



The IndianEXPRESS

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RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

# MONEY AND POWER

Recent disclosures on electoral bonds raise troubling questions. Government must review political finance reform

WITHOUT DOUBT, POLITICAL funding in India needs to be made more transparent. Attempts to alter the mechanism of political funding, to move it away from opaque cash donations, need to be at the forefront of political finance reform in India. Yet, the manner in which the electoral bonds scheme was first introduced, and then implemented, raises grave questions over whether the instrument, in its current form, can facilitate a shift towards a more transparent system.

A disturbing picture of the government riding roughshod over the concerns voiced by the Reserve Bank of India and the Election Commission has come to light. Reservations were expressed on whether providing anonymity to the donor was in line with the intended objective of the scheme to clean up political funding. Concerns were also voiced that the scheme could lead to unlimited and untraceable corporate donations, including by foreign companies, through shell companies to political parties. An argument can be made that anonymity shields donors from future retribution. But, in a democracy, in which transparency should be the guiding principle, voters should be aware of the contributions to parties by various entities. No public purpose is served by protecting the confidentiality of donors. Further, allowing the SBI, a government-owned bank, rather than the RBI, to be the issuer of these bonds raises questions over the influence the government can exert on the functioning of this rather opaque system. As the bank has to maintain details of the donor, and has to furnish these details to enforcement agencies upon request, it invites the charge that these details can be accessed by the government and used to its advantage. The ad hoc manner in which the rules of the scheme were tweaked to change the time-period when these bonds can be purchased and deposited lends further credence to the narrative of an uneven playing field — of a system that has been geared to give the ruling party enormous and unfair advantage. Data compiled by the Association for Democratic Reforms shows that the BJP garnered 95 per cent of the Rs 222 crore bonds issued in the first tranche. The lopsided nature of the scheme is further revealed in a report in this paper which showed that electoral bonds with denominations of Rs 1 crore accounted for more than 91 per cent of the Rs 5,896 crore raised in the first 11 phases over which the bonds were sold.

Reforms to address the nature of political funding should pass the basic tests of transparency and accountability. In this case, it would seem that these basic tenets have not been adhered to. This has serious repercussions for the functioning of democracy, and therefore warrants a clearer and deeper look at political funding and its instruments.

# SADHVI, AGAIN

Pragya Thakur's membership of a parliamentary panel is yet another reminder of impunity she enjoys, BJP's ambivalence

PRAGYA THAKUR, THE saffron-clad BJP MP from Bhopal, is back in the lime-light following her nomination to the parliamentary consultative committee on defence. The Congress has termed it an insult "to our nation's defence forces, to our nation's esteemed parliamentarians and to every Indian". The Opposition contends that Thakur is a dismal choice for the defence panel since she faces trial in the 2008 Malegaon blasts case, in which six people were killed. The ruling party is yet to respond to the criticism.

However, the controversy has drawn attention yet again to the action the BJP promised to take against her — and did not take — following her deeply offensive remarks in support of Nathuram Godse, the assassin of Mahatma Gandhi. Campaigning in Bhopal during the general election earlier this year, Thakur had said that "Nathuram Godse was a patriot, is a patriot, and will remain a patriot. Those who call him a terrorist should look within. they will get a reply in this election". She found support from at least two BJP MPs from Karnataka, Union minister Anantkumar Hegde and Nalin Kumar Kateel. Following widespread outrage, the party made her withdraw the statement and apologise. BJP president Amit Shah said he had initiated disciplinary action, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated that he would not be able to forgive Thakur for her remarks insulting Gandhi. Of course, the promised disciplinary action never happened. But Thakur went on to call Jawaharlal Nehru a "criminal" and attributed the death of decorated police officer Hemant Karkare during the 26/11 terror strike to her "curse".

Members of Parliament are nominated by the ministry of parliamentary affairs to consultative panels, which, unlike standing committees, have a minimal role in influencing policies, on the recommendation of their respective parties. All legislators are likely to make it to some parliamentary panel or the other on the basis of being an MP, and as per their preference. In the case of Thakur, however, the BJP seems caught in a predicament of its own making. It first offered a ticket to Parliament to a person who stands accused of a grave crime and who has, at the very least, shown no respect for the democratic process. And then it has done nothing to follow up on its own top leaders' public criticism of Thakur. The presence of Pragya Thakur MP in Parliament, and now on a parliamentary panel, can be seen as a reproach to a party that has sworn to uphold the Constitution, in letter and in spirit.

# MONKEY BAAT

Mathura MP Hema Malini has come out in support of the rights of monkeys. In the divine menagerie, homo sapiens are losing out

IN PARLIAMENT, ON Thursday, BJP MP from Mathura, Hema Malini, raised an issue concerning a sub-section of her constituents. Apparently, Mathura's monkeys are falling prey to the scourge of junk food — "samosa and kachori" and "Frooti", in particular — having picked up the vice from their human cousins. Malini's solution is to create "monkey safaris" to address the issue of loss of habitat, and to ensure the simians go back to eating "natural" and healthy.

Hema Malini must be congratulated for caring so much for those that don't even have a vote. However, her approach is not novel: The cow has occupied centrestage in national politics for some time now, and especially in Uttar Pradesh. The state government's approach has been to promote gaushalas, and earlier this year, it announced Besahara Govansh Sahbhagita Yojana, under which those adopting stray cattle — on the rise for the last few years, destroying crops and causing other kinds of damage — will be given up to Rs 3,720 per month. Monkeys, like cows, enjoy a sacred status among the majority community.

The problem with monkeys, though, especially the samosa-eating ones, is that like people, they are neither domesticated nor wild. They attack, snatch, chatter and conspire, and pick up unhealthy habits. It seems unlikely that they will return to a state of nature — what is a fruit salad when compared to a lip-smacking kachori? But the lovers of holy animals need not worry. There are enough of them left to protect. The swan is Saraswati's vahana, the humble mooshak supports the rotund Ganesh and even the buffalo carries the god of death. There are, in fact, animals enough to turn all of UP into a gigantic divine safari of otherwise mundane fauna. The only ones left out are poor old homo sapiens. But, then, when have they mattered to the powers-that-be anyway?



MRINAL PANDE

"India belongs to the Hindus, the Mohammedans, the Sikhs, the Parsis and others. No single community can rub over the rest. One day's fight brings permanent loss to the country. It brings disgrace upon us." (MM Malaviya at Congress Session, Calcutta 1933)

ONE WONDERS HOW this fierce upholder of unity and equality, founder of the Banaras Hindu University, would have felt at the sight of some 20 students sitting outside the university's Sanskrit Vidya Dharma Vigyan, raising slogans against the appointment of a fully qualified assistant professor, Firoze Khan, on grounds that he is a Muslim — they reiterated their protest but called off the 15-day dharna on Friday. Their leader, Chakrapani Ojha, says that as per Hindu shastras, a Muslim cannot teach dharma vigyan (theology). Never mind the fact that Khan was shortlisted from 30 applicants, duly interviewed by a (mostly Hindu) panel of experts from the university and finally selected on the basis of proven merit and learning.

It is obvious that these students and their faceless instigators are not aware of the 1962 collection of the BHU founder's speeches on the concept of dharma. The learned educationist says, again and again, that ultimately there is only one Supreme Being whom peoples following different religions worship under different names, but the concept of dharma must undergo a constant and vigorous churning of philosophical ideas, traditions and practices prevalent at the time. The truth, he writes, will rise to the surface on its own.

Holding on to this inclusive concept of dharma, he travelled through the country, raising funds for realising his dream. Among the generous donors for the cause of learning, there were Indians from all communities. Among the royals was the then Nawab of Rampur, a Muslim who donated Rs 1 lakh, a host of Hindu and Muslim students of Darbhanga who donated a purse of Rs 1,000, a Muslim beggar who gave Re 1 and many chaprasis and patwaris at Bilhour, many of them Muslim, who donated a month's salary each.

"Universities", said Annie Besant, at the court meeting of December 12, 1920, "are

Students' agitation against a Muslim teaching Sanskrit in BHU is symptomatic of a greater narrowing

Contrast the indulgence shown towards the disruptors with the severe beatings to the JNU students in Delhi when they demanded a roll-back of the steep increase in their annual fees. It is obvious that dharma in the context of Sabarimala, Ram Mandir and the BHU agitation can be a near obsolete idea but, boy, look how it will command the joint forces of custom, tradition, money and institutions of a secular state. Subjected to scrutiny, each time the state blessed version of Hindu dharma turns out to be basically a cluster of several unformed and half-formed idea atoms, swirling furiously without a God particle of their own.

made by love, love of beauty and learning". "For students," Malaviya ji wrote, "their religion is acquiring knowledge".

So why these protests at the BHU, whose founder's "spirit of accommodation" and selfless service Gandhi ji mourned on his death, as he grappled with communal fires in Noakhali? Why was this motley crowd permitted to use a redundant scriptural ruling to bar all non-savarna, non-Hindu males, and by extension, also all females, from the teaching and learning of Sanskrit and/or debating the veracity of the so-called scriptures and rules they quote? How could a handful of agitators dare to block a duly appointed professor, force him to return to his native city of Jaipur?

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Semantically, the word dharma emerges from the Sanskrit verb "dhrī", which means to carry and to protect, call it a set of universal principles of justice. This is the dharma that, in Mahabharata, a Brahmin is ordered to go learn from a lowly meat-seller selling dog meat in a drought ravaged town. But in India, over the centuries, as Pali, Prakrit and then Persian became court languages, Sanskrit gradually came to be understood by very few and spoken by even fewer, most of them Brahmins. Sanskrit scriptures began, then, to be glibly quoted by this inbred circle that guarded their language as though the laws of Rta and those of Manu had all been divinely created at the same time. They were not.

Concepts such as the superiority of brahminical forms of learning, the inferiority of women and Shudras were mostly shaped and consolidated during the medieval period by the priestly classes. This was the

Hindu response to the challenges of Islam. With this firewalling of old texts, the concrete and open-ended live public discourses between Indian peoples of various faiths became obsolete. And this epistemology went on to create discriminatory caste, gender laws for various communities.

As a Brahmin woman with some firsthand knowledge of this version of Hindu tradition and Sanskrit, I watch the TV discussions on recent incidents in Ayodhya, Varanasi, Sabarimala and Delhi with shame and alarm as the grand concept of dharma as timeless fundamental laws of justice, is reduced to political fodder by divisive agendas. Doesn't the Rig Veda talk of dharma as Rta, fundamental laws of Nature that bind and protect the universe, including not just a variety of life forms but also the stars, suns and moons? Hasn't the Prithvi Sukta (Atharva Veda) further underscored that the earth (Prithvi) that carries followers of various communities and faiths is itself held together by dharma? It is to dharma as the timeless and universally applicable arbiter that Vyas bows in the Mahabharata. How many of us care to recall that at the end of the great fratricidal war, a guilt-ridden Yudhishtira renounces the throne of blood and leaves on foot, accompanied by dharma, in the form of a dog?

The Varanasi agitation is proof that Hindutva has force fed many with an atrophied concept of Hindu dharma. Debates raging in Parliament further underscore that many of those who have, for centuries, existed outside the pale of Hindutva, shall now fit within no NRC, have no allies. No politician shall represent their case. No state they can appeal to would dare support their demands for compensation, or even political asylum. They were even described as deemak, woodworms, by a major political leader.

When Heinrich Boll was laid to rest, writes close friend, Gunter Grass, a band of Europe's most unwanted, the gypsies, led the pall-bearers. "It was Boll's wish. It was what he wanted to play him into the grave, that deeply tragic, despairingly gay music." Some ideas are not new but keep having to be affirmed from the ground up, over and over again.

The writer is a senior journalist and author



KHALED AHMED

PAKISTAN IS BEING torn asunder by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB), empowered to arrest its victims on suspicion. Those who get picked up and rot in NAB prisons without bail have to prove themselves not guilty. The NAB targets politicians and it arrests businessmen suspected of siding with politicians. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, the 21st prime minister of Pakistan from August 2017 to May 2018, is being kept in a cell while the NAB looks for something to pin on him.

The businessmen saw the end coming under the NAB, which had no clue about how the economy runs these days. Recently, Pakistan's harassed businessmen had a good meeting with the army chief. The NAB thereafter publicly excused itself from subjecting them to its brand of accountability which meant billionaires rotting in its smelly jails.

Then the bureaucracy wanted to protest too because the NAB was nabbing the top civil servants in charge of taking big decisions, and keeping them in the doghouse till they pleaded guilty. At the National Institute of Public Policy, Lahore, two civil servants, Shahid Rahim Sheikh and Saifullah Khalid, have come out with a study — "Bureaucratic Decision-making amid Multiple Accountability" — explaining why the civil servants had stopped helping the elected government in the implementation of public projects.

The study begins thus: "Turbulent political developments also destabilised the Principal-Agent relationship between politicians and civil servants. This relationship had taken

# A BROKEN WATCHDOG

Pakistan's National Accountability Bureau has stifled decision-making

Bureaucrats are answerable to parliamentary scrutiny, and the propriety of their actions and expenditures is subject to statutory audit by the Auditor General's Office. They also have to defend themselves before the Public Accounts Committees of the national and provincial assemblies. With so much punitive scrutiny in operation, is Pakistan doing well economically? The verdict is in: Pakistan is ranked 136 out of 190 countries on the Ease of Doing Business index.

shape over a decade of democratic dispensation (2008-18). In the whirlwind of political upheaval, the civil servants, it appears, also became increasingly insecure, defensive and indecisive. A very strong feeling [of] receiving an unfair deal took root among civil servants. They feel that while political bosses pressurise them into taking difficult and controversial decisions — often informed by political-economy considerations — when it comes to accountability... regarding the propriety of those decisions, the political bosses disown them."

The study took account of the number of anti-corruption rounds the civil servants have to defend against while helping politicians with "big decisions". Bureaucrats are answerable to parliamentary scrutiny, and the propriety of their actions and expenditures is subject to statutory audit by the Auditor General's Office. They also have to defend themselves before the Public Accounts Committees of the national and provincial assemblies. With so much punitive scrutiny in operation, is Pakistan doing well economically? The verdict is in: Pakistan is ranked 136 out of 190 countries on the Ease of Doing Business index.

That is not the end of the matter. The bureaucrats have to face grilling by additional accountability organisations like "the National Accountability Bureau (NAB), the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), and the Provincial Anti-Corruption Establishments (PACEs)". These outfits are used by the politicians in power to punish their opponents and it hardly matters if they are competent and honest or

not. "The ineptitude and incompetence of the staff and agents of the accountability organisations compound the gravity of the difficulty suffered by civil servants."

The authors posit that the bureaucratic indecision in Pakistan is due to the impact of the following factors: Multiple accountability bodies; internal conduct and disciplinary procedures and media trial; public interest litigation by superior judiciary; pressures of political economy and the diminishing social respect for the bureaucracy in society.

It all began with a draconian measure. Political accountability (Ehtesab Commission) was thought up by the caretaker government set up by President Farooq Leghari in November 1996 after he dismissed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto from office. Revenge was uppermost in the mind of the now deceased Leghari. The draconian NAB was continued for purposes of political revenge by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. Now Sharif is serving a long sentence for corruption and suffering from seemingly grave ill-health.

General Pervez Musharraf seized power in 1999 and immediately beefed up the NAB to punish his political opponents in the two major parties, PPP and PMLN. Now the NAB is taking orders from two quarters to further doom its identity as an instrument of justice. One, of course, is the government of Imran Khan. The other remains unnamed.

The writer is consulting editor, Newsweek Pakistan



# NOVEMBER 23, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

PAK SPY FIASCO NEW DELHI IS feeling rather concerned at the recent increase in efforts by Pakistan to gather military intelligence from India. During the last few weeks, India is believed to have asked Islamabad to withdraw as many as three of its officials working in the Pakistani embassy in New Delhi. The three officials — reportedly non-diplomats — are said to have indulged in gathering vital military secrets. Two of these officials — Gustaf Rana and Nur Khan — have already left the country. The third Pakistan embassy official, Anwar Ahmad, may also be on the way back home. Pakistan on its part has asked India to

pull out two of its employees working in the Indian embassy in Islamabad.

ASSAM TENSE SHOOT-AT-SIGHT order was issued in the trouble-torn Lumbding town, in Nowgong district of Assam, as the situation worsened, according to the chief minister, J N Hazarika. He said that additional police force had been rushed to the town to strictly enforce the curfew as the government had received reports that despite the curfew, certain sections of the people were being threatened and their lives were in danger. The CM said the deputy superintendent of police posted at Lumbding

had been transferred with immediate effect.

MECCA SEIGE MOST OF THE gunmen who seized the Grand Mosque in Mecca have been arrested and only a few are still holding out in the sacred compound, the Saudi information minister, Mohammed Abdo Yamani, declared. In a new statement broadcast by the Saudi state radio, Yamani said the situation was under complete control and is expected to end within the next few hours. "The group could have been flushed out any moment had we not been concerned for the lives of innocent Muslims," Yamani added.





# 15 THE IDEAS PAGE

## Starting afresh in the Valley

In Kashmir, people's fears about loss of identity must be addressed, economic links with other parts of country established and ideology of jihad made redundant



ABHINAV KUMAR

FOR MANY WEEKS since August 5, a vocal and influential section of our self-styled Kashmir experts have been preaching doom and gloom. They have drawn fanciful comparisons with Nazi Germany — strangely never with Stalin's Russia or Mao's China — by invoking images of concentration camps and genocide. They been regularly breast-beating on prime time TV and in the opinion pages of newspapers about the death of Indian democracy and about violations of the Constitution. For this constituency, the weeks leading to October 31 — when the decisions announced by the Government of India on August 5 took effect — must have felt distinctly anti-climactic.

The two key elements of the worst case scenario propagated by our desi and videshi Cassandras have failed to materialise. Kashmir has not risen up in a bloody mass protest. Neither have the prime instigators of separatism in Kashmir in Pakistan, the country's army and its terrorists proxies, felt confident enough to indulge in large-scale adventurism using conventional or non-conventional means. At the international level, the usual suspects like China and Turkey have made the usual noises. But given China's own challenges in Xinjiang and Hong Kong, not to mention Tibet, and Turkey's own challenges in Syria and with Kurdish nationalism, we can safely ignore the posturing of these two great defenders of democratic norms and international law. There were a few surprises too. Malaysia, that is supposedly liberal, voiced criticism, and Saudi Arabia, that is supposedly theocratic, was supportive. That's international politics for you.

The democracies of the West faced a different dilemma over Kashmir. An influential section of their civil society is sold on the narrative that violence in Kashmir is primarily an issue of human rights violations by the Indian state. However, post 9/11, their governments are more appreciative of India's concerns about Islamist terror, especially with reference to Pakistan. So while the editorial pages of *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian* may spew fire and brimstone against India's actions in Kashmir, this media rhetoric has not had a significant impact on the diplomacy of the Western powers.

It is in this background that we must assess what has transpired in the Valley in the three months since August 5. Already, 15 civilians have been killed in 30 different attacks by militants. They include a shopkeeper, an apple grower, truck drivers and labourers. Some were local people, most were migrant workers from other parts of India. The pattern is clear. First, terrorise the locals into submission and bring normal life to a halt by forcing them to shut shops and close schools, thereby attempting to create a narrative that the entire Valley is participating in some sort of a peaceful satyagraha against the Government of India's decisions. Second, create an atmosphere of fear for all non-locals so that the two pillars of the Valley's economic linkages with other parts of the country, tourism and horticulture, take a huge hit and cause widespread economic hardship that finally leads to an intifada-like situation in Kashmir.

Meanwhile, the apologists for jihad and azaadi go on making one absurd claim after another. First, we were told of a massive healthcare crisis. The hospitals and pharmacies across the Valley have functioned uninterrupted. Then we were told of widespread



CR Sasikumar

torture and concentration camps. The security forces have stuck to a deployment grid guided by preventive considerations and performed their job with professionalism and restraint. Then, we were told of an economic crisis caused by a shortage of essential commodities and neglect in harvesting apple. I recently travelled extensively across South Kashmir. The apple orchards were bereft of fruit. Unless the farmers had plucked the apples and decided to let them rot in their houses and barns, this too seemed to be a bunch of lies. Clearly, the jihadi sympathisers in the local media will have to think up a better propaganda to further the separatists' cause.

Many have expressed concern about the hurt caused to Kashmiri sentiments by the decisions announced on August 5 and the manner in which they were implemented. Hurt is a two-way street. The security personnel are in Kashmir precisely due to the excessive importance given to Kashmiri sentiment at the expense of the sentiments of the other stakeholders as well our national interest for the past 70 years. The Kashmiri civil society must understand that in today's India, there is no respect or protection for sentiments based on azaadi and jihad.

Some others have expressed concern about the damage done to India's democracy and constitutional values by the style and substance of the decisions announced on August 5. I think that they have a very shaky faith in our democracy and a somewhat shallow understanding of the relationship between a Constitution and the nation state it guides. A Constitution is meant to ensure the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the nation state. And, if there is a purely non-violent democratic way of fighting separatism and jihad, then it must be the world's best kept secret.

October 31 has come and gone. The state of Jammu and Kashmir has been bifurcated into the two union territories of Ladakh and J&K. Led by newly appointed lieutenant governors,

What Kashmir needs, above all else, is the restoration of the rule of law. Those propagating violence or supporting it must face the full force of the lawful authority of the state. Those who wish to carry on with their lives peacefully must be accorded every possible protection and incentive from the state. This will require nurturing a culture and grammar of political mobilisation that, thus far, has had few takers in the Valley. However, it is hoped that with the empowering of the panchayati raj system on the one hand, and the creation of the UT model of administration on the other, the earlier style of politics that incentivised separatist and jihadi posturing will slowly wither away.

the practical task of implementing these decisions on the ground has begun. The challenges are huge. An entire political and administrative system that nurtured separatism for 70 years, and had a two-faced approach to jihadi violence for the last 30 years, has to be now reoriented towards national integration, grass roots performance and better delivery of public services. We have to ensure that the irrational fears in the Valley about loss of cultural identity and about losing land and job opportunities are addressed. At the same time, we have to ensure that the cult of death and violence, celebrated by the ideology of jihad, that has long had a hold on a section of Kashmiri youth and civil society, is made to lose its appeal through a careful mix of incentives and penalties.

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What the post October 31 changes also mean is that all the agencies of the state operating in Kashmir, civilian and uniformed, face a greater burden of responsibility. It is a huge opportunity to prove to the people of Kashmir and to ourselves that the long dark night of violent hatred that began in 1989 is coming to an end in 2019. Naya Kashmir can finally look forward to a new dawn of prosperity and peace in the heart of India.

*The author is an IPS officer serving in Kashmir. Views are strictly personal*

### WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Labour's 2019 general election manifesto, launched on Thursday by Jeremy Corbyn, is its most radical in more than 35 years. It will strike a chord with millions who want categorical change in Britain."

— THE GUARDIAN

## The way of the majority

Supreme Court's Ayodhya verdict has not upheld the law, nor delivered justice



ABDUL KHALIQ

NOVEMBER 9, 2019 WILL go down in history as the darkest night for justice and Indian democracy. On this day, the five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court announced that the site of the vandalised Babri Masjid in Ayodhya would be handed over to the deity, Ram Lalla, for construction of the Ram Temple. The cruel irony is, while acknowledging the destruction of the masjid as a "violation of the law", the SC had no compunctions about giving that site to the community that brought down the mosque: The justification being, Hindus considered it to be the birthplace of Lord Ram. Clearly, *aastha* or faith has trumped justice and the law.

The idea of India as expressed in our Preamble may be as good as dead. Our secularism has hitherto meant the recognition and celebration of a multicultural ethos, equality and respect for all religions but not the expelling of religion altogether from the public sphere. In fact, Mahatma Gandhi's secularism was motivated by his faith that imbued him with a strong religious belief in truth, tolerance of other religions and non-violence — these values deeply influenced his actions. But today, the deadly cocktail of politics and religion is used as a weapon against minorities. Last month, our defence minister, in full international glare, conducted shastra puja when taking over the first Rafale fighter jet from France. The overt symbolism of intertwining national security with muscular Hinduism in a country that boasts of numerous religions was also an affirmation of the undisputed primacy of the majority religion. Hindutva is now the official creed.

The Ayodhya verdict has not come as a surprise. In the days leading up to the judgment, we were witness to a meticulously orchestrated campaign to pressurise the SC Constitution Bench into delivering a decision favourable to the construction of the Ram Mandir. Sundry Hindu religious leaders had harnessed the electronic media to triumphantly proclaim victory for Lord Ram and the Hindu samaj. It was reported how BJP MP Sakshi Maharaj raised the pitch with his announcement that the construction of the Mandir will begin before December 6, the day when the Babri Masjid was brought down. Most remarkable were the anticipatory celebrations which saw five lakh diyas illuminating Ayodhya on Deepavali, raising expectations to a crescendo. Yogi Adityanath and the RSS appealed for restraint — an obvious dog-whistle aimed at the SC that a verdict unfavourable to Hindus would result in massive social unrest. The underlying message was clear: The Mandir has overwhelming social sanction and the Court must play ball.

Evidently, the SC needed no such coercion. In the past, our apex court has not only acknowledged the social power of supremacist Hindutva, but has even justified it. In fact, in a 1996 judgment, the SC went so far as to

say that Hindutva was "a way of life" and synonym for "Indianisation, i.e. development of a uniform culture by obliterating the differences between all the cultures coexisting in the country." This view sits perfectly with the Hindutva ideology that talks of the supremacy of the Hindu religion and cultural ethos. The SC has repeatedly passed over the opportunity to revisit and amend this controversial judgment, thereby vindicating *Organiser's* triumphant assertion that "the Supreme Court has put its seal of judicial imprimatur on the Sangh ideology of Hindutva". The SC's overindulgence of the faith of the majority is matched by cavalier indifference to the sensibilities of Muslims. The SC judgment of 1994 stating that "praying in a mosque is not an essential part of Islam and namaz by Muslims can be offered even in the open" left Muslims out in the cold. The Ayodhya verdict may have been a foregone conclusion considering that it has come at a time when Hindutva and its advocates control the public square and the institutions of governance.

The Allahabad High Court bench, in 2010, tasked with deciding the issue on the basis of a melange of empirical reality, malleable historical data, dodgy reports and *aastha*, took recourse to what can be termed "the King Solomon solution", dividing the disputed site into three equal parts for the contending parties. The litigants and their supporters were stunned by the ingenuity of the even-handed and impractical order that pronounced no winners, and, in effect, maintained status quo. Predictably, the aggrieved parties appealed to the SC, thereby giving the country a nine-year reprieve.

The SC was conscious of being entangled in a double-bind regarding the deeply contentious issue of ownership of the disputed site and, therefore, sought in parallel, a mediated solution involving the main parties to the dispute. It appears that a settlement had been worked out but was then scuttled by hardliners on both sides. The broad contours of the agreement were: a) Muslims would give up claims over the disputed site; b) Muslims will get an alternative site and funds for a new mosque; and c) the state would ensure implementation of the Places of Worship Act, 1991 which prohibits the conversion of any place of worship. The SC has essentially endorsed this template.

Muslims are aware that those in favour of the Mandir occupy the commanding posts in the social, political and legal structure. They know that their only hope of living in peace, albeit temporary, was to cede their rights to the disputed site, justice be damned. They now pray that their other places of worship will be safeguarded by the Places of Worship Act 1991. But they must also contend with the fact that the Kashmiris once believed that Article 370 was inviolable. Muslims realise only too well that in today's India, the point of view of the majority will prevail, regardless.

Justice O W Holmes had famously remarked that the SC was "a court of law and not a court of justice." In the Ayodhya case, however, our SC has upheld neither law nor justice. It has consecrated the faith of the majority whose God has been bestowed the disputed site.

*The writer, a former civil servant, is secretary general of the Lok Janshakti Party. Views are personal*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### IN WRONG SPIRIT

THIS REFERS TO the report. 'In Jharkhand, Shah brings up Ram temple: Cong tried to stall' (IE, November 22). Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the nation before Ayodhya verdict that it is not a victory or defeat of anyone. The same sentiment was echoed by the RSS and VHP chiefs. Raking up the dispute for political mileage is not conducive for peace and harmony.

**LR Murmu, Delhi**

#### LANGUAGE MATTERS

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'In our own words' (IE, November 22). Language is the true vehicle of self-expression. Recent studies have shown that education in the mother tongue leads to better academic performance. Such education might also make learning of a second language easier.

**Abhijit Chakraborty, Howrah**

#### JUGGLING ASSETS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Push for the better' (IE, November 22). The government, on Wednesday, approved sales of stakes in five PSUs. The government's 74.23 per cent holding in THD-CIL along with management control will be transferred to state-owned NTPC, which means government is merely juggling its assets.

**Sanjay Chopra, Amritsar**

#### LETTER OF THE WEEK

##### BE CAREFUL

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Fraught course' (IE, November 16). By asking a larger bench to review its 2018 verdict on the entry of women to Sabarimala, the Supreme Court has made the matter more complicated. The primary issue before the SC was to seek a balance between the tradition of the temple trust and the constitutional mandate of equality, freedom and right to practice one's faith. The Court has enlarged the scope of the enquiry which renders it beyond the narrow remit of the review permitted under law.

**Ravi Mathur, Ghaziabad**

##### BRING CALM

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Bully on campus' (IE, November 21). The impasse in JNU can be resolved by having a graded fee structure. For students of economically weaker sections (EWS), the fee may not be hiked. Alternatively, EWS students may be given a scholarship.

**Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Greater Noida**



SATYENDAR JAIN

## With a mask and shield

How the Delhi government is battling air pollution

AIR POLLUTION ON Diwali declined in Delhi this year relative to the last four years due to the Delhi government's extensive preventive measures, including a mega laser show. From an average PM2.5 level of 958 in 2016 to 289 in 2019, Delhi witnessed a 70 per cent decline in the four-year period. However, 1,276 stubble-burning incidents, mostly in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, were recorded a day before Diwali. Alas, many areas of Delhi recorded an Air Quality Index of 999 on the night of Diwali. As a result, curative measures to reduce the risk of air pollution are required, and the Delhi government is undertaking one such measure through the distribution of 50 lakh masks among school students.

Prevention has always been, and continues to remain, the best cure. Cognisant of this, the Delhi government undertook various steps in the last four years, including making diesel generator sets redundant through the provision of 24x7 electricity, closure of coal-

based power plants (thereby becoming a model state), controlling vehicular pollution through the Odd-Even Scheme, and banning a large number of dirty fuels. The Supreme Court's ban on conventional firecrackers in 2018 added to the drive for clean air. Nonetheless, stubble burning in the neighbouring states has negated somewhat the effectiveness of our preventive initiatives.

While we appeal to our neighbouring states to urgently undertake measures to control stubble burning — through provision of alternate machinery and equipment — we are also going to ensure that the health of our citizens is not affected by the actions of a few. As a result, the Delhi government is distributing N95 masks to the students of government as well as private schools in Delhi.

While simple paper masks may not be as useful, global studies have proved the effectiveness of N95 masks. Two studies in China showed that blood pressure was

lower amongst those participants who wore N95 masks and walked in the centre of Beijing, than those who did not wear the masks. This finding was true for both healthy participants as well as those with heart diseases. Recently, as a recommendation for protection against the compromised air quality in California (due to the wildfires), experts suggested a respirator mask — such as an N95 facemask, which is designed to filter out 95 per cent of airborne particles. In line with these recommendations and findings, the Delhi government is distributing N95 masks as well.

In previous years, it was noted that face masks were not a successful solution to the air pollution problem in Delhi because the most effective N95 and N99 masks were unaffordable for lower-income groups. There was a lack of awareness and access to good quality masks. Research conducted at the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago in India (EPIC India)

last year showed that even at a 50 per cent discount, less than one in 10 residents of Delhi stated that they will purchase a mask.

The Delhi government has consistently stressed and worked on increasing provisions for free and quality healthcare. Our constant efforts to reduce the bottlenecks related to the affordability and availability of masks and our endeavours to promote awareness among students should be seen in that light. We will encourage the students, who receive the masks, to act as change agents and raise awareness about the types, use and health benefits of masks.

As we continue to work towards reducing air pollution in Delhi and urge our neighbouring states to cooperate in this endeavour, it is important that individuals are provided the necessary healthcare provisions. Distribution of the masks is a testament to this imperative.

*The writer is health minister of Delhi*



TELLING NUMBERS

42,000 killed in 3 decades of J&K militancy; 14,000 were civilians

Year	Incidents	Civilians killed	Security forces killed	Militants killed
PEAK YEARS				
1992	4817	634	189	819
1993	5247	747	198	1310
1994	5829	820	200	1596
1995	5938	1031	237	1332
1996	5014	1341	184	1209
RECENT YEARS				
2015	208	17	39	108
2016	322	15	82	150
2017	342	40	80	213
2018	614	39	91	257
2019*	365	23	78	136
TOTAL				
1990-2019	71,038	14,038	5,292	22,536

\*Until September 4

Source for all data: Ministry of Home Affairs

SINCE 1990, 41,866 persons have lost their lives in 71,038 incidents of militant violence in Jammu & Kashmir (now Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh Union Territories), according to data shared by Home Ministry sources. Those killed include 14,038 civilians; 5,292 security personnel and 22,536 militants.

From the peak years of militancy during the 1990s, when between 3,000 and 6,000 incidents of violence were being reported each year, the annual number of incidents has been below 500 each year in the last 10 years, the data show.

At a time when the Centre has been stressing that normalcy has returned to the Valley, the Home Ministry data show that all landline connections have been restored since September 4, restrictions under CrPc Section 144 lifted at all police stations since September 27, all schools have reopened since October 23, and mobile phone connections have been restored in all districts since October 14. These dates for restoration of facilities are for the Kashmir Valley.

Jammu did not face snapping of landline connections from August 5. The other restrictions were lifted on earlier dates than in Kashmir, according to the data. Ladakh region did not face any of these restrictions. While orders under CrPc Section 144 CrPc have been removed from all 195 police stations (the two UTs have 202 including those in Ladakh), restrictions are imposed at some places at night, according to the Ministry.

All 93,247 landline phones are said to be functioning now. While mobile phone connections have been re-

stored in all districts, not every connection has been restored. Out of 59,76,359 mobile phones, 20,05,293 post-paid mobile phones (voice) are functioning in the Valley, the data showed. Also, 280 e-terminals with Internet facilities have been arranged for the public in all 10 districts of the Valley, which have benefited more than 2 lakh people so far.

The data showed there has been no loss of life on account of any police firing in law and order incidents after August 5, the day when the government announced the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir state. There has been a decrease in incidents of stone pelting reported — from 802 incidents in 2018 to 544 so far in 2019, including 190 incidents after August 5.

All 20,411 schools in J&K and Ladakh are open and examinations are going on as per schedule, the data showed. Out of 50,537 students of Class XI in Kashmir Valley, 50,272 (99.48%) appeared in examinations. Further, 99.7% students are writing the 10th and 12th class examinations.

The data showed that in Srinagar City, 7,67,475 OPD patients were treated in September 2019, and 7,91,470 in October.

In this period, the data set says, the government has issued: 43,998 kilolitres petrol 37,129 kilolitres diesel 4,921 kilolitres kerosene 15,74,873 cylinders LPG.

The data showed 11.59 lakh tonnes of apples have been exported out of Jammu and Kashmir. NAFED has procured 8960 tonnes at Rs 38 crore so far from those farmers who are not able to sell their apples.

RESTORATION OF FACILITIES (KASHMIR VALLEY)

Date	Landline restoration	Restriction relaxation (P/S)	School opening	Mobile restoration (districts)
Aug 5	0	0	0	0
Aug 8	0	0	0	0
Aug 16	0	0	0	0
Aug 17	8,365	35	6,897	0
Aug 18	9,371	50	6,897	0
Aug 24	14,500	69	9,807	1
Aug 27	15,951	81	10,450	1
Sept 4	43,114	81	10,450	1
Sept 9	43,114	93	10,442	1
Sept 27	43,114	105	10,442	1
Oct 14	43,114	105	10,442	10
Oct 23	43,114	105	10,777	10
Nov 2	43,114	105	10,777	10
Total	43,114 (100%)	105 (100%)	10,777 (100%)	10 (100%)

# What's going up in ISRO's next

On Wednesday, ISRO will launch the indigenous Cartosat-3 besides 13 foreign satellites. What is the function of Cartosat-3, and how is it an improvement from previous satellites of the series?

AMITABH SINHA

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

AFTER Chandrayaan-2, it is back to business for the Indian Space Research Organization. On Wednesday, ISRO will launch Cartosat-3, and 13 other foreign satellites, aboard a PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle). This will be ISRO's fifth launch this year and the first since the July 22 launch of the Chandrayaan-2 Moon mission.

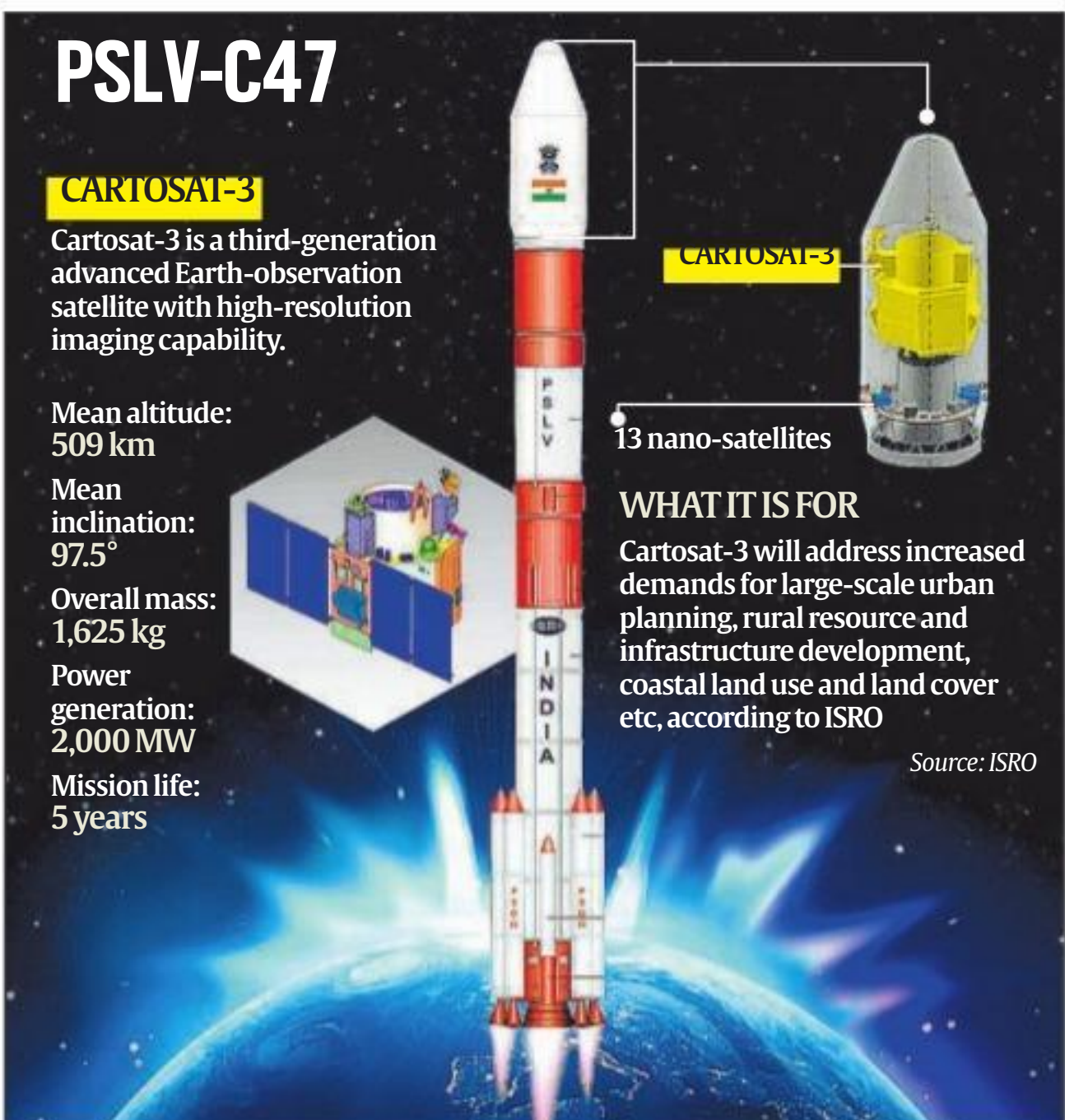
The payload

The main purpose of the mission is to place the 1,625-kg Cartosat-3 satellite, the third generation of Earth-observation remote sensing satellites that ISRO has been launching and using 1988. These satellites provide high-resolution imagery of the Earth that are used for applications like 3-D mapping, disaster management, agriculture and water management, recording of changes in land use, and urban and rural infrastructure planning, and even border surveillance.

The PSLV-C47 rocket is also carrying 13 commercial nano-satellites from the US. Twelve of them are Flock-4P satellites, also Earth-observation satellites, from the private company Planet, which has sent several such satellites on PSLV rockets earlier. In fact, it was an earlier version of these same Flock satellites that, in February 2017, had helped ISRO launch a world record 104 satellites at one go. Of the 104 satellites on board PSLV-C37, 88 were Flocks. Those Flocks were called doves, and the current bunch is known as super-doves.

Earth observation

The main payload in Wednesday's launch would be the next-generation Cartosat satellite. The Cartosat satellites, used mainly for large-scale mapping of the Earth through high-resolution cameras, are part of the large range of earth observation satellites deployed by ISRO, starting with the Indian Remote Sensing series of satellites. The Earth-observation satellites also include the Resourcesat and RISAT series, the Oceansat series and



many more. These satellites now focus on generating theme-based user-friendly data that are in great demand. The Resourcesat and RISAT series of satellites, for example, provide imagery and data that are needed for land and water resources applications. The Oceansat series and the SARAL satellite, meanwhile, produce data on the oceans, while satellites like INSAT 3D, INSAT-VRR or Megha Tropiques study the atmosphere.

Data from Earth-observation satellites are in great demand, both from government agencies, which need it for planning and infrastructure development, as well as private

companies looking to execute infrastructure and other projects.

Cartosat, then and now

Cartosat-3 has been developed as an improvement over the Cartosat-1 and Cartosat-2 series satellites, though ISRO has not yet revealed the full specifications of this satellite.

Cartosat-1, launched in May 2005, was the first Indian remote sensing satellite capable of taking three-dimensional images. With a resolution of 2.5 metres, which meant it could identify a car on the ground from space, Cartosat-1 helped in creating new digital

# Why a Pacific island is voting for independence

NEHA BANKA

KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 22

NEARLY 30 years after a decade-long brutal civil war, the tiny (9,300 sq) km island of Bougainville in the Pacific is going to polls starting Saturday to vote on its independence from Papua New Guinea.

What is the referendum about?

Between 1988 and 1998, armed groups in Bougainville were involved in conflict with the government of Papua New Guinea. The referendum is a result of one of the provisions of the Bougainville Peace Agreement, signed in 2001 and enacted through an amendment of the Papua New Guinea Constitution, Edward P Wolfers, Foundation Professor Emeritus of Politics, University of Wollongong, Australia, told *The Indian Express*.

Voters choose between 'greater autonomy' or independence for Bougainville. Before any final decision, the referendum would have to be passed by the Government and Parliament of Papua New Guinea, in consultation with the Autonomous Bougainville Government.

How did the island get its current status?

Its indigenous population had inhabited it



for centuries. In 1885, it came under the protectorate of German New Guinea. In 1914, during World War I, Bougainville and other islands, including what is now Papua New Guinea, fell under the control of Australian forces. The League of Nations controlled the island until 1942 when, following a battle during World War II, Australia took over the island's administration. This arrangement lasted till 1975, ending with Papua New Guinea gaining independence. In the late 1970s, a decentralised system of provincial government was introduced in Bougainville. The Bougainville Peace Agreement in 2001 brought about autonomy.

Why does it want independence?

"There has subsequently been dissatisfaction among Bougainvilleans over implementation of the agreed arrangements for

Bougainville autonomy, particularly in regard to the constitutionally guaranteed financial grants to which the Autonomy Bougainville Government (ABG) is legally entitled, but which the (Papua New Guinea) National Government has not provided in accordance with the ABC's calculations," Wolfers said.

The conflict is rooted in exploitation of resources, and unequal distribution of wealth. The Panguna mine, also known as the Bougainville Copper Mine, is the world's largest open cut copper mine. The copper contributed significantly to Papua New Guinea's economy and the mine created job opportunities for people from Papua New Guinea and Australia, leading to conflict with Bougainvillean locals who also reported discrimination and racism. The protests inflated into a civil war, resulting in the death of thousands and displacement. The mine was closed in May 1989. The war was brought to a halt due to the Peace Agreement.

What is Papua New Guinea's stance?

"Though there have been previous leaders who expressed reservations, the current National Government is committed to holding the referendum. Prime Minister James Marape has said publicly that he believes that Papua New Guinea will be stronger if Bougainville remains part of Papua New

Guinea," said Wolfers. "While the current government can be expected to respect the process and the result of the vote, it seems unlikely that a separate independence will receive overwhelming public support elsewhere in Papua New Guinea and that the National Parliament will simply agree." What will possibly follow, Wolfers said, is discussions about ongoing areas of cooperation.

What happens if Bougainville gains or does not gain an independence?

According to Wolfers, there can be "little doubt that an independent Bougainville will face serious challenges in financing, staffing and managing a full range of governmental functions, at least in the short to medium-term". If Bougainville becomes independent, the immediate steps would involve putting in place law and order, economic opportunities for villagers, and access to education.

According to Wolfers, the scope of the option of greater autonomy on the ballot-paper has still to be precisely defined, the details of which will need to be negotiated. The referendum is being closely watched by other provinces in Papua New Guinea, and also by various other countries.

Voting will take place over two weeks. The results are likely to be known in December.

# In Meghalaya living root bridges, study sees global potential. Can it work?

TORA AGARWALA

GUWAHATI, NOVEMBER 22

THE *JING kieng jri* or living root bridges — aerial bridges built by weaving and manipulating the roots of the Indian rubber tree — have been serving as connectors for generations in Meghalaya. Spanning between 15 and 250 feet and built over centuries, the bridges, primarily a means to cross streams and rivers, have also become world-famous tourist attractions. Now, new research investigates these structures and proposes to integrate them in modern architecture around the world, and potentially help make cities more environment-friendly.

What did the study look at, and find?

Researchers from Germany investigated 77 bridges over three expeditions in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya during 2015, 2016 and 2017. Taking into account structural properties, history and maintenance, morphology and ecological significance, the study, published in the journal *Scientific Reports*, suggests that the bridges can be considered a reference point for future botanical architecture projects in urban contexts.

"The findings relating to the traditional

techniques of the Khasi people can promote the further development of modern architecture," said Professor Ferdinand Ludwig of the Technical University of Munich, one of the study authors and founder of a field of research called "Baubotanik" that promotes the use of plants as living building materials in structures.

While stressing they are "not planning to create new living bridges for contemporary cities" right away, the researchers believe this extraordinary building technique can help facilitate "better adaptation to the impacts of climate change". "We see a great potential to use these techniques to develop new forms of urban green in dense cities," said Ludwig. "By understanding the growth history, we can learn how long the bridge has taken to grow to its current state and from there design future growth or repairs, or growth of other bridges," said Wilfrid Middleton, one of the co-authors.

What is extraordinary about these?

A root bridge uses traditional tribal knowledge to train roots of the Indian rubber tree, found in abundance in the area, to grow laterally across a stream bed, resulting in a living bridge of roots. "Let us redefine these bridges as ecosystems," said Bengaluru- and Shillong-based architect and



These bridges are built by manipulating living roots of rubber trees. F.Ludwig/TUM

researcher Sanjeev Shankar. In 2015, in one of the earliest studies on these structures, Shankar wrote, "The process begins with placing of young pliable aerial roots growing from *Ficus elastica* (India rubber) trees in hollowed out *Areca catechu* or native bamboo trunks. These provide essential nutrition and protection from the weather, and also perform as aerial root guidance systems. Over time, as the aerial roots increase in strength and thickness, the *Areca catechu* or native bamboo trunks are no longer required."

*Ficus elastica* is conducive to the growth of bridges because of its very nature. "There are three main properties: they are elastic, the roots easily combine and the plants grow in rough, rocky soils," said Patrick Rodgers, an American travel writer who has done many solo expeditions to these areas since 2011 and has also contributed his expertise to the new study.

What is crucial for a root bridge to survive is the development of an ecosystem around it. "Specifically the entire biology, the

entire ecosystem, and the relationship between the people and the plants, which have, over the centuries, kept it going," said Shankar, who is working with the Meghalaya government along with indigenous communities and other academics to formalise policies and regulations for conservation and responsible development of these ecosystems.

Can this really be replicated elsewhere?

"Regarding the techniques and approaches of Living Root Bridges, we are in an early research phase. There are first concepts how to transfer the idea, but no concrete plans for projects yet," Ludwig said in an email.

Shankar said: "We should ask: where will a plant be happy? Will it be happy in a highly toxic environment of a polluted city, where thousands will walk on it, where cars, trucks and buses are on it, or is the plant a living entity which grows in a specific microclimate?"

A pointer might lie in the deteriorating health of certain root bridges in Meghalaya. While there are hundreds of such bridges, the two most popular (Riwai Root Bridge and Umshiang Double Decker Bridge) have borne the brunt of recent tourism growth.

"Both these bridges have been adversely affected in the past ten years. This is because of the introduction of modern architecture

such as new concrete footpaths, building etc around the bridge that have impacted that bridge health. There are cracks in them," said Morningstar Khongthaw, 23, a villager who started The Living Root Foundation in 2018. "My ancestors made these bridges for a practical need: to cross streams and rivers. Now the bridges are too weak to accommodate people beyond a capacity," said Khongthaw.

So, is there any potential?

"My personal opinion is that the basic idea — architectural structures made of *Ficus elastica* plants — is sound in urban environments. This is because of the robustness of the plant itself," Rodgers said, by email. He added, however, that factors like "civic planning, good governance, preventing people from damaging the bridge" also need to be taken into account. "Certainly, there is no technical impediment to there being living architecture in urban areas," he said.

Shankar feels the *Ficus benghalensis* (banyan tree) is a related species that can potentially be tried. "How we can apply it to future buildings and structures, and to what extent this integration is appropriate and viable, is a very important question and only a real test in the envisioned environment can prove its feasibility," he said.



TOPOF THE WORLD



Imran Khan

PAKISTAN

Imran: Appears Sharif's health improved by looking at plane

*Lahore:* Prime Minister Imran Khan Friday took a dig at Nawaz Sharif, saying the ailing former premier suddenly recovered and looked perfectly fine as he got a glimpse of the London-bound air ambulance. Addressing a gathering in Mianwali, Khan said, "I was stunned when I saw him boarding the air ambulance. The medical report said he could die any moment and had to be taken abroad for treatment. It said he cannot be cured in Pakistan. But I wonder whether it was by looking at the plane that his health suddenly improved," Khan said.

IRAQ

4 dead in capital as top cleric pushes reform

*Baghdad:* Four anti-government protesters were killed in clashes with security forces in Iraq's capital Friday as the country's top Shiite cleric pushed politicians to enact electoral reforms. More than 340 people have died and thousands have been wounded since rallies against widespread graft and unemployment erupted in Baghdad and the south last month. Demonstrators have demanded that the government step down but leaders have resisted, instead proposing a raft of measures including recruitment drives and a revamp of Iraq's electoral system.

TAIWAN

'US helping to combat China interference'

*Taipei:* The top US representative in Taiwan says Washington is working with Taipei to combat efforts by Beijing to influence upcoming elections. Brent Christensen told reporters Friday the US was "aware China is attempting to apply pressure through various means on Taiwan ... to influence Taiwan's democratic process." He says "malign actors" are using disinformation to undermine faith in the island's democratic institutions but that the US and Taipei were working closely to counter such efforts.

MEXICO

31 bodies found in secret graves, say investigators

*Guadalajara:* Investigators have found 31 bodies hidden in clandestine graves outside Mexico's Guadalajara, authorities in violence-torn Jalisco state said Thursday. The work of uncovering the clandestine graves began earlier this month after authorities secured a 3,400 square foot (320 square meter) plot of land in Tlajomulco, a suburb of Guadalajara. "At the end of the work on the property... 31 bodies were located in the area, corresponding to six women and 25 women," the Jalisco prosecutor's office said in a statement.

RAJAPAKSA BROTHERS GET TOP PORTFOLIOS

Gotabaya promises snap election soon, appoints interim Cabinet

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA COLOMBO, NOVEMBER 22

SRI LANKA'S new President Gotabaya Rajapaksa vowed to call a snap general election "at the earliest opportunity" as he appointed a 16-member interim Cabinet on Friday and allotted major portfolios of defence, finance and trade to his brothers while inducting two Tamils as a sign of reaching out to the minority community.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said that he would "consult the people" as soon as possible under Sri Lanka's Constitution after appointing the interim Cabinet headed by his elder brother Mahinda Rajapaksa, a former president who will now serve as prime minister, defence and finance minister.

The President's eldest brother Chamal Rajapaksa, 77, will serve as trade and food security ministry. "I will consult the people at the earliest opportunity I get under the Constitution," the president said after swearing-in the new Cabinet. Sri Lanka's existing parliamentary term ends next August, and the Constitution allows the president to dissolve the legislature in March and go for an election.

"This is an interim government," said Gotabaya Rajapaksa,



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa (centre) greets elder brother Chamal Rajapaksa (bottom right) as Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa watches in Colombo on Friday. AP

who took over as the country's President on Monday.

He said the ministers of state would be appointed next week. Gotabaya Rajapaksa as the President cannot hold ministries although he is the head of the Cabinet. The Tamil minority members came from the Tamil-dominated North and from the central tea plantations areas dominated by Tamils of Indian origin.

Dinesh Gunawardena, 70, a veteran Marxist politician, has

been named as the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

It is the first time in Sri Lankan history that two siblings have held the two top political positions, although Mahinda Rajapaksa is only in charge of a caretaker government. Mahinda Rajapaksa was appointed as the country's prime minister on Thursday after incumbent Ranil Wickremesinghe formally tendered his resignation to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

Gotabaya Rajapaksa will

hope to ride a wave of popularity and secure a majority for his Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) party in the 225-member Parliament during the poll.

Soon after he was sworn in as the president, Gotabaya Rajapaksa thanked the powerful Buddhist clergy for backing his presidential bid and vowed to protect all communities, while giving foremost priority to Buddhism. He also thanked the Sinhala-majority people for electing him.

EXPLAINED

Infighting may hinder Opp in polls

THE UNITED National Party has been facing infighting over who the main Opposition leader should be: former PM Wickremesinghe or this year's presidential candidate Sajith Premadasa.

While the UNP general secretary has asked the Speaker to recognise the former PM, the Tamil minority, which voted for Premadasa, expects him to take the role. This divide could hurt UNP's prospects if Gotabaya decides to call for a snap election. Gotabaya's party currently only has 96 legislators, which would allow UNP to assert its numbers — but the internal divide could prevent this.

NETANYAHU RESISTS CALLS TO RESIGN



Supporters of Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu protest in Tel Aviv on Friday. Reuters

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faced calls to resign over a corruption scandal on Friday, as senior government colleagues publicly declared support after some signs of cracks in party loyalty

NETANYAHU SAID he would not quit after he was indicted on charges of bribery, fraud and breach of trust. He denied all wrongdoing and denounced the indictment as an "attempted coup"

UNDER ISRAELI law, he is under no obligation to step down. But with Israel heading towards a likely third election, Netanyahu could soon be trying to win an election while preparing to be prosecuted.

Seoul suspends move to end key pact with Japan

JOYCE LEE & KIYOSHI TAKENAKA SEOUL/NAGOYA, NOVEMBER 22

SOUTH KOREA suspended a decision to end an intelligence-sharing pact with Japan on Friday, just hours before it was due to go into effect, providing the first signs of compromise after several months of feuding over trade and historical grievances.

The late change of heart announced by the presidential



People protesting the GSOMIA pact on Friday. AP

Blue House should be greeted with relief by South Korea and

Japan's mutual ally, the United States.

US officials have been pressuring the neighbours to set aside their differences over history to maintain the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA).

"This government has decided to suspend our notice of Aug. 23 on the Korea-Japan intelligence agreement on the condition the agreement can be terminated at any time," said Kim You-geun, deputy director of South Korea's national

security office. "Japan has expressed its understanding," Kim said in a briefing.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said South Korea had made a "strategic decision" in sticking with the intelligence-sharing pact.

Japan's trade ministry said it hoped to hold talks with South Korea on export controls but it would not immediately put South Korea back on the trade "white list" that fast-tracks exports to the neighbouring country. REUTERS

citizen and public servant, where I can live free, free of fear for mine and my family's safety." "Dad, I am sitting here today in the U.S. Capitol, talking to our elected professionals. Talking to our elected professionals is proof that you made the right decision 40 years ago," he added, assuring his father: "Do not worry. I will be fine."

It was a similar story for Marie Yovanovitch, the former ambassador to Ukraine, who immigrated to the U.S. at age 3 from Canada. Her father had fled the Soviets, while her mother had grown up in Nazi Germany. "Their personal histories, my personal history gave me both deep gratitude towards the United States and great empathy

US to Pak: Pose tough questions to China on CPEC

ON OBOR

■ The US extended support to India's opposition to China's One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative, questioning its economic rationale

■ India has been 'crystal clear from the outset they saw the geopolitical elements of OBOR,' Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Alice Wells said

■ The OBOR was designed in part to be able to export excess labour, excess capital and excess production facilities, she said.

fects in Pakistan of Chinese financing practices?" the top American diplomat asked in her remarks on China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in South and Central Asia, with emphasis on the CPEC.

In her speech at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Wells said the CPEC is a main initiative of the One Belt One Road project intending to bring Pakistan closer to China by addressing infrastructure needs, but potentially at an unsustainable cost to Pakistan. PTI

UN should take up Dalai Lama succession issue, says US

LALIT K JHA WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 22

REJECTING CHINA'S claim on deciding the 84-year-old Dalai Lama's successor, the US on Thursday said the issue should be taken up by the international bodies, including the UN.

China has been asserting that its assent to the Dalai Lama's successor is a must. "There are many people who follow the Dalai Lama and don't live in China. He is a well-known spiritual leader throughout the world and deserves respect and deserves the succession process picked by his faith community..." US Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom Samuel Brownback told reporters.

Rejecting the Chinese claim, he reiterated that it was an issue that should be taken up in international bodies. The US is going to keep pushing on that, said Brownback. "He used to travel so much, was such a great spokesperson. I met him several times when he travelled to the United States - just was energetic and lively and clear. But he's not able to travel as much now, so he can't really kind of carry the cause the way he used to carry the cause almost singlehandedly in the past," Brownback said.

Now more of the international community needs to step up and start carrying the cause with him and for him, he said. PTI

ONE WITNESS SAID IMMIGRANT HISTORY IS THE 'ESSENCE OF AMERICA'

At Trump impeachment hearings, immigrant stories shine

ASSOCIATED PRESS WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 22

One came from northeast England. Another came from the former Soviet Union. A third was born in Canada to parents who'd fled the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany.

Several witnesses who testified in the House impeachment inquiry this week chose to highlight their immigrant backgrounds, sharing their families' stories in highly personal opening statements. They drew a connection to how those experiences led them to public service and a strong desire to safeguard U.S. national security.

Their stories offered a sharp



Witnesses Fiona Hill (left), Marie Yovanovitch (centre) and Alexander Vindman

counterpoint to President Donald Trump, who has often derided immigrants as a threat to American national security.

"I can say with confidence that this country has offered for

me opportunities I never would have had in England," former National Security Council official Fiona Hill testified Thursday. She spoke in what she called a "very distinctive working-class"

British accent that would have impeded her professional advancement at home, but that "never set me back in America."

On Tuesday, Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, an Army

officer who works with the National Security Council, testified that his family fled to the U.S. from the Soviet Union when he was 3. He said in his opening statement that he and his brothers felt compelled to serve in the military to repay the country that had offered them refuge from authoritarian oppression.

"In Russia, my act of expressing concern to the chain of command in an official and private channel would have severe personal and professional repercussions, and offering public testimony involving the president would surely cost me my life," he told the committee. He expressed gratitude for his "father's brave act of hope 40 years ago and for the privilege of being an American

for others like the Ukrainian people who want to be free," she told lawmakers, explaining that she joined the foreign service with "no agenda other than to pursue our stated foreign policy goals."

"My service is an expression of gratitude for all that this country has given to me and to my family," she said.

Hill was also asked about the attacks on Vindman and suggestions of dual loyalty. "I think it's very unfortunate," she said, describing the country's immigrant history as "the essence of America."

With the exception of very few, she added: "Everyone immigrated to the United States at some time in their family history. And this is what, for me, really does make America great."



# Classifieds

## PERSONAL

**I, Guddiya Bansal D/o Rakesh Bansal R/O H.No-A-73 Prashant Vihar, Rohini, New Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Ananya Bansal.** 0040521382-1

**I, Gurmit Kaur W/o Varinder Pal Singh Chhabra R/o 1865, Wazir Singh Street, Paharganj, Delhi-110055, have changed my name from Gurmit Kaur to Gurmeet Kaur for all future purposes.** 0040521385-1

**I, Indira Kumar W/O Vaziyal Kumar R/O A-255/2, Block-A, Swaroop Nagar, Delhi-110042, Have Changed My Name To Indira Vaziyal Kumar.** 0040521442-4

**I, Sampurn Singh Negi S/o Late Govind Singh Negi R/O-G-3/68, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110089, inform that my name Sampurn Singh Negi and Sampurn Singh is same person.** 0040521473-3

**I, Rupala Kukreja W/O Late S.P. Nirash R/O-198/44-A, Ramesh Market, East of Kailash, N.Delhi-110065, have changed my name to Rupal Paul.** 0040521421-2

**I, Mrinal S/o Sh. Satish Kumar R/O-B-95, Sreet no.2, Rajeev Nagar, Mandoli, Delhi-110093, have changed my name to Mrinal Jayant for all future purpose.** 0040521458-3

**I, Arun Goswami, S/o-Late shri Krishan Gopal Goswami, R/OE-15, Gali, no.4, Lal Mandir, Radheypuri, Delhi-51, have changed my name Arun Kumar Goswami to Arun Goswami for, all, Purposes** 0040521421-3

**I, Vimi Parasher W/O Late Lalit Singh R/O-WZ-9, Kailash Park, Motinagar, N.Delhi-110015, have changed my name to Mini Salwan permanently.** 0040521442-2

**I, VIRPAL Rana S/o Sh. Kishan Singh, R/o Flat No-B-803, Officer City-1, Raj Nagar Extn., Ghaziabad (U.P.), have changed my name to Virpal Singh S/o Sh. Kishan Singh, for all purpuses.** 0040521384-1

**I, Sushma Devi W/o-Sujeet Kumar, Have Lost Original Sale-Deed (Page No-3 Only)/Registration No-19,934 in Book No.1, Vol No-4, 737 Regd. On Dtd-24-9-2019 of Property No-51A, Second Floor, Vikas-Nagar Extn., Gali, No-4, Part-II, Uttam-Nagar, New-Delhi-59 Finder-Contact: 7982131386.** 0040521442-10

**I, Shekhar Kumar S/o Satish Kumar R/O-C-213/A, Back-Side, Paryavaran-Complex, MCD-School, Delhi-110030, have changed my name to Shekhar Kapoor.** 0040521458-8

**I, Shekhar Kapoor S/o-Satish Kumar R/O-C-213/A, Back-Side, Paryavaran-Complex, MCD-School, Delhi-110030, have changed the name of my minor son Aryaman to Aryaman Kapoor.** 40521458-10

**I, SUYASH SRIVASTAVA S/o Mr AKHLESH KUMAR SRIVASTAVA, R/O-D-80, GOVINDPURAM, GHAZIABAD, UP-201013, have wrong spelling of my father's name in my educational certificates as Akhlesh Srivastava, which is wrong as correct name of my father is AKHLESH KUMAR SRIVASTAVA, which should be considered for all purposes, Akhlesh Srivastava and Akhlesh Kumar Srivastava is same person.** 0040521422-1

**I, Ravinder S/o Raghvinder Mishra R/o KH.No.19/23(G/F) Swami Sharda Hand Colony, Delhi-110042, changed my name to Ravinder Mishra permanently.** 0040521473-2

**I, Ramesh Chander S/O Tale Ram R/O H.No.80, Pocket-6, Sector-22, Rohini, Delhi-110086, Have Changed My Name To Ramesh Chand.** 0040521458-2

**It is for the general information that I Arti Sehrawat D/O Uttam Singh Sehrawat and wife of Manoj Kumar resident of 1338A, Sector-B, Pocket-1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070 inform that I got divorce from my husband vide court decree HMA No.435 of 2016. Further that I have changed the name of my minor son Rehan 7 Years (Date of birth 23/8/2012) and shall be known as Rehan Sehrawat.** 0040521442-3

**I, Yogesh Kumar Pruthi S/O-S.Narendar Kumar Pruthi R/O-592, Sector-4, Gf, Gurugram, Haryana, Have Changed My Name To Yogesh Kumar For All, Future Purpose.** 0040521420-6

**I, Gursahaj Munjal S/o Charan Jit Singh R/O A-174 Defence Colony New Delhi-110024 have changed my name to Kabir Munjal.** 0040521473-4

**I, Hanif shahtullah R/o 787, street no.26, jafraabad, seelampur, pin: 110053 delhi india have changed my name to Mohd hanif shatulla.** 0070684868-1

**I, Jyoti Batra W/O Pawan Malik Add.H.No-4/12, Gurunanakpura Near-Sindivan Steel-Rohtak Haryana-124001. Changed My Name To Jyoti.** 0040521420-1

**I, Nayandeep Kaur W/o Jagjit Singh R/O-G-15 Vishnu Garden New Delhi,, have changed my name to Nayandeep Kaur.** 0040521458-5

**I, Padam Vir Malik S/O..Nand Kishore Malik D-6, Greater Kailash Enclave 1 New Delhi-48,, Changed My Name To Padam Malik.** 0040521420-5

**I, Rahu S/O..Ramanand Sharma Add.,30.D Gali No.1b Panchsheel-Colony Mahavir-Enclave Part-3 UttamNagar Delhi-19, Changed My Name To Rahul Sharma.** 0040521420-4

**I, Surender Kumar S/O Sube Singh Resident 869,E-Block, Omaxe City, Sonipat, Haryana, Have Changed My Name To Surender Malik.** 0040521420-7

**I, Yogita Khurana W/O Inderjeet Singh Add-11/395, Lalita Park Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-19, have changed my name to Sarajeet Kaur.** 0040521458-1

**I, Bijay Kumar Ram S/o-Asharti Mochhi R/O-136/G, Floor, Anukampa-Apartment, Abhay Khand-4, Indrapuram, Shrija-Suncity, Ghaziabad-201014, have changed my name to Bijay Kumar Chandra.** 0040521473-1

**I, Davinder Kumar S/O Amar Nath Sharma R/O-333/8 First Floor, Shakti Khand-1, Near Modern Academy School, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad U.P-201014, have changed my name to Devender Sharma.** 0040521503-1

**I, Gagandeep Kaur, W/o, Ranjit Singh R/O-H-351, Vikaspuri, N.Delhi-110018, have changed my minor son's name Gobind Singh to Gobind Singh Ryat.D.O.B.-23/01/2002.** 0040521442-1

**I, Ramesh Chand S/O Shri. Rati Ram R/O B-5/453, Sector-5, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Ramesh Chander Mittal.** 0040521458-4

**I, Geeta Sonariy D/O Prohlad R/O-55 Kishan-Kunj Extn Part-1 Laxmi-Nagar Delhi-92 Have Changed Name To Geeta After Marriage.** 0040521473-5

**I, Punam Kumari W/O Mitthlesh Kumar Jha R/O-Plot.No.125-T, Block, Near-Surya Model-School, Vishwas-Park UttamNagar, DK-Mohan-Garden, Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Poonam Jha.** 0040521458-6

**I, Priyanka W/o Shekhar Kapoor R/O-C-213/A, Back-Side, Paryavaran-Complex, MCD-School, Delhi-110030, have changed my name to Priyanka Kapoor.** 0040521458-9

**I, Pritam Singh S/o-Amar Singh Dhanwal R/O-RZ G-149, G-Block, Mandir-Marg, Mahavir-Enclave, Dwarka, Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Pritam Dhanwal.** 0040521458-7

**I, Parvaz Jamal S/O Iqbal Hussain H.No-D-115, Street, No-3, Maa-Rama Bhi-Ambekar-Mohalla, Johripur, Delhi-110094, Have Changed My Name To Parvez Zamal.** 0040521420-8

**I, Paramjit Kaur W/O Dilbag Singh R/O-R-113/2, Model Town-3, Delhi-110009, Have Changed My Name To Paramjeet Kaur.** 0040521420-2

**I, Paramjeet Kaur R/O-R-113/2, Model Town-3, Delhi-110009, Have Changed My Name To Paramjeet Kaur.** 0040521420-2

**I, SUYASH SRIVASTAVA S/o Mr AKHLESH KUMAR SRIVASTAVA, R/O-D-80, GOVINDPURAM, GHAZIABAD, UP-201013, have wrong spelling of my father's name in my educational certificates as Akhlesh Srivastava, which is wrong as correct name of my father is AKHLESH KUMAR SRIVASTAVA, which should be considered for all purposes, Akhlesh Srivastava and Akhlesh Kumar Srivastava is same person.** 0040521422-1

**I, Mukesh Kumar S/o Sh.Vir Ram Pal Singh R/O-H.No.846 Housing-Board Colony, Sector-10, Faridabad, have changed my name Mukesh Kumar to Mukesh Ram Kumar for all purposes.** 0040521382-2

**I, Kuruvilla K.V. son of Kuruvilla resident of A-23, Type-4, 6th Floor, Near ESI Hospital Colony, Rohini, Sector 15, Delhi-110089, have changed my name A. Kuruvilla for all future purpose.** 0040521419-1

**I, Kalpana W/o Raj Kumar Singh R/o 537, Shree Awars Apartment, Sector-18B, Dwarka-110075, New Delhi, have changed my name to Kalpana Singh for all purposes.** 0040521182-1

**No.1493985Y NK Govind Singh s/o Late Sh. Hari Singh R/o Vill.-Kunjasa PO-kunjasa, Tehsil-Pokhari, Distt. Chamoli, Uttarakhand-246473, inform that my daughter name is wrongly mentioned as Kumar Shakshi instead of Shakshi in my army record. Her Actual and correct name is Shakshi. AFFIDAVIT-IN-DL8096212167281R.** 0040521333-2

**I, Saraswathi W/o Yeminiene Ganga Dhar Rao DOB 30/12/19 Residing at 26/5 NWC Race Course Road New Delhi-110003 have changed my name to Yeminiene Saraswati vide Affidavit No.IN.-DL84405582490586R Date 18-11-2019.** 00405220933-8

## LOST & FOUND

**I, Anuj Gaur R/O-C-218, Surajmal-Vihar, Delhi-110092,, have lost My Original Passing Marksheet of Class-10th Exam Year-1995, Roll.No.6108429, Passed Out from CBSE-Delhi.** 0040521442-6

**Lost original Perpetual Lease Deed, Allotment Letter, Possession Letter for property No.A-100, WHS Kirti Nagar, New Delhi belonging to Rajender Kumar S/o Jiward Ram. FIR lodged vide LR No.1870692/19 dated 12-11-2019 Founder inform at above address.** 0040521386-1

**I, PANKAJ Anand S/O K.L. Anand R/O-T-258/A Baljitnagar new Delhi-08 have lost my original-certificate class-10th(1992) Rollno-6327154 class-12th(1994) Rollno-6614477 CBSE-Delhi. 40521442-8**

**I, Keerti Sood D/o Ramesh Sood R/O-278 Ds flats kabool nagar shahdara Delhi-110032 have lost my original certificate class -10th year-2016 Rollno-8642270 CBSE-Delhi. 40521442-7**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Rishpal Kaur acquired the property i.e. Flat No. G-5A, Ground Floor, F-41, without roof rights, LIC, built on Plot No. C-348, situated in Gaur Enclave-II, Shalimar Garden, Sector-2, Locality, Ghaziabad, vide Flat Buyer Agreement and Sale Deed dated 19/02/2018 executed by M/s. Gautam India Pvt. Ltd. duly registered as Document No.2080 dt. 21/03-18. And original Flat Buyer Agreement has been lost. Mr. Rishpal Kaur is the undisputed owner of said property till date. Or Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the Right Property by way of rharhance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance whatsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on the owner.

**Ajay Kumar Giri - Advocate**  
H.No. 20/117, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi 110024

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma S/o Late Sh. Nand Lal Sharma and his wife Smt. Rani Sharma both R/O RZ-D-60 Gali No.5, Mahaveer Enclave Palam Colony, New Delhi-45 have severed all relations with their Son Kapil Kumar Sharma and his Wife Ruchi Sharma and their Daughter Baby Kanak Sharma for all purposes and have disowned them from their movable and immovable properties and my clients shall be responsible for any acts & deeds done by them.

**VINAY SHARMA - ADVOCATE**  
Ch. No. 636, Dwarka Court Complex, New Delhi -110075

## PUBLIC NOTICE

MAY IT BE KNOWN TO GENERAL PUBLIC NOTICE that my client Shri. Dharam Kaur, who Sh. Charan Singh, resident of 125, Pandwala Kola, South West Delhi-110043, do hereby sever all her social relations with his son, namely, saginder Singh, aged 48 years, daughter-in-law, namely, Sudha, aged about 48 years, elder grandson, namely, Navneet, aged about 29 years, and R/O RZ-B-55, Aryan Park, Nangli Darya, Nangla, Delhi-110045, their all relations with their all movable, immovable properties including movable and immovable properties, as they are disinterested, dispossessed & unprofessional in nature. Whosoever will deal with them, whether personally or professionally, shall do so at their own risk, cost and consequences. My client will not be liable for their acts, omissions, dealings, transactions etc. with third parties.

**Sumit Baluja (Advocate)**  
Shop No.39, First Floor, Subash Nagar Market, N.Delhi-11

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I RISHANK SHARMA S/o RAJ KUMAR SHARMA residing at A-79, Amar Colony, New Delhi-110041 declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as RISHANK S/O RAJ KUMAR in my Other Backward Class Certificate No. OBC/03/31/24867/2012/2/8931079563 dated 03.09.2012. The actual name of mine and my father is RISHANK SHARMA, RAJ KUMAR SHARMA respectively which may be amended accordingly.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

That I undersigned by the order of my clients Mr. Bijender Singh son of Mr. Ram Prasad and Mrs. Saroj Devi wife of Mr. Bijender Singh both residents of G-129 Block BG, P.O. Pehlad Pur, Delhi -110044, hereby affirm and declare that the conduct and deeds of Mr. Arun Kumar and Mrs. Chhaya (particularly the son and daughter-in-law of my clients) are not mine, generous and benevolent to my clients, (family and rest of the society), ergo, my clients have now completed to disown Mr. Bijender Singh and Mrs. Saroj Devi from their all movable and immovable properties. Further my clients shall not be responsible for any losses and damages, if occurred caused due to Mr. Bijender Singh and Mrs. Saroj Devi.

**D.K. KAUSHIK- ADVOCATE**  
Ch.No. P9A, Post Office Lane, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi -110054

## PUBLIC NOTICE

That I undersigned by the order of my clients Mr. Bijender Singh son of Mr. Ram Prasad and Mrs. Saroj Devi wife of Mr. Bijender Singh both residents of G-129 Block BG, P.O. Pehlad Pur, Delhi -110044, hereby affirm and declare that the conduct and deeds of Mr. Arun Kumar and Mrs. Chhaya (particularly the son and daughter-in-law of my clients) are not mine, generous and benevolent to my clients, (family and rest of the society), ergo, my clients have now completed to disown Mr. Bijender Singh and Mrs. Saroj Devi from their all movable and immovable properties. Further my clients shall not be responsible for any losses and damages, if occurred caused due to Mr. Bijender Singh and Mrs. Saroj Devi.

**D.K. KAUSHIK- ADVOCATE**  
Ch.No. P9A, Post Office Lane, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi -110054

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I **Aastha Bishnoi W/O Deepankar Khanda** residing at **E-15/5, Krishna Nagar, East Delhi-110051** declare that name of mine /mine has been wrongly written as **Aastha** in Passport No-**H6297564**. The actual name of mine is **Aastha Bishnoi** respectively which may be amended accordingly.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC at large with the fact that M/s Sheela Foam Ltd. is the owners in possession of the Flat No. 222B, Block-G, Sector-22, Noida (Property). That the original (1) Allotment Letter dated 21.10.1987 (2) Possession Order dated 29.01.1988, (3) Hire Purchase Tenancy Agreement dated 20.01.1988 (HPTA), all executed/issued by New Okhla Industrial Development Authority in favour of M/s. Sheela Foam Pvt. Ltd. now known as Sheela Foam Ltd. relating to the aforesaid property are lost somewhere. An FIR/A.R. to that effect has been already lodged to Crime Branch, U.P. Police vide L.A.R. No.636382/2019 on 30/10/2019. Any person(s) dealing in any way with the said property shall do so at his/her own peril as the same shall be considered legally null and void. Anybody aware of any such persons claiming any right, interest, title based on the aforesaid Allotment Letter, Possession Order & HPTA, or being found in possession of the same, may please write objections to/contact Harish Kumar, Advocate at his office-Chamber No. F-712, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110032, and on his Mobile no.+919873769972 within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients (1) Shri Devender Chawla son of Shri Hira Nand Chawla and (2) Smt. Sumita Chawla wife of Shri Devender Chawla both resident of 3/151, Subhash Nagar, Tagore Garden, Delhi-110027 have severed all kinds of relationship with their son Shri Rishal Chawla and have disowned him and debarred him from inhering any movable and immovable property owned by my above said clients. Any person dealing with him will do so at their own risk.

**Pardeep Kumar (Advocate)**  
Office: Shop No.6, Plot No.74, ODA Building, District, Centre, Jarak Pur, New Delhi-58

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to General public that my client Rameshwar Son of Ranswaroop and Kanti Wife of Ranshwar R/o D-10A/1, Kirti Nagar, West Kanpur Vihar, Karawal Nagar Delhi-110094 have disowned and debarred their Son Ajit Kumar and his Wife Reshma and his Child Depanshi from their all moveable, immovable properties and also severed all their relations with them due being them disobedient and disloyal towards my client. My client shall not be responsible for any their acts deeds done by them on their risk and consequences.

**USHA MAHAJAN (Advocate)**  
Chamber No.807 Patiala House New Delhi-110001

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notified that my client (1) Shri Moteish Kumar S/o Late Shri Sohan Lal (2) Smt. Neelam W/o Shri Muteish Kumar both R/o H.No. 261-A, Kharsa No. 25/14, Shiv Vihar, Rishal Garden Nangoli, Delhi-110041, have severed all relations with their son **JAI PANCHAL** and his wife **MONIKA** and their siblings. Due to their cruel and harassing behavior towards my above named client, they now have no domestic relations with them and have disowned them from all moveable & immovable properties. No person dealing with his/her/their will do so at his/her/their own cost & risk and my clients should not be responsible for them, if any.

**SURABH GUPTA (Advocate)**  
Ent. No. D-369/2011

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to General public that my client Surinder Pal Singh Son of Idwar Singh and Mahi Devi, Daughter of Surinder Pal Singh R/O A-68 Second Floor Jangpura B-6 Delhi-110014 have disowned and debarred their son Vinay Jaggi and His Wife Jyoti @ Payal and His Child's Soham And Soanya from their all moveable, immovable properties and also severed all their relations with them due being them disobedient and disloyal towards my client. My client shall not be responsible for any their acts deeds done by them anyone dealing with them shall be on their risk and consequences.

**USHA MAHAJAN (Advocate)**  
Chamber No.807 Patiala House New Delhi

## PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Gurbaksh Singh S/o Sh Sohan Singh, Owner of Janta Flat No.J-19/41A, DDA Flats, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, has been applied for conversion of said flat into freehold in DDA Possession, Letter of the above flat has been lost. An FIR has been lodged in Crime Branch Delhi.

Any person(s) claiming any right, interests, having any objection, objection or find in possession of the original demand letter may write/ contact with above named person on the above address/ phone No. 9818038180 within 15 days, publication of this notice. The person(s) claiming any right/ interest, objections in respect thereof, inform to Director/Dy. Director (LAB/H) Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**Sumit Baluja (Advocate)**  
Shop No.39, First Floor, Subash Nagar Market, N.Delhi-11

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma S/o Late Sh. Nand Lal Sharma and his wife Smt. Rani Sharma both R/O RZ-D-60 Gali No.5, Mahaveer Enclave Palam Colony, New Delhi-45 have severed all relations with their Son Kapil Kumar Sharma and his Wife Ruchi Sharma and their Daughter Baby Kanak Sharma for all purposes and have disowned them from their movable and immovable properties and my clients shall be responsible for any acts & deeds done by them.

**VINAY SHARMA - ADVOCATE**  
Ch. No. 636, Dwarka Court Complex, New Delhi -110075

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma S/o Late Sh. Nand Lal Sharma and his wife Smt. Rani Sharma both R/O RZ-D-60 Gali No.5, Mahaveer Enclave Palam Colony, New Delhi-45 have severed all relations with their Son Kapil Kumar Sharma and his Wife Ruchi Sharma and their Daughter Baby Kanak Sharma for all purposes and have disowned them from their movable and immovable properties and my clients shall be responsible for any acts & deeds done by them.

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**MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED**  
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)  
Corporate Office, 2nd Floor, MESCOM Bhavana, Kavor Cross Road, Bejai, Mangaluru - 575004. Ph: 0824-2885795 E-mail : sepmescom@rediffmail.com  
CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

No. MESCOM/SEEP/JEEE(P)/2019-20/11



## SECTOR WATCH PHARMACEUTICALS

# Trade margin cap on drugs, devices: Govt asks stakeholders for views on regulation

PRABHARAGHAVAN  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

THE GOVERNMENT has asked various pharmaceutical, medical device and chemist associations as well as civil society bodies to submit by November 30 their views on capping the margins taken on medicines and medical devices across the supply chain, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

During a meeting held with various stakeholders on the issue, officials of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) and the Department of Pharmaceuticals sought inputs on how much margins should be allowed for these products across the supply chain, said persons directly aware of the development. The officials also asked for their views on the scope of such a regulation and what sort of products should be included or excluded in this process, the sources added.

Friday's discussions focussed on expanding NPPA's earlier move to cap trade margins of over 40 cancer medicines in February to cover other therapeutic segments. It also brought up a debate on how best to control the prices of medical devices sold in the country, with major differences between multinational device makers and patient groups as well as Indian device associations, sources said.

Stakeholders also debated whether medicines falling within a certain price bracket should be excluded from the process, sources said. As per NPPA's move to cap trade margins of 42 non-scheduled cancer drugs, the maximum retail prices (MRPs) of these drugs cannot be marked up more than 42 per cent from the price at which the stockist has purchased them from the manufacturer or marketing firm.

"Almost all associations were on the same page when it came to using the same margins in the case of cancer medicines for other drugs. But, it was mentioned (by some stakeholders) that the process

### MEETING POINTS

■ Talks on expanding NPPA's earlier move to cap trade margins of over 40 cancer drugs

■ Focus also on how best to control prices of medical devices

moving forward should be done in a phase-wise manner," said a person present at the meeting on Friday, requesting anonymity.

"There was also a recommendation that all drugs under Rs 5 per unit should be kept out of price control," the person added. At the same time, there were issues raised with this recommendation by stakeholders like patient activist group All Indian Drug Action Network (AIDAN).

"We support creation of a norm for industry practice in setting trade margins across all non-scheduled medicines. We do not support excluding medicines under Rs 5 per unit (such as a tablet) from this exercise," said Malini Aisola of AIDAN. "A large population suffers from chronic diseases. Many of the medicines for managing these conditions could come in this category," she added.

AIDAN and Association of Indian Medical Device Industry also had differences with other associations over regulating medical device margins. While some associations had recommended a 50 per cent margin from price to stockist, they had sought the margins to be capped from the landed cost of the product.

"The combination of an incorrect starting point for the regulation (Price to Stockist) and excessively high margins will lead to high cost escalation in the supply chain and wide disparities in prices paid by consumers," said Aisola, adding that AIDAN also asked for ceiling price caps on "critical" devices currently regulated as drugs.

## ‘NITI AAYOG ROLE IN FINANCIAL SPHERE SOMEWHAT UNCLEAR’

# Frequency with which GST rates changed is unbelievable: NK Singh

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 22

FIFTEENTH FINANCE Commission Chairman NK Singh on Friday came out against the frequent tinkering with the Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates and called for eliminating the cumbersome compliance procedures to improve tax collection.

He also argued for a more credible policy for rationalisation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and central outlays, and said the "role of NITI Aayog, which is primarily a think tank institution and not a financial body, remains somewhat unclear in the financial sphere". "The cumbersomeness of compliance is one of the important factors why I believe that there is a huge scope for improving the revenue realisation from GST."

"Equally, I do believe the frequency with which the rates have been changed is unbelievable. You are playing with the rates of taxation, these are serious issues and these are not rates of mutual accommodation," he said, after delivering the LK Jha memorial lecture at the RBI headquarters here. GST revenues stood at Rs 95,380 crore in October 2019, lower than Rs 100,710 crore in October 2018.

"If you do not simplify GST, you will be defeating the very purpose and intention of why we took this far reaching step," Singh said in response to a question by SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar. However, Singh noted despite all these issues, the country has seen

### EXPLAINED

## Need for symmetry between GST Council, FinComm

AT A time when GST revenue numbers are moving downwards, the Finance Commission chief has raised concerns about the frequent tinkering of rates and has flagged the need to go back to the drawing board for the indirect tax regime. He also pointed to the need to restructure the GST Council and focus on the symmetry between it and the Finance Commission. Though rates fall under the purview of the Council, any sort of extension in compensation structure for states beyond the guaranteed period till 2022 will have a crucial bearing on the Commission's recommendations.

one of the fastest GST adoption rates and credited same to the PM and former FM Arun Jaitley, but stressed on the need to go back to the drawing board urgently.

"The symmetry in the working of the GST Council and the Finance Commission deserves serious considerations... I think the GST Council needs a restructuring in terms of what is good, not only in terms of the negotiating strengths of one state versus the other, it needs to function in a manner so that the rims of India are not really seriously compromised," Singh said.

"We need a far more credible policy for rationalisation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and central outlays that have been possible so far. Several committees in the past have made attempts to do so but the outcome has been elusive. This is even more relevant

since the role of NITI Aayog, which is primarily a think tank institution and not a financial body remains somewhat unclear in the financial sphere," Singh said.

"We need to constitute an empowered group of domain experts to submit to the Finance Minister and Prime Minister on modalities of further and deeper rationalisation of these Centrally Sponsored Schemes," he said. With the abolition of the Planning Commission, many economists and policymakers have argued about an institutional vacuum, he said. "While the NDC is performing an important function, the States have pleaded for a credible institution acting as a link for a policy dialogue with the Centre," Singh said. He added aligning the fiscal and debt path of the Centre and states is an arduous but inescapable task.

## ‘Consumer electronics industry to double by FY25’

The appliances and consumer electronics industry is projected to double to ₹1.48 lakh crore by 2024-25, according to a CEAMA and Frost & Sullivan report

**DOMESTIC VALUE ADDITION** for "ACE (appliances and consumer electronics) products under scope stands at 34 per cent in FY19 and is likely to grow to 54 per cent by FY25"

**TV MARKET** is expected to grow to 284 lakh units in 2024-25 from 175 lakh units in 2018-19 and washing machines to be at 126 lakh units from 70 lakh units of 2018-19

**275 lakh units**  
The size to which refrigerator market is expected to grow as compared with 145 lakh units in 2018-19

**165 lakh units**  
The size to which the air conditioning (AC) market is expected to grow in 2024-25 from 65 lakh units in 2018-19

**REASON WHY MARKET IS EXPECTED TO SEE ACCELERATION IN GROWTH:**

- Surging rural consumption,
- Reducing replacement cycles
- Increasing penetration of retail
- Wide choice of brands and products at various price points

**PRODUCT CATEGORIES ON WHICH REPORT IS BASED:**

- Air conditioners
- Refrigerators
- Washing machines
- Television (TV) and audio

**₹76,400 crore**  
The total market size of industry in 2018-19, in which ₹ 32,200 crore was contributed from domestic manufacturing



Illustration of a house with various electronic appliances inside, representing the consumer electronics industry.

### SC ORDER ON LICENCE FEE, SUC

# Telcos file review plea in SC on interest fee, penalty waiver

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

TELECOM OPERATORS Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea, and Tata Teleservices on Friday separately moved the Supreme Court, seeking a limited review of its October 24 order which asks the companies to pay licence fee and spectrum usage charges on their overall revenues – those accruing from even streams which are not part of telecom licence – within three months.

The telcos, through separate petitions, sought waiver of interest, penalty, and interest on penalty. Of the Rs 1.47 lakh crore of dues which the telcos are required to pay within January 24, 2020 as a result of the apex court's order, nearly 75 per cent comprises interest, penalty, and interest on penalty. Of the overall Rs 1.47 lakh crore, the licence fee dues stand at Rs 92,642 crore, while spectrum usage charge (SUC) is at Rs 55,054 crore. Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel, together posted a loss of around Rs 74,000 crore last week after provisioning for the adjusted gross revenue (AGR) related dues.

The government on Wed-

## Care, Crisil downgrade VIL securities

*New Delhi:* Vodafone Idea (VIL) on Friday said Care Ratings has downgraded rating on its long-term bank facilities and non-convertible debentures, citing erosion in the firm's overall risk profile following the SC ruling on AGR dues and significant losses in September quarter. In a separate regulatory filing, VIL said that Crisil has downgraded its rating on non-convertible debentures of Rs 3,500 crore of erstwhile Vodafone Mobile Services. **PTI**

nesday cleared a package that offered some cash flow relief for the operators by way of giving them a two year moratorium on paying their deferred spectrum dues.

Meanwhile, Fitch Ratings said on Friday the moratorium may not be sufficient for Airtel and Vodafone Idea to offset the impact of the Supreme Court ruling. **FE WITH PTI**

### ALLEGED CLIENT DEFAULTS OF AROUND ₹2,000 CR

# Sebi bars Karvy Stock Broking from taking new clients

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 22

SEBI FRIDAY banned Karvy Stock Broking Ltd (KSBL) from taking new clients for alleged client defaults of around Rs 2,000 crore.

On Friday, the NSE forwarded a preliminary report to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on the non-compliances observed with respect to the pledging/misuse of client securities by KSBL. The exchange's preliminary report is the result of the limited purpose inspection of KSBL conducted by it on August 19, covering a period from January 1 onwards, Sebi said in an order.

In its ex-parte interim order, Sebi Whole Time Member Ananta Barua said there is a "need for urgent regulatory intervention to prevent further misuse of clients' securities". The NSE report has revealed that KSBL transferred a net amount Rs 1,096 crore to its group firm Karvy Realty between April 2016 and October 2019. KSBL sold excess securities (securities not available in DP account) to the tune of Rs 485 crore through 9 related clients till May 31.

Further, KSBL has also transferred excess securities to six of these nine related clients to the tune of Rs 162 crore till May 31, 2019. On subsequent verification, it was observed that securities worth Rs. 257.08 crore, pledged on behalf of 4 clients out of the aforesaid 9 clients, were unpledged during June 1, 2019 to August 22, 2019 and securities worth of Rs. 217.85 crore were recovered by KSBL from 4 out of the said 9 client accounts.

Apart from prohibiting the en-

## The exchange's preliminary report is the result of the limited purpose inspection of KSBL conducted by it on August 19, covering a period from January 1 onwards, Sebi said

tity from taking new clients in respect of its stock broking activities, the watchdog directed NSDL and CDSL not to act upon any instruction given by KSBL in pursuance of power of attorney given by its clients.

"The depositories shall monitor the movement of securities into and from the DP account of clients of KSBL as DP to ensure that clients' operations are not affected," the order said.

Sebi said the depositories and exchanges shall initiate appropriate disciplinary regulatory proceedings against KSBL for misuse of clients' funds and securities as per their respective rules.

The findings in the order are based on the prima facie examination of facts and prima facie violation of securities law, it added. Sebi also said the "order does not ipso facto entitle any client of the noticee (KSBL) to claim their funds, stocks and securities, which claims are to be taken by such clients with the concerned stock exchanges/ depositories in accordance with their respective by-laws". The directions would be in place pending forensic audit. KSBL has been given 21 days from the date of receiving the order to file objections or responses.

# RBI sets up three-member panel to assist DHFL resolution professional

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 22

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Friday constituted a three-member committee to advise its administrator to work out a resolution plan for Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL) and help recover nearly Rs 84,000 crore that the crisis-ridden company owes to banks and investors.

The members of the panel are Rajiv Lall, non-executive chairman, IDFC First Bank; NS Kannan, managing director and CEO, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Co; and NS Venkatesh, CEO, Association of Mutual Funds in India.

The RBI, on Wednesday, used the recent changes in the bankruptcy laws to supersede the DHFL board and instituted the

process under the provisions of the bankruptcy code. It also appointed former MD of Indian Overseas Bank R Subramaniakumar, as the administrator. The panel will be assisting the administrator in "discharge of his duties", the RBI said.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency and Liquidation Proceedings of Financial Service Providers and Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2019 provide for appointing such a panel to advise the administrator "in the operations of the financial service provider during the corporate insolvency resolution process, the central bank said.

DHFL is the first NBFC/HFC to go for bankruptcy resolution as per the recent changes in the bankruptcy laws.

Last Friday, the government

had notified Section 227 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code empowering the RBI to refer financial sector players like NBFCs and HFCs – but excluding banks – with assets worth at least Rs 500 crore to insolvency courts. The RBI stepped in to dissolve the DHFL board even as its lenders were working on a plan to convert their debt into equity. As of July 2019, the housing financier owed about Rs 84,000 crore to banks, the National Housing Bank, MFIs and bondholders.

Meanwhile, on Friday, DHFL informed stock exchanges it will not be able to declare financial results on the scheduled date as the new administrator needs to have detailed discussions with statutory auditors. It was scheduled to announce its financial result on November 25.

# ED arrests former Bhushan Power & Steel promoter Sanjay Singal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

FORMER PROMOTER of Bhushan Power & Steel (BPSL) Sanjay Singal was on Friday put under arrest by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for alleged money laundering. The agency had already questioned him thrice in connection with its case emanating from a bank loan fraud matter.

Earlier, on October 10, the agency had attached the entire plant of the company worth Rs 4,025 crore in Village Thelkoloi in Odisha's Sambalpur. The attachment was released by the

National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) within a few days, but the agency challenged the order. The validity of attachment is currently being argued in the tribunal.

The money laundering probe is based on a CBI FIR registered in April this year in which it was alleged that BPSL, through its directors/staff, fraudulently diverted Rs 2,348 crore (approx) from the loan account of Punjab National Bank (Delhi and Chandigarh), Oriental Bank of Commerce (Kolkata), IDBI Bank (Kolkata) and UCO Bank (Kolkata) into the accounts of various companies or shell companies without any obvious purpose and thereby misused the funds.

## The agency has already questioned him thrice in connection with its case related to a bank loan fraud case

"It was further alleged that the company availed various loan facilities from 33 banks/financial institutions during the year 2007 to 2014 to the tune of Rs 47,204 crore (approx) and defaulted on repayments. Subsequently, lead bank PNB declared the account as NPA (non-performing asset) followed by other banks and financial insti-

tutions," a CBI statement had said.

"It was also alleged that the accused entered into a criminal conspiracy among themselves and with unknown public servants of banks and others to cheat banks. In furtherance of the said criminal conspiracy, the accused dishonestly and fraudulently diverted huge amount of bank funds through companies/shell companies/entities etc. and deliberately defaulted in repayment and also claimed inadmissible CENVAT credit etc," the statement added.

The CBI further accused the company of fusing the bank funds for the purpose other than sanctioned by the bank, by commit-

ting forgery for the purpose of cheating, used forged documents and falsified the accounts causing loss to the tune of Rs 2348 crore (approx) to the lending banks.

In a statement on October 12, ED had claimed, "An amount of Rs 695.14 crore was introduced as capital by Sanjay Singal (the then CMD of the company) and his family members in BPSL out of artificially generated long-term capital gains (LTCC) by diversion of bank loans fund of BPSL". LTCC was exempted from income tax during the relevant time, the Directorate had said.

It alleged BPSL had also made RTGS payments to various entities

against "fictitious purchases" of capital goods. Against RTGS payments, these entities had transferred cash to BPSL which was ultimately traced to have been used for generation of artificial LTCC by jacking up the prices of penny stocks by way of synchronised trading, the ED said. Another amount of Rs 3,330 crore invested as equity (share capital and premium) by promoter firms was also found to have been routed out of the funds obtained as various loans and diverted from accounts of BPSL in the shape of advances shown to various shell companies operated by the different entry operators, the agency had alleged.



Tesla CEO Elon Musk introduces the Cybertruck at Tesla's design studio Thursday, in Hawthorne, California. AP

STARTING FROM \$39,900, THE CYBERTRUCK IS LESS EXPENSIVE THAN INITIALLY FLAGGED

# Broken glass marks Tesla electric pickup unveiling

REUTERS  
TOKYO/SAN FRANCISCO, NOVEMBER 22

TESLA INC Thursday unveiled its electric pickup, a truck with a futuristic angular body in gunmetal gray that resembled an armored vehicle and takes aim at the heart of Detroit automakers' profits.

Starting from \$39,900, the Cybertruck is less expensive than initially flagged but its polarising design could limit sales in a popular segment symbolic of a rugged, practical American lifestyle.

At a launch event in Los Angeles, Tesla Chief Executive Elon Musk said other versions will be priced at \$49,900 and

\$69,900 with the most expensive offering a range of more than 500 miles (800 km). Production is expected to begin around late 2021.

Made from ultra-hard stainless steel which Musk claimed was bulletproof, the four-door six-seater truck's sharp geometric body was set atop massive tires.

Musk's assertion that the Cybertruck's exterior "won't scratch and dent" appeared to be borne out after it was hit with a sledgehammer. However, in a snafu, the armored glass windows cracked like spider webs when metal balls were thrown at them. "Room for improvement," Musk said, although he noted the glass had not completely broken.

The truck marks the first foray by Tesla into pickup trucks



# Muthoot Finance buys IDBI's MF business to enter AMC segment

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 22

MUTHOOT FINANCE Limited (MFIN), a leading gold loan finance company with headquarters in Kerala, has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire IDBI Asset Management Limited and IDBI MF Trustee Company Ltd for Rs 215 crore, paving the way for its entry into the asset management space.

The transaction is expected to be completed by end of February 2020, subject to receipt of necessary regulatory approvals. "Upon closing, both IDBI AMC and IDBI MF Trustee Company will become wholly owned subsidiary companies of MFIN," it said.

Promoted by IDBI Bank in February 2020, subject to receipt of necessary regulatory approvals. "Upon closing, both IDBI AMC and IDBI MF Trustee Company will become wholly owned subsidiary companies of MFIN," it said.

# In sync with Basel norms, RBI working on new rules on corporate governance

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 22

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) is looking at introducing new rules on corporate governance for banks in sync with global ones, and would also like lenders to disclose more, Deputy Governor NS Vishwanathan said on Friday.

Vishwanathan also urged banks to recognise losses because of NPAs as early as possible and not to defer the same.

Speaking at an event by *Business Standard*, Vishwanathan listed out initiatives the RBI has undertaken, with the compensation structures for key management personnel and whole-time directors being the latest additions, and hinted it is looking at more.

"The Basel Committee (where bankers from all over the world discuss strategies) has its own

**The transaction, worth Rs 215 crore, is expected to be completed by end of February 2020 subject to receipt of necessary regulatory approvals**

LIC acquired IDBI Bank last year. According to Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) norms, an entity cannot hold more than 10 per cent in more than one mutual fund. As LIC already owns a mutual fund, the MFIN deal will help LIC avoid legal issues with Sebi.

"The transaction will be completed pursuant to the Share Purchase Agreement dated November 22, 2019 entered into by and between Muthoot Finance, sellers and the target companies. After completion of the transaction, Muthoot Finance will purchase 100 per cent equity shares of IDBI Asset

Management Limited and IDBI MF Trustee Company Limited held by the sellers for a total consideration of Rs 215 crore," it said.

"The transaction is subject to receipt of approval from the regulators including Securities and Exchange Board of India. The proposed transaction has been approved by the board of MFIN, sellers and the target companies and is expected to close by end of February 2020 subject to closing conditions and receipt of necessary approvals," it said.

George Alexander Muthoot, Managing Director of Muthoot Finance, said, "IDBI Mutual Fund is a trusted player in the mutual fund space with a steady loyal customer base. At Muthoot we pride ourselves in venturing into mutual fund space through such an established player. We are excited to venture into this new path in the financial services space and we are equally excited to partner with the management team at IDBI Mutual Fund as we embark upon the next level of our journey."

# Scope of SNRR expanded to popularise Re in cross-border transactions

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 22

THE RBI on Friday expanded the scope of Special Non-Resident Rupee Accounts by permitting non-residents to open such accounts for rupee-denominated overseas borrowings, trade credit and trade invoicing for popularising cross-border transactions in the domestic currency.

Any person resident outside India, having a business interest in India, can open a non-interest bearing Special Non-Resident Rupee Account (SNRR account) with a bank for bona fide transactions in rupees. The RBI said it has decided to expand the scope of SNRR Account by allowing persons resident outside India to open accounts for external commercial borrowings, among others.

# TATA MOTORS, TATA MOTORS (DVR), YES BANK, VEDANTA EXIT

# BSE reshuffles Sensex pack

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 22

FOUR STOCKS — Tata Motors, Tata Motors with Differential Voting Right (DVR), Yes Bank and Vedanta — will be dropped from the BSE's benchmark Sensex from December 23. UltraTech Cement, Titan Co Ltd and Nestle India will be added to the index, Asia Index, a joint venture between S&P Dow Jones Indices and the BSE, said in a statement.

Besides, UPL and Dabur India will find a place in the S&P BSE Sensex 50, replacing Indiabulls Housing Finance and Yes Bank. Among other changes, Indiabulls Housing Finance, Yes Bank, InterGlobe Aviation, SBI Life Insurance Company and Info Edge (India) will make entry in the S&P BSE Sensex Next 50, while Cadila Healthcare, Dabur India, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, UPL Ltd and Edelweiss Financial Services will be dropped from

## COMPOSITION AFTER THE REJIG

■ UltraTech Cement, Titan Co Ltd and Nestle India will be added to the Sensex

■ UPL and Dabur India will find a place in the S&P BSE Sensex 50, replacing Indiabulls Housing Finance and Yes Bank

■ Indiabulls Housing Finance, Yes Bank,

InterGlobe Aviation, SBI Life Insurance Company and Info Edge (India) will make entry in the S&P BSE Sensex Next 50

■ Cadila Healthcare, Dabur India, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, UPL Ltd and Edelweiss Financial Services will be dropped from the index

the index.

The changes will be effective from December 23, 2019, Asia Index said. Apart from these, changes have been made in several indices including S&P BSE 500, S&P BSE 200 and S&P BSE 100.

Meanwhile, stock markets ended lower for the second straight day on Friday, weighed by losses in IT and bank stocks, as investors balked at expand-

ing their portfolios amid high valuations and growth concerns. After trading on a weak note throughout the day, the BSE Sensex ended 215.76 points, or 0.53 per cent, lower at 40,359.41. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty settled 54 points, or 0.45 per cent, down at 11,914.40.

Infosys was the top loser in the Sensex pack on Friday, dropping 2.89 per cent, followed by TCS, Asian Paints, Bharti Airtel

# Trump, Xi send positive signals on initial deal to defuse trade war

REUTERS  
BEIJING/WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 22

THE LEADERS of the United States and China on Friday both underscored their desire to sign an initial trade deal and defuse a 16-month tariff war that has lowered global growth, providing a welcome boost to financial markets.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, in rare comments on the trade tensions with Washington, said Beijing wants to work out an interim or 'phase one' trade pact, but is not afraid to retaliate when necessary.

Hours later, US President Donald Trump said a trade accord with China is "potentially very close," although he insisted

and HCL Tech. IT stocks came under selling pressure following reports of changes in US work visa requirements aimed at protecting American workers.

On the other hand, Tata Steel gained 3.74 per cent, NTPC 2.35 per cent, Vedanta 2.27 per cent and ONGC 2.18 per cent.

"Market is on an edge given high valuations for blue-chips, not providing a headroom for main indices to move higher trading at P/E of 26x on a trailing basis. Lack of new trigger in the coming week and focus being on India's weak GDP data to be announced next week, is impacting the market. The RBI's interpretation of this data and possible change in stance from the current accommodative monetary policy to neutral may hurt the rally. Fresh concerns over stringent norms for US H1-B visa dragged IT heavyweights," said Vinod Nair, head of research, Geojit Financial Services.

# BRIEFLY

## SBI raises ₹3,814 cr

New Delhi: SBI on Friday said it has raised Rs 3,813.60 crore via perpetual bonds to fund growth.

## CSB Bank IPO fully subscribed

New Delhi: CSB Bank's IPO was fully subscribed on first day of bidding Friday.

## Razorpay acquires Opfin

New Delhi: Razorpay on Friday said it has acquired payroll and HR management software firm, Opfin.

## Tax dept unveils web portal

New Delhi: The tax department has launched a portal for providing information, including about procedures.

## 'DPIIT got complaints on e-comm firms'

New Delhi: The DPIIT has received complaints that e-commerce companies are offering deep discounts, Parliament was informed on Friday by Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal. PTI

## US agency bars Huawei, ZTE

Washington: The USFCC has voted to designate Huawei and ZTE security risks, barring their US rural carrier customers from tapping a government fund. REUTERS

## NSE's interest rate options

New Delhi: The NSE on Friday said it will introduce trading in interest rate options based on government securities from December 9. PTI

# Thakur: 'Seeing a lot of fake invoicing and it is from business to business'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

THE GOVERNMENT on Friday raised concerns over fake invoices being generated in the business-to-business (B2B) segment which is impacting GST collections.

This under-reporting has become a challenge for the government, Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs Anurag Thakur said. "It is not only the government, it is also the industry which also has to play an important role. In GST, we are seeing a lot of fake invoicing and it is from business to business," Thakur said at the annual session of Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association.

"B2C is the second chapter. In B2B, we see lot of fake invoices, which is a challenge to increase the GST collection," he added. The minister also assured the industry that the Centre would bring more transparency in the system.

# Bengaluru, Delhi, Mumbai feature in global 'inclusive prosperity' index

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

THREE INDIAN cities — Bengaluru, Delhi and Mumbai — have been named in a list that ranked 113 cities across the globe in terms of inclusive prosperity, measuring not only the quantity of economic growth but also its distribution across their population.

The three cities appeared in the lower half of the index, with Bengaluru ranking 83rd, while Delhi and Mumbai stood at 101st and 107th positions, respectively on the list that ranked 113 cities across the globe in terms of their inclusive prosperity.

The Prosperity & Inclusion City Seal and Awards Index, commissioned by Basque institutions and compiled by D&L Partners, was topped by Zurich.

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ANJANGAON SURJI, DISTT. AMRAVATI**  
**SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE (SECOND TIME)**  
**Tender Notice - 3069**  
E-tenders in two packet system are invited for various works under special fund described below from the experienced contractors registered in appropriate class with the Public Works Department of Government of Maharashtra on behalf of the Municipal Council, Anjangaon Surji. The details of the tender are can be seen on <http://www.mahatenders.gov.in> from date 22.11.2019. The details of tender are as follows.

Sr. No.	Name of works/ Name of project	Estimated Amount	Earnest Deposit Money	Cost of Blank Tender	Period of Work
1.	(Under Special Fund) Construction of Bridge on Shahanoor Connecting the City of Anjangaon Surji from Satimata Mandir To Old Bus Stand Station)	6,20,62,000/-	6,20,620/-	6,951/-	24 Months including Monsoon

Online Sale of tenders from 22-11-2019 To 07-12-2019 up to 5.00 p.m.

Online Submission of tenders from 22-11-2019 To 07-12-2019 up to 5.00 p.m.

Online Opening of tenders (if possible) on 09-12-2019 at 5.00 p.m. or thereafter.

The details of the above work are available on the **website** : <http://www.mahatenders.gov.in>  
**Terms & Conditions** :- The tenders process for the above work will be conducted online through e-tender process.  
Any instruction of corrigendum in terms of the above tender will be published online.

Adv. Kamalkant Ladole  
Chairman

Pandhari Balange  
Vice-Chairman

Madhukar Gujar  
Chairperson-public works

Shrikrushna Wahurwagh  
Chief officer

**Municipal Council, Anjangaon Surji, Distt. Amravati**

**Government of Karnataka**  
**MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS, NEW DELHI,**  
**NATIONAL HIGHWAYS, KARNATAKA**  
**CHIEF ENGINEER, NATIONAL HIGHWAYS, BANGALORE.**  
**O/o Executive Engineer, National Highways, Hubli Division,**  
**Mosin Building Vishweshwar Nagar Hubli -580032. Ph No-0836-2357420**  
**E-Mail - eenhd\_hbl@rediffmail.com Fax - 0836-2357577**  
Bid no: EE/NHDB /PB-2/NH-63/Dastikoppa Bridge/2019-20/1853 Dated : 20-11-2019

**NOTICE INVITING BID**  
RFP for "Construction of Minor Bridge Parallel to existing Bridge at Km.112.300 on NH-63 of Ankola-Gooty section in Dastikoppa village, Kalaghatagi Taluka, Dharwad District in the state of Karnataka on EPC Mode (Job No: NH-63-KNT-2017-18-889)"  
The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways through Chief Engineer, National Highways, Bangalore is engaged in the development of National Highways and as part of this endeavour, it has been decided to undertake "Construction of Minor Bridge Parallel to existing Bridge at Km.112.300 on NH-63 of Ankola-Gooty section in Dastikoppa village, Kalaghatagi Taluka, Dharwad District in the state of Karnataka on EPC Mode (Job No: NH-63-KNT-2017-18-889)" through an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract.  
The Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Hubli represented by its Chief Engineer, National Highways, Bangalore now invites bids from eligible contractors for the following project:

State	NH No.	ICB No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost in Rs. Cr	Completion period (Months)	Maintenance period
Karnataka	NH-63	Job No: NH-63-KNT-2017-18-889	"Construction of Minor Bridge Parallel to existing Bridge at Km.112.300 on NH-63 of Ankola-Gooty section in Dastikoppa village, Kalaghatagi Taluka, Dharwad District in the state of Karnataka on EPC Mode	24.92	18 (Months)	10 Years

The complete BID document can be viewed / downloaded from official portal of the CPPP website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> from **01.12.2019 to 14.01.2020 upto 16.30Hrs** Bidder must submit its Financial bid and Technical Bid at <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> on or before **14.01.2020 (upto 16.30 hours)**. Bids received online shall be opened on **17.01.2020 (at 11.00 hours)**.  
Bid through any other mode shall not be entertained. However, Bid Security, document fee, Power of Attorney and Joint Bidding Agreement etc. shall be submitted physically by the Bidder on or before **17.01.2020 (upto 11.00 hours)**. Please note that the Chief Engineer, National Highways, Bangalore reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the BIDs without assigning any reason whatsoever.  
Officer In-charge : **Sri. N.M.Kulkarni**, Executive Engineer, National Highway Division Mosin Building Vishweshwar Nagar Hubli -580032 Ph No -0836-2357420  
E-Mail - eenhd\_hbl@rediffmail.com  
DIPR/DWD/2019-20/366/MCA

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, NH Division. Hubli.**

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH**  
**CORRIGENDUM**

Ref: Open Tender Notice No. PI (EP)/19-20/07  
1. The tender item is at Sr.No.92 (Trans Pulmonary Non-invasive Cardiac Output Monitors) due on 29.11.2019 has been withdrawn due to technical reasons.  
2. The Quantity for Sr.No.70. (Portable Ultrasound System with Echo Probes) due on 25.11.2019 may be read as 07No's instead of 05 No's.  
The EMD of tender item is at Sr.No.70. (Portable Ultrasound System with Echo Probes) may be read as Rs. 6,30,000/- instead of Rs. 4,50,000/-.

Ref: Open Tender Notice No. PI (EP)/19-20/08  
3. The tender item is at Sr.No.32 (CUSA-01no.) due on 10.12.2019 has been withdrawn due to technical reasons.

Ref: Open Tender Notice No. PI (EP)/19-20/09  
4. The tender item is at Sr.No. 45. (Storages Cabinet for Endoscopes.) due on 31.12.2019 has been withdrawn due to technical reasons.

**All other details of the tender shall remain the same.**

784/PGI PROFESSOR IN-CHARGE (EP)

**Dakshin Gujarat Vij Co. Ltd.**  
CIN U40102GJ2003SG0042909  
Regd. & Corp. Office: "Urja Sadan", Nana Varachha Road, Kapodara Char Rasta, Surat - 395 006 GUJARAT

**DGVCL Toll Free No. 19123 OR 1800 233 3003**  
**Tender Notice**  
Details are put up on [www.dgvcl.com](http://www.dgvcl.com) (for view and download tender documents) and [www.dgvcl.nprocure.com](http://www.dgvcl.nprocure.com) (for view, download and online tender submission).

Sr. No.	Tender No.
1	DGVCL/SP/20002/3C LT AB Cable
2	DGVCL/SP/20018/3-Ph. W.C. Static Meter
3	DGVCL/SP/CPP/20-21/20006/Steel Items
4	DGVCL/SP/CPP/20-21/20008/M S Beam

Note: Bidders may visit our website for regular updates till opening of the tender.  
**ACE (P), DGVCL, Surat.**

**Install MCB/ELCB/RCCB & Prevent Electric Shocks/Electrical Accidents**

**CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED COMPUTING (C-DAC)**  
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of India  
Anusandhan Bhawan, Institutional Area, Sector-62, Noida-201309

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
C-DAC, Noida, invites tender for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of TIER III – Uptime Design and Facility Certified Data Center at CDAC, Sector-62, Noida, from eligible bidders having adequate relevant experience and sound background.  
The Tender document containing the eligibility criteria, the mode of submission of bids etc., can be downloaded from [www.cdac.in](http://www.cdac.in) and [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in). Last date and time for online Bid submission is 19.12.2019 at 15:00 HRS IST. It is advised to plan site visits ahead of the pre-bid meeting which is scheduled on 29.11.2019 at 11:00 HRS IST at C-DAC, NOIDA.  
Bidders are advised to regularly check above mentioned portals for any further notifications. No separate advertisements will be issued for any corrigendum/ amendments to this tender.

Head MMG  
CDAC, Noida

**Government of India**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY**  
**NUCLEAR FUEL COMPLEX**  
HYDERABAD - 500 062

**E-Tender Notice**  
On behalf of President of India, General Manager, NFC-Kota, Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad-500 062, invites sealed item rate tenders from the eligible contractors who have executed works of similar nature and magnitude for the following work:

S. No.	Tender No & Name of the Work	Estimated Cost	EMD
1	NFC-K/ELE/2019/7, Supply & Installation of Ladder type Cable tray for 33kV Cable trench at NFC-Kota	₹ 49,27,500/-	₹ 98,550/-

Period for view and downloading : 25.11.2019 to 10.12.2019  
Due date for online submission : 16.12.2019 up to 20:00hrs  
Due date for receiving hard copies : 20.12.2019 up to 14:00hrs  
Due date for opening bid : 20.12.2019 at 15:00 hours

Detailed NIT can be viewed from [www.nfc.gov.in](http://www.nfc.gov.in), tender documents can be downloaded from [www.tenderwizard.com/DAE](http://www.tenderwizard.com/DAE). Bidders must have a valid class III digital signature certificate and must enroll with [www.tenderwizard.com/DAE](http://www.tenderwizard.com/DAE).  
General Manager, NFC-Kota  
For and On behalf of President of India

**Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR**  
No. NET/2019-20/2585-67  
ई निविदा सूचना संख्या-257/19-20  
Date:21.11.2019

निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिये केन्द्र/राज्य सरकार के अधीनस्थ विभागों द्वारा पेशीकृत एवं अनुमोदित संवेद्यकों से निविदाएं प्रपत्र में ई-शेड्यूल/प्रोबेक प्रक्रिया हेतु निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं:-

कार्य का विवरण

अखिल मील (क.)

1. Construction of ACTO Office Building at Nohar, District-Hamunagar.  
UBN No. RRC1920WSO89045-262.00 T.S.

अनुमोदित निविदा प्रपत्र प्रदर्शन/बतने की अवधि दिनांक 21.11.2019 यान 09:00 बजे से 10.12.2019 यान 6:00 बजे तक

निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण एवं संश्लेषण वेबसाइट <http://procroc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajasthan.nic.in> पर <http://roads.rajasthan.gov.in> पर रखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेद्यकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाइट <http://procroc.rajasthan.gov.in> पर निवेदित करवाना आवश्यक है।

सहायक

**DEOLA NAGARPANCHAYAT, DEOLA**  
**DIST.NASHIK-423102. MAHARASHTRA**

Tel :- 02592-229040 Email:- [mcdeola1@gmail.com](mailto:mcdeola1@gmail.com)  
**E-Tender Notice No. SMC/WS/2019-20**  
This office invites e-Tender For The Execution Work of Water Supply Scheme Valued of **Rs. 8,36,70,525/-**  
Bid Submission will start from Date : 23/11/2019  
**For More Detailed Information Visit**  
[www.mahatenders.gov.in](http://www.mahatenders.gov.in)  
Date : 22/11/2019 Chief Officer  
outward No./npd/641/2019 Deola Nagarpanchayat, Deola.

**अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, रायपुर (म.ग.)**  
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raipur (C.G.)  
Tatibandh, G.E. Road, Raipur-492 099 (CG) ([www.aiimsraipur.edu.in](http://www.aiimsraipur.edu.in))

**No. AIIMS-RPR/Rect./Pub./2019/2017, Date: 20-11-2019**  
**E-TENDER CALL NOTICE**  
Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Raipur Chhattisgarh, GoI, invites e-tender for following:

Tender Title	EMD Cost	Published on CPPP/ Website	Pre-bid Meeting date	Closing date
Notice Inviting Tender "For Hiring of Vehicles" at AIIMS Raipur	₹ 1,92,000.00	19.11.2019	27.11.2019	13.12.2019 at 06:00 PM
Tender for supply and installation of Wardrobes for Hostel at AIIMS Raipur	₹ 1,48,000.00	19.11.2019	29.11.2019	17.12.2019 at 03:00 PM
Tender for Supply of Very High End USG Machine with Real Time Shear Wave Elastography for Radiodiagnosis Department at AIIMS Raipur	₹ 4,40,000.00	18.11.2019	25.11.2019	10.12.2019 at 03:00 PM

The details terms & conditions are available on the website-  
[www.aiimsraipur.edu.in](http://www.aiimsraipur.edu.in) and CPP Portal [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in)  
Stores Officer, AIIMS Raipur

**TATA POWER DELHI DISTRIBUTION LIMITED**  
A Tata Power and Delhi Government Joint Venture  
Regd. Office : NDPL House, Hudson Lines, Kingsway Camp, Delhi 110 009  
Tel : 66112222, Fax : 27468042, Email : [TPDDL@tatapower-dcl.com](mailto:TPDDL@tatapower-dcl.com)  
CIN No. : U40109DL2001PLC111526, Website : [www.tatapower-dcl.com](http://www.tatapower-dcl.com)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
Nov 23, 2019  
TATA Power-DDL invites tenders as per following details:

Tender Enquiry No. Work Description	Estimated Cost/EMD (Rs.)	Availability of Bid Document	Last Date & Time of Bid Submission/ Date and time of Opening of bids
TPDDL/ENGG/ENQ/200001179/19-20 Rfx - 5000001564 RC for Supply of RF Based Smart Meters	17.00 Cr/ 27.50 Lac	26.11.2019	17.12.2019: 1600 Hrs/ 17.12.2019: 1630 Hrs

**CORRIGENDUM / TENDER DATE EXTENTION**

Tender Enquiry No. Work Description	Previously Published Date	Revised Due Date & Time of Bid Submission/ Date & time of opening of bids
TPDDL/ENGG/ENQ/200001167/19-67 Rfx 5000001525 IOT Based LV Automation	24.10.2019	03.12.2019 at 1600 Hrs / 03.12.2019 at 1630 Hrs

Complete tender and corrigendum document is available on our website [www.tatapower-dcl.com](http://www.tatapower-dcl.com) → Vendor Zone → Tender / Corrigendum Documents  
Contracts - 011-66112222



# 21 BODY & MIND

## DIET DIARY

### Castor oil has many benefits, but it has to be used in the right dose



BY ISHI KHOSLA

CASTOR OIL, extracted and processed from castor bean, or *Ricinus Communis*, has a long history of use. India is the world's largest producer of castor oil and, according to some reports, production of the oil has increased more than 50 per cent in the past 25 years.

Castor oil is used largely in the cosmetic industry and 80 per cent of it is used in making lipstick. In traditional and modern medicine, it is well known as a natural remedy for treating constipation, inducing labour and treating uterine fibroids. However, there is more to castor oil than these commonly-known benefits. Its therapeutic use dates back to at least 1550 BC, when it was used in eye drops for eye irritation. Among its most striking healing properties is its ability to soothe inflammation and promote lymphatic drainage. This means it helps the body get rid of toxic waste. It is not surprising that owing to its anti-inflammatory properties, castor oil is used to relieve joint pain, which is associated with osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis, both if it is taken orally or applied topically.

Castor oil is extracted from castor bean and is 90 per cent monounsaturated fat in the form of ricinoleic acid. As a laxative, it is believed that ricinoleic acid attaches itself to a particular receptor in the intestines and uterus. Ricinoleic acid is an unsaturated (omega-9) fatty acid and is known to impart analgesic (pain killing) and anti-inflammatory effects.

Recent scientific studies show that use of castor oil aids in lubrication and preventing dryness of eyes. Several eye drops commercially use castor oil as an ingredient. It is believed that a healthy tear film is important for nourishing the eye, supplying oxygen and optimising vision. Castor oil helps reform the fatty layer of the tear film and improve lubrication of the eye.

But ricin, a part of castor bean, is highly toxic. However, ricin becomes deactivated during heating and extraction of the oil. It is important to note that even a small amount of ricin can be fatal. There are also some known side-effects of castor oil. These include irritation, cramping and diarrhea.

Until more clinical trials establish the exact health benefits and mode of action of castor oil, it is advisable to make use of this traditional oil as an anti-inflammatory agent at least externally. If ingesting, be sure to get high-quality castor oil, keep to the right dose and duration; be aware of side effects and use only under the care of a qualified practitioner. The Joint Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)/World Health Organisation (WHO) Expert Committee on Food Additives established an acceptable daily castor oil intake (for a man) of 0 to 0.7 mg/kg body weight.

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



Illustration: Suvojit Dey

## When will science give us a better night's sleep?

The question remains: how do we know whether sleep is being optimised if we don't fully know its purpose

WE HUMANS spend a third of our lives asleep, oblivious to our surroundings and temporarily paralysed. It's a vulnerability that would seem to diminish our odds of survival, so evolutionarily speaking it must also somehow confer tremendous benefits.

Yet our best guesses about what those benefits are tend to come from observing what happens when sleep is curtailed. As far as we know, all animals sleep in some way; deprive most of them of it for long enough, and they will die, but exactly why is unclear. In 2015, the American Academy of Sleep Medicine and the Sleep Research Society published a joint statement, based on a comprehensive review of research, saying that "sleeping less than seven hours per night on a regular basis" — which is the case for an estimated 35 to 40 per cent of Americans during the workweek — is associated with adverse health outcomes.

These include weight gain and obesity, diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and stroke, depression, impaired immune function, increased pain, greater likelihood of accidents and "increased risk of death." The National Institutes of Health reported last year that sleep deficits may increase the beta-amyloid proteins in the brain linked with Alzheimer's disease. But when it comes to "what sleep is, how much you need and what it's for," says Louis Patek, a professor of neurology at the University of California, San Francisco, "we know almost nothing — other than it's bad not to get enough of it."

Indeed, says David Dinges, one of the statement's authors and a professor of psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania, "All of this makes it really tough to send out simple messages to the public about when

you should sleep and how much you should sleep."

Scientists believe that there are two separate but interrelated internal systems that regulate sleep. The first is the circadian system that tells our body when to sleep. Medicine already knows a great deal about how it works: Approximately every 24 hours, the suprachiasmatic nucleus, a small region in the hypothalamus, orchestrates physiological changes to prepare us for sleep, like lowering body temperature and releasing dopamine. But the second system — the one that tells our body the amount of sleep it needs — is still mysterious. One way to elucidate it would be to find genes that govern how long or deeply people sleep and observe where those genes are active. This fall, Patek, Ying-Hui Fu and other colleagues announced, in the journals *Neuron* and *Science Translational Medicine*, the discovery of two genetic mutations that seem to cause certain people to sleep far less than average. This brought the number of genes known to be involved in sleep duration to just three.

To learn what genes underlie a given trait or behaviour, researchers look for anomalies. If you sequenced the genes of any two random people, you would find millions of variations between them, and there would be no telling which variation contributed to what traits. But diseases or disorders have discrete and relatively uncommon collections of symptoms that, when seen in families, suggest a genetic cause; if you look at the genes of five relatives who all have a par-

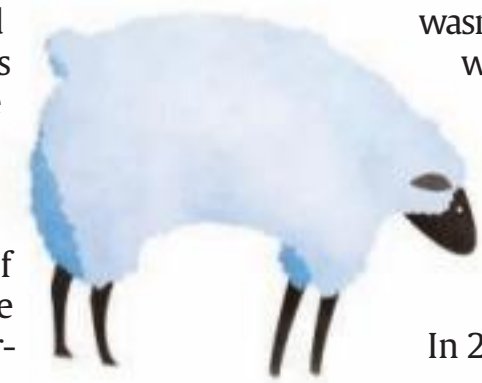
ticular type of early-onset Alzheimer's disease, for example, and find a mutation that they all share, it's much likelier to be related to their symptoms.

Scientists can then engineer the same mutation in mice to see if it produces a similar effect in them. If it does, by observing where the gene is active in the brain, researchers can begin to study the processes that give rise to that specific collection of symptoms; the hope is that those processes will also offer clues to what neural mechanisms initiate more prevalent forms of the disease.

Patek and Fu each began their career hunting for genes responsible for neurological diseases and disorders, including Alzheimer's and epilepsy. Then a colleague, a sleep neurologist, approached them with an intriguing case: a woman whose circadian clock seemed to be set four hours early, which caused her to go to sleep around 7.30 pm and wake around 4.30 am. Even more intriguing, she came from a large family with many members who shared her unusual behaviour.

This seemed like a rare opportunity. Distinctive sleep traits can be hard to spot, because of all the ways we can manage or obscure them — for example, by altering our natural sleep rhythms with environmental inputs like lights, LED screens, alarm clocks and caffeine. And this wasn't a debilitating disorder for which people would necessarily seek treatment. (The woman did so only because she didn't like waking up when it was "cold, dark and lonely," Patek says.)

In 2001, the research group,



If researchers can understand how the mutations alter brain activity, Fu says, "we can help everybody sleep more efficiently" — possibly by formulating a drug that achieves the same effect

then at the University of Utah, announced it had found a genetic mutation responsible for the woman and her relatives' early rising. After their discovery generated headlines, they were contacted by others who believed they had the "morning lark gene." By giving them detailed questionnaires to identify those whose early rising was innate, rather than environmentally influenced, the researchers happened upon a family with members who woke up early but did not also go to bed early — they averaged only 6.25 hours of sleep per night yet reported feeling fine afterward.

Fu and Patek, by now at UCSF, found that they shared a genetic mutation that caused their short sleep. The publication of that finding in 2009 inspired others who habitually sleep less than seven hours per night to contact the group, leading to the identification of the two additional mutations reported this fall, which appear to cause other forms of so-called naturally short sleep.

When engineered in mice, those mutations truncated their sleep without any obvious ill effects; in particular, mice engineered with the second mutation performed just as well on memory tests as non-sleep-deprived mice.

The naturally short-sleeping people they've met, the researchers wrote in *Science Translational Medicine*, seem especially healthy, too; they are also "optimistic, with high pain threshold." (The second of the mutations alters a gene that has also been shown to facilitate learning and memory, reduce anxiety and block the detection of pain). It's possible, the researchers theorise, that the mutations that cause short sleep are also somehow "compensating for" or rendering people "impervious to" the negative health outcomes typically tied to sleep deficits.

If researchers can understand how the mutations alter brain activity, Fu says, "we can help everybody to sleep more efficiently" — possibly by formulating a drug that achieves the same effect. Because a lack of sleep is associated with such a wide range of negative outcomes, a sleep-optimising drug could transform almost every aspect of human health.

The question remains, though, how to tell whether sleep is being optimised if we don't fully know its purpose. The "work" of sleep, whatever that is, may be getting done more efficiently in the short-sleepers than in the rest of us. Or they may be compensating for less sleep more effectively. "How do we know if you've accomplished the work?" says William J. Schwartz, a neurologist at Dell Medical School at the University of Texas at Austin. "At the moment, still, the routine clinical measure that you're getting enough sleep is that you're not sleepy. That's not going to get us very far."

But it is a starting point, however crude, for identifying sleep anomalies, and characterising more of them in finer detail has begun to reveal other potentially heritable traits. Sleep apnea, for instance, was once thought to be a structural problem with a person's airway; it is now thought to encompass several subtypes, classified by subtly different symptoms throughout the body, some of which might be genetic, says Clete Kushida, medical director of the Stanford University Sleep Medicine Division. "In the next couple of years, there's going to be more exploration and more findings that will show maybe some of the disorders we thought weren't genetic might be genetic, and some that we thought were more homogeneous aren't," he says.

Fu likens the three short-sleep genes she has helped discover to pieces of a giant puzzle with no picture on the box. "Right now, I have no idea what's inside," she says. "My goal is to find 10 pieces," and then try to see how they interact to illuminate a larger network. Eventually, parsing more ways atypical sleep behaviours differ from average will, by process of elimination, reveal what common traits healthful sleep shares — and how to improve it.

NYT

## SHORT COURSE

[0-10 YEARS]

### Parents' moderate drinking may impact children



ROUGHLY HALF of UK adolescents have seen a parent who's not an alcoholic get drunk or tipsy, and more than one in three can name at least one downside to parents' drinking, a study suggests. A "substantial proportion" of UK children live with parents who aren't dependent on alcohol but who still drink at moderate levels, the study authors say. "We needed to understand the effect this drinking could have on children," said a researcher. Parents were asked how much alcohol they consumed and how often they drank for reasons both negative and positive. The children were asked if they had ever seen their parent "tipsy" or "drunk", and whether the drinking affected parents' behavior. Children most commonly reported getting less attention (12%) and being put to bed later than usual (11%). They also felt parents argued more (8%) and behaved in a more unpredictable way (8%).

REUTERS

[10-20 YEARS]

### The struggle to distinguish teen angst, depression



TELLING THE difference between a teen's normal ups and downs and something bigger is among the top challenges parents face in identifying youth depression, a new national poll suggests. Even though the majority of parents were confident they would recognise depression in their preteen or teenager, two-thirds of parents still said they faced challenges spotting specific signs and symptoms of this mental health disorder. "Transitions in teen years can make it particularly challenging to get a read on children's emotional state and whether there is possible depression," said a researcher. There can be a gap between having a general knowledge of the signs and symptoms of depression, and being able to determine the point at which a child's pattern of behaviours suggests the possibility of depression, the poll results suggest.

REUTERS

[50+ YEARS]

### Statins not linked with memory loss in seniors: Study



WITH SEVERAL small studies suggesting that the widely prescribed cholesterol-lowering drugs, statins, might be linked to memory loss in seniors, patients were understandably concerned. But a large new study finds no link between memory loss and the drugs. In fact, the six-year-long study of more than 1,000 patients found the drugs appeared to protect cognition in patients with heart disease, researchers reported in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*. "We could find no detrimental effect of statin medications on memory or global cognition over six years in older people, where memory had been comprehensively measured using five different kinds of memory tests," said a researcher. After accounting for dementia risk factors, the researchers found no difference between statin users and non-users in terms of cognitive skills.

REUTERS

## Greener, longer life: More trees reduce premature deaths in cities

Researchers said access to vegetation was known to benefit mental health, reduce stress, cut pollution and encourage physical activity

CITY DWELLERS tend to live longer if they are in leafy neighbourhoods, according to a study published on Wednesday that linked green areas to lower rates of premature death.

Trees in cities are already credited with cooling and cleaning the air and absorbing planet-warming gases, now researchers at the Barcelona Institute for Global Health have found they also keep death at bay.

"More green space is better for health," said Mark Nieuwenhuijsen, director of the institute's urban planning, environment and health initiative. "People actually live longer if

there is more green space around."

The research, which pulled data from nine other studies involving more than eight million people in seven countries from China to Canada, was the largest ever conducted on the subject, the authors said. Researchers used satellite images to quantify how much vegetation, including trees, grass and shrubs, was within 500 metres of people's homes.

Levels of vegetation were ranked on a scale under a system known as normalised difference vegetation index (NDVI).

Those involved in the study were followed



GettyImages

for several years. Any premature deaths caused by health conditions such as heart or respiratory diseases were factored in.

The study, published in *The Lancet Planetary Health Journal*, found that in cities from Barcelona to Perth, a 10 per cent increase in greenery led to an average 4 per cent reduction in premature mortality.

While researchers did not look into specific causes, Nieuwenhuijsen said access to vegetation was known to benefit mental health, reduce stress, cut pollution and encourage physical activity.

"What we need to do is increase green space in many cities ... so that people can actually live a healthy life," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation by phone.

A "nice green city" would have between 20 per cent and 30 per cent of every area cov-

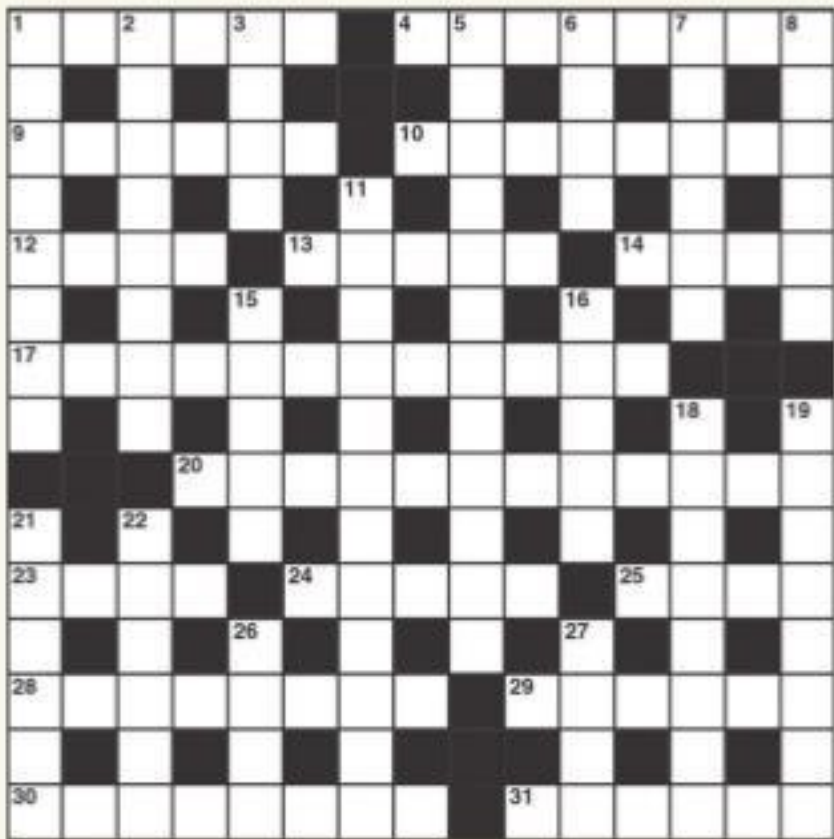
ered in vegetation, he said.

With the United Nations estimating two-thirds of the world's population will live in urban areas by 2050, many cities are already looking at ways to increase greenery, according to the C40 network of cities tackling climate change. Medellin in Colombia has planted thousands of trees to form "green corridors" along main roads, while Australia's Melbourne was looking to almost double its canopy cover to 40 per cent by 2040. "Green spaces are good for cities and good for citizens," Regina Vetter, who manages C40's "Cool Cities Network" said in a statement.

"Trees, meadows, wetlands and other green space are also vital to prepare our cities for the impacts of the changing global climate. They reduce the risks of flooding, lower temperatures and improve air quality." **REUTERS**



CROSSWORD 3970



- CROSS**
- It flies to a little mountain with it (6)
  - Strikebreaker promises to pay for a herb (8)
  - Sought after worker gets married outside (6)
  - He takes a turn at the wheel (2-6)
  - The first man to be a mother (4)
  - Connections as a matter of course (5)
  - Support man with a record (4)
  - Assistants give a portion of food to the workers (7,5)
  - Prone to being long-winded? (9,3)
  - Quits being fair (4)
  - Is taken aback in cavalier fashion? (5)
  - Aids contrived a plan (4)
  - Goes without saying (8)
  - Spring past (6)
  - Accommodating countrywoman? (8)
  - A fire tender (6)
- Down**
- Spot what is about to run alongside canals (8)
  - People agree in thought (8)
  - Final date in the Julian calendar? (4)
  - One who keeps an eye on the hands? (5-7)
  - Stream of fire? (4)
  - I've now become available for inspection (2,4)
  - Capers used in making pickle (6)
  - Resolute in mending slide (6-6)
  - Sailors may take a turn round them (5)
  - He's riled perhaps, but he does nothing (5)
  - Hesitate to show signs of lumbago (4,4)
  - One has never seen him looking more peculiar (8)
  - A group of soldiers in particular (6)
  - Admits being strangely silent (4,2)
  - Island without a tax (4)
  - Place notice (4)

**Solutions Crossword 3969:** Across: 1 Gusty, 4 Corn cob, 8 Ave, 9 Unbending, 10 Illegal, 11 Olden, 13 Reward, 15 Treaty, 18 Day of reckoning, 19 Mascara, 23 Ian, 24 Spectre, 25 Toted. Down: 1 Glazier, 2 Steal away, 3 Young, 4 Cobble, 5 Rancour, 6 Chi, 7 Begin, 12 Dramatist, 14 Refloat, 16 Yearned, 17 Empire, 18 Darts, 20 Sight, 22 Cue.

JUMBLED WORDS

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

The only time people dislike \_\_\_ is when you \_\_\_ about them. - Will Rogers (6, 6) (same word twice)

**PRRIO** **NRTUUP**

**AAYS** **EGILNG**

**SOLUTION:** PRIO, NRTUUP, ASSAY, UPURN, NIGGLE  
Answer: The only time people dislike is when you gossip about them.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4038

**Difficulty Level 5s**  
**Instructions**  
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.



**Difficulty Level**  
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4037



**UTTAR PRADESH RAJKIYA NIRMAN NIGAM LTD.**  
(ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company)  
Visheshwariya Bhawan, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow  
**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
The Addl. Project Manager (E), Electrical Unit Kanpur invites for and on behalf of Managing Director U.P. Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd., online percentage rate bids in two bid system for the following work: NIT No: 714/Fire Work/Murari Lal Chest/EU-KNP/RNN/2019 Dated 20.11.2019. Name of work: S.I.T.C. of Fire Fighting and Fire Alarm system for Dr. Murari Lal Chest Hospital at Kanpur Estimated Bid Value: Rs. 56.18 Lakh, Earnest Money: Rs. 115000.00; Period of Completion: 3 months Last time and date of submission of bid: 1500 PM on Dt. 12.12.2019. The bid forms and other details can be obtained / downloaded from the website: <https://etender.up.nic.in>. The NIT No: 714/Fire Work/Murari Lal Chest/EU-KNP/RNN/2019 Dated 20.11.2019 is also available on <http://www.uprnn.co.in>. Addl. Project Manager (E), Electrical Unit Kanpur

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR J&K E-GOVERNANCE AGENCY CIVIL SECRETARIAT, SRINAGAR/JAMMU**

- Subject:**
- Corrigendum Number-03 to Notification No. 02 JaKeGA of 2019 dated 16.09.2019.
  - Extension in date of submission of online bids in respect of Notification No. 02 JaKeGA of 2019 dated 16.09.2019 regarding for Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of WIFI Network Setup of Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

**Corrigendum to Notification No. 02-JaKeGA of 2019 Dated 16.09.2019**  
This is in reference to the tender published Vide Notification No. 02-JaKeGA of 2019 dated 06.03.2019 regarding invitation of bids for Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of WIFI Network Setup of Civil Secretariat, Jammu. In this connection, this is for information of all the prospective bidders that following amendments are being made in the RFP document. The bidders are advised to take into account the amendments before submission of bids through e-Tendering portal. The amendments are appended as Annexure-A to this notification and shall form part of the RFP.

Sr. No.	Key Activity	Date and Time
01.	Online submission of bids	25.11.2019 upto 02.00 P.M.
02.	Submission of original instruments/ Forms as per RFP.	25.11.2019 upto 02.00 P.M.
03.	Opening of Tender	26.11.2019 upto 03.00 P.M.

ANNEXURE-"A"			
Sr. No.	Ref. No. and Page No. in RFP document	RFP Content	Amendment(s)
1.	Point No. V and Page No.-16	OEM should have presence in India at least from last 05 years and making no losses in Networking business in last 5 years.	Please read this as "OEM should have presence in India at least from last 03 years and making no losses in Networking business in last 3 years".
2.	Clause 'e' of Page No.-09	Payment Terms will be as follows subject to the successful Audit report as decided by JaKeGA. a. 60% Payment of overall bid shall be processed at the time of delivery and subject to Bill of Material (BOM) Verification by JaKeGA and IT Department. b. 20% of Payment of overall bid value shall be made on Successful Installation and commissioning and completion of the project. c. Remaining payment shall be made quarterly in 12 equal installments after Go-Live and subject to the satisfactory functioning of the network as per scope of the project.	Please read this as "Payment Terms will be as follows subject to the successful Audit report as decided by JaKeGA". a. 60% payment of overall bid shall be processed at the time of delivery and subject to Bill of Material (BOM) Verification by JaKeGA and IT Department. b. 35% of payment of overall bid value shall be made on Successful Installation, Commissioning and Go-Live. c. 5% payment of overall bid value shall be made after 6 months subject to successful working of the WIFI Network post Go-Live. Also, successful bidder needs to submit the Bank Guarantee (BG) of 10% of Overall Bid value and same needs to keep in the custody of Treasurer-JaKeGA for five years post Go-Live period of the Project. BG will be released only after the completion of O&M support. <b>Note: Any noncompliance on scope of work, Technical Specifications and terms and conditions of the tender will lead to forfeiting of BG submitted, EMD Submitted and black-listing of the Vendor.</b>

Sd/- (Bipul Pathak) IAS,  
Principal Secretary to Govt., IT Deptt./  
Chief Executive Officer, JaKeGA.  
No. JaKeGA/Gen/08/2019/22  
DIPJ-9543  
Dated 20.11.2019

**छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य हाथकरघा विकास एवं विपणन सहकारी संघ मर्या., वी-26, सेक्टर-07, न्यू राजेन्द्र नगर, रायपुर**  
Email Id-cghandloom@gmail.com/फोन नं.-9425519777,8889600753, 9827479950  
**हाथकरघा वस्त्र डाईंग/प्रोसेसिंग एवं प्रिंटिंग हेतु निविदा**  
छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य हाथकरघा विकास एवं विपणन सहकारी संघ मर्यादित, रायपुर द्वारा ग्रं हाथकरघा वस्त्रों की डाईंग/प्रिंटिंग/प्रोसेसिंग निविदाएं मोहरबंद लिफाफा में मध्य सप्ताह सहित आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र एवं शर्तों ओहोस्वास्करता के कार्यालय में आवेदन प्रस्तुत कर ग्रं वस्त्र डाईंग/प्रोसेसिंग सैमल हेतु ग्रं वस्त्र की राशि 1,45,000/- रुपये एवं निविदा फार्म मूल्य राशि 5000/- रुपये कुल राशि 1,50,000/- रुपये का तथा ग्रं वस्त्रों की डाईंग/प्रिंटिंग नमूना हेतु ग्रं वस्त्र की राशि 75,000/- रुपये एवं निविदा फार्म की राशि 5000/- रुपये कुल राशि 80,000/- रुपये का एकूण- एकूण इमाज ड्राफ्ट प्रबंध संचालक छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य हाथकरघा विकास एवं विपणन सहकारी संघ मर्या., रायपुर के नाम से जमाकर, दिनांक 23.11.2019 को दोपहर 12.00 बजे से दिनकर 04.01.2020 को शाम 5.00 बजे तक कार्यालयीन दिवस में निविदा आवेदन पत्र प्राप्त कर सकते है। डाईंग/प्रोसेसिंग एवं प्रिंटिंग की प्रतिनिधि कार्य क्षमता 1.50 लाख मीटर होना अनिवार्य होगा। निविदा एवं सैमल जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 06.01.2020 को दोपहर 1.00 बजे तक होगी।  
23653 सचिव

**Office of the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts Ministry of Textiles, Government of India West Block 7, R.K. Puram, Sector-1, New Delhi**  
Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) invites sealed bids from interested applicants for licensing of 18 Guest Rooms of Twin Bedded and 15 Dormitories having 81 beds for a period of 3 years for Deendayal Hastkala Sankul (Trade Centre & Museum), Varanasi.  
The pre bid meeting shall be held on 25th November, 2019 at 12:00 Noon at Office of the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India; West Block 7, R.K. Puram, Sector - 1, New Delhi.  
Last date for submission of bids is 12th December, 2019 not later than 12:00 Noon. Bidders are requested to refer RFP document for further instructions.  
Interested applicants can download Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) and request for Proposal (RFP) documents from CPP website <https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>. Copy of NIT and RFP documents will also be available on [www.handicrafts.nic.in](http://www.handicrafts.nic.in) from 18th November, 2019.  
davp 41103/11/0015/1920

**NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**  
**Office of the Ex. Engineer (Pr.) City-SP Zone Room No. 300, 3rd Floor, Old Hindu College Bldg. Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006 Tel. No.: 011-23988845**  
**No. EE(Project)CSP/7C/2019-20/13 Dated.21.11-2019**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
**Request of tender document** :- 25.11.2019 18.00 PM to 02.12.2019 18.00 PM  
**Issue of Tender document** :- 25.11.2019 18.01 PM to 02.12.2019 18.10 PM  
**Tender closing Date & Time** :- 03.12.2019 15.00 PM  
**Opening Date** :- 04.12.2019 15.00 PM  
Sealed percentage / Item rate tenders are invited for the execution of the following works by the North DMC from approved and eligible contractors as per schedule:-  
**S. No.1. Name of Work:** Construction of Hall and Toilet Block in M.C. P.ry School at Inderlok in Ward No. 82-N in City-S. P. Zone  
**Head of Account:** XL-VII-Edu., **Tender Amount** Rs. 66,57,933/-  
**Part 'A' (Civil Work), Item Rate Part 'B' (Reserve Price), Item Rate Part 'C' (Electric Work), Estimated Cost:** Rs. 84,69,797/-  
**Earnest Money:** Rs. 169400/-, **Time of Comp.:** 08 Months, **Rate hold good for:** 05 Months, **Cost of Tender:** Rs. 1000/-  
**S. No.2. Name of Work:** Construction of Hall in M.C. Primary School, Aruna Nagar, Ward No. 83-N in City-S. P. Zone  
**Head of Account:** XL-VII-Edu., **Tender Amount** Rs. 72,02,988/-  
**Part 'A' (Civil Work), Item Rate Part 'B' (Electric Work) Estimated Cost:** Rs. 92,00,988/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,84,100/-, **Time of Comp.:** 08 Months, **Rate hold good for:** 05 Months, **Cost of Tender:** Rs. 1000/-  
**S. No.3. Name of Work:** Re-construction of M.C. Primary School, Ludlow Castle in Ward No. 83-N in City S.P. Zone  
**Head of Account:** XL-VII-Edu., **Tender Amount** Rs. 2,07,37,567/-  
**Part 'A' (Civil Work), Item Rate Part 'B' (Reserve Price), Item Rate Part 'C' (Electric Work), Estimated Cost:** Rs. 2,63,96,991/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 5,28,000/-, **Time of Comp.:** 12 Months, **Rate hold good for:** 05 Months, **Cost of Tender:** Rs. 1,500/-  
**Note:** Detailed information including Addendum/Corrigendum of the NIT would be uploaded on the website [www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER](http://www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER) only.  
Ex. Engineer (Pr.) City-S.P. Zone  
R.O. No. 158/DPI/N/2019-20

**PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**  
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)  
C/o CE/MM, Room No. 215, 2nd Floor, Multi Story Building, PSPCL, Head Office, The Mall, Patiala  
Phone No. 0175-2213047, Mob: 96461-22554, 96461-11034, E-mail: [potransformer@gmail.com](mailto:potransformer@gmail.com).  
Corporation Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC0033813  
Registration Number: 33813, Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in)  
e-tendering portal: <https://pspcl.abcpocure.com>  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  

Tender Enquiry No.	Q-3986/19-20/PO-T/CE-MM
Scope/Short Description	Procurement of 600 Nos. EEL-3/Start-2 (New), ISI Marked, 11/0.433 KV, 200 KVA, Three Phase, 50 Cycles, Outdoor Type, Oil Immersed, Naturally Cooled, Core or Shell Type, Stack/ Wound Core Type construction Aluminium wound, CRGO/ Amorphouse Core Distribution Transformers complete with fittings as per PSPCL specification & conforming to IS 1180 Part-I (2014) & 2026 (with latest amendments).
Starting date for downloading of specification/ Tender documents from PSPCL's website: <a href="https://pspcl.abcpocure.com">https://pspcl.abcpocure.com</a> .	25.11.2019
Last date for downloading of specification/ Tender documents from PSPCL's website: <a href="https://pspcl.abcpocure.com">https://pspcl.abcpocure.com</a> .	23.12.2019 upto 11.30 A.M.
Last date of Bid submission	24.12.2019 upto 11.00 A.M.
Bid opening date	24.12.2019 at 11.30 A.M.

  
For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <http://pspcl.abcpocure.com>.  
**Note:** It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in newspapers. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on official PSPCL website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in).  
Sd/- Chief Purchase Officer, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, Patiala.  
C-469/19  
C-7901/PB.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

**ई-निविदा आमन्त्रण सूचना**  
मंडल रेल प्रबंधक, इंजीनियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी और से ई-निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित प्रपत्रों में निविदा निम्न कार्य के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है - ई-निविदा सूचना सं 2019-20 : 90; कार्य का नाम व स्थान : Provision of divyang toilets at stations in the jurisdiction of SR.DEN/Central of Jodhpur Division. अनुमानित लागत रुपये : Rs. 60,53,400.00, ब्याने की राशि रुपये : Rs. 1,21,100.00. निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि: 13.12.2019. ई-निविदा सूचना सं 2019-20 : 91; कार्य का नाम व स्थान : Provision of toilets & water Facilities at various manned level crossings over Jodhpur Division. अनुमानित लागत रुपये : Rs. 69,80,992.75, ब्याने की राशि रुपये : Rs. 1,39,600.00. निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि: 13.12.2019. वेबसाइट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई-निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है: [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in) 1216-AD/19  
Please join us on /NWRailways

**RAIL LAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
(A Statutory Authority under Ministry of Railways, Government of India)  
Near Safdarjung Railway Station, Moti Bagh-I, New Delhi-110021  
Phone : +91-11-24122834, 24122835 Fax: +91-11-24104793  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
(RFP Notice No. RLDA/RFP/CT-60 of 2019 dated 18.11.2019)  
Rail Land Development Authority invites proposals through e-tendering single stage two cover bidding system from reputed consultancy firms for "CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY, DETAILED MASTER PLANNING, URBAN DESIGNING, ENGINEERING & PREPARATION OF DETAILED PROJECT REPORT (DPR) FOR INTEGRATED RE-DEVELOPMENT OF GAYA RAILWAY STATION." as per following details:  
The schedule of important dates Fees and contract person (s) are as follows:  

Fees	Due Date(s) & Time	Contact Person(s)
1. Registration Charges: Rs. 2,500/- (Non-refundable) for E-procurement portal of RLDA. 2. Tender processing fee Rs. 2,000/- exclusive of all taxes (Non-refundable). 3. Bid Document Fee: Rs. 3,360/- including GST @12%. 4. Bid Security Rs. 98,000/- (Rs. Ninety Eight Thousand Only) in the manner as prescribed in Bid Document.	1. Commencement of downloading of e-bid document: 22.11.2019 at 18:00 hrs. 2. Last date of downloading of e-bid Document for participation/ submission online: 20.12.2019 up to 14:30 hrs. 3. e-bid Due Date/ last date of submission of e-bid (the "Bid Submission Date") 20.12.2019 up to 15:30 hrs. 4. Period during which the Bid Security and bid document fee payment instruments (if not paid online): 27.12.2019 up to 12:30 hrs. 5. Opening of e-Bids Technical 27.12.2019 at 13:00 Hrs.	1. Sh. Sunil Kumar Verma, General Manager/Project (e-mail: <a href="mailto:gm@rlda.railnet.gov.in">gm@rlda.railnet.gov.in</a> ) Tel: (011) 24674315, Fax: (011) 24104793 2. Sh. Jatinder Kumar, Dy. General Manager/Project-I (e-mail: <a href="mailto:dgme@rlda.railnet.gov.in">dgme@rlda.railnet.gov.in</a> ) Tel: (011) 24102062, Fax: (011) 24104793 3. For e-bid queries: Mr. Suraj Singh Email: <a href="mailto:twhepdes800@gmail.com">twhepdes800@gmail.com</a> (TtI Ltd.) Mob : 9599653865

  
• For complete details, visit website [www.rlda.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.rlda.indianrailways.gov.in) or [www.tenderwizard.com/RLDA](http://www.tenderwizard.com/RLDA).  
• Any Corrigendum/Addendum to this RFP Notice, if any, would appear only on above mentioned websites and not be published in newspapers.  
DGM/Tender

**verka**  
**THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.**  
SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022, EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-13-14  
**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  

Name of Work/Job	Contract Period	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	E.M.D (Rs.)	Date and Time for Sale/ downloading of e-tender online	Last Date & Time of Submission of online e-tenders	Date & Time of opening of e-tender
Hiring agency for providing Manpower and Security Services at Verka Milk Plant, Ind. Area, Phase-1, Chandigarh & Verka Head Office, Chandigarh	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Dairy Chandigarh, Indl. Area-1, Chandigarh (0172-5041928, 5041913)	50,000/-	25.11.2019 from 01:00 PM	10.12.2019 Upto 11:00 AM	Technical Bid 10.12.2019 at 02:30 PM

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

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Today's lunar alignments compel you to turn your attention to routine chores, not an exciting prospect. I'm afraid. Many Arians may be feeling slightly under the weather, but there's no time like the present for getting in shape for the next few months.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Tomorrow's challenging lunar pattern is already casting its shadow over your affairs, though in the nicest possible way. This will be an optimum weekend for creative expression, cultural events, romantic encounters and happy relationships with children.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Tense planetary aspects will force you to prove just how well-informed, alert and astute you really are. I have every faith that you will rise to the challenge, demonstrating to everyone that they were absolutely right to place their trust and confidence in you.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You can use your time in no better way than by getting your future plans and arrangements perfectly straight. That may mean seeking expert advice and sitting down and drawing up lists. At the same time, though, this is an emotional phase, and your heart-strings will be tugged.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

All in all, it's a positive period - one when a practical frame of mind helps you through every little problem. At the heart of all financial worries lies a fear of going without. However, if you get to grips with such unconscious fears, you'll manage your money much more efficiently.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

The coming planetary pattern is already indicating a critical turning-point in your affairs. Might I suggest that you fall in with the mood of the times and implement certain much-needed long-term reforms and improvements? Family members will look up to you when you set a more positive example.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Learn to let go and allow others the freedom they seek. The surprising fact is that, if other people are granted their independence, they may choose not to use it. Why don't you trust your instincts for a change, and play around with new solutions to old problems?

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

It's a sociable day. However, it's difficult to know whether social outings will offer an escape from personal complications, or whether intimate encounters will save you from group activities. The best advice is to play it by ear, and not to make your move until you're certain.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

One minor cycle in your life comes to an end this weekend. Both work and family questions will arrive at a satisfactory point and you may use current conditions as a launch pad for future achievements. And remember this - all endings open the way for new beginnings.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Today's planetary picture brings good news for Capricorns, just as long as you refuse to rise to the provocation that is always likely at such times. And any foreign contacts, legal questions and educational aspirations will all benefit from a renewed sense of purpose.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Your financial affairs will reach a turning-point and may never be the same again. If you have any sense, you will consciously steer your situation towards conditions which will guarantee your future prosperity. And, if you do that, then, people close to you will also share the benefits.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

The Moon sends challenging signals today. I would therefore advise you to take it one step at a time, enjoying an easy life when possible and rising to the challenge when necessary. At all costs avoid conflict. What it really encourages you to do is tackle practical questions with greater determination.

**MEGHALAYA INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION**

**NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**

Meghalaya Infrastructure Development & Finance Corporation Limited (M.I.D.F.C.) (on ) behalf of Government of Meghalaya) intend to engage a professional and competent Software Company from India to deploy a state of the art software solution for conceptualisation and implementation of the "Tourist Registration and Management System" for the sate of Meghalaya. Bidder can include solutions from OEM's and collectively express their interest.

MIDFC (on behalf of Government of Meghalaya) seeks EOIs from agencies whose services can be availed by various Executing Agencies, Line departments, State Government Undertakings engaged in the process of software development in Meghalaya.

Interested Parties are requested to download the Request for Expression of Interest document from <http://mbda.gov.in/tenders> and submit their Eoi's in prescribed format complete in all respect to **The Project Director, Meghalaya Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation (M.I.D.F.C), House No. L/A-56, Lower Nongrim Hills Shillong, East Khasi Hills-793003, Meghalaya. Last date for the Submission of the EOI- 9th December 2019, 1500 Hrs.**

**Phone: +919436102314/ + 7085401314.**  
For details please visit <http://www.mbd.gov.in>

Sd/-  
(Shri B.M. Syiem) OSD, MIDFC

MIPR No. 1150 dt. 22.11.2019





DVD & BLU-RAY  
FORD V FERRARI  
★★★★  
₹ 1199/-

# Strange Ways of Love



AAMIS (ASSAMESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)  
★★★★

Director: Bhaskar Hazarika Cast: Lima Das, Arghadeep Baruah, Neetali Das

## SHUBHRA GUPTA

HOW MANY ways are there to love? The answer is as simple as it is astonishing: as many sentient creatures as there are in this world, and as many ways as there are to expressing it. Because finally, when it comes down to the basics, true love is nothing but the unique connection you forge with another.

Bhaskar Hazarika's *Aamis* begins on a prosaic note. A young man reaches out to a doctor for help, because someone he knows is in pain. On the face of it, the encounter

would have been a one-off: a doctor, who happens to be an older, attractive woman, agreeing to minister to a patient in need, and that being that.

But this is Hazarika's universe, and we've had a close look at it in *Kothanodi*, his dark, twisted version of a bunch of beloved Assamese folktales involving murderous mothers, weird fruits, human-swallowing pythons, and so on.

Sure enough, that initial sunny meeting segues into a relationship in which Nirmali (Lima Das) and Sumon (Baruah) get closer and closer, being able to share conversations

and food and spaces which are not constrained by other peoples' presence. Nirmali is married, but the husband operates on a parallel track, and the spouses communicate in a distant, impersonal manner. Her best friend Jumi (Neetali Das) is blithely committing adultery, and exuding secretive excitement from every pore.

We can see that Nirmali and Sumon are primed for coupledness, and that the desire they share is something they can't really speak about to other people: the hook goes deep, and soon enough they sliding down a dark, sleep slope.

*Kothanodi's* subversions were startling, in-your-face. *Aamis* is subtler, but no less of a shocker. Hazarika takes you into territory Indian cinema has never really dared to tread, and confronts you with deep, uncomfortable questions: how far can you go when you want to make a beloved happy? What is taboo? Where do you draw the line? Or do you, at all?

Not for the faint-hearted or squeamish, *Aamis* is an unusual, brilliant film, and Hazarika one of India's most gifted filmmakers. I came away gobsmacked, in the best way possible.

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# In Deep Waters

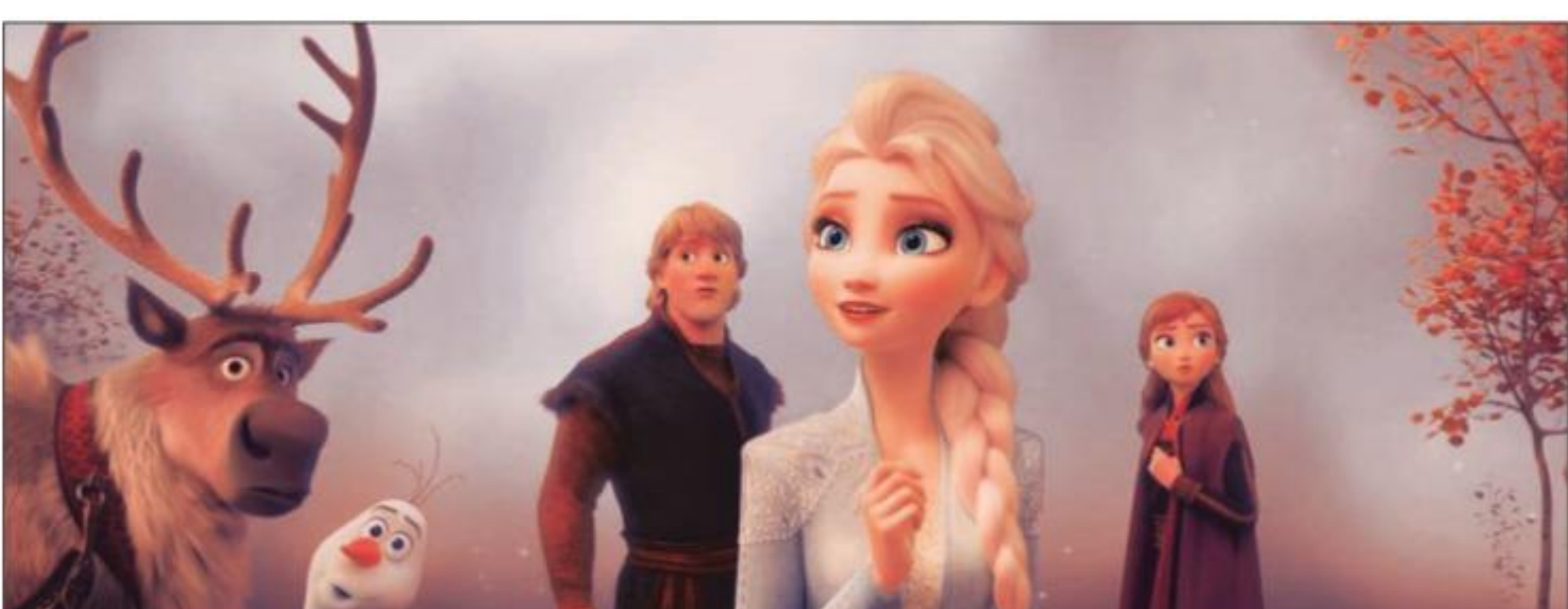
FROZEN II  
★★★★

Director: Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee  
Voices of: Idina Menzel, Kristen Bell, Jonathan Groff, Josh Gad

## SHALINI LANGER

SIX YEARS seem like yesterday. For when Elsa, Anna and *Frozen* belted, literally, onto the screen in 2013, they upturned a lot of ideas: about Disney studio, princesses, songs, and especially "true love". Elsa and Anna were two sisters who save their world all on their own, shedding a handsome prince along the way, and acquiring new friends (of whom one, true to a Disney film, is a loveable animal).

What could Elsa and Anna do that would surpass that? Clearly, directors Buck and Lee, back for the sequel (like its cast of voices), are as confused. *Frozen II* packs a conservation message with dollops of wonky mythology, flashbacks which eerily manifest as literally frozen thoughts, and 'spirits' that swirl up some real neat tricks, without coming anywhere close to real magic. And while magic seemed so tangible in *Frozen*, here the effort shows as the film drags on.



It's several years down the line from when Anna (Bell) brought Elsa (Menzel) back to the palace, and it's all song-and-dance now in their kingdom Arendelle. But then Elsa starts hearing a mysterious haunting voice calling out to her from the unknown. By now, we know about an Enchanted Forest, where spirits dwell, which is caught in a spell, which houses some sort of a Red Indian-like tribe, and which has had a big, big dam brought to its doorstep by a King (who was Anna and Elsa's grandfather). Experience teaches us that dam, jungle and forest-dwellers in the same sentence is never, ever good news, especially in well-meaning, polished-to-political-correction films like Disney aspires to.

Still, saddled with a President in the

White House who could do with some climate change lessons in easy-to-digest dollops, *Frozen II* could have been a strong film about powers and dealing with them responsibly — a natural corollary to Elsa's discovery of hers the first time round.

Instead, *Frozen II* veers off to a confusing side story, which it clearly believes is heading to a big reveal — you may catch on halfway. It doesn't help that one keeps expecting a *Let it go* and the film doesn't come even close to that iconic song, which appealed across ages, genders, and sexual preferences — speaking differently to different people.

Still, with its central theme of "water that has memory" and ice that is solid — plus other elements you suspect may be headed for a meatier role if there is a third film —

*Frozen II* often stills you with its beauty. Olaf (Gad) has the film's best lines, Kristoff (Groff) generates good laughs even in those well-tried scenes of a suitor working up courage for a wedding proposal, and Elsa and Anna's bond, still very strong, takes a new, interesting direction.

The sight of Elsa riding a horse made of ice, over a surging sea, is one of those truly cinematic moments. This Princess remains gloriously single, and as unafraid of taking the leap into the unknown. In perhaps the film's best line, she notes that rather than anything else, it's fear that can't be trusted.

And yet, it's *Frozen II* that is bit of a snowflake.

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# Gun and Run

21 BRIDGES  
★★

Director: Brian Kirk  
Cast: Chadwick Boseman, Sienna Miller, JK Simmons, Stephen James, Taylor Kitsch

DIRTY COPS, a slimy drug racket, grimy New York, and one long night of chase. There is little to recommend in *21 Bridges* that you haven't seen before, and the film doesn't even make an effort to get you to care.

Several good actors, and charismatic ones like Boseman and Miller, are wasted in this by-the-book crime thriller that seems even more ridiculous as it builds up to its climax. Unnecessary details are thrown in about good cop Andre's (Boseman) family life, and Miller's motherly status, even as the two apparent hotshots can't spot some glaring clues right under their noses.

The only way such a film can work is if it leaves at least the audience in doubt, but there is no effort at that either as Andre asks for Manhattan to be shut down (the 21 bridges in and out to be closed, that is) as he and Burns (Miller) chase down two men who have just shot seven cops during a drug robbery.

First-time big screen director Brian Kirk (*Game of Thrones*) stages the shootouts, of which there are many, well, keeping dialogue minimal and shots flying. That may be the best part of the film: its realisation that it doesn't really need to fill in all the silences or to spell out everything.

But as the film drags even in its crisp

length of 90 minutes, you know the reason for it is that the film has little to say.

When it does zoom out for the big picture, mostly via police boss McKenna (Simmons), it is to make the kind of arguments that even the bad guys know must be sheathed if they want to get away unscathed: like how poorly treated cops are by the general public; like shooting before asking questions is how justice should be done; like justice "comes at a cost"; like why waste one's time in trial etc when there are quicker ways of dealing with things. All these are poor excuses eventually for good, old corruption.

As Andre who carries a silent rage at how his father, also a police officer, was killed — even as he does the right things — Boseman (the *Black Panther* of Marvel films) is charismatic as ever. As far as scene stealers go, he has tough competition in James as Michael, one of the two drug thieves (the other being the skittish Kitsch) for whom a regular hit job has turned into a nightmare. A face-off between Andre and Michael, who spell nobility around their anguished selves, could have been a worthy movie.

As for Miller, in a film full of men in sharp suits and smart uniforms, she plays a narcotics detective in an oversized jacket, T-shirt and baggy trousers. You wish that was a feminist statement, given all the women detectives one has had chasing criminals down in deep Vs and heeled shoes. However, there may be a simpler explanation: her status as a harried mother.

SL

# All Over the Place

PAGALPANTI  
Zero Star

Director: Anees Bazmee  
Cast: John Abraham, Arshad Warsi, Pulkit Samrat, Anil Kapoor, Saurabh Shukla, Ileana D'Cruz, Kriti Kharbanda



A FORTNIGHT ago, PNB bank fraud accused Nirav Modi threatened suicide if extradited to India from the UK. If it's any incentive for the once high-flying diamantaire, he has made it to an Anees Bazmee film back home. The film features a fraudster called Niraj Modi who, having cheated a bank called PMB in India, has now become a big don in London.

Treasure the moment, for this is the closest the film comes to reality, of any kind.

Most of the time it wants us to cheer for three grown men — Abraham (really bad), Warsi (passable), Samrat (unbearable) — deemed unlucky by a pandit (who wears suits and drives a car, in concession for this being London), who fail at everything they venture into. Along the way the three defraud Sanjana (D'Cruz) and her mama, and soon after, land work at another don's castle. Essentially they are guinea pigs for this don (Shukla), in his bid to fend off murdering plots planned by rivals. There is dancing, romancing, racing, blasting, and car chasing. There are names like Raja, WiFi (Kapoor), Tullie and Bullie. Men behave like

children, women like brainless children dressed in ridiculous clothes (Raja's daughter played by Kharbanda is officially dismissed as dim-witted).

Among the much too many Indians around in London and the English countryside, there are plenty of white faces in the backdrop, getting kicked around.

Some good actors have lent their names to this mess, for what can't be any reason other than money and the hits somehow against Bazmee's name. So let's not go around passing blame.

As for England, the consolation is that Brexit is not the worst thing that could happen to it. Sample: an '80s-style dance, compete with gyrating extras, at Trafalgar Square, in which the hero, heroine and the ensemble keep breaking into a *naagin* step.

SL

# MUSIC THIS WEEK

AI YOUNGBOY 2, YOUNGBOY NEVER BROKE AGAIN, ATLANTIC

# Feeling in the Gut

## JON CARAMANICA

THE LIFE YoungBoy Never Broke Again raps about on his new album, *AI YoungBoy 2*, is a harrowing swirl of personal trauma, treacherous relationships, murderous fantasies and ice-cold bluster. How he renders it is striking: a sing-rap drawl, sometimes emphatic and sometimes stress-minded, flecked with light touches of the blues. For music like this, YoungBoy Never Broke Again, 20, has been one of the most popular rappers of the last two years, a phenomenon on YouTube and a growing presence in hip-hop's mainstream.

The absorbing, vivid and at times stressful *AI YoungBoy 2* — which debuted at the top of the Billboard album chart last month — captures his gifts well. There is perhaps no rapper working who is more effective at channeling gut-level emotion. He can pivot from a self-laceration to a threat on a dime, changing his delivery from scarred to tough for emphasis.



On *Self control*, he heads straight for the most painful veins: "When my grandma died, I had to beat the odds and it wasn't easy/When Boozilla died, I almost lost my mind, broke me to pieces." *Carter son*, which announces itself with triumphant horns, is seeping with melancholy. He also delves into heartbreak in a way that most artists not named Drake aren't willing to. On *I don't know*, he admits to his personal failings while pleading his case to someone he's let down. *Ramada* is a disarming song about wanting to reclaim a love that's already slipped away.

*AI YoungBoy 2* is his first release since getting out of prison in August after serving three months for a probation violation. His short career has been interwoven with legal troubles. "I feel like I'm Gucci Mane in 2006," he croons on *Make no sense* — that's the year Gucci Mane's murder charges were dropped, and the year his classic mixtape run began. A flawed hero for a flawed rising star.

NYT

# Her Life, in Her Words

VARDA BY AGNÈS (Documentary)  
Directors: Agnès Varda, Didier Rouget  
Cast: Agnès Varda, Sandrine Bonnaire, Hervé Chandès, Nurith Aviv, Esther Levesque

## AO SCOTT

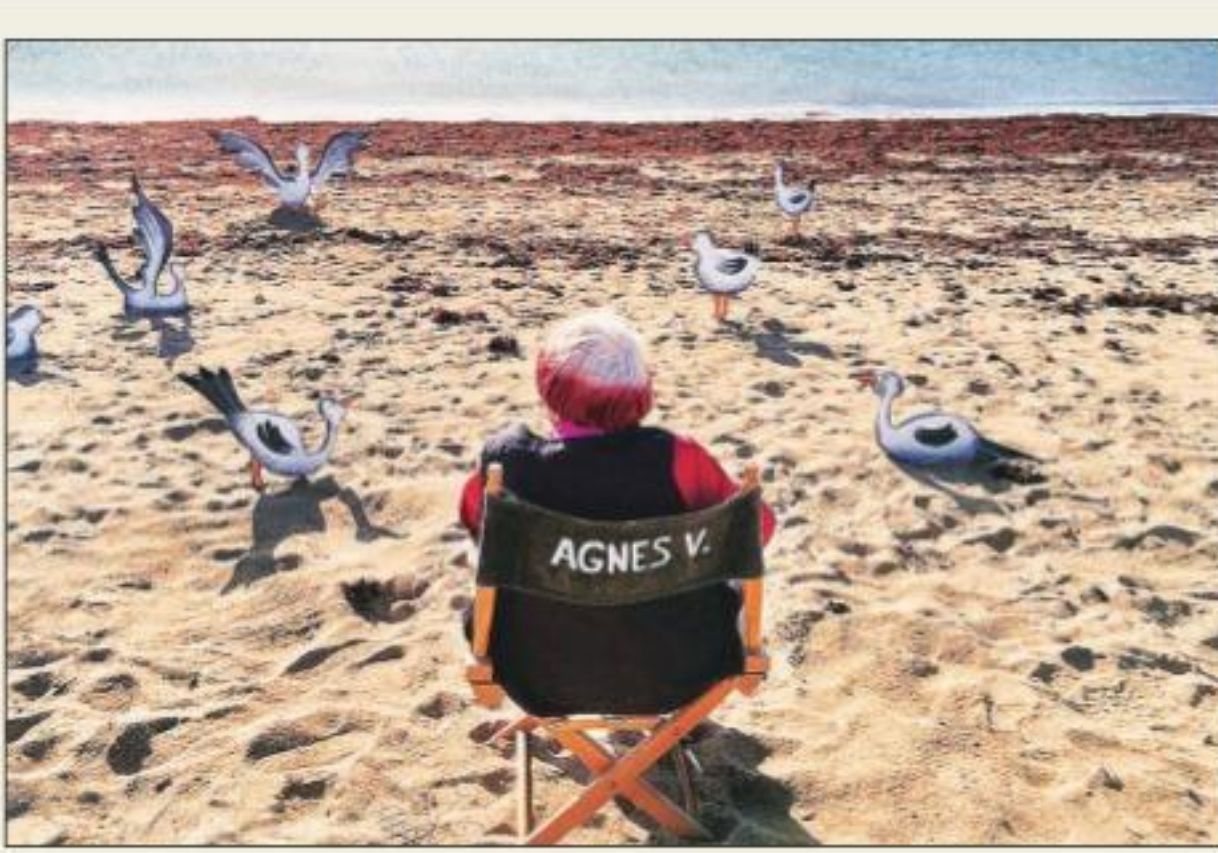
ADMIRERS OF Agnès Varda, who died in March at 90, may be looking for a fitting remembrance. Especially in the last two decades of her long career, she was an unusually and deeply companionable filmmaker. Her death feels like the loss of a friend, even to people who never met her. At the same time, those who are unfamiliar with and curious about Varda's work may be wondering where to begin. With characteristic generosity, her final film, *Varda by Agnès*, answers both needs. It's a perfect introduction and a lovely valediction.

The movie, a blend of personal essay and greatest-hits album, finds her in a retrospective, ruminative mood. As she did in previous auto-documentaries — *The Beaches of Agnès* (2008) in particular — she intersperses clips from her back catalog with reminiscences and reflections on life and art. Speaking in front of audiences and also di-

rectly into the camera, she narrates a brisk, informative chronicle of a six-decade career of remarkable creativity. Both newcomers and hard-core Vardaphiles will come away with a list of films to see and re-see.

Varda's first film, *La Pointe Courte* (1955), set in the Mediterranean coastal city of Sète, was a bridge between the neorealism of the 1940s and the French New Wave. Her friendships with Jean-Luc Godard and Alain Resnais, her marriage to fellow filmmaker Jacques Demy, and her skeptical, energetic, unpretentious style linked her permanently to that movement. *Cléo From 5 to 7*, from 1962, is one of its touchstones, even as it anticipates the feminist cinema of the 1970s.

She played a central part in that as well, but *Varda by Agnès* is above all a testament to her individualism. Not that she minimises her political commitments, which are matter-of-factly feminist and bluntly democratic. She follows her younger self from France to California, where she made a documentary on the Black Panthers and a handful of hard-to-classify films. The distinction between documentary and fiction isn't always relevant to her work. Her best-known narrative features — *Cléo*, *One Sings, the Other Doesn't* (1977) and *Vagabond* (1985) — have the sting of reality, and a compassionate



clarity about the freedom, danger and pleasure that women face in their lives.

*Varda by Agnès* divides Varda's career into two major periods. The second begins in 2000, with *The Gleaners and I*, the first of a series of personal, cerebral, altogether uncategorisable projects in which she turns the camera on herself. She is a playful, charming and quizzical presence, but also a rigorous investigator, a questioner of her social systems, collective memory and her own assumptions. If she comes across as a grandmotherly figure in those movies, she

is less the kind of grandmother who spoils you rotten than the kind who sees through all your nonsense and loves you anyway.

She was also, as *Varda by Agnès* makes wonderfully clear, an enthusiastic mentor and an inspiring teacher, with a natural interest in and affinity for young people. Her discussion of her philosophy and her methods — the why and the how of her movies — is incisive and instructive. She helps you think about her art, which in turn helps you think about everything else.

NYT





SCORECARD »  
India vs Bangladesh

2nd Test | Kolkata | Toss: Bangladesh

BANGLADESH	106 IN 30.3 OV
S Islam c †Saha b Yadav	29 (52b, 5x4)
I Kayes lbw b I Sharma	4 (15b)
M Haque c R Sharma b Yadav	0 (7b)
M Mithun b Yadav	0 (2b)
M Rahim b M Shami	0 (4b)
Mahmudullah c Saha b I Sharma	6 (21b, 1x4)
L Das retired hurt	24 (27b, 5x4)
N Hasan b I Sharma	19 (28b, 4x4)
E Hossain b I Sharma	1 (7b)
M Miraz c Pujara b I Sharma	8 (13b, 2x4)
A Hossain not out	1 (4b)
A Javed c Pujara b M Shami	0 (3b)
■ Extras: (b 8, lb 6)	14
Fall of wickets:	1-15 (Kayes, 6.3 ov), 2-17 (Haque, 10.1 ov), 3-17 (Mithun, 10.3 ov), 4-26 (Rahim, 11.5 ov), 5-38 (Islam, 14.2 ov), 6-60 (Mahmudullah, 19.4 ov), 6-73* (Das, retired not out ), 7-82 (Hossain, 23.5 ov), 8-98 (Mehidy, 27.6 ov), 9-105 (Nayeem, 29.5 ov)
■ Bowling:	
Ishant Sharma	12-4-22-5
Umesh Yadav	7-2-29-3
Mohammad Shami	10.3-2-36-2
Ravindra Jadeja	1-0-5-0

INDIA	174/3 IN 46 OV
M Agarwal c Miraz b A Hossain	14 (21b, 3x4)
R Sharma lbw b E Hossain	21 (35b, 2x4, 1x6)
C Pujara c S Islam b E Hossain	55 (105b, 8x4)
V Kohli not out	59 (93b, 8x4)
A Rahane not out	23 (22b, 3x4)
■ Extras: (lb 1, w 1)	2
Fall of wickets:	1-26 (Mayank Agarwal, 4.4 ov), 2-43 (Rohit Sharma, 12.5 ov), 3-137 (Cheteshwar Pujara, 39.1 ov).
■ Bowling:	
Al-Amin Hossain	14-3-49-1
Abu Jayed	12-3-40-0
Ebadat Hossain	12-1-61-2



Umesh Yadav once again provided the early breakthroughs. *PTI*

4 It was only the fourth time on Indian soil that the hosts' fast bowlers had taken all ten wickets. In fact, in the entire series, India's seamers had accounted for as many as 24 of the 30 Bangladesh wickets. Shami tops the list with 9, followed by Ishant Sharma (8) and Umesh Yadav (7).

# Day-night Test, daylight difference

Masterful Indian seamers, not so much the swing-friendly pink ball, orchestrate Bangladesh's latest episode of unravelling



Skinning through the middle and lower order, Ishant Sharma pouched his first five-for on Indian soil in 12 years. The previous instance was against Pakistan in Bangalore, his second match. *Partha Paul*

## SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 22

BANGLADESH FOLDED up for 106 in 30.3 overs in their first innings after winning the toss and batting first in the pink-ball Test. As the Indian bowlers worked up pace and bowled well-directed bouncers, the visitors looked shaky. Some of their lower-order batsman even backed off. Worse, Liton Das was hit on the helmet by Mohammed Shami bouncer and retired hurt. He failed the concussion test and had to be replaced by Mehidy Hasan.

In the first over after lunch, a 3pm supper break to be exact, another Shami bouncer thudded into the Nayeem Hasan's helmet. The youngster carried on, trying to throw his bat at everything. After Bangladesh were done with their innings, Hasan pulled out and Taijul Islam became his concussion substitute. For the first since the ICC introduced the concussion rule in July, two substitutes were used in a match. Das and Nayeem's precautionary examinations at Woodlands hospital went well, as CT scans revealed "no obvious evidence of skull injury". That was the only good news they got on Friday. On the field, things yet again was depressing.

By 1pm, when the match started, 40,000 fans had turned up at Eden Gardens. The number rose to 60,000 by the time the "twilight zone" arrived. About two-and-a-half hours later, after Virat Kohli reached his half-century, spectators started to leave. The day/evening wasn't finished yet and the India captain was still at the crease, making light of the difficulties that the conditions and a heavily-lacquered pink ball posed. After the novelty is gone and the dust is settled, time for a reality check will come. Pink-ball cricket alone will not be able to give Test cricket a new lease of life. The game's purest format needs competition to thrive. Unfortunately it's in dire supply in the ongoing series.

Ishant Sharma returned with 5/22, his 10th five-for in this format. Imrul Kayes was Ishant's first victim. He rolled his fingers over the seam and made the ball to jag back. Kayes played for a delivery which he thought would hold its line. The opener was plumb in front. Mahmudullah's dismissal came via an away-goer, Ishant's stock ball. The Bangladesh batsman fished at it and a lesser wicketkeeper might not have pulled off the catch. But Wriddhiman Saha dived full-length in front of first slip and picked it inches off the ground.

For lower-order batsmen like Ebadat Hossain and Nayeem, Ishant attacked the stumps. He has developed this skill of late, the ball coming in from an angle and then going straight or holding its line. Poor foot-work from the batsman can even give this delivery a leg-cutter-like appearance, as was the case with Nayeem. In between, Ishant had Mehidy falling into a trap. Cheteshwar Pujara at mid-wicket was moved a bit squarish, a full delivery on middle and leg followed, and the batsman flicked it straight to the fielder.

Grass 6mm long notwithstanding, the pitch was a little two-paced to start with. Some deliveries flew but the odd ball stopped as well. The Indian pace trio took a bit of time to figure out the right length. "The pink ball was very different to red ball. When we started bowling at normal lengths, the ball wasn't swinging that much. We then figured out the length. We talked about it among ourselves, the three fast bowlers. We started hitting the right lengths after that," Ishant said.

### Three-pack

The beauty of this Indian pace attack is the way the three fast bowlers complement each other. Ishant, Shami and Umesh Yadav are not choosy about bowling from a particular end. They don't mind playing second fiddle. Ishant usually plays second fiddle in a three-pronged attack. Today, he was the wrecker-in-chief. So Umesh, even after

**The pink ball was very different to red ball. When we started bowling at normal lengths, the ball wasn't swinging that much. We then figured out the length."**

### ISHANT SHARMA

making early inroads, decided to play the supporting role, when Ishant raised his game. Umesh had removed Shadman Islam, Haque and Mithun to put the visitors on the ropes. Shami took two wickets but more importantly, softened up the Bangladesh batsmen with his aggression; bouncers to be precise.

"The important thing is that we have a healthy competition. It's not about individual performance. If you don't have healthy competition and you don't have someone to challenge your place, I don't think you can perform this well," Ishant said.

### Flying catchers

To add to the bowling performance, India's catching was superb. The hosts had dropped a few sitters in the first Test at Indore. They more than made up for that here despite the fact that the pink ball presented a greater degree of difficulty. Rohit's diving catch at second slip to dismiss Haque was top-class. Saha's 'keeping at times felt like from a different planet.

Bangladesh's first innings didn't last till twilight. And that played just 30.3 overs meant the longevity of the pink ball wasn't tested. When India batted, Pujara played with such élan that any chance of a Bangladesh comeback evaporated quickly.

At 43/2, with both openers gone, there was a window for the visitors. But Pujara took two fours off Abu Jayed in an over before Kohli, too, joined the party. Through a 94-run stand, the window was slammed shut on the visitors. Although Pujara departed for 55, Kohli remained unbeaten on 59 taking India to 174/3 at stumps.

On TV Today  
**INDIA VS BANGLADESH: 2ND TEST**  
Day 2 live from Eden Gardens, Kolkata, on Star Sports 1 & 3 — 1300 hrs onwards

## Facing pink, seeing red....

The pink-ball wobbled disconcertingly. It travelled at a rate of knots. Here are some examples of how it behaved differently from the red ball...

### EXAGGERATED MOVEMENT

Wriddhiman Saha's 'keeping at Eden Gardens on Friday was a connoisseur's delight. The way the 35-year-old stumper was dealing with the late movement wowed everybody, including his team mates. But even Saha was done in by the pink-ball's exaggerated movement once.

Ishant Sharma was bowling the 20th over during Bangladesh's first innings. The final delivery of the over swung late, pitched on the leg stump and moved further away. Saha dived full-length and to a certain point it felt like he had it covered. But during its journey from the stumps to the 'keeper's gloves, the ball swung again, eluded Saha and went for four byes. No 'keeper could have stopped that, the way the ball came back in.

### DIP PERCEPTION

Virat Kohli had spoken about this during his pre-match press conference—high catches dipping sharply in the air. Al-Amin found himself at the receiving end of the ball's manic dip. Batting on 12, Rohit Sharma pulled Abu Jayed and the skier went straight to Al-Amin at fine leg. The fielder positioned himself underneath the ball and it looked a straightforward chance. Just that the ball dipped sharply, unsettling Al-Amin. He dropped the catch. The extra gloss, due to an extra coat of lacquer on the ball didn't help matters either.

### AT A RATE OF KNOTS, EXHIBIT 1

In the next over, the first over after tea, Rohit was out. The opener looked to be in



The pink ball got some getting used to for both teams. *BCCI*

control, fresh from his back-to-back boundaries off Ebadat Hossain. The bowler's response was a nip-backer. Rohit shouldered arms and the ball came back so sharply that the batsman hardly had any time to adjust. He was out leg-before.

### EXHIBIT 2

Cheteshwar Pujara's fours usually see the ball saunter to the boundary. But today his four against Abu Jayed, in the 14th over during India's innings, was a little different. Pujara stood on his toes and punched the ball past backward point. The shot had the ferocity of a power-hitter rather than a grafter. The pink ball's travel-speed created the illusion.

### STEEP CLIMB

Ebadat was in the middle of a fine spell and deserved a wicket, which came when he made one rear off a length and Pujara edged it to Shadman Islam at second slip. To start with, the ball left the batsman late. And it rose so sharply that Pujara virtually had no reaction time. On Indian pitches, the red ball seldom behaves such awkwardly. The pink ball was an entirely different proposition.

## BEYOND THE BOUNDARY

# Around Eden Gardens: A splash of bonhomie, nostalgia and lunch at 3 pm

## SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 22

### Cricket unites

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the Indian cricket board (BCCI) secretary and Union Home Minister Amit Shah's son Jay and Congress leader Rajeev Shukla sat next to each other and chatted at the Eden Gardens clubhouse... Such sights are not common in Indian politics, but Friday was different. Kolkata was hosting a historic event—India's first-ever day-night Test.

Before the start of the match, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina held court. "Ei toh captain (the captain is here)," she pointed to Banerjee, as photographers requested them to stand alongside the two captains, Virat Kohli and Mominul Haque, for a photograph.

Beyond politics and sharing of river waters, the two leaders share a warm personal camaraderie and it was on show at Eden. The Chief Minister also presented the Bangladesh Prime Minister a picture of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the country's first president and Hasina's father.

### No politics, please

Hasina has maintained that her latest visit to Kolkata for the pink-ball, day-night Test is purely on a cricket invite. "Bangali chhele Sourav amake dawat diyeche, tai aami Kolkata jabo ( Bengali boy Sourav has invited me, that's why I will go to Kolkata)," the Bangladesh Prime Minister had said a few days ago. True to her word, she arrived in Kolkata on Friday morning for a breezy one-day tour.

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) secretary Avishek Dalmiya were at the airport to receive the guest of honour. Hasina restricted her political activity to a meeting with Banerjee at a south Kolkata hotel in the evening.

### Pink in excitement

The hype had gone through the roof for the pink-ball Test. Pink became the city's early winter colour, from the newly-installed manual scoreboard at the stadium to The 42 at Chowringhee – Kolkata's tallest building.

As toss time arrived, at 12.30, excitement increased. Former left-arm spinner Murali Kartik, commenting pitch-side for the official broadcaster erred on the



Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Sachin Tendulkar interacting before the start of India's first pink ball Test. *Partha Paul*

Bangladesh skipper's last name – ostensibly in excitement—calling him Mominul Islam instead.

### Dream realised

A special coin had been minted for the toss. And after Hasina and Banerjee met the players, the teams stood for the national anthems, accompanied by the HIV+ kids from OFFER, an NGO. One of them, a 13-year-old girl, had handed Kohli a bouquet of 254 roses to celebrate his 254 not out against South Africa last month, when the India captain visited the NGO two days ago. Virat walked out holding her hand.

"I'm over the moon. I can't believe such a thing can happen," said the girl. The brass band played *Amar Sonar Bangla* and *Jana Gana Mana*, both written and composed by Rabindranath Tagore. Hasina and Banerjee rang the Eden bell to start the match.

### Sessions tweaked

A 3pm supper break served an oddity. Usually in a day-night Test, tea is called after the first session followed by the supper break after the second session. But this day-night Test is played in full winter, with an early, 1pm, start. To minimise the dew factor, the breaks were tweaked.

### Legends in the house

Sachin Tendulkar, Anil Kumble, VVS Laxman and Harbhajan Singh sat for a chat show during the supper break. They collected Laxman's 281 against Australia at this venue that snatched victory for India from the jaws of defeat. During the tea break, as former India captains did a lap of honour, a full house stood up to applaud. The national flags of India and Bangladesh fluttered side by side at L Block.

### Plenty of questions: Shastri

The historic significance of India's maiden Day/Night Test isn't lost on him but national coach Ravi Shastri on Friday also struck a note of caution by saying that "plenty of questions" on the pink ball's behaviour are still to be answered. Seven years after the International Cricket Council (ICC) gave its go ahead, India finally embraced the revamp which is aimed at bringing back the crowds to the Test format. "It's a) historic occasion, boys will look forward to it. There will be a wait-and-watch game as well," Shastri said while speaking to the official broadcaster here before the start of opening day's play in the game.

"Plenty of questions to be answered and time will tell," he added. *PTI*



# Shooters, parents will have to sign NRAI’s code of conduct

**MIHIR VASAVDA**  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

THE COUNTRY’S Tokyo-bound shooters and their parents will have to sign a bond with the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) that will bar them from signing sponsorship deals until the Olympics without prior permission from the national governing body. Those who have already signed commercial deals will have to put them on hold or they will be dragged to court for a stay order, the federation said on Friday.

It is learnt that signing and accepting this code of conduct will be a prerequisite to compete at next year’s Olympics. NRAI president Raninder Singh said the step has been taken to ensure that athlete are not “put under pressure and misused for financial gains”. According to Raninder, India has “lost three Olympic medals” because of these reasons in the past. He, however, did not mention the names of the shooters he was referring to.

Indian shooters, who drew a blank at Rio 2016, have had a remarkable year in rifle and pistol events, and – on current form – will enter the Tokyo Olympics as the country’s

best bet to win multiple medals. A record 15 shooters have qualified for the Olympics.

“We have worked damn hard to get here. It’s very important shooting comes back with four medals otherwise our sport will be shut. The government is spending Rs 30 crore a year. Nobody will keep backing it like this if we go like Fanny Khan and come back empty-handed,” Raninder said.

The federation is putting measures in place to avoid another Rio-like debacle. Apart from ensuring they are not ‘exploited’, Raninder said shooters won’t be allowed to train abroad on their own. Instead, they will all have to train together at the Dr. Karni Singh Range in Delhi. Exceptions, however, will be made for shooters to train at their homes if they have the requisite facilities.

This idea, he said, is based on the suggestion made by an Abhinav Bindra-led committee that reviewed the Indian performance at the 2016 Olympics. “In India, there is no unified team. There are some individual athletes and groups, but no one to coordinate and supervise their training,” the report stated.

On Friday, Raninder added: “Nobody is



Manavaditya Singh Rathore won his maiden national title.

going to Japan, China, Switzerland... nobody is going nowhere. The athlete can bring whoever they want and train in Delhi. If they want to train at their home, we don’t mind. But we have to keep a track of everything they are doing.”

## Rathore Jr claims maiden national title

New Delhi: Rajasthan’s Manavaditya Singh Rathore, son of Athens Olympics silver medallist Rajyavardhan, claimed his first junior national title on Friday following an intense battle with Punjab’s Jungsher Singh Virk.

The trap shooter defeated Virk, who also featured in the men’s final, 45–44 for his maiden national title. His state-mate Vivaan Kapoor won bronze with a score of 35 in the final. Rathore, along with Kapoor and Aman Ali Elahi, also won the junior team title with a combined score of 351, comfortably ahead of the team from Haryana, who shot 345 to settle for silver. In the senior men’s trap final, former

world champion Manavjit Singh Sandhu won his 12th title after his closest rival, Vishavdev Singh Sidhu, missed four consecutive shots to surrender his lead.

Needing a high final round to remain in contention for the title, Manavjit missed one target for a round of 24, which put him in a shoot-off with seven other contenders for five final qualifying spots. Kynan Chenai of Telengana, who eventually won bronze, was the only one to qualify directly, topping the qualification field with a score of 121 out of 125. Manavjit then shot 42 out of 50 targets in the final, to outgun state-mate Sidhu, who ended with 41.

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“I will ask the families – father and mother – to sign a bond that you are responsible for this athlete, you cannot put pressure on this athlete, you cannot misuse this athlete’s standing for financial gain. They don’t need money – that is covered. I am not mak-

ing accusations against anyone but there is a need to protect athletes because he is representing the Tricolour. So he is at the country’s disposal rather than the country being at his disposal,” Raninder said.

The NRAI chief said the shooters will not be barred from signing commercial deals, but will have to consult the federation before putting pen to paper. “I am not a communist, I believe in a free market. (But) There is one particular athlete who has signed a contract with some social media site for (Rs) 2.5 lakh. He is number 1 in the world. Is that justifiable to you? The poor chap doesn’t know (if he is getting a raw deal) as he comes from a humble background. He is 15-16 years old. The parents are farmers, they may not be aware,” Raninder said.

Earlier this year, 17-year-old Saurabh Chaudhary – world number 3 in 10m air pistol – signed a deal with a private talent management firm.

The same company also signed Apurvi Chandela, ranked 1 in 10m air rifle, a few months ago. These, and other, shooters will have to ‘unsign’ their contracts, Raninder said. “Or I will take them to court and get a stay. I will go as a national federation and say my child is being exploited,” he said.

## SYED MUSHTAQ ROUND-UP

### Delhi suffer 1-run loss to Baroda

Surat: Opener Kunwar Bidhuri’s rear-guard fifty went in vain as Delhi suffered a one-run loss to Baroda in a Super League match of the T20 Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy here on Friday. Sent into bat, Baroda managed a competitive 151/6 and then returned to restrict Delhi to 150/9 in the 20 overs. Chasing the total, Bidhuri made a 51-ball 68, laced with three fours and four sixes, but none of the other Delhi batsmen provided any support as Delhi fell short by a run. Bidhuri was dismissed in the final over. Lower-order batsman Suboth Bhati tried his bit with an unbeaten 8-ball 20 but it was not enough in the end. Babashafi Pathan (3/24) claimed three wickets to emerge as the best bowler for Baroda.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Baroda 151/6 (Aditya Waghmode 36, Deepak Hooda 26; Nitish Rana 2-22) beat Delhi 150/9 (Kunwar Bidhuri 68, Hiten Dalal 22; Babasafi Pathan 3-24 by one run.

### Haryana notch up an easy win

Surat: In the first game of the day, Haryana defeated Rajasthan by four wickets. Opting to bat, Rajasthan crawled to 123/7 as Haryana leg-spinner Rahul Tewatia ran through their batting line-up to return with fine figures of 3-18. Sumit Kumar remained unbeaten on 23 to take Haryana home despite a middle-order collapse. India bowler Yuzvendra Chahal, who has made it to both the ODI and T20 squads against West Indies, though-reined wicketless in the match.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Rajasthan 123/7 (Ankit Lamba 38, Chandra Singh 25 not out; Rahul Tewatia 3-18) lost to Haryana 124/6 (Harshal Patel 41; Sumit Kumar 23 not out; Chandra Singh 2-16) by four wickets.

### TN spin a web around Mumbai

Surat: Left-arm spin duo of R Sai Kishore and debutant M Siddharth spun a web around Mumbai to guide Tamil Nadu to a seven-wicket victory. Siddharth (4-16) and Sai Kishore (3-18) ran through Mumbai’s top and middle order, comprising some of the biggest names in domestic circle, to restrict them to a sub-par 121/9.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Mumbai 121/9 (Shams Mulani 73, Prithvi Shaw 30; Siddarth 4-16, Sai Kishore 3-18) lost to Tamil Nadu 122/3 (Hari Chezhan 73 not out, Vijay Shankar 27 not out). PTI

**JOHN PYE**  
BRISBANE, NOVEMBER 22

IN HIS darkest moments when he was shunned by an angry Australian public, David Warner wondered whether he’d ever get another chance to do a leaping celebration to mark a hundred on home soil. Almost two years after posting his 21st Test century, Warner registered No.22 when he flicked Pakistan leg-spinner Yasir Shah behind square for a single on Friday afternoon.

He took off his helmet, leaped into the air, and then swung it around again before holding it aloft with his bat as he faced the players’ pavilion. Then he kissed it on the crest. People in the crowd of 13,769 at the Gabba stood and applauded.

There was no booing, like there had been when he scored centuries in the one-day format at the World Cup in England, which is where he returned from international exile following a 12-month ban for his part in a ball-tampering episode in South Africa in 2018. Forgiven but not forgotten, he quashed any doubt over his spot in the Australian lineup after a lean Ashes series. By stumps on day two of the first Test against Pakistan, Warner was 151 not out and Australia was 312 for 1, a lead of 72 runs.

Warner shared a 222-run opening partnership with recalled Joe Burns, who was out for 97 when he dragged the ball back onto his stumps attempting to sweep Yasir, and 90 with Marcus Labuschagne, who reached his sixth Test half century with a boundary in the last over and remained unbeaten on 55. The 33-year-old Warner had a reprieve – on 56 when he edged behind but a TV review showed 16-year-old paceman Naseem Shah had delivered a no-ball – and another close call on 93, when a direct throw hit the stumps as Warner slid his bat a fraction into safe ground beyond the crease at the non-striker’s end.

He also had a life when a delivery from Imran Khan appeared to shave the off stump but didn’t dislodge the bails in the next-to-last over.

He faced more deliveries and scored more runs in one day than he did in 10 innings in the entire Ashes series, his first in the Test arena since returning from the ban.

Warner and Steve Smith – then the vice-captain and captain – were each suspended for 12 months by Cricket Australia and opener Cameron Bancroft was out for nine months after South African broadcasters caught a clumsy attempt to tamper with the condition of the match ball while the Australians were fielding in a Test at Cape Town in March of last year.

Bancroft was caught trying to scratch the surface of the ball to make it more favorable for Australia’s bowlers. Warner was widely viewed as responsible for hatching the plan. Smith was sanctioned for not doing enough to stop it. In a country where the national cricket team is held in high esteem, it was



David Warner surpassed his Ashes tally (95 in 10 innings) in just one outing. AP

considered inexcusable. None of the players challenged the severity of the bans, which were excessively harsher than anything ever imposed in international cricket for ball tampering. Smith made amends by leading the scoring when Australia retained the Ashes in England. But Warner only tallied 95 runs in the Ashes, casting doubt over his status as Australia’s premier test opener.

He responded the only way he could, crafting the century from 180 balls. He was on 149 when the new ball was taken in the 83rd over, and took a single to reach 150 from 257 balls after 6 hours, 10 minutes at the crease. Warner said his time out of the game helped with perspective, spending more time with his family and realizing there’s more to life than cricket.

“I don’t feel under pressure at all,” he said. “For me, it’s about going back out there and backing my ability. I’m back now and need to keep working hard, keeping being respectful of the game.”

Warner conceded the “Ashes for me was a failure,” in terms of runs, “but .... I wasn’t

out of form, I was just out of luck. Today I had a little bit of luck.”

Warner’s belligerence made it a difficult day for the inexperienced Pakistan pace bowlers, who didn’t get their lengths right on the bouncy Gabba wicket. Naseem, the youngest player to make his test debut in Australia, finished with 0-65 from 16 overs and was bitterly disappointed after missing the wicket of Warner. He was bowling at speed of 148 kph (92 mph) in his first spell and troubled both Warner and Burns with some short-pitch bowling, but his pace was down when he bowled an over late with the new ball.

Yasir was the only bowler to get a breakthrough, returning 101-1 from 28 overs.

Making things more difficult for the Pakistan bowling attack is Australia’s record at the Gabba, where they haven’t lost a Test match since 1988.

**PTI BRIEF SCORES:** Australia 1 for 312 (Warner 151\*, Labuschagne 55\*) lead Pakistan 240 (Shafiq 76, Azhar 39, Starc 4-52, Cummins 3-60) by 72 runs

## The case of the ‘missing’ no-balls

Umpiring in the ongoing Australia-Pakistan Test at the Gabba in Brisbane has come under intense scrutiny after Channel 7, the host broadcaster, claimed that 21 front-foot no-balls went undetected during the first two sessions of the second day’s play.

### WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

Australia breezed through to 312 for 1 at stumps on Friday, of which only nine runs came as extras. The two English umpires – Richard Kettleborough and Richard Illingworth – had flagged just three no-balls through the course of the day’s play though according to footage of the broadcaster, there were a total of 21.

One instance when the umpires were alert was when Pakistan’s 16-year-old debutant pacer Naseem Shah had Australia opener David Warner caught behind for 56, moments after the lunch interval.

The on-field umpires asked Michael Gough, the third umpire, to intervene. After monitoring several replays, Gough ruled that it was a front-foot no-ball. “Of course, a no ball is a no ball,” former Aussie quick Trent Copeland, an expert with Channel 7, tweeted. “But, the WORST part about regular no balls not being called is – how is the bowler supposed to know?? And then, when it matters most – it’s too late?”

Ricky Ponting, the former Australia captain, has been among those calling for “at least something” to be changed in how no-ball calls



Pakistan’s 16-year-old fast bowler Naseem Shah had dismissed Warner off a no-ball, which was spotted by the TV umpire. AP

are adjudicated. “If you look at some of the footage we’ve seen today, it’s not like they were just on the line or over the line,” Ponting told cricket.com.au. “There were some that were four-five inches over the front line. It just goes to show the umpires aren’t even looking at the front line.”

### THE CONTROVERSY ON THURSDAY

There was a similar debate on the opening day when Pakistan wicket-keeper Mohammad Rizwan was adjudged caught behind. When Patrick Cummins elicited Rizwan’s edge in the 55th over, the dismissal was sent to Gough, who gave the decision in favour of Australia, despite replays failing to indicate conclusively whether a part of Cummins’ foot was behind the line.

### ISHANT GOT AWAY TOO

Front-foot no-balls was a recurring phenomenon during the last Australian summer as well. During the opening India-Australia Test in Adelaide, footage emerged that showed the on-field umpires – Kumar Dharmasena and Nigel Long – had failed to spot as many as 16 no-balls. The primary offender being Ishant Sharma, who hurled four no-balls in two separate overs. Surprisingly

enough, in another over in the same Test match, he had overstepped the line on six occasions.

**MORE OFFICIALS NEEDED ?**

Sometime back, the ICC had announced that TV umpires would adjudicate on all no-balls on a trial basis in the shorter formats. The idea was simple: third umpires would signal to the on-field umpire’s smartwatch on field, when a bowler had bowled a no-ball. However, the burgeoning expenses and the logistics prevented such an idea to be implemented on a regular basis across formats. The Indian Premier League will now have an exclusive TV umpire to monitor no-balls from the next edition.

This match official will be separate from the third and fourth umpires and will use technology to help on-field officials monitor no-balls.

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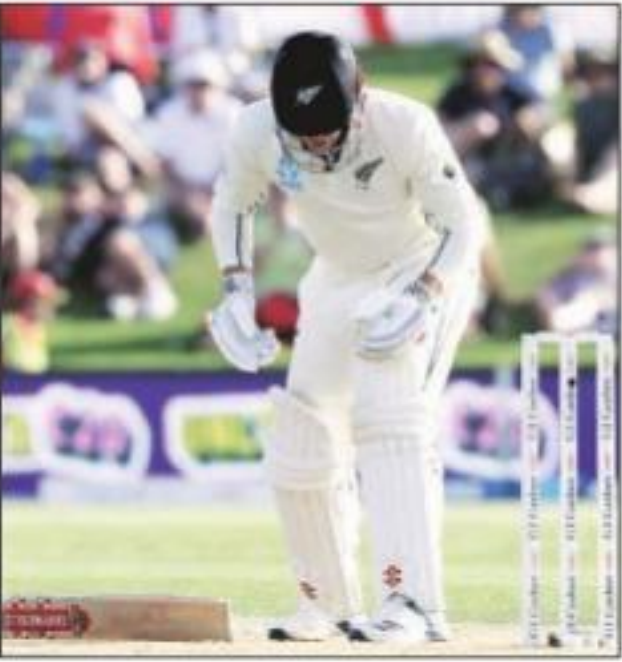
# Pitch in focus as New Zealand stutter

**AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE**  
MOUNT MAUNGANUI, NOVEMBER 22

THE MANNER of Kane Williamson’s dismissal and a blow to the head of Henry Nicholls put the maiden Test wicket at Mount Maunganui under scrutiny with three days to play in the first Test between New Zealand and England on Friday. In the first Test at the ground, the Bay Oval wicket showed signs of becoming unpredictable late on Day Two.

Although honours appeared even after the first two days, England believe if the wicket continues to deteriorate then they are in the box seat. New Zealand go into day three on Saturday at 144 for four in reply to England’s first innings 353, but with senior batsmen Williamson and Ross Taylor already dismissed.

Williamson had cruised to 51, reaching his half-century with a boundary off Sam Curran, but fell on the next delivery which unexpectedly reared sharply, forcing the New Zealand skipper to take evasive action and the ball was gloved to second slip. The dismissal even took Curran by surprise, but



Henry Nicholls was hit by a sharp bouncer from Jofra Archer. AP

he saw it as a good omen.

“It probably took off a little bit more than the usual length but that’s a really good sign for us knowing we have runs on the board,” he said.

“The wicket may start being a bit uneven

and fingers crossed that suits us and there can be a few more (wickets) and it gets worse as the game goes on, because most likely we’ll be bowling last.”

New Zealand’s senior bowler Tim Southee, who ignited the demise of the England middle and lower order when the pitch was playing true, said Williamson’s dismissal raised questions. “That’s the unknown about playing a first Test match on this ground. He was looking reasonably comfortable and he got one that reared off a length which can happen,” Southee said, wary of having to bat last. “If it does continue to deteriorate and we do start to see a bit more of it going up and down we’d like to get as many as we can in this innings.”

Nicholls, who was not out 26 at stumps, was felled by a sharp bouncer from Jofra Archer but a medical check showed no immediate sign of concussion, although he will undergo a further examination before resuming on Saturday.

**BRIEF SCORES:** New Zealand 144 for 4 (Nicholls 26\*, Watling 6\*) trail England 353 (Stokes 91, Denly 74, Burns 52, Southee 4-88) by 209 runs

# Abide by ombudsman’s order on DDCA president: High Court

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 22

THE DELHI High Court on Friday directed that the order of ombudsman of the DDCA asking journalist Rajat Sharma to continue in his role as president should be abided by. On November 17, Delhi and District Cricket Association (DDCA) Ombudsman Justice (Retd) B D Ahmed asked Sharma, who had resigned the previous day, to continue to discharge his duties as the president of the body till further orders. Disposing off a plea filed by a DDCA member seeking direction to the Centre, the cricket body and its directors to enforce the ombudsman’s order, Justice Jayant Nath said the DDCA members should abide by the said order.

Petitioner Sidharth Sahib Singh, a member of DDCA and a former cricketer, claimed he was aggrieved by the illegal actions of certain directors of the cricket body and had approached the ombudsman with a complaint

on November 17.

On the complaints made by him and some other members of DDCA, the ombudsman passed an interim order to avoid the collapse of management and functioning of the association and stayed the three resolutions passed by certain directors.

The ombudsman had directed that all those persons who had tendered their resignations shall continue to discharge their duties in the interest of the game of cricket and no further resolution in this regard be sought to be passed by members of the Apex Council without the ombudsman’s permission and without following proper procedure.

The hearing of the complaints will take place before the ombudsman on November 27. The petition, filed in the high court through advocate T Singhdev, said that even after passing of the order by the ombudsman, in complete defiance of the same, the erring directors continued to act as per their whims and fancies.

The erring directors called for an illegal meeting of the Apex Council on November 19 to discuss the agenda which was kept in abeyance by the ombudsman, the plea alleged. It sought direction restraining the directors from acting in contradiction to the ombudsman’s order and to forthwith comply with the November 17 order in its true letter and spirit.

“A situation of confusion and anarchy prevails as these defying directors have taken over DDCA and are not allowing the President and other executives to discharge their duties in terms of the November 17 order passed by the ombudsman.

“There is a complete breakdown of machinery in DDCA and neither the Central Government nor the Registrar of Companies or any other authority has taken any action or interfered in the matter thus leading to a situation where the order of the authority appointed under the direction of the Supreme Court and this court are not being complied with,” the plea said.



BRIEFLY

Zidane urges fans to back under-fire Bale

Zinedine Zidane has urged Real Madrid fans to get behind Gareth Bale and insists he does not believe the Welshman is happier playing for his country than Real Madrid. Madrid play Real Sociedad at the Santiago Bernabeu on Saturday, when Bale is likely to feel the frustration of the home supporters. The 30-year-old sparked outrage in the Spanish press this week after he celebrated Wales' victory over Hungary on Monday with a flag from the crowd that read: "Wales. Golf. Madrid. In that order". The slogan has been adopted by Welsh fans after an interview given by former Madrid player Pedja Mijatovic to Cadena Ser last month, in which he referred to those as Bale's priorities.

UEFA fine Celtic for illicit banners, chants

Celtic have been fined 15,000 euros (\$16,582) by UEFA for illicit banners and offensive chants by their supporters in their Europa League match against Lazio last month, European soccer's governing body said on Friday. Scottish champions Celtic beat the Italian outfit 2-1 at Celtic Park but the game was overshadowed by events off the pitch. A home supporters group displayed signs that read "Brigate Verde" - along with a white star - which bore a resemblance to Italian left-wing organisation Brigade Rosse. Another flag depicted Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini hanging with the slogan "Follow Your Leader." UEFA rules prohibit "provocative messages that are of a political, ideological, religious or offensive nature". UEFA's control, ethics and disciplinary body also hit Lazio with a fine of 10,000 euros for offensive chanting.

Reacting to racist insults costs Taison

Brazilian player Taison was banned for one game Thursday for his reaction to racist abuse in a Ukrainian league game. The Shakhtar Donetsk midfielder showed his middle finger to Dynamo Kyiv fans who had abused him with monkey chants and kicked the ball into the stands during a game Nov. 10. Taison was shown a red card. The Ukrainian Football Association ordered Taison to serve a one-game ban plus a suspended two-game ban. Dynamo has been fined 500,000 hryvnias (\$20,000) and ordered to play one game behind closed doors. Another one-game sanction is suspended. "Sanctioning a victim of racial abuse is beyond comprehension and it plays into the hands of those who promote this kind of disgraceful behavior," world player's union FIFPro said in a statement.

AGENCIES

Different pairings, same result

Panwar, Bhaker win mixed team events with partners from other countries to cap off stellar campaign



Manu Bhaker paired up with world number one Russian Artem Chernousov to win the 10m Air Pistol title at the World Cup Finals in Putian, China. *Express*

NITIN SHARMA

CHANDIGARH, NOVEMBER 22

INDIAN SHOOTERS continued their impressive run at the ISSF World Cup Final in Putian (China) as Divyansh Singh Panwar and Manu Bhaker won paired events, though with partners from other countries.

Panwar combined with Snjezana Pejic of Croatia to top the 10m Air Rifle mixed team event, beating Apurvi Chandela and Changnong Zhang of China 16-14.

Manu paired up with world number one Russian Artem Chernousov to win the 10m Air Pistol title by a 17-13 margin over Saurabh Chaudhary and Olympic champion Anna Korakaki.

With the World Cup final featuring only the top two shooters from the four world cups of the year apart from defending champions and the top shooters in world rankings, most countries did not have a second shooter for the mixed team events and ISSF decided to pair shooters from different countries in 10m Air rifle and 10m Air Pistol mixed team events.

"Since Indian rifle shooters have competed earlier in mixed team events, most of them now know each other's strengths and weaknesses. Anjum and Divyansh had competed earlier and Apurvi and Deepak (Kumar) have competed together as a team. The fact that the draw for the mixed teams took place on the day of the event make it more challenging. Even though no medal

ON TARGET

**MANU BHAKER**  
Gold: women's 10m air pistol  
**ELAVENIL VALARIVAN**  
Gold: women's 10m air rifle  
**DIVYANSH SINGH PANWAR**  
Gold: men's 10m air rifle

■ India finished at the top of the medal tally at the World Cup Final in Putian, China.

■ China finished second with a total of four medals - two gold, a silver and a bronze

■ France were third with two medals - one gold and one bronze.

were awarded, it was for the ISSF president trophy," said Deepali Deshpande, the rifle coach of the Indian senior team.

Prior to the World Cup final, Panwar and Anjum Moudgill had won 10m Air Rifle title at the ISSF World Cup in Beijing in April. Two months later, at the Munich World Cup, they won their second mixed team world title beating Kumar and Apurvi in the new format where the top eight teams in qualification compete in elimination 2 with the result deciding the top two teams for the final and the

This year, Bhaker and Chaudhary won the 10m Air pistol title in all four ISSF World Cups and coach Jaspal Rana counts Putian also as a good outing.

bronze medal match. In Brazil last month, Chandela and Kumar won the title with Panwar and Anjum getting the bronze.

On Friday, Apurvi and Zhang finished fifth with a score of 627.9 in qualification while Panwar and Pejic were seventh with a combined score of 627.7. But the two pairs topped the elimination relay 2 to make it to the final round.

In the decider, the teams pocket two points for winning every two-shot series and the ones to reach a total of 16 first emerge victorious. Panwar/Pejic were trailing 0-6 at one time but made it 14-14 before taking the last series with a combined score of 21.2 (Pejic 10.8 and Panwar 10.4) compared to Chandela/Zhang's 20.8 (Apurvi 10.7 and Zhang 10.1).

In the final, Panwar was the only shooter who did not shoot below 10.0 even once and shot a score more than Pejic 10 times out of the 15 series to help the pair script a comeback. Chandela, who had shot 9.6 in the first series, which the pair won, too was in good form as she too did not a score below 10.0 in

the remaining 14 series but Zhang's four scores below 10.0, coupled with Sjejc and Panwar's brilliance in the end, cost them the victory.

"Even though Divyansh and Apurvi were shooting with different partners, they showed a lot of composure and Apurvi did not let Zhang's scores in some series bother her. Divyansh takes his time in the final and it helps him to shoot more 10s. It has worked for him and the team," said Deshpande.

In the 10m Air pistol mixed team event, three Indians including - Bhaker, Chaudhary and Shahzar Rizvi - were in the top three teams. Rizvi paired up with Zorana Arunovic of Serbia to win the bronze medal.

This year, Bhaker and Chaudhary won the 10m Air pistol title in all four ISSF World Cups and coach Jaspal Rana counts Putian also as a good outing.

"The shooters have to make minor adjustments regarding the timings in qualification. Manu takes the usual time of 45-50 seconds per shot in individual competition and it helps her in mixed team event also. Same is the case with Saurabh. Manu was bit shaky earlier in the final but this format allows one to recover and she made a strong comeback," said Rana. "The good thing is that both of them have won all the four world cups and reached the final here with partners from different countries. They had competed with different partners from other countries in Youth Olympics too. With only two world cups prior to the 2020 Olympics now, such experiences is vital for our shooters."

Serbia's Davis Cup campaign ends in tears and torment

REUTERS

NOVEMBER 22

TRY TELLING Viktor Troicki and his Serbian team mates the revamped Davis Cup Finals don't matter. The 33-year-old was inconsolable on Friday after poking a routine volley out on Serbia's third match point in the deciding doubles rubber of their quarter-final clash with Russia.

He and Novak Djokovic had three match points in the final-set tiebreak before Andrey Rublev and Karen Khachanov claimed a 6-4 4-6 7-6(8) victory at La Caja Magica to give the Russians a 2-1 win and set up a semi-final against Canada.

Troicki became a national hero in 2010 when he won the final point against France's Michael Llodra to clinch the Davis Cup for Serbia in Belgrade, sparking unforgettable scenes in which the team, including Djokovic, shaved their heads on court before partying into the small hours.

This time there was just gut-wrenching despair as Serbia's hopes slipped away in the cruellest fashion imaginable.

In an emotional news conference, Troicki could barely raise his chin off his chest.

"I probably feel the worst ever. I never experienced such a moment in my career," he said. "I let my team down and I apologise to them. We were up in the tiebreak. We had chances to finish it. We didn't do it. I messed up in the crucial moments.

"I don't know. God gave me the chance once to be the hero, to win the Davis Cup in the deciding rubber. Now he took it away. I'm really disappointed with myself."

Djokovic claimed a 15th successive Davis Cup singles win when he beat Khachanov 6-3 6-3 to level the tie after Rublev had thrashed Filip Krajinovic 6-1 6-2 on centre court. The 16-times Grand Slam champion needed treatment on his elbow in the second set of the doubles but blanked out the pain as he and Troicki had match points at 6-5, 7-6 and 8-7 in the breaker. Troicki missed a return on Russia's first match point to spark wild celebrations in the Russian camp.

"It hurts, it hurts us really badly," Djokovic said.



Novak Djokovic and captain Nenad Zimonjic console Viktor Troicki after they lost their doubles tie. *Reuters*

Top Russian officials in the dock for obstructing case

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONACO, NOVEMBER 22

THE PRESIDENT of Russia's track and field federation and its top anti-doping official were suspended Thursday on suspicion of obstructing an investigation, in a blow to Russia's preparations for the 2020 Olympics.

The Athletics Integrity Unit, which oversees disciplinary issues in track, charged Dmitry Shlyakhtin and six others with various offenses. They are related to the case of a top high jumper, Danil Lysenko, who allegedly presented fake medical records after being accused of failing to make himself available for drug testing.

The federation as a whole is facing charges, as are Shlyakhtin and four of its senior officials, including the federation's anti-doping coordinator Elena Ikonnikova. Lysenko and his coach Evgeny Zagorulko have also been charged.

Federation spokeswoman Nataliya Yuhhareva told The Associated Press that Shlyakhtin and the federation have a deadline of Dec. 12 to respond to the charges. No date has been set for a hearing.

"We need quite a lot of time for the lawyers to study it," Yuhhareva said, adding that Shlyakhtin "intends to protect his good name."

She added that Shlyakhtin would step down while president and the federation board would soon elect a temporary replacement. Shlyakhtin doubles as a regional sports minister in Russia, and it wasn't immediately clear whether he would keep that role.

The AIU said its investigation lasted 15 months and included intensive interviews and computer analysis. It concluded that "officials had been involved in the provision of false explanations and forged documents to the AIU in order to explain whereabouts failures by the athlete."

In September, a World Athletics taskforce



Russian athletics president Dmitri Shlyakhtin was suspended on suspicion of obstructing an anti-doping investigation.

said Lysenko had confessed to providing fake documents with help from officials, but he later retracted that confession.

The case comes at a time when Russia is already facing separate allegations of providing doctored lab test records to the World Anti-Doping Agency, which could implement more sanctions next month.

Russia's track federation was already officially suspended from international competition over earlier doping cases under a 2015 ruling. The federation had been inching closer to reinstatement this year after negotiations headed by Shlyakhtin, but World Athletics officials expressed concern that anti-doping reforms weren't always being implemented on the ground.

The announcement comes the day before a council meeting of World Athletics, formerly known as the IAAF, which governs international track and field.

Russian athletes have been allowed to compete as neutrals at events like the world championships after passing vetting of their drug-testing history.

Lampard returns to Etihad as Jose takes charge

AFP/REUTERS

LONDON, NOVEMBER 22

JOSE MOURINHO will inevitably be the centre of attention as he takes charge of Tottenham for the first time this weekend while Manchester City look to get their Premier League title challenge back on track against Chelsea. The former Chelsea and Manchester United manager has been charged with rescuing Spurs' season after this week's sacking of Mauricio Pochettino, with the club desperate to claw their way back into the top four.

At the top of the table, runaway leaders Liverpool have a winnable-looking fixture away to Crystal Palace but the chasing pack cannot afford to allow the gap to widen further. City, licking their wounds after their 3-1 defeat by Liverpool earlier this month, host Frank Lampard's Chelsea, who are one point above them in the table, eight points behind Jurgen Klopp's side.

Leicester, in second place, ahead of Chelsea on goal difference, travel to England's south coast to take on Brighton.

Mourinho's first match in charge of Tottenham will be away to West Ham at the London Stadium on Saturday but he will not have the luxury of a honeymoon period.

The Portuguese boss has a number of issues to sort out, including addressing the woe-ful away form -- Spurs have not won on the road in the Premier League since January.

Last season's Champions League finalists have had a shocking start to the season, languishing in 14th place in the Premier League after just three wins in their opening 12 games. With their new stadium to pay for, Tottenham are reliant on Champions League revenue but the outlook is not bright.

No team with as low a tally as Spurs have after 12 games -- 14 points -- has ever gone on to record a top-four finish.

Mourinho on mind

Mourinho, often labelled a cheque-book manager, has made the right noises so far, saying at his first press conference he will not demand millions to spend in the transfer



We had a couple of messages to congratulate him on his new role. I think history and results speak for themselves. He has done that consistently. It's what we measure him and us as managers. It keeps him off Sky Sports for a while! He has got a good team. They were a lot of people's favourites to be in the race.

FRANK LAMPARD

ON JOSE MOURINHO'S TAKING OVER AT TOTTENHAM

market. "I don't need players, I am so happy with the players I have, I just need time to understand them better, to know everything about them," he said.

"My gift is this squad, the squad is very, very good." Over their past 38 league games, Liverpool have tallied 101 points and lost just once, overcoming champions Manchester City in their most recent outing.

Manager Klopp last season labelled his players "mentality monsters" and captain Jordan Henderson says that is a crucial factor in their success. "Our mentality is just as important as the technical ability of the team," Henderson told the club's website.

"I think everybody sees how talented the squad is, how many good players we've got

in the team, but mentality is huge in football."

Lampard, who spent a season playing for Manchester City after leaving Chelsea, takes his young side to the Etihad for his first visit as a manager. Pep Guardiola's side host Chelsea in the unusual position of being fourth in the table, a point and place below the visitors, who have had six successive league wins.

Chelsea will also be eager to gain revenge for their 6-0 mauling by City last season -- their biggest-ever Premier League defeat.

Former Leicester and Tottenham forward Gary Lineker believes Brendan Rodgers' side are better than the team that lifted the Premier League title in 2016.

