guardian* on Tuesday:

"enthusiasm", which made him "a natural fit with the work of the Universitv" "In relation to the allegations, the palace has previously issued an emphatic denial and this was reiter-ated in the BBC interview with the Duke of York and we have nothing further to add," the statement on Sunday said.

The university's amend-ed reaction is the latest blow for the duke, who is facing mounting pressure over his friendship with the convicted child sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, as a number of senior politicians criticised him

some integrity, and I haven't seen that yet. It's not the sort of role model I think students should and business partners dropped him. have, it's not the sort of A Huddersfield Students' person I think should be in Union panel approved a motion calling for Prince that position, essentially of authority and of recognition and respect," Smith told BBC. Andrew's removal from his ceremonial post at the university that read, "We students growing backlash since he the of

University defended his friendship Huddersfield and mem-bers of Huddersfield with Jeffrey Epstein in a TV interview with the BBC presenter Emily Students' Union should not be represented by a Maitlis on Saturday night. man with fies to organised



A file photo of Prince Andrew at Huddersfield University in England.

#### New Epstein accuser calls Andrew to talk

Los Angeles: A woman has come forward to accuse the disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein of sexually abusing her as a 15-year-old, and called for Prince Andrew to share information on his former friend, BBC reported. The new accuser, identified as "Jane Doe 15", told reporters she suffered a "vicious, prolonged sexual assault"

She is the latest of more than a dozen women to sue Epstein's estate for alleged sexual abuses.

It comes amid controversy over Prince Andrew's ties to the sex offender. Jane Doe 15, now 31, gave a press conference in Los Angeles on Monday. Agencies

#### for the duke, who is facing mounting pressure over his friendship with Epstein 'We as students at the University of Huddersfield should not be represented by a man with ties to organised child sexual exploitation,' the student body said **Epstein jail guards charged**

New York: Two correctional officers responsible for guard-Jeffrey ing Epstein the night he killed himself were

with falsifying records

made public Tuesday accused guards Toval Noel and Michael Noel and Michael Thomas of neglecting their duties by failing to perform checks on Epstein every half hour, as required, and of fabri-

cating log entries to show they had. Epstein had been placed on suicide watch after he was found July 23 on the floor of his cell with a bruised neck. His death while awaiting trial on charges he sexually abused underage girls was a major embarrassment for the US

bureau of prisons. The cell where he died was in a high-security unit, famous for having held terrorists and drug cartel kingpins. Epstein's death revealed the jail was suffering from problems like chronic staffing shortages.

### NEWS NUGGETS **MOZART MINUETS SELL FOR €3,72,500**

**AT PARIS AUCTION** Paris: An original score of two minuets composed by Wolfgang Mozart when he was just 16 blew past estimates at a Sotheby's auction in Paris on Monday, going under the hammer for €3,72,500 (\$413,000).

It was nearly double the top estimated value of  $\in 2,00,000$  set for the handwritten score dating from 1772, and which formed part of the extensive music collection of a fellow Austrian, the writer

Stefan Zweig. The unpublished, autographed score of the minuets, a stylised dance, contains a few corrections and minor modifications. - AFP

#### LOPEZ DID NOT **CHARGE ANY FEE** FOR HUSTLERS

Angeles: Singer-Los actor Jennifer Lopez has revealed that she didn't charge any fee for *Hustlers*, a crime drama about New York strippers who swindle Wall Street traders.

Lopez starred as Ramona, the ringleader to the group of ambi-tious women who take their plans of getting their full cut too far, and also produced the film. The actor said the decision to do the movie for

free was hers



**4 MALAYSIAN MEN CANED FOR GAY SEX** 

**UNDER ISLAMIC LAW** 

Kuala Lumpur: Four

Malaysian men have been caned for having

gay sex in violation of

Islamic laws, with

activists Tuesday con-

demning "vicious pun-ishments" they said highlighted a crack-down on the LGBT com-

munity. Rights group

say there is a worsening

climate for gays in the

Muslim-majority coun-try, where authorities

have maintained a colo-

nial-era ban on sodomy

and mete out harsh

physical punishments

The men received six

strokes each in a prison

outside Kuala Lumpur

on Monday for attempt-

ing "intercourse against

-AFP

order of nature".

for same-sex relations.

"I do things because I love them. I didn't get paid a whole bunch of money for Hustlers. I did it for free and produced it. I bank on myself. "That's the Jenny From the Block. I do what I want, I do what I love, Lopez told GQ magazine. The film, which is generating major Oscar buzz, is based on a New York Magazine article by Jessica Pressler The Hustlers at Scores. — PTI

Polanski film tops French box office despite rape accusation

child sexual exploitation

"We need to put sur-

vivors of sexual assault

above royal connections

and show students, alum-

We are aware of the stu-

dents' union meeting last

night and the motion it

passed regarding the

chancellor. We listen to

our students' views and

concerns and we will now

be consulting with them

A motion was put for-

ward by Huddersfield stu-

dent Tristan Smith, with

tion move on social media

"I think he needs to have

The duke, 59, has faced a

taken a stand to show

hashtag

Agencies

the

#NotMyChancellor.

with

others backing the sugges

over the coming weeks."

and assault."

Paris: Roman Polanski's new film is topping the French box office despite a new rape allegation against the controversial director. An Officer and a Spy

surged ahead of the Matt

Damon racing car epic

Ford v Ferrari — which is top of the US box office —

despite the publicity cam-

paign for the movie being

suspended in the wake of

the latest claims against

French photographer Valentine Monnier threw

the release of the histori-

the veteran film-maker.

French directors' guild begins a move to suspend Polanski

sation of more than 200 film-makers Monday it will propose new rules for members charged or convicted of sexual violence, which could lead to the suspension of French-Polish director Polanski.

said Roman

affect Roman Polanski The board of the ARP directors' guild voted to whose judicial case is present to its members still open in the United "new procedures to sus- States and for which he pend any member facing legal charges, and expel has been charged, Jolivet added. -AF— AFP

Paris: A French organianv member convicted,

especially for crimes of a s e x u a l nature," said Roman Pierre Jolivet, Polanski ARP president.

The proposed rules for suspension "would



### Jeffrey charged Epstein Tuesday with falsifying prison records. A grand jury indictment

### **ADAM DRIVER, JOHANSSON TO BE AWARDED**

Los Angeles: Adam Driver and Scarlett Johansson, the lead stars of filmmaker Noah Baumbach's upcoming divorce drama Marriage Story, are set to be honoured with the Outstanding Performer of the Year Award by the Santa

Barbara International Film Festival. The two actors will be presented with the award at the Arlington

Adam Driver Theatre on January 20, and Scarlett 2020, the festi-Johansson val organisers

said in a statement, accord-ing to Variety. "Scarlett and Adam have had such admirable arcs to their careers - making smart choices between independent films and big Hollywood franchises. They both are such lyrical performers. imbuing their acting with keen sensitivity and intelect." 'Together in Baumbach's Marriage Story, they regaled us with their best work to date." SBIFF executive director Roger Durling said. The award is bestowed upon "select individuals who have distinguished themselves with exceptional performances in film this past year". Past honourees are Rami Malek, Margot Robbie and Allison Janney. - PTI

thriller about the Dreyfus Affair into disarray by accusing Polanski of raping her in 1975 when she was 18 after beating her "into submission" at his Swiss chalet.

But despite protests out- ning actor Jean Dujardin, side cinemas and a call by feminists to boycott the flocked to see it by late

movie starring Oscar-win-Monday. He denies attacking Monnier, a former model has threatened to nearly 4,00,000 people had sue his accusers. -AFP

### Moscow considering 'foreign agent' tag for journalists & bloggers

**Moscow:** Rights activists warned Tuesday of greater curbs on media and online freedom in Russia ahead of a vote on a controversial bill that could lead bloggers and independent journalists to be labelled "foreign agents.

Lawmakers want to broaden existing legisla-tion that forces foreignfunded media and NGOs to describe themselves as "foreign agents" include individuals.

Foreign agents are required to register with the justice ministry, label the material they publish and submit much more detailed paperwork or face fines

night, hunter Daniel Portalis is busy spreading

adhesive lime on to sticks

by torchlight on a hill

Mediterranean port city

Placing them in trees or

bushes, he hopes to catch

a thrush by enticing the

overlooking

of Marseille.

Critics said this would voices.'

Marseille: In the dead of the sticky substance.

the

woodland bird to land on by French authorities.



affect bloggers and even ordinary people posting on social media, although some ruling party law-makers denied this.

Amnesty International in a joint statement with other rights groups, including Journalists Without Borders, decried it as "a further step to restrict free and independent media" and "a tool to silence opposition - AFP

'Cruel' French tradition of glue

trap bird hunting draws wrath

Loved or loathed, a new

season of glue trap hunt-

ing is under way in south-

eastern France, angering

opponents who say the

capture of thousands of

thrushes and blackbirds

in this way every season

is "cruel" and have tried

in vain to have it banned

### Picasso's electrician in a legal soup over hoarded art

Lyon: A French court on Tuesday confirmed the two-year suspended jail terms given to Pablo Picasso's former electrician and his wife, who hoarded 271 of the great painter's works in a garage for four decades. The verdict by the Lyon court is the latest twist in a decade-long legal saga, which took the couple, who claim the works were a gift, all the way to France's top

appeals court. Pierre and Danielle Le Guennec were first given two-year suspended terms in 2015 after being convicted of possession of stolen goods over huge trove of works by Picasso. -AFP

The practice is also in

the firing line of the European Union, which

prohibited it in Spain in

to France in July.

undeterred.

2004 and issued a warning

Images of birds strug-

gling to free themselves

provoked a public debate.

Portalis but he remains

The backlash worries

Hervey at an event in New



Ajay Devgn is greeted by Saif Ali Khan at the trailer launch of their upcoming film Tanhaji in Mumbai on Tuesday.

# 'Trash talk' hurts even when it comes from a robot: Research

**New Delhi:** Discouraging words such as "I have to say you are a terrible player" can be disturbing for people even when uttered by a robot, according to a study presented here.

In the study, people who played a game with a commercially available humanoid robot known as Pepper performed worse when the machine dis-couraged them, and better when it encouraged them. The researchers noted that some of the 40 study participants were technically sophisticated and fully understood that a machine was the source of their discomfort.

"One participant said, 'I don't like what the robot is saying, but that's the way it was programmed so I can't blame it," said Lead author Aaron M. Roth, who conducted the study while he was a mas-

Toyota worker's suicide ruled work-related after harassment

ruled

Tokyo: Japanese authoribureau ties have ruled that an September that the 2017 engineer at Toyota was suicide entitled the victim's family to compensasuffering from power harassment on the job when he killed himself tion under a law regarding job-related deaths. after suffering from con-Yoshihide Tachino, the stant ridicule from his boss. Toyota Motor Corp. attorney for the victim and his family, said Toyota was responsible acknowledged the case after reports of the ruling for mismanagement for emerged Tuesday. The allowing the harassment company said it hopes to to continue. Case came prevent further such cases and expressed conamid growing awareness of problems with what the Japanese call

dolences over the death. harassment. reg<u>ional</u> labour Α

ter's student at the Carnegie Mellon. The study found that. overall, human perform-ance ebbed regardless of technical sophistication.

The staircase (above) at the former Samaritaine shopping centre in Paris which will be transformed into a complex including a department store, a 5-star hotel, social housing units, offices, and a children's nursery. Closed 15 years ago, the Samaritaine will reopen in April 2020. – AFP

Bollywood actress Vedika (left) at the promotion of their upcoming Hindi film *The Body* in Mumbai on \_ ΔFP Monday

### 8,50,000 docu on Nazi victims put online

Berlin: Around 8,50,000 documents on Nazi crimes with information on some 10m people were made online on Tuesday, the Germanybased International Center on Nazi prosecution said.

The documents are from the American Zone of Occupation in southern Germany — the largest Allied-controlled area — and are part of the centre's trove known as the Arolsen Archives, some of which are already online.

In the months after the end of the war, Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the US - the four occupying powers ordered local German authorities to provide information on the fate of any foreign nationals. German Jews and stateless persons. -AFP

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-AFP





"power

The study is a departure

from typical human-robot

interaction studies, which

tend to focus on how

humans and robots can

best work together. -PTI

-AF

# DELHI SPECIAL **NEW DELHI WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2019**



### SPORT | Cricket

Batsmen to find wrist spinners difficult to read under lights: Harbhajan



**SPORT** | Basketball Harden ensures Houston's eighth win on the trot



#### GUIDE TO FORTUNE

Tick the answer and check them below.

Who said 'Man is a political animal'?

Aristotle Dante Socrates

2Nuclear sizes are 2expressed in which unit?

newton Fermi tesla

**Nymph** is the name of young one of which insect?

beetle houseflv cockroach

#### SHORT TAKES

### **Gangs of women** thieves busted

New Delhi: The Delhi police has busted two gangs of women thieves and arrested five women who were active in the Lajpat Nagar area. The accused women Nazmeen (30), Sayra (37) and Rukhsar (24) of were of one gang, while Savitri (30), Joshni (20) were of another gang, said DCP (southeast) Chinmoy Biswal adding that they used to target customers in busy markets and take advantage of the crowd to escape. During interrogation it was revealed that they travelled in a group of 3 to 5 ladies and created an atmosphere of the crowd and surround the "target" and taking advantage of the rush, one of them opens the zip of the bag and on finding right time the other lady takes out articles Accused Savitri and Joshni are cousins and shuttled between Madhya Pradesh and the national capital to commit thefts. While Nazmeen. Sayra and Rukhsar are sisters-in- law in relations.

# It's time to stop politicising issue, urges Gambhir 3 BJP MPs missing as LS debates rising air pollution

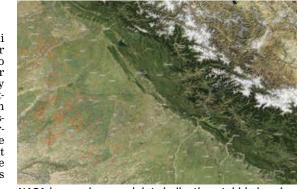
#### AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

BJP MP from East Delhi and former cricketer Gautam Gambhir, who faced a lot of brickbats for skipping a key Parliamentary panel meeting on air pollution, on Tuesday marked his presence in the Lok Sabha during a discussion on the issue. He appealed that it affects everyone and there should be no politics over it.

Participating in a discussion on air pollution and climate change, which was initiated by Congress MP Manish Tewari, Mr Gambhir said that the issue affects everyone irrespective of "our caste, creed, age and religion. It is affecting us while we stand and talk about it in Parliament. It's high time we stop politicising this issue. The people have given us the mandate to do something constructive and therefore we should discuss strategies to resolve this burning issue,

rather than waste our time in maligning each other". Meanwhile, BJP mem-bers from Delhi severely criticised the chief minister Arvind Kejriwal during the discussion, which remained inconclusive and will continue on November 20 also, claiming inaction over his part towards curbing the menace of air pol-

lution. They said that instead of taking concrete steps to control growing air pollution, Mr Kejriwal was busy blaming farmers from neighbouring states like Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh for burning crop



NASA image shows red dots indicating stubble burning, in areas surrounding Delhi on Tuesday.

### **DiCaprio's Instagram post** highlights Delhi's pollution

Angeles, 19: Nov. Hollywood t a r Leonardo DiCaprio expressed Leonardo concernDiCaprio over the ris-

ing levels of pollution in national capital through a post on Instagram. The 45-year-old actor, a vocal advocate for a clean environment, on Monday shared a post by Extinction Rebellion, a global climate movement, on the social media site.

Region and ignoring major pollutants, including vehi-cles and dust. Interestingly only 4 of the BJP's 7 Delhi MPs took part in the debate. Harsh Vardhan, Hans Raj Hans and Ramesh Bidhuri were missing from the lower house during the air pollution debate. During the dis

Sonia shows concern over city pollution New Delhi, Nov. 19: Congress president Sonia

on Tuesday Gandhi expressed concern over the deteriorating air quality in the national capital and cited the introduction of CNG-powered public transport by the Congress government to tackle the issue

Speaking at the presenta-tion of the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development, which was given to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), the Congress President also recalled the steps taken by the former prime minister to safeguard the environment.

'We, who live in this capital, notorious now as the world's most polluted city, can recall the difference in air quality when com-pressed natural gas was introduced in public vehi-

cles," Gandhi said. "This transformation was made possible by the persuasive expertise of the CSE and the Congress government of the day,' she said. -PTI

is a matter of serious concern," the Congress MP

said. Most of members said vehicles, dust, construction and industries, power plants too are responsible for poor air quality and farmers of neighbouring

states should not be blamed

Oppn dubs incident as 'suppression of voice' AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19 Even as the Opposition members in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday described the alleged baton-charge by police on JNU students as "suppression of voice", the police lodged two FIRs in connection with the protest. The JNU Students' Union, however, demanded that no administrative or

legal action be taken against students protesting against a hostel fee hike. Raising the issue during Zero Hour in Lok Sabha, Saugata Roy and Danish Ali also raised the issue of lathi charge on JNU students by the police. While Mr Roy asked for a discussion on the issue, Mr Danish Ali sought a high level investigation on the issue. Congress MP T.N. Prathapan said the fee hike in JNU was wrong and use of force on the students was undemocratic.

"Most of the students in JNU come from poorest conditions. It is undemocratic that this government is suppressing the voice of the students using CRPF and police. This government is ruining every high-er educational institution in the country. Whether it is JNU, Jamia Millia Islamia University or Hyderabad University, this government is just ruining the institutions. If the stu-dents' community comes out for their rights, your arrogance will end. I request this government to withdraw the fee hike in JNU and protect the right of free public education,"

in discharge of public func-DJB to test 1400



JNU students and their leaders (inset), who got injuries in police lathicharge, during press conference in New Delhi on Tuesday. – BIPLAB BANERJEE 📕

Mr Prathapan said.

FIRs against JNU students for

rioting, destruction of property

Demanding that no administrative or legal action be taken against the protesters, JNUŠU president Aishe Ghosh said they had a meeting with HRD ministry joint secretary G.C. Hosur and requested him to ensure no administrative action against students. "Students have been getting notices through email for these protests. But these protests are for a just cause and no student will pay even a single-rupee fine," she told reporters.

The police, however, reg-istered one FIR at the Kishangarh police station, while another was lodged at the Lodhi Colony. According to DCP (South) Atul Kumar Thakur, a case under IPC Sections 186 (obstructing public servant

weapon), 149 (every mem-ber of unlawful assembly guilty of offence committ-ed in prosecution of common object), 151 (knowingly joining or continuing in assembly of five or more persons after it has been commanded to disperse), 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) and Section 3 of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act were also added.

tions), 353 (assault or crim

inal force to deter public servant from discharge of

his duty), 332 (voluntarily

causing hurt to deter pub-

lic servant from his duty),

188 (disobedience to order

duly promulgated by public

IPC sections 147 (punish-

ment for rioting), 148 (riot-

ing, armed with deadly

servant) was registered.

**BJP Yuva** Morcha



### Mantri pays tribute to Indira Gandhi

New Delhi: The Congress leaders remembered former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna Indira Gandhi on her birth anniversary on November 19. On this occasion, senior Dalit leader and former MLA Jai Kishan organized a 'Sadbhavana Daud' event to pay tribute to former Prime Minister on Tuesday in Mangolpuri area. Mr Kishan also distributed clothes and sarees to people of slum clusters falling in Mangolpuri area. Former AICC secretary on this occasion addressed a small gathering of Party workers. He exhorted party workers to follow Ms Gandhi's ideals, which was ahead of her time.

### **IGNCA celebrates** foundation day

New Delhi: Union Minister of state (Independent Charge) for culture and tourism, Prahlad Singh Patel, inaugurated the foundation day celebrations of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) here on Tuesday. While speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, member secretary (IGNCA), said, "The basic objective of the IGNCA is to serve as a resource centre for the arts, especially written, oral and visual source materials. Besides, the centre aims to undertake research and publication programmes of reference works, glossaries, dictionaries and encyclopedia concerning the arts and the humanities". The centre has published around 20 books, based on thorough research work, in the last six months. he said. Renowned pianoaccordion Enoch Daniel also performed on the occasion.

#### THE ANSWERS TO TODAY'S GUIDE TO FORTUNE

cockroach Fermi Aristotle

remain Participating in the dis-cussion, BJP MP from West Delhi Pravesh Verma, slammed the AAP government in Delhi for blaming stubble burning for pollution in the National Capital

**2** arrested with 14kgs of heroin worth ₹50cr

#### AGE CORRESPONDNET NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

Two men were arrested in Delhi's Rohini area on Tuesday for allegedly smuggling heroin smuggling heroin brought from a woman in Manipur to other police said, states. adding that 14 kg of the contraband worth over ₹50 crore was seized from them.

The accused, Sanjeet Kumar Singh (34) and Pardeep Kumar Yaday (24), both residents of Uttar Pradesh, were arrested in Rohini's Sector-24. They used to bring heroin from a woman in Manipur, the police said.

Total 14 kilogram heroin worth more than ₹50 crore in the international market was recovered from their possession, they said.

"On Tuesday, police got a tip-off that two per-sons will come to Rohini with heroin to smuggle it in the national capital," said Sanjeev Kumar Yadav, deputy commissioner of police (special

cell). A trap was laid and the accused were arrested at around 7 am, Mr Yadav said. During search, two parcels, each having seven kilogram of heroin, were recovered from bagpacks, the their deputy commissioner of policesaid.

Parliament is in cussion, members cutting Delhi, the Central and state governments, as well as all across party lines demanded in the Lok Sabha intekey departments, are in the grated action by the government to deal with air becomes a gas chamber every year during the onset pollution while stressing that it was wrong to blame of the winter season. This

alone. They demanded that the Centre, as well as states, should take tough measures to deal with the national capital, which menace as air pollution was not only impacting Delhi but also various other cities of the country.

### **EDMC** proposes professional tax, hikes property tax by 3%

betterment

Airlines informed CISF

officer at Terminal-3, about a suspected passen-

ger in the getup of flight

Airlines. The said person

captain

of Lufthansa

on the cities hazardous pol-

According to the World Health Organisation, air

pollution in India is esti-

mated to kill about 1.5 mil-

lion people every year;

these statistics make air

pollution the fifth-largest killer," it said.

farmers alone for deterio-

rating air quality in Delhi. Mr Tewari said that the

issue was beyond politics

and it is a matter of serious

concern that in WHO's list

of 15 most polluted cities in

the world, 14 belonged to

India alone and Delhi was

one of them.

-PTI

lution levels.

#### SHASHI BHUSHAN NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

While introducing new betterment and profes-sional taxes, the East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) on Tuesday increased property tax by three per cent in a few categories of colonies. Presenting the budget proposal for the next financial year in the standing committee, the EDMC commissioner Dr Dilraj Kaur said that major increase in revenue expected from property tax, toll tax, parking lots and advertisements. Dr Kaur proposed pro-fessional tax of ₹100 per month for those earning

more than ₹5 lakh a year and ₹200 per month for

those earning above ₹10 lakh. She also proposed started segregating and processing the waste at Ghazipur landfill site for tax for enhancement of property reclamation of landfill value due to public infra-structure development at sites," Dr Kaur added. Dr Kaur informed the a rate of 10 per cent of standing committee that property tax. Education 81 parking sites have been cess of 5 per cent of propidentified for expansion of erty tax also proposed. "Garbage collection charges will be levied as per SWM Act," she said. parking facilities and tenders have been issued for the same. "Upgradation and renewal work of all On strengthen sanita-tion services, Dr Kaur said that the EDMC to wards of the hospital is underway. 54 air-condi-tioners (ACs) costing around ₹25 lakh have been develop 5 more communi-ty toilets and 46 public toiinstalled in the wards. SDN Hospital has prolets, 5350 more bins are being installed and after cured different modern distributing 83,000 dusttypes of equipment like haematology analyzer, ICU monitor, anesthesia bins among citizens of 12litre capacity each now plan to buy more such machine, soft tissue laser, 1,50,000 bins. "Trommelsurgical bed and other cum-ballistic machines equipment," she added.

water samples, result in 1 month

#### AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19

The Delhi government said on Tuesday that it will form 32 teams to collect drinking water samples from across the city and the test results will be put in the public domain within a month.

The announcement came days after a Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) report said all potable water samples collected in the city failed quality analysis. The AAP government is already under attack from the opposition over the national capital's air pollution crisis.

Delhi jal board's chief water analyst Sanjay Sharma, who visited the Sonia Vihar treatment plant, said that under the water testing exercise, expected to begin within a week, five samples each will be collected from 272 wards. "Our water is one of the best in the world. We are 99 per cent sure that the samples will pass the tests. According to the

The announcement came days after a Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) report said all potable water samples collected in the city failed quality analysis.

World Health Organization, the per-missable failure limit is 5 per cent," he said while explaining the standards

and process followed for water treatment. Mr Sharma said that the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute or a laboratory approved by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories will be engaged for testing of water samples. In total, 1,400 water samples will be tested on 29 parameters, most importantly, for turbidity, pH levels, calcium, magnesium, hardness and others, he said.

holds protest against AAP AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 19 Stepping up pressure on the AAP government over the water quality

issue in the national capital, Delhi BJP's Yuva Morcha activists on Tuesday staged protests across the city. The protesters were seen carrying missing posters of Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, who is also the chairman of the Delhi Jal Board (DJB). 'Have you seen the DJB chairman, Arvind Kejriwal?" read the posters. Similar posters were put up in some parts of east Delhi. Former Delhi BJP president Satish Upadhyay took part in the protest near the Moolchand flyover. Other senior leaders of the saffron party, including its national vicepresident and party city unit in-charge Shyam Jaju and leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta, also participated in the protests. Delhi BJP Yuva Morcha president Sunil Yadav also joined the protest with senior party leaders.

### Man impersonating as Lufthansa pilot nabbed at IGI Mr Kejriwal's missing posters were put up after

#### AGE CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV.19

A man has been apprehended by CISF personnel at the Indira Gandhi International Airport here for allegedly "impersonat-ing" as a pilot of Lufthansa airlines to escape long queues and security checking, police said on Ťuesday. They said that Rajan Mahbubani, wearing the uniform of the airline, was nabbed from the departure gate of the airport.

On Monday Åditya Singh Pathania, chief security Lufthansa officer of

According to police, Rajan Mahbubani impersonated as a pilot to escape long queues and security. The accused used to get into the passage which is normally used by airline crew members for getting Rajan Mahbubani into the aircraft.

> was in possession of a fake ID card of a captain of Lufthansa Airlines to get privilege at airports. "On receipt of the infor-mation, CISF personnel

accompanied Mr Pathania and the suspect was located at Boarding Gate-52. The passenger, later identified as Mr Rajan Mahbubani (48), a resident of Vasant Kunj, New Delhi, wearing flight captain uniform with Lufthansa ID, bound for Kolkata by Air Asia flight I5-578 scheduled to be fly on Monday evening, was nabbed and enquired by CISF. On enquiry, he disclosed that he used to shoot YouTube videos based on aviation facilities and obtained Lufthansa fake ID card in Bangkok for doing the same. The passenger

was offloaded and handed over to the IGI Airport police station on the com-plaint given by Mr Pathania for further legal action," said Hemendra Singh, CISF spokesper-

sons. The Delhi police said that the accused have travelled 15 times on fake identity card. "On the basis of the complaint given by the CSO, Lufthansa Airlines, a criminal case was registered at IGI airport police station and an investigation was set into motion. The man was handed over to police," said the DCP.

were seen in the city of East Delhi BJP MP Gautam Gambhir, who faced flak from the AAP over skipping a key parliamentary panel meeting on air pollution due to his cricket commentary assignment. The BJP has been trying to corner the state government over a Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) study

similar missing posters

that found water samples from Delhi failing on 10 of the 11 quality parameters.

No hard feelings

Steve Smith insists he does not feel "hard done by" after the West Indies' Nicholas Pooran received a four-match ban for ball-tampering compared to the batsman's year-long suspension





# **Ready for the pink fest**

THE ASIAN AGE

#### It's important that we bowl with consistency to get Steve Smith out.

— Misbah-ul-Haq, Pakistan coach knows the secret to getting Smith out, calls it the batsman's "blind spot"



New Delhi: The Apex council of the Delhi & Districts Cricket Association on Tuesday put up a united stand, questioning ombudsman Justice (Retd) Badar Durrez Ahmed's order which allowed senior journalist Rajat Sharma to continue in his role as DDCA president. Sharma had resigned from his post on Saturday, citing his inability to continue amidst "various pulls and pressures". However, the DDCA ombudsman on Sunday rejected Sharma's resignation, asking him to assume office as president and also fixed November 27 to formally hear the matter. The decision didn't go down well with the Apex Council with nine out of 16 members on Tuesday addressing a joint presser, questioning the Ombudsman's role and also highlighting the issues affecting the running of the sport in DDCA. "We, the following members of the Apex Council, are of the opinion that you cannot rejoin the office as the president of DDCA and the mail stating your rejoining is null and void," the members of Apex council said in a letter to Sharma. — PT

### **Kiwis, England** put rivalry to Test

Mount Maunganui: New Zealand and England will take their cricketing rivalry into the Test arena on Thursday after finding themselves evenly matched in recent limited-overs thrillers. England have bragging rights after winning a rollercoaster World Cup final in July, then edging the Black Caps 3-2 in a desperately close Twenty20 series completed earlier this month. Both the one-day decider and T20 series needed tie-breakers to find a winner and there will be no shortage of mutual respect when the rivals face off again Thursday in the First Test at Mount Maunganui. On paper, there again appears to be little to separate the teams, with New Zealand sec-ond in the Test rankings and England third. But England skipper Joe Root is painfully aware that his team underperformed when it lost a two-Test series in New Zealand last year after underestimating the Black Caps' bowlers on their home turf. - AFP

### Harbhajan says batsmen will find wrist spinners difficult to read under lights

New Delhi, Nov. 19: At the floodlit Eden Gardens, wrist spinners landing the pink ball with scrambled seam will be far more difficult to pick than finger spin-ners, feels senior off-prinner Harbhaian Harbhajan spinner spinner Harbhajan Singh. India will be play-ing its much-awaited first Day/Night Test against Bangladesh at the Eden Gardens from Saturday and there is a lot of curiosity regarding how the pink ball "Wrist spinners will have one advantage if you see because it's

going to be very difficult to pick the seam (with black stitches) of pink ball," Harbhajan said during an interaction. India has a wrist spin-

ner in Kuldeep Yadav but Harbhajan didn't want to talk on selection matters. "Well, that's the team management's call and I can't comment. But then Bangladesh need to play the Indian pacers on the seamer friendly track before spinners are fully operational," he said, referring to their performance against Mohd (

Shami and Co. in the first Test. "And also between 3.30 and 4.30 pm, the time of in sunset Kolkata where seamers are known to do maximum damage. But yes we

we want to play more D/N Tests in future." reminded how Kuldeep turned out to be lethal during the 2016 Duleep Trophy, played with the pink ball. "If you remember Duleep Trophy, no one could effectively read Kuldeep from his wrists. Leg spin-ners got lot of wickets during that edition,' Harbhajan said.

spinners are more effective. "When a finger spinner bowls, the ball is released with seam so that there is turn and tnat bounce. When you are bowling the googly, the seam will be scrambled and very difficult to pick," he explained. However, someone like a Muttiah Muralitharan might just be very effective. "But there are exceptions like Muttiah Muralitharan, who could have been a killer with



#### Wrist spinners will have one

5

advantage if you see because it's going to be very difficult to pick the seam (with black stitches) of pink ball. We need to figure out more about spinners if we want to play more D/N Tests in future. -HARBHAJAN

SINGH the pink ball despite being a finger spinner because unlike other finger spinners, both his off break and doosra were released with scrambled seam," said one of India's greatest spinners. However, the pink SG in general will be a

need to figure out more about spinners if

He explained why wrist challenge for the spin ners with the extra lacquer applied keep colour under "More hand.'

explain the fundamental difference between bowling with white ball and nig with white ball and pink ball when the dew sets in. "A lot of people think that the ball will be like a slippery soap bar as it happens with white ball in D/N games. It's not the some The white not the same. The white ball becomes slippery because the white lacquer goes off the skin of the ball gets wet.

"With extra lacquer, pink ball's skin wont get wet but the stitches will be very soggy. And there-in lies problem with finger spinners. Also the format of the game makes it difficult.

"In 50 overs or 20 over cricket, whenever the ball gets wet, you can just alter the length a bit and let the batsmen play on backfoot getting those singles.

"But in a Test match, you will not have a field setting like that. You have to pitch it up. Now landing six deliveries on one spot while trying to grip a wet seam can be a challenge because trying the ODI length will be easy meat for batsmen. For spinners to be more effective, they have to

play more games at the domestic level. "If BCCI creates a window so that all top national players are available for a couple of specific rounds in Ranji Trophy, then you can learn more.

'Even Duleep can go back to pink ball but only if stars play. With no disrespect to any player, if top players don't play here, the purpose is lost and no advantage gained while playing next pink he concluded. -PTI

<<< Kuldeep Yadav



Virat Kohli arrives at the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose airport in Kolkata on Tuesday. – PTI The historic Day/Night Test begins on Friday

### Tickets for first 4 days sold out, says Ganguly The Eden

**Mumbai, Nov. 19:** The BCCI president Sourav Ganguly on Tuesday said that the tickets for the first four days of India's first Day/Night Test against Bangladesh in Kolkata have been sold out and he was extremely happy about

biggest stadiums in India, has a capacity of 67,000.

Gardens, one of the

it was sold out, Ganguly

### Altering the length would be key: Shami

**New Delhi, Nov. 19:** India speedster Mohammed Shami said altering length to keep the batsmen guessing would be key when India take on Bangladesh in their maid-en Pink-ball Test, starting from Friday.

Shami, who has been in terrific form, returned with the figures of 3/27 and 4/31 in the first Test at Indore to achieve his career-best ranking, said he intends on keeping things simple.

"What one thing bowlers should do is keep an eye on the wicket and how is it behaving, so what I do is as the pitch gets slower I keep push-ing myself and when I notice that the batsman is uncomfortable I go over the top... so the length has to keep changing," Shami said.

Meanwhile, former India captain Sunil Gavaskar cautioned Mayank Agarwal, who scored a double century in the Indore Test, saying opposition would be bet-ter-prepared to counter him in future matches.

"He is enjoying Test cricket, this is his first year and hopefully he keeps scoring on the second year also because in the second season there is a lot more data available of you to the opposition.

"But he has been batting beautifully, the way he balances himself without falling on the offside as he plays so straight and his movement of the front and back foot has been fantastic making him the man in form who is full of confidence," Gavaskar said.

The one thing 5 **bowlers** should do is keep an eye on the wicket and how is it behaving, so what I

do is as the pitch

WIII to its 🤍 intact lights. lacquer means that you will not have a good grip on the ball, especially finger spinners. And the ball starts skidding from the He then went on to

India play their first Day/Night Test against Bangladesh in Kolkata from November 22 and both the teams have reached the eastern megapolis. "It's sold out and I'm extremely happy (about it)," said Ganguly here after visiting the BCCI headquarters. Asked for how many days

informed four. The count down of the historic Test began in Kolkata on Sunday with the City of Earlier, unveiled

Joy turning pink. Earlier, Ganguly had 'Pinku-Ťinku', the event's official mascots. The Eden Gardens, one of the biggest stadiums in India, has a capacity of 67,000.

gets slower i keep pushing myself and when I notice that the batsman is not comfortable I go over the top. - MOHAMMED SHAM

# Umpiring difficult in tech era: Taufel

New Umpiring cricket matches has become increasingly difficult because of the technology now monitoring play, according to former top match official Simon Taufel.

With dozens of cameras and other technology ready to expose mistakes, the pressure is on the officials who make the crucial calls, said the 48-year-old

Australian. "It can be extremely chal-lenging obviously, if it would be easy everyone would be doing it. It's all about learning through mistakes," Taufel said. Players can challenge umpires' calls using the

Decision Review System, which employs slow-motion replays, ball-tracking technology, audio sensors — the 'Snickometer' — and even heat-sensing, known as Hot Spot, to check whether the ball hit the bat.

Cricket's embrace of technology has been echoed by other sports including tennis, rugby and football, where match officials have also found themselves under growing scrutiny.

"When you compete with those 30-odd cameras, the ball-tracker, Snicko, Hot Spot, the three experts in the commentary position, there are times when you don't deliver perfection," said Taufel, who stood in his first Test when he was only 29. "But that's part of life.

**Delhi, Nov. 19:** Roger Federer loses the odd match, Tiger Woods misses the odd fairway, these things do happen but if you

have paid the price you might as well get the learning and benefit out of it." Known for his accuracy

and extreme fitness, Taufel maintained immense respect from players up to his retirement from the international game in 2012. He was named umpire of

Simon Taufe

International Cricket Coun cil. Taufel become an umpire performance and training

the year for five straight seasons between 2004 to 2008 by the

manager with the ICC at the age of 41 and has recently authored a book,

"Finding the Gaps". "I ask people to focus on the process, don't go for the outcome other people are looking for. People are going to judge you anyway, so give them 'you'," he said.

> 'Perfection doesn't exist

Taufel made headlines after the World Cup final in July, when he pointed out that England should have been awarded five runs and not six from a freak

deflection in their last regulation over — an umpiring mistake which otherwise went unnoticed.

The hosts went on to win by the barest of margins, on overall boundaries scored, after they were level with New Zealand after 50 overs and an extra 'super over'

Taufel's most vivid memory is a moment that shook the cricketing world in 2009, when he was on a bus in Lahore that was attacked by extremists targeting the Śri Lanka team.

But he hopes cricket makes a full return to Pakistan, which has largely been shunned by touring teams since the attack but which is awaiting a two-Test tour of Sri Lanka in December.

"Never say never. Things change. There is no country in the world that is immune to bad things happening,' said Taufel, who was born in the Sydney suburb of St. Leonards. "I do hope that cricket spreads to more parts of the world and even though it was a traumatic experience in Pakistan, I sincerely hope that we see played there again."

Among other innovations in cricket, India is set to experiment with a separate no-ball umpire in the Indian Premier League after some controversial incidents in this year's edition of the T20 tournament. -AFP



-PTI

Australian cricketers show little interest in posing for a group photo ahead of their opening Test against Pakistan. - ICC

# Young Pak up against seasoned Oz

Brisbane, Nov. 19: Pakistan head into the opening Test in Brisbane on Thursday seeking a rare win on Australian soil, and could unleash a 16-year-old debutant in a teenage pace attack against seasoned Steve Smith and stars David Warner.

Pakistan have drawn a series in Australia, but have never won one, and last tasted a Test victory at Sydney in 1995.

A handful of players, including new skipper Azhar Ali, Babar Azam and the in-form Asad Shafiq, were part of their last tour in 2016/17 when they crashed 3-0, but are better for it, said then-captain and now head coach Misbah-ul-

### 16-yr-old ready for debut despite reeling from his mother's death in Brisbane starting Thursday after impress-

ing with a fiery eight-over spell against Australia A

"The best thing about

Naseem Shah is the con-

trol he has on his bowl-

Misbah-ul-Haq told crick-

coach

-AFP

head

in Perth.

et.com.au.

ing.

**Brisbane**, Nov. 19: He is only 16 and reeling from his mother's death last week, but Pakistan believe express bowling sensation Naseem Shah can be a match-winner in the opening Test against Australia.

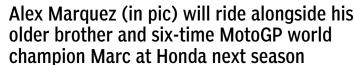
The exciting teenager is on the cusp of selection for the game at the Gabba

Haq. "Our previous record in to win because whatever we couldn't achieve in the past, Australia won't put us we can do now. under pressure," he said. "It's a young and hungry "If anything, it'll be an team and it means busiopportunity and motivation ness," he added.

"This team wants to take the challenge. We want to take give our best, play good cricket and think about winning." — AFP Australia squad: Tim Paine (capt), Cameron Bancroft, Joe Burns, Pat Cummins, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Michael Neser, James Pattinson, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, Matthew Wade, David Warner. Pakistan squad: Azhar Ali

(capt), Abid Ali, Asad Shafiq, Babar Azam, Haris Sohail, Imam-ul-Haq, Imran Khan senior, Iftikhar Ahmed, Kashid Bhatti, Mohammad Abbas, Mohammad Rizwan, Nusa Khan, Naseem Shah, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Shan Masood, Yasir Shah.

Alex joins Honda







WEDNESDAY | 20 NOVEMBER 2019 | NEW DELHI



We have a fresh start and we're going to move forward to rebuild the team. - Thierry Henry on starting a new position with Montreal Impact

TAKES SHORT

**Organic wins** 

**Delhi feature race** AGE CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, NOV. 20

Organic won the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Cup, the feature event at the Delhi races on Tuesday

#### RESULTS

1st race: The First Prime Minister Plate Div-I (1200 mts) 1. Master Becket, 2. Victorious King, 3. Personal Legend 2nd race: The First Prime Minister Plate Div-II (1200 mts) 1. Rannvijay, 2. Warrior Thrive, 3. Ashwa Vijeta 3rd race: The Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Cup (1200 mts) 1. Organic, 2. Master Cristiano, 3. Go My Girl 4th race: The Chacha Nehru Plate Div-I (1000 mts) 1. Delhi Queen, 2. Whizz, 3. Snow Bell Show Bell 5th race: The Chacha Nehru Plate Div-II (1000 mts) 1.Arsalaan, 2. Loveable, 3. Osculate 6th race: The Bal Diwas Plate (1100 mts) 1. Race Ka Raja, 2. Truly Majestic, 3. Miss Zachary

### Jerome braces for

**2020 Formula E** 

Mumbai: Mahindra Racing driver Jerome d'Ambrosio is optimistic of an improved show over last year when the Formula E season kicks off in Riyadh in Saudi Arabia in a few days time. D'Ambrosio led the 2018/19 drivers' championship in the initial part of season 5, having opened it with a podium finish and a win. "Well, obviously looking forward to it (the new season). We have improved as compared to last year and we have made progress. Last year we managed to be competitive at times but at times we were not. We have managed to work on the package and structure to be more consistent and I'm looking forward to be on the track," D'Ambrosio said here. D'Ambrosio and Pasca Wehrlein, who joined Mahindra Racing last year, will continue to spearhead the team's on- track charge. Wehrlein, with one pole, six further Super Pole appearances, two fastest laps and a podium on his Mahindra debut. proved among the fastest driv-ers on the grid. – PTI **Rockets blaze on** Harden ensures Houston's eighth win on the trot

THE ASIAN AGE

Los Angeles, Nov. 19: James Harden scored 36 points and Russell Westbrook bagged a triple double as the Houston Rockets extended their red-hot winning streak to eight games with a 132-108 rout of the Portland Trail Blazers on Monday.

Harden, fresh from a 49point display in Saturday's win over Minnesota, was once again in commanding form against a Portland team who were always second best at Houston's Tovota Center.

The 2017-2018 NBA Most Valuable Player also had six rebounds and five assists as the Blazers struggled to contain the Rockets' multi-pronged offense.

Westbrook tormented the Portland defense, finishing with 28 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists on a night when all five Houston starters finished in double figures.

Rockets coach Mike D' Antoni praised the contribution of Westbrook.

The win saw the Rockets improve to 11-3 at the top of the Western Conference, neck-andneck with the pace-setting Los Angeles Lakers (11-2). C.J. McCollum led the scoring for Portland with 25 points, but team-mate Damian Lillard was kept quiet with only 13 points. Portland fell to 5-9 with the defeat.

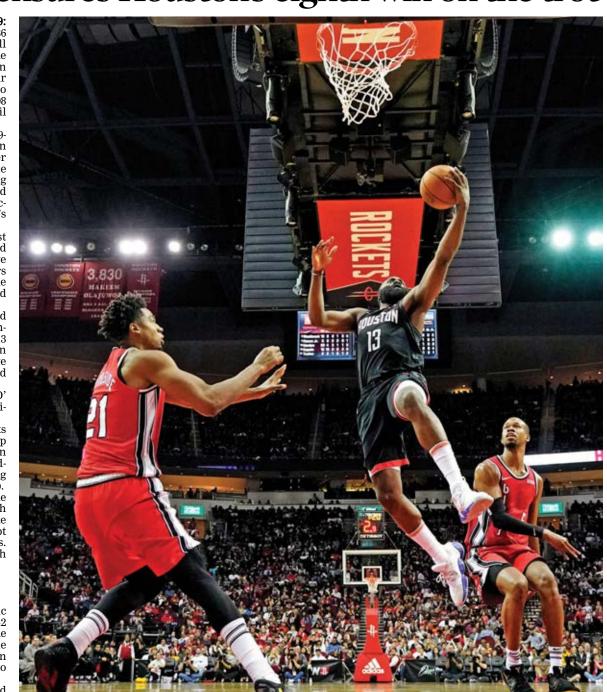
#### DONCIC SHINES AS /ERICKS TRIUMPH

In Dallas, Luka Doncic scored a career-high 42 points and bagged a triple double to guide the Mavericks to a 117-110 win over the San Antonio Spurs.

The 20-year-old Slovenian is the second youngest player in history to score a 40-point triple double after LeBron James.

In Los Angeles, Paul George scored 17 points against his former team as the Clippers eked out a nail-biting 90-88 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Montrezl Harrell was the star for the Clippers with 28 points off the bench in a hard-fought added to a list of controcontest that went right versies. down to the buzzer. 0.G. In Toronto, Pascal Anunoby and sparked the Siakam Raptors in a 132-96 demolition of the Charlotte



James Harden (centre) of Houston Rockets goes up for a shot as Hassan Whiteside (left) of Portland Trial Blazers looks on during their NBA basketball game in Houston on Monday. The Rockets won 132-108.

### Kiwi hoopsters in hot water the NBL stepped in to pre-

Wellington, Nov. 19: The seemingly in free-fall as behaviour, which report-New Zealand Breakers disciplinary problems basketball club defended mount. their team culture on The club confirmed that

their team culture on

edly occurred after he mixed alcohol and a sleeping pill. "I am mortified to

vent guard Glen Rice Jr from playing in Sunday's Wildcats game because he Tuesday after a drunken New Zealand police at have embarrassed the had been arrested over an disturbance on a plane Auckland airport met club and myself on the altercation in an flight," he said in a state Auckland bar a few davs ment released by the club. earlier. "I am particularly upset Breakers officials have to have contributed to the since slapped an indefinite suspension on Rice perception there is a bad Jr, the son of three-time NBA All Star Glen Rice, saying new information the statement had come to light. -AFP

Pep will be

says agent

at Man City,

**Berlin, Nov. 19:** Pep Guardiola's agent has ruled out a return to

Bayern Munich at least

until the Spaniard's contract expires at Manchester City in 2021,

The German champions

are currently looking for

a new head coach follow-

ing the sacking of Niko Kovac after a 1-5 thrash-

Caretaker boss Hansi

Bundesliga goes into recess but the Germans

are already on the lookout

for a possible high profile

"Pep is content and verv

happy in Manchester. His contract is until June

2021," Guardiola's agent

Josep Maria Orobitg told

German daily *Bild* on

Wednesday, having also

been quoted by other web-

"Guardiola always ful-

fils his contracts. I haven't

spoken with anyone in

Germany about him — neither with intermedi-

aries nor club bosses. Pep

has good memories of

Munich and still has

friends there, but at the

moment he has shown no

interest in returning to

- AFF

Germany as a coach. "That is something that

Eintracht

remain in

least until

the into

when

according to reports.

at

ing

Frankfurt.

Flick will

charge at

Christmas

replacement.

sites.

**RACING** TRAGEDY

# 3-year officiating ban on president

New Delhi, Nov. 19: National motorsport federation FMSCI has banned its own President J. Prithiviraj from officiating for three years in the wake of the organisational blunder that led to death of three, including a minor, during the ill-fated Rally of

Jodhpur. While Prithiviraj will continue to be president of the FMSCI he won't be allowed to officiate in national championships for three years. Top rally driver Gaurav

Gill had crashed into a trespassing motorcycle carrying three people, including a minor, during the rally in September, forcing the organisers to call off the rally

call off the rally. A shocked Gill was grant-

ed bail last month in con-nection with the case. The five-member FMSCI panel that included Past presidents Vicky Chandhok and Akbar Ebrahim, recommended a three-year ban on Prithviraj, event's clerk of the course (COC).

Prithviraj, who is part of the Coimbatore Auto Sports Club, was assisting rally Maxperience. organisers

The panel's recommendation is to impose a ban on the COC of the event from officiating as a COC of any National

of any National Championship events for a period of 3 years and must officiate as DCOC for one year after 3 years," read an official FMSCI note. The inquiry panel's rec-

ommendations were passed unanimously by the 10-member council.

#### officiating for three vears. The five-member **FMSCI** panel arrived on the decision after an organisational blunder led to death of three, including a minor, during the

**Rally of Jodhpur.** 

of India has banned

president J.

Prithviraj from

Prithivraj expectedly recused himself from the meeting. The inquiry panel was headed by council member Farokh

Commissariat. When asked, the FMSCI president said he has no knowledge of the ban imposed on him.

"I have received no com-munication yet (on the ban)," Prithviraj said.

The three-year suspension for the FMSCI president is nothing short of an embarrassment for the sport's governing body. "It is a clear case of con-

flict of interest. How can you be the president and a race official at the same

time?" a source asked. The FMSCI has also banned event organisers Maxperience and its representative Arvind Balan for three years till December 31,2022

Á ₹5 lakh penalty has also been imposed on Prithviraj's Coimbatore Auto Sports Club. — PTI

Fleetwood, Spaniard Jon Rahm, British Open

champion Shane Lowry

and Matthew Fitzpatrick

– have a mathematical chance of usurping

### **MCILORY NOT PERTURBED ABOUT RACE**

Dubai, Nov. 19: Rory McIlroy, a three-time winner of the Race to Dubai, says he is fine with the fact that he cannot become the European Tour's number one for a fourth time this week at the DP World Tour Championship.

The Northern Irishman, who created a stir with his decision not to take up European Tour membership late in the season. has made enough points feeling to be able to do it, to climb to sixth in the but I just haven't played Race to Dubai standings going into the final week. if However, even if McIlroy wins the seasonending championship and secures the winner's cheque of \$3 million on Sunday, he won't garner enough points to surpass current leader Bernd

Wiesberger. Asked if he felt any frustration at not having a chance to add to his crowns in 2012, 2014 and 2015, the 30-year-old McIlroy said: "No. I've already won it three times. It's a wonderful

FLOATING **HOTELS FOR QATAR WC** 

Doha: Football fans prone to seasickness may need to consider alternatives, but supporters with sealegs will be able to stay on one of two giant cruiseliners during the 2022 Qatar World Cup Organisers said on Monday they had agreed with Swissbased MSC Cruises for two of its 16 ships with a combined total of 4,000 cabins to be berthed in Doha Port during the tournament. The vessels "will give fans a spectacular view of (Doha's) West Bay skyline", Qatar's Supreme Committee for Delivery said in a statement. "Chartering cruise liners for fans has long been part of Qatar's accommodation strategy, with the country keen to offer sustainable solutions for the month-long tournament which will kick-off on November 21, 2022," the statement added. British tabloids have speculated that alcohol could be permitted onboard despite Qatar's strict Islamic rules governing alcohol consumption, leading to headlines encouraging "booze cruise for fan"" Under the agreement, the value of which was not given, the MSC Europa and MSC Poesia will be used to accommodate fans The MSC Europa will be delivered in 2022 and is due to be powered by liquefied natural gas, the statement said. The MSC Poesia features three swimming pools, 14 bars and a waterfall, according to the ship

map. – AFP

- AFP

Hornets.

Police quizzed forward Tom Vodanovich over the incident following this week's loss to the Perth Wildcats for the Breakers, the who are second-last in National Australia's

Basketball League and

Vodanovich on Monday after reports of a mid-air disturbance on the flight from Perth following the 77-88 loss

No charges were laid but culture at the club, when said Breakers it absolutely is not the Vodanovich would be discase," ciplined internally. The added. player apologised for his

The incident came after

enough counting European Tour events to have a chance, so no.' played haven't enough, and you look at someone like a Bernd

Wiesberger. Only the next four players — England's Tommy

Wiesberger who has played 28 times. You know, those are the guys that deserve to be up there with a chance to

-AFP

win," he added.

# Jason can stretch Tiger, says Ogilvy

Melbourne, Nov. 19: Every member of the Internationals team wants to take on Tiger Woods at the Presidents Cup, with assistant captain Geoff Ogilvy suggesting Australians Marc Leishman, Cameron Smith and former number one Jason Day are frontrun-

ners. Woods will be playing captain when he leads a star-studded United States against the Internationals skippered by Ernie Els in the biennial team matchplay showdown at Royal Melbourne from December

12 - 15. Australian Ogilvy, who played in three Presidents Cups, said all of the 12-man had put their hand up to face the 15-time major winner. but favoured one of his fellow Australians to take on Woods.

"Jason (Day) can clearly hang with Tiger and go down the stretch with him," Ogilvy, who with Els was a member of the losing International team at Royal Melbourne in 2011 said to a newspaper. "But Cam and Leish, they

have really stood up the last couple of years and they are so bought into this. Cam is bouncing out of his skin. We have 12

down the stretch with Leishman), have really stood up. - GEOFF OGILVY Internationals team's

assistant captain on who will face Tiger Woods in the President's Cup

great players, they all have

a case. It depends on the situation of the match. It depends how the picks go too, we alternate, so Tiger could choose who he wants to play against," he added. Woods will be the first playing captain since American Hale Irwin in inaugural the 1994 Presidents Cup after giving himself a wildcard following his record-equalling 82nd US PGA Tour title in Japan last month. -AFP

50 years to Pele's 1,000th goal running to collect the ball and kissing it as he I don't need a party to celebrate this. For me it is much more important to help poor children and those in need, I'm thinking above all of the kind turned away of Christmas those people are going to spend.

> – PELE Brazilian legend had said after scoring his 1,000th goal

in Pele being paraded shoulder-high around the historic stadium.

Brazilian legend Pele poses with footballs after scoring his 1,000th goal in this file photo.

Pele, a national hero after helping Brazil to two World Cup wins in 1958 and 1962, was still just 29 years old when he broke the 1,000-goal barrier. The penalty decision



recently joked that with today's VAR system it would likely have been

refused. The goal has etched itself

into the Brazilian

Some 65,157 fans had bought tickets for the Brazilian league match in which Pele scored the landmark goal. Folklore says there were 80,000 in the stands. "I don't need a party to celebrate this. For me it is much more important to help poor children and those in need, I'm thinking above all of the kind of Christmas those people are going to spend," Pele

is just as impossible at the moment," the manager said after the goal. -AFP

added.









Sao Paulo, Nov. 19: The

revered Brazil striker Pele scored his 1,000th

goal on November 19, 1969

Maracana stadium in a

match between his beloved Santos and local

outfit Vasco de Gama,

whose vast ranks of fans

gave the iconic No.10 a

That goal half a century

ago was a beautifully con-

verted penalty which escaped the grasp of the

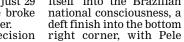
Vasco goalkeeper, spark-

ing a pitch invasion by

the press and culminating

standing ovation.

Rio de Janeiro's





#### Back in action

Luis Enrique returns as Spain coach five months after stepping down because of his daughter's illness

WEDNESDAY | 20 NOVEMBER 2019 | NEW DELHI

Games



Let's enjoy these 10 games won, it had never happened and it's an extraordinary thing — Roberto Mancini **Italy coach** 

#### TAKES SHORT

### **Man City's revenue** rises to £535m

London: Manchester City's onfield success saw the club's revenues swell to £535 million (\$692 million) last season as the Premier League champions posted a profit for the fifth straight year. A 20 percent surge in broadcast revenue saw City's income rise from £500.5 million in the 2017/18 season. Pep Guardiola's men completed an unprecedented quadruple of England's domestic trophies by winning the Premier League, FA Cup, League Cup and Community Shield. The sale of a host of players unable to break into the first team helped boost profits to £10.1 million. Prior to Sheikh Mansour's takeover of City in 2008, the club's revenue was a mere £87 million. Huge losses of over £584 million followed during the first six years of their ownership due to massive investment in the playing squad and facilities, including the £200 million Etihad Campus training ground. - AFP

### **Man United debt** climbs 55 per cent

Manchester: Manchester United's attempt to strengthen

their underperforming squad has proved costly with debt rising more than 55% in a year to £384.5 million (\$498 million). The cost of signing Harry Maguire, Aaron Wan-Bissaka and Daniel James ahead of the new season in the first quarter of the financial year was around £140 million. Although United reported record revenue last season of £627.1 million, the New York Stock Exchange listed business is now expecting the 2019-20 figure to drop to between 560 million and 580 million pounds. That is due to United missing out on Champions League tele vision and prize money after finishing sixth last season.



Championship, we need to improve a few things, then the difficulty will be to leave some players at home, they all deserve to be there. "They are all young lads

who are improving game after game, it just takes time. Every player gave everything they had, I had the answers I wanted from them.

Immobile, 29, started the goal-spree on eight min-utes in Sicily, adding a sec-ond in the 33rd minute. Roma midfielder Zaniolo,

20, scored his first goal for the national side on nine minutes, completing a brace on 64 minutes. Nicolo Barella, 22, also scored in the first half on

front of a crowd of nearly 28,000 on the Mediterranean island.

Romagnoli, 75th-minute Alessio Jorginho's penalty, and goals from Riccardo Orsolini and Federico Chiesa concluded the hammering. Edgar Babayan pulled a goal back for Armenia 10 minutes from time in a rout which could have beer

1

1

6

3

3

9

2

(Itten 10, 84, Vargas 50, Fassnacht 57, Benito 75, Xhaka 86)

Svanberg 72, Guidetti 0

(Fabian Ruiz 8, Gerard Moreno 33, 43, Rus 45+1-og, Oyarzabal 0

1 2 (King 7 Sorloth 62)

Liechtenstein 0 Bosnia and Herzegovina (Civic 57, Hodzic 64, 72)

Italy (Immobile 8, 33, Zaniolo 9, 64, Barella 29, Romagnoli 72, Jorginho 75-pen, Orsolini 78, Chiesa 81) Armenia (Babayan 79)

Greece (Mantalos 47, Galanopoulos 70) Finland

heavier with the Azzurri rattling the woodwork on multiple occasions.

"We have beaten several records but we know that June next year is the only thing that counts," said captain Leonardo Bonucci. "Honestly, I have never had so much fun with the national team, we dominated every game." -AFF

### DAVIS CUP ITF rejects Pak's appeal Nur-Sultan to host India-Pakistan tie

New Delhi, Nov. 19: India will travel to Nur-Sultan to take on Pakistan in the upcoming Davis Cup tie as the International Tennis Federation has nominated the Kazakhstan capital to host the matches, ending days of uncertainty over the venue. Pakistan Pakistan Tennis Federation had filed an

appeal contesting the ITF

visit Pakistan without any

security threat, why can't

the Indian team play matches in Islamabad, but the Independent Tribunal of the world governing body kept the games at a

neutral venue. "The ITF has communi-

cated to us that the tie will be held in Nur-Sultan. We can't say if they rejected

the PTF appeal. In a late-

night communication, they

just mentioned the new

venue," AITA CEO Akhuori Bishwadeep said. The matches will be played on indoor courts

since extreme cold condi-

Pakistan Tennis **Federation had filed** an appeal contesting the ITF Davis Cup Committee.s **November 4 decision** to shift the tie to a neutral venue

er conditions are harsh and though we are playing Davis Cup Committee's November 4 decision to shift the tie to a neutral venue. PTF had argued that if Indian pilgrims can visit Pakiston without any indoors, it still affects the body," India coach Zeeshan Ali said. "The quality of tennis is

better playing indoors because factors like sun and wind do not affect the matches."

The tie was scheduled to be held in Islamabad in September but was pushed to November 29-30 after India expressed concerns about the safety of their players due to diplomatic tensions between the two nations following the revocation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir.

India have named a fullstrength squad for the tie as all the top players, who had refused to travel to Islamabad, agreed to play at a neutral venue.

The side will be led by top tions there won't allow them to be staged outside. "Playing indoor suits our singles players Sumit Nagal and Ramkumar players. It will work in our Ramanathan while veteran favour, not that our players Leander Paes and Jeevan can't play on grass but they Nedunchezhiyan are likely to pair up for the doubles. — PTI are lot more comfortable on hard courts. The weath-



Russia's Karen Khachanov returns to Borna Coric of Croatia at the Davis Cup Finals in Madrid on Monday. – AFP

**RUSSIA OFF TO STRONG** 

United could miss out again with the side in seventh place, nine points behind fourthplaced Manchester City after 12 of the 38 games. – AP

### **MOHUN BAGAN FACE AIZAWL IN I-LEAGUE OPENER**

New Delhi: Former champions Aizawl FC will clash with Kolkata giants Mohun Bagan at home in the opening round match of the I-League 2019-20 season, on November 30. In another opening round match. Kozhikode-based Gokulam Kerala FC will host Manipur's Neroca FC at the **EMS Corporation Stadium on** November 30, according to the fixtures of the 11-team I-League announced by All India Football Federation on Tuesday Defending champions Chennai City FC will begin their campaign at home the next day as they host debutants Tiddim Road Athletic Union, the second club from Manipur this season, at the Nehru Stadium. The AIFF has announced that DSport will broadcast the matches which will run till April next year. The two Kolkata derby matches between heavyweight archrivals Bagan and East Bengal will be played at Salt Lake Stadium on December 22 and March 15 next year. Both Bagan and East Bengal will play their other nine home matches at Kalyani Municipal Stadium. Real Kashmir will open their campaign with an away match against East Bengal on December 4 while their first home match is on December 12 against Gokulam Kerala FC at TRC Ground in Srinagar. AIFF's developmental side Indian Arrows will play the first five of their home matches beginning on December 6 against Gokulam Kerala FC – at Tilak Maidan at Vasco in Goa while the remaining five will play at Kalinga Stadium in

Bhubaneswar Kalinga Stadium is being currently used as home venue of the Odisha FC in the ongoing Indian Super League. – PTI

# Euro gets Swiss, Danish flavours

spots at Euro 2020 at the expense of the Republic of Ireland on Monday. Ireland needed to beat Denmark in Dublin to clinch qualification for next year's 24-team European Championship finals, but Matt Doherty's late header was only enough to earn Mick McCarthy's men a 1-1 draw at the Aviva Stadium.

Italy's Nicolo

Zaniolo celebrates

after scoring against Armenia in their Euro

2020 Group J match at

the Renzo-Barbera

Stadium in Palermo

on Monday.

– AFP

A closely-fought contest, low on technical quality, swung the visitors' way when the unmarked Martin Braithwaite stuck out a the boot to divert a Henrik Dalsgaard cross into the net on 73 minutes.

Ireland However.

**Paris, Nov. 19:** Denmark and Switzerland secured draw 1-1 in Copenhagen draw 1-1 in Copenhagen in June and they repeated the feat here as Wolverhampton Wanderers right-back Doherty headed in an Enda Stevens cross with five minutes left.

MN

MCMI

Needing to win, the home side then threw everything at their opponents in the dying moments, but Denmark held on to clinch second place in Group D behind Switzerland.

The Danes, European champions in 1992, can now look forward to playing at home during finals, with Copenhagen one of the 12 host cities chosen for the tournament. Switzerland secured

Switzerland's Cedric Itten (top) heads the ball to score against Gibraltar in their Euro 2020 Group D match in Gibraltar on Monday. — **Д**Р

top spot with a 6-1 away win against minnows Gibraltar as Cedric Itten scored twice. Skipper and Arsenal outcast Granit Xhaka netted their final goal.

Bosnia and finish Herzegovina fourth in the group despite a 3-0 win in Liechtenstein, but they will have another chance to qualify via the play-offs next March.

Meanwhile, Group F winners Spain rounded out their qualifying campaign with a 5-0 destruc-tion of Romania at the Metropolitano Stadium Madrid. Gerard in Moreno scored twice after Napoli midfielder Fabian Ruiz opened the -AFP

scoring. 1 de

# **START AGAINST CROATIA**

Madrid. Nov. 19: Karen Khachanov and Andrey Rublev helped Russia open the inaugural Davis Cup Finals with a 3-0 victory over defending champions Croatia in Madrid on

Monday. World No. 17 Khachanov clinched the point for Russia by fighting back to beat Croatian number one Borna Coric 6-7 (4/7), 6-4, 6-4, after Rublev had earlier seen off Borna Gojo 6-3, 6-3. "When you're playing not only for yourself, but for your country, you have to fight harder," said

Khachanov. Russia, who are without US Open runner-up Daniil Medvedev due to exhaustion, can wrap up a place in the quarter-finals with victory over Rafael Nadal's Spain in their second Group B tie on Tuesday. The 18 nations have been

split into six groups of three at the Caja Magica,

with the pool winners and

(7/5), 7-5 defeat by Vasek Pospisil, ranked 150th, before rising star Denis Shapovalov edged out Matteo Berrettini 7-6 (7/5), C7 (9/7), 7.6 (7/5), 6-7 (3/7), 7-6 (7/5). "I'm really happy to get the win against a player like Matteo who has had such a good season," said Shapovalov. -AFP

two best runners-up to play in the last eight of the first

edition of the revamped

The teams face off in two

Khachanov and Rublev

completed the clean sweep

later on Monday with a 7-6

(7/3), 6-4 doubles win over Ivan Dodig and Nikola

CANADA DOWN ITALY

Canada claimed a 2-1 victo

ry over well-fancied Italy to

World number 12 Fabio

Fognini slumped to a 7-6

strike first in Group F.

best-of-three-set singles matches and one doubles

rubber in each tie.

tournament.

Mektic.

# Last-gasp Messi rescues Argentina

Messi scored a late penalty as Argentina drew 2-2 with Uruguay in a friendly held in Israel Monday, with the Jewish state considering the match a vic-

tory The game pitted Messi against his Barcelona teammate Luis Suarez, and it looked as though the Uruguayan had gotten the better of him as he scored one goal and set up another to give his team a 2-1 lead going into injury time.

But a ball into the box was handled by a Uruguayan defender, and Messi calmly slotted the resulting penalty home to ensure an engaging friendly ended all square. The 32-year-old had earlier teed up Manchester

Aguero to make it 1-1 after Edinson Cavani had

opened the scoring. Suarez scored a freekick from outside the box to give his side the lead before Messi's late intervention.

The game had been dubbed by organisers as an important moment for Israel, following the cancellation of another Argentina match a year earlier after pressure from pro-Palestinian campaigners.

Organisers dubbed it as a game about peace, but boycott campaigners called for it to be cancelled over Israel's treatment of the Palestinians. It was not immune from politics through the first half the

THE RESULT

Argentina 2 (Aguero 63, Messi 90+2-pen) Uruguay 2 (Cavani 34, Suarez 68)

United States announced it no longer considered Israeli settlements in the West Bank illegal, a move condemned by t Palestinian leadership. the

In the build-up to the game Uruguay coach Oscar Tabarez said he had been "very worried" about the game after a flare up between Israel and militant groups in neighbouring Gaza last week

The Israeli military said

around 450 rockets were fired at its territory during the fighting and air defences intercepted dozens of them in midflight.

A ceasefire was declared on Thursday but remains fragile. Sylvan

Adams, an Israeli-Canadian busi-nessman whose financial backing ensured match was held in Israel, said he hoped to show another side of the Jewish state.

"In bringing perhaps the world's most famous athlete, Lionel Messi, to Israel, we are providing excitement for the entire country — for Muslim, Christian and Jewish citizens of Israel," he said in a statement to AFP. AFP

20

Uruguay's Martin Caceres (left) vies for the ball with Lionel Messi of Argentina during their friendly at the Bloomfield Stadium in Tel Aviv on Monday. - AFP



