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LANDMARK, SAYS PM, AFTER RAJYA SABHA VOTES 125-99 TO CLEAR CITIZENSHIP BILL

Change in citizenship dharma

Parliament clears law to ease citizenship for illegal migrants — but non-Muslim — from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh

Home Minister Amit Shah in Rajya Sabha Wednesday. *PTI*

Protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill turned violent in Guwahati on Wednesday. *PTI*

FULL COVERAGE, PAGES 6, 7

'Muslims have nothing to fear... Cong echoes Pak'

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR, KRISHN KAUSHIK & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

REBUTTING THE Opposition's charge that the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill was anti-Muslim because it excluded Muslims, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said Wednesday that the Bill "does not harm" Muslims in India and is not about "snatching the citizenship of Muslims."

"It is about granting citizenship to religious minorities from neighbouring countries...I don't want any Muslim to be scared...This Bill does not harm Indian Muslims at all; what could their problem be (with the Bill) in giving citizenship to refugees from these countries, the persecuted minorities? ...Indian Muslims are citizens of the country and will remain so...Muslims have no need to fear or worry," he said.

Shah was replying to a nearly eight-hour-long fractious debate on the controversial Bill. Subsequently, it was passed by the Rajya Sabha after a division which saw 125 vote in favour and 99 against.

All Opposition amendments, including one to send the Bill to a select committee, were defeated.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Curfew after violence, arson rock Assam during anti-CAB protests

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, DECEMBER 11

THE ARMY was deployed and an indefinite curfew imposed in Guwahati, mobile internet services were snapped in 10 other districts of Assam, and the Centre rushed additional forces from Jammu and Kashmir to the state following a massive surge in protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, which was passed in the Rajya Sabha Wednesday.

The sharp escalation caught the state government on the wrong foot, just a day after officials maintained that they were in control of the situation while alleging that the agitation was largely fuelled by misinformation.

By evening, amid reports of widespread vandalism and arson, two columns of the Army were deployed in the state capital where police used tear gas and water cannons, and fired blanks in the air, to disperse a crowd that moved towards the Secretariat.

In Dibrugarh, a senior official

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EXPLAINED

Final test in SC

MANY TECHNICAL and legal questions raised in Parliament did not elicit answers. The final test — whether it stands up to Constitutional ideals — will be in the Supreme Court. Many in Opposition said during the debate that Bill could be struck down.

Bill wrecks Constitution... targets Muslims: Opp parties unite to speak up

MANOJ C G & ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

FROM ACCUSING the BJP government of trying to "advance its Hindutva agenda" to copying from the Nazi playbook to target Muslims and demolishing the Constitution, the Opposition Wednesday raised moral, Constitutional and historical questions to oppose the contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Rajya Sabha. And warned the government that the legislation would be struck down in court.

Unlike in the recent past, the Opposition remained united until the end.

In August, many parties including the AAP and Telangana Rashtra Samithi had broken ranks when the Rajya Sabha debated scrapping the special status to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370. But this time they

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Situation very tense, people worried and confused, admit Assam BJP MPs

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

WITH PROTESTS intensifying in Assam against the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, which was cleared by the Rajya Sabha Wednesday, ruling BJP MPs from the state expressed "genuine concern" at the "tense situation" and said that "people are worried and confused".

Three party MPs from Assam told *The Indian Express* that there

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THE EDITORIAL PAGE

BRUTE MAJORITY

Citizenship (Amendment) Bill should have been stopped in House, over to the court P14

2002 riots: Modi, his govt get clean chit from Nanavati panel

PARIMAL DABHI
GANDHINAGAR, DECEMBER 11

THE NANAVATI Commission report tabled in the Legislative Assembly Wednesday, has exonerated the then Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi, and his government of any complicity or laxity in dealing with the communal riots that left over 1,000 dead in the state, mostly from the minority community, following the burning of Sabarmati Express's S-6 coach near Godhra railway station on February 27, 2002.

EXPLAINED

SIMPLY PUT

WHAT NANAVATI PANEL FOUND

PAGE 13

In its report, the panel, comprising Justices G T Nanavati and A H Mehta, which submitted its report five years ago, has also come

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MORE REPORTS PAGE 9

Slowdown a correction, liquidity problem behind us: Tata Sons chairman

N Chandrasekaran at the Express Adda. *Pradip Das*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

THE CURRENT economic slowdown that India is witnessing is a "correction process" as the country has seen "excesses", Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran said at the Express Adda on Tuesday. He, however, said that India is taking "too long" to correct these excesses.

"According to me, what we are going through is also a correction process. We have had excesses. I am not blaming anybody. These excesses have to be corrected. The only thing is we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL
BY UNNY

Protests put question mark on Abe's plans for Guwahati

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

SAYING THAT CAB could weaken India's character as a secular nation, Bangladesh Foreign Minister A K Abdul Momen on Wednesday rejected allegations that the minorities are facing religious persecution in his country.

To visit Dec 15-17

Momen is set to visit India on Thursday for the 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue.

Meanwhile, following protests in Guwahati, the government is learnt to be preparing a 'Plan B' for Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's annual summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi from December 15-17.

While the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has not announced the summit venue, Assam's capital was reported to be the likely venue.

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WEB EXCLUSIVE

WHAT THE NANAVATI COMMISSION SAYS ABOUT MODI, IPS OFFICERS AND NGOS

The report has also cleared Narendra Modi of the charges of "tampering with evidence" when he visited the burnt S-6 coach of the Sabarmati Express train on February 27, 2002, the day when 58 passengers, mostly kar sevaks returning from Ayodhya, were burnt alive in it

VIDEO OF THE DAY

2019 NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, Michael Kremer received the prize

FULL COVERAGE

CITIZENSHIP BILL PROTESTS

Army out on the streets as protests keep Assam, Tripura on edge

EXPRESS AUDIO

How does the Data Privacy Bill affect you?

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Detailing what rights users will have over their data if the bill is passed, why it is a strong bill, and why concerns over surveillance and verification affect us

FROM PAGE ONE

Opp unites

opposed the Bill as did the BSP which, too, had supported the Government on Article 370 and had stayed away on the triple talaq Bill in July.

The Shiv Sena, which had supported the Bill in Lok Sabha changed its stance and its three members walked out before voting.

Given its hard Hindutva background, the party could not have opposed the Bill and its tactical walkout ensured that it does not ruffle the feathers of its new found allies NCP and the Congress in Maharashtra. "We are certainly happy that the Shiv Sena did not vote in favour of the Bill. They did not vote for the Bill. That is good," senior Congress leader P Chidambaram said.

The nearly eight-hour fiery debate saw the Opposition opposing the controversial Bill on several grounds. The Congress, which led the charge, focused largely on Constitutional aspects. The Trinamool Congress focused more on West Bengal linking CAB with the NRC while the DMK had the exclusion of Sri Lankan Tamils in mind.

But there was one common thread : almost all the opposition members accused the Government of playing divisive politics.

They attacked the Government for leaving out Muslims and neighbours like Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Myanmar. They argued the Ahmadiyyas, Shias and Hazaras also face persecution.

The Congress fielded its frontline leaders Leader of the Opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad, P Chidambaram, Anand Sharma and Kapil Sibal to take on the Government. Chidambaram called the Bill "insidious" and argued that it was patently unconstitutional. Sharma argued that the Bill was "divisive and discriminatory" and "fails the morality test" hurting the "soul of India." Sharma said though the Bill was part of BJP's 2019 election manifesto, the party's manifesto cannot over-ride the principles of the Constitution.

"What we are doing today is wrecking the Constitution from within. A small part of the Constitution is sought to be wrecked and demolished by this insidious bill. Fortunately, we have three organs of the state...the executive is complicit, the legislature is being invited to collaborate, hopefully the judiciary will strike it down and will save India and the idea of India," he said.

Azad accused the Government of bringing such contentious bills every now and then to divert the attention of the people. He alleged that the government has no data on persecuted minorities in neighbouring countries.

"Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Myanmar and Nepal are all our neigbouring countries. Are the minority Hindus in Sri Lanka not facing the problem? Why the Sri Lanka Hindus are not included? Aren't the Christians of Bhutan facing problems. Why were they not included? Indian origin Muslims in Myanmar...are they not facing problem...Neither the country nor the religion was included...And to say that people of one specific religion are persecuted in these three countries....The kind of persecution which the Muslim women of Afghanistan underwent was unprecedented. They were killed for not wearing burqa..." Azad said.

"Mr Home Minister...you came up with demonetisation like this, then brought GST, triple talaq, 370, NRC and now citizenship.. you just want to divert attention of the people from joblessness, issues of farmers, price rise," Azad said.

Former union minister Kapil Sibal asked the Home Minister to explain how the proposed law chooses to allow persecuted minorities when the Bill does not mention the phrase "persecuted minorities" anywhere. "Has any illegal immigrant who has ever come to India said he was persecuted? Which Hindu has said he was persecuted? You know what they've said in their legacy papers? That they are residents of India. You are forcing them by law to lie that they were persecuted," Sibal said.

Trinamool Congress's Derek O Brien drew a parallel between NRC detention camps to Nazi concentration camps, the NRC to Nazi Germany's Madagascar Plan to deport Jews and the Citizenship Amendment Bill to the 1935 German law protecting those with Aryan lineage with an ancestor pass.

"In the German Copybook they referred to a very interesting word 'Jews' as 'rats'. And, as someone said, once powerful politicians start using dehumanising language, what happens after that...termites. What are we talking about today - termites, cockroaches, vermin. These words are not used by any party worker but these words are being used by the Prime Minister and sometimes by the Home Minister," O'Brien said.

Samajwadi Party's Javed Ai Khan said the "Home minister repeatedly conflates NRC and CAB, especially in West Bengal when in my opinion it should be a different discussion...because this is a realisation of Mohd Ali Jinnah's dream, not of the founding fathers of India. People say secularism was brought into the Indian Constitution in 1976, secularism was always there." He then quoted Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in the Constituent Assembly as saying the foundations are being laid of a secular democracy.

"The home minister says this has nothing to do with Indian Muslims. How? Aren't we citizens of India, don't we have a stake? Are we second-class citizens...this is actually a very old agenda," he added and read out excerpts of a 1939 book of M S Golwalkar talking about how people outside the Hindu fold should either enter it or forsake their role in national life.

Said K K Ragesh of the CPM: "The minister says it is for persecuted minorities of neighbouring countries...These arguments are ridiculous...The real agenda is a fascistic Hindu rashtra."

NCP's Praful Patel said the Government has brought the Bill in a hurry and it could be challenged in court.

BJP MPs

is a "lot of misunderstanding over the Bill" but stressed that "this is not the way to protest".

"The issue is with the way it is being presented to the people," said Pallab Lochan Das, MP from Tezpur. "The wrong news being circulated is that there will be lakhs coming to stay here, and that border fences have been broken for people from Bangladesh. People have not been told about the cut-off date," he said.

The CAB seeks to provide Indian citizenship to Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Christians, Jains and Parsis — it leaves out Muslims — who entered the country from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan until December 31, 2014.

According to Das, people in Assam fear that their language will be lost, Bangla will replace Assamese and that they will become a minority. "We have to take a number of steps. Apart from an intense campaign, the Centre should pass a law to protect the language. There are six communities in Assam that are seeking ST status, we will have to take steps for it."

Guwahati MP, Queen Oja, admitted that the "situation is bad". "It's not good... I don't know about tomorrow. There is misunderstanding and misinterpretation. People should understand things correctly. It's getting worse," she said.

Oja said people fear that their identity will be lost if those from Bangladesh are given citizenship. "I understand their worries. There is genuine concern. I support their right to protest, but this is not the way to protest," she said.

Asked what she would do to pacify the protesters, Oja said: "It's too hot now. Hands will be burnt if we touch the metal when it's too hot. Let's wait. We should try slowly."

Dilip Saikia, MP from Mangaldoi, said "the situation is very tense". Acknowledging that people fear an influx of Hindus from Bangladesh, Saikia said: "Indigenous people are worried that there will be lakhs coming in to take away their rights and livelihood, and replace their language."

Pointing out that people had suffered due to the "non-implementation of promises given to them", Saikia said the NDA government at the Centre had initiated the process of implementing key clauses in the 1985 Assam Accord after previous regimes failed to do so.

"The Narendra Modi government has appointed a high-level committee to look at ways to implement the accord. We are also concerned. We want Assamese to remain our language," Saikia said.

Das and Saikia pointed out that there was a wide-ranging consultation process, involving Union Home Minister Amit Shah and different groups from the state, before the Bill was taken up in Parliament this time. "No one has ever taken such efforts. We have tried. But if someone deliberately does not want to understand, and creates trouble, what can we do?" Das said.

Nanavati panel

down heavily on three senior Gujarat-cadre IPS officers - Sanjiv Bhatt, Rahul Sharma and RB Sreekumar - in service then, and NGOs Jan Sangharsh Manch then led by Mukul Sinha and Citizens for Justice and Peace led by Teesta Setalvad for levelling allegations that it said were 'baseless', 'false' or 'not reliable'.

Modi had announced a single-member commission under Justice (retired) GT Nanavati way back in February 2002. It was later reconstituted to include Gujarat High Court Justice K G Shah. After Justice Shah died, Justice AH Mehta took his place. The terms of reference of the Commission were expanded to look at the role and conduct of the chief minister, ministers and police officers during the riots.

While the Commission has recommended increasing police strength, it has also called for placing 'reasonable restriction' on publishing reports by the media during communal riots.

Addressing media after tabling the report, Minister of State for Home Pradeepsinh Jadeja said besides Modi, the Commission gave a clean chit to then ministers Haren Pandya, Ashok Bhatt and Bharat Barot. Elements who wanted to malign the image of Modi or Gujarat have been exposed by the Commission's report, he said.

"On an overall consideration of the entire material, the Commission finds that the communal riots which followed the Godhra incident were really by way of an aftermath of that incident. It was because of the Godhra incident that large sections of Hindu community became very angry and ultimately indulged in violent attacks on Muslims and their properties," the report of the two-member Commission said.

"There is no evidence to show that these attacks were either inspired or instigated or abated by any Minister of the State or by any religious or political party or organisation as such. Only thing that can be said with some certainty on the basis of the evidence which has come before the Commission, is that local members of VHP, Bajrang Dal took part in the incidents which happened in their localities. In some incidents in three or four districts including Ahmedabad, some local BJP workers also appear to have taken part. As against that there is also evidence to show that BJP leaders in some districts had helped the authorities and the local people in maintaining peace in their districts," the report said.

Former IPS officer Sanjiv Bhatt had, in an affidavit before the Supreme Court, had alleged that in a meeting held at the then Chief Minister's bungalow in Gandhinagar, Modi had given instructions to top officers to let Hindus vent their anger on minorities or Muslims. Bhatt had claimed to have attended the said meeting.

The Commission rejected Bhatt's claim and said, "It appears to the Commission that because of his personal grievances against the Government and higher officers, he (Bhatt) has now come forward with a version of his own regarding the meeting on 27th to malign the Chief Minister and the Government."

Another former IPS officer, Rahul Sharma, who has taken voluntary retirement, had produced a CD before the Commission which contained call data records of cell phone communications during a particular period of riots. Analysis of the data by Sharma had allegedly established that on February 27, 28 and March 1, 2002 some of the ministers of the state government and some officers of the CMO were in contact with the persons who later became accused in criminal cases as they had taken part in the communal riots.

The Commission has recorded that Sharma did not produce the CD when he first appeared before the Commission. He submitted it later on. Describing Sharma's evidence as not 'reliable' or 'correct', the report said it "discloses his bias against the Government".

R B Sreekumar, who was with the state intelligence bureau at the relevant time, had also produced evidence before the Commission alleging that the CM had given oral illegal instructions to officials during the riots. "This allegation is made after some departmental action was initiated against him...it clearly appears that he is a disgruntled officer," the report said, concluding that Sreekumar made 'false' allegations.

On Teesta Setalvad, the Commission recorded that she claimed before the Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team that the then Panchmahals (Godhra) Collector Jayanti Ravi had told Citizens' Tribunal headed by retired Justice Krishna Iyer that she had strongly objected to a decision taken by Modi as CM and then Health Minister Ashok Bhatt to take the bodies from Godhra to Ahmedabad while handing them over to VHP office bearers Jaydip Patel and others.

The Commission did not find 'substance' in this allegation and cited the deposition of Jayanti Ravi who denied she had told Setalvad or any other human right activist that the bodies of Karsevaks were sent to Ahmedabad against her advice. It has also stated that the Commission did not find substance in the allegation that the Chief Minister took the decision with 'an evil intention'.

Jan Sangharsh Manch, another NGO then led by Mukul Sinha, had made several allegations against the state government, then Chief Minister Modi and the manner in which the administration handled the Godhra train carnage and subsequent riots. The Commission had dealt with the allegations in detail and finally described these as 'baseless' and 'irrelevant.'

Adda

are taking too long to correct it. If so much of NPA (non-performing assets) is there, the fact is it is there. It has accumulated in front of our eyes. So this correction has to happen, but it has to happen fast," said Chandrasekaran. "The slowdown is real, but I am optimistic about India," he said.

He said the liquidity crisis that hit the non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) since the collapse of IL&FS last year is not cyclical and is largely over. "Liquidity problem is largely behind us. And I think it is a one-off, I don't think it is cyclical... Capital will flow as long as we can execute," he said.

Chandrasekaran was speaking with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group, and Sunil Jain, Managing Editor, Financial Express, at the Express Adda, an informal interaction organised by The Indian Express Group.

He, however, said the government needs to further simplify rules for businesses in India, and businesses should not be looked at with "suspicion". "We have had successes and we have had failures... Business is not a bad word (in India). I think we need to simplify rules, at the same time we need accountability. I feel we need supervision, we don't need suspicion. But these are hard to achieve," said Chandrasekaran.

Commenting on the current government's responsiveness to the concerns raised by the industry, Chandrasekaran said: "This government probably works harder than anyone else. I have found them very receptive on policy issues. I have not found a situation where I cannot put my point across. However, I cannot say whether that input will be taken. They may be getting more inputs and must be synthesising all of them to take a final call," he said.

According to Chandrasekaran, India needs to do better in terms of execution. He said both the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) are historic decisions, but India needs to get better at the "speed" with which these should be implemented.

"Sometimes, it is better to do these things in a fall-forward manner. Even though you are not perfect, you keep going, fall, get up, and go again. But at the same time, some decisions which have very, very large impact, you've got to get them right... in the implementation. Otherwise, you lose a lot of momentum," he said.

He also said India needs to reduce the disparity in the spread of income across its states. "Technology is the only way we have a chance to bridge this gap. Whether we bridge the gap or not, if we want a shot at it, it can only be done with technology," said Chandrasekaran.

Abe visit

However, protesters on Wednesday vandalised posters of the India-Japan meeting and set fire to a makeshift stage that had been constructed for the event in Guwahati.

Sources said that if the Guwahati plan gets cancelled, the Modi-Abe meeting was likely to be held in Delhi's Hyderabad House.

Another venue which was being considered was Odisha, but that is unlikely to happen since it is too short a notice. Sources said the visit would have to be postponed if the meeting was to be held in Odisha.

Meanwhile, speaking to reporters in Dhaka, Momen said: "India is historically a tolerant country which believes in secularism (but) their... position will be weakened if they deviate from that." He said Bangladesh and India enjoy close friendly relations, "termed as the golden chapter" of bilateral ties, and "so, naturally our people (Bangladeshis) expect that India won't do anything that could create anxiety among them".

Momen said the allegations of repression of minorities in Bangladesh were "untrue". "Whoever gave them the information, it is not correct," he said. "Many important decisions of our country are taken by persons belonging to different religions... we never judge anybody by their religion," he said.

Momen said Bangladesh maintains religious harmony and ensures that followers of all faiths enjoy the same rights. He said that US Ambassador in Dhaka, Earl R Miller, had also expressed concern about CAB. "They (US) are being critical about that... they believe India weakened its position by doing it," he said.

Change in citizenship dharma

The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill eases citizenship for Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Parsis, Buddhists and Christians who seek refuge in India after facing religious persecution in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. Since the list does not include Muslims from these countries, the Opposition has alleged discrimination on the basis of religion in granting citizenship which, they argued, is against the fundamentals of the Constitution.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, absent in Lok Sabha on Monday when it was passed in the Lower House, was not present in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday as well. After the Bill was passed, Modi tweeted: "A landmark day for India and our nation's ethos of compassion and brotherhood! Glad that the #CAB2019 has been passed in the #RajyaSabha. Gratitude to all the MPs who voted in favour of the Bill."

In his 77-minute speech, Shah invoked history, the BJP manifesto and multiple references to Modi as he piloted the Bill all the way.

In the last lap of his speech, Shah said that on key issues, the Congress's views and statements were similar to those coming out of Pakistan. "On issues like air strike, surgical strike, Article 370 and now CAB, the statements of Congress leaders are the same as the statements from Pakistani leaders. On CAB, the Congress leaders have said the same things as (Pakistan PM) Imran Khan said yesterday. Pakistan even quoted Congress leaders (on Article 370) in the United Nations," Shah said.

Attacking the Congress for "accepting Jinnah's terms of Partition" on religious lines, Shah said that the Modi government was fulfilling the Nehru-Liaquat Pact of 1950, even though Pakistan never honoured the spirit of the pact. "I want to ask, why did Congress accept Jinnah's terms of Partition?"

"There is no appreciation (from Opposition) that this Bill includes six religious sects which are minorities in those countries. How is this not secularism? Only when Muslims are included, will you accept it as secularism? Your definition of secularism is a narrow one, while ours is vast," Shah said. At one point, responding to Samajwadi Party MP Javed Ali, Shah said: "Even if you want, India will never be free of Muslims," he said.

Shah quoted Gandhi from September 26, 1947 that Sikhs and Hindus in Pakistan should be accepted in India. Quoting Manmohan Singh when he was in the Opposition in Rajya Sabha during the first NDA government, Shah said Singh had said that India had a "moral responsibility" towards "unfortunate" minorities facing persecution in Bangladesh.

To P Chidambaram's contention that the Bill may be struck down by the Supreme Court, Shah said anyone was free to go to court. "We should not be scared of that. If that happens, I think the Bill will be termed right in the court as well," he said.

Responding to a clarification sought by party MP Swapan Dasgupta on NRC, he said, "it (NRC) will be implemented in the entire country, including West Bengal".

On the exclusion of Muslims from these countries, Shah said the Modi government has so far granted citizenship to over 566 Muslims from these three neighbouring countries.

On Ghulam Nabi Azad's contention that there is no authoritative data on minorities persecuted in these three countries, Shah said that the numbers were low because in absence of provisions to get citizenship, refugees were scared to come forward. "If the law doesn't cover them and you ask if you're a foreigner, who will say yes".

Curfew in Guwahati as protests hit Assam

said that protesters pelted stones at Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal's house and "have surrounded" the residence of MP and Union MoS Rameshwar Teli. The official said "10-12" protesting students received "minor injuries" during a confrontation with security personnel.

In other parts of the state, tyres were burnt, vehicles set ablaze, road dividers vandalised and clashes reported between protesters and security personnel.

Late Wednesday, the central government issued an advisory to private TV channels against showing content that "can encourage or incite violence or contains anything against maintenance of law and order" or "promotes anti-national attitudes" or anything that can affect the "integrity of the nation".

Speaking to The Indian Express, protesters in Guwahati expressed the fear that the CAB would "open the floodgates for illegal Bangladeshis and violate the Assam Accord" of 1985. At many locations, protesters were seen holding placards that read "No CAB", and shouting slogans against the Bill and the BJP-led state government.

Wednesday's protests were not called by any particular association. In Guwahati, they started when youths enforced a shutdown of shops and businesses, with some marching towards Dispur and others holding demonstrations.

Mukesh Agarwal, Additional DGP (Law and Order), said that an indefinite curfew was imposed in Guwahati. An Army spokesperson said soldiers would hold a flag march soon — two columns of Assam Rifles were deployed in Tripura, where an indefinite strike against the CAB was called off Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Assam Additional Chief Secretary, Kumar Sanjay Krishna, ordered the snapping of mobile internet services for 24 hours from 7 pm Wednesday in ten districts of the state: Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Charaideo, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Kamrup (Metro) and Kamrup.

Government sources said 50 companies (5,000 personnel) of Central Armed Police Forces from J&K have been rushed to North East states, particularly Assam. Sources said the forces were pulled out of J&K where the situation following the abrogation of Article 370 is "not expected to deteriorate" with the winter setting in.

"The movement of forces is not very big. There are enough forces in the North East already. The CRPF alone had 36 battalions there. Some companies from Kashmir have been moved as they are not needed there," said a Union Home Ministry official.

Rupam Goswami, a BJP spokesperson in Assam, alleged that "third parties" were fuelling the agitation. "(Pakistan Prime Minister) Imran Khan is opposing the CAB, and so are AAMSU (All Assam Minorities Students' Association) and Badruddin Ajmal (All India United Democratic Front chief). Similarly, the AASU (All Assam Students' Union) and Tarun Gogoi are also opposing. They have instigated the protesters... They are responsible for what happened today."

Government spokesperson and state minister Chandra Mohan Patowary did not respond to requests for comment. The Chief Minister's Office did not issue any statement regarding the situation. The CM's press adviser was not available for comment.

The AASU, one of the key organisations steering the anti-CAB movement, appealed for people to assemble at the Latasil ground in Guwahati to protests against alleged atrocities by police during the protests. Samujjal Bhattacharya, advisor to AASU, said: "We are appealing for a non-violent, disciplined movement. CAB must go."

In Tripura, the Joint Movement Against Citizenship Amendment Bill (JMACAB), a platform of three tribal parties, and other tribal social organisations, called off an indefinite strike that had entered the third day. "We will decide the next course of action tomorrow," said JMACAB leader Jagadish Debbarma.

(WITH DEBRAJ DEB IN AGARTALA AND DEEPTIMAN TIWARY IN DELHI)

Parents allege girl molested at Gurgaon school

Gurgaon: A four-year-old girl was allegedly molested by a housekeeping supervisor at a prominent private school in Gurgaon. Her parents took to social media to highlight the alleged incident. While no FIR has been registered in the matter, the school has sacked the accused.

In an online post, the child's parents alleged the incident took place outside the school auditorium, where the supervisor allegedly stopped the girl and molested her, "repeatedly telling her not to tell this to her mother".

The child's parents claimed they called the police after their daughter came home and told them about the incident.

In a letter to parents, the principal said: "The school was involved all throughout, and called the authorities (police) to probe the matter. The alleged individual was handed over to police, and his services were terminated."

"The parents decided against filing a complaint. No FIR has been registered yet," said Gurgaon Police PRO Subhash Boken. **ENS**

City sees 'severe' air day, rain to bring relief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE CAPITAL'S air quality dipped to the 'severe' category on Wednesday, after an extended spell of low temperatures and stagnant winds impeded the dispersal of pollutants.

The air quality index (AQI) on Wednesday was 408, up from 369 on Tuesday. The suburbs of Ghaziabad (441), Noida (426), Greater Noida (449), Faridabad (390) and Gurgaon (370) also breathed extremely polluted air.

Weather department officials said the city recorded a low of 7.9 degrees Celsius on Wednesday, a notch below normal, and a high of 23.2 degrees Celsius. On Tuesday, the mercury had dipped to the season's lowest at 7.4 degrees Celsius.

According to IMD officials, relief is expected on Thursday, as a cyclonic circulation is expected to bring light rain and increase the wind speed — from 6-8 kilometres per hour currently to 20-30 kmph.

Air quality has taken a turn for the worse after almost a month. In the beginning of November, the city saw an extended spell of bad air quality, due to the combined effect of crop stubble burning, low wind speed and dipping temperatures.

Rain is also expected Friday, which is expected to bring the AQI to the 'poor' category. The city is expected to see its first spell of dense fog over the weekend, as morning temperatures are expected to dip to 6 degrees Celsius.

THE CITY

ANAND VIHAR	SIRIFORT	SHADIPUR	DWARKA-SECTOR 8
Severe	Severe	Very Poor	Severe
449 AQI PM: 2.5	408 AQI PM: 2.5	392 AQI PM: 2.5	434 AQI PM: 10

0-50 Good · 51-100 Satisfactory · 101-200 Moderate · 201-300 Poor · 301-400 Very poor · 401-500 Severe

Jamia students take to streets against CAB

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

STUDENTS OF Jamia Millia Islamia protested against the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB), which was passed in Rajya Sabha Thursday. While more than 200 students held a protest meeting on the campus in the evening, another march was taken out later at night.

Monday and Tuesday too had seen protests on campus.

"A short protest march was taken out by Jamia students on Wednesday night. It was a peaceful march and no violence was reported. As per routine, picket staff is posted there anyway," a Delhi Police officer said.

Sharjeel, a student of the university, said, "We had held protests against CAB on Monday and Tuesday too, but today was the first night march from the boys' hostel to the girls' hostel."

Earlier in the evening, former JNU student Umar Khalid had attended the protest, where copies of the CAB were burnt.

"We burnt copies of this communally motivated proposed legislation and took an oath to boycott CAB-NRC if it is passed," Khalid wrote on Facebook.

Aligarh Muslim University too has witnessed protests over the Citizenship Amendment Bill, with students going on a "mass hunger strike" and boycotting dining halls.

Pilgrimage scheme for senior citizens on hold

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

FIVE MONTHS and 34 trips later, the pilgrimage scheme of the Delhi government — undertaken by over 30,000 people so far — has been "temporarily suspended", with the Railways citing non-availability of train rakes to cater to the applicants.

Deputy CM Manish Sisodia released a letter from the IRCTC, dated December 10, wherein the Railways conveyed its inability to make trains available for upcoming proposed trips under the scheme. Of 63,435 applicants, 32,828 pilgrims could avail the benefits of this scheme within five months, Sisodia said, adding that 30,887 applications are in the pipeline. The Delhi government sponsors the pilgrimages of senior citizens to 12 destinations across the country under the scheme, launched on July 12.

In a statement, Northern Railways attributed the cancellation of the special trains to factors such as foggy weather conditions, ongoing Jharkhand Assembly polls and annual movement of troops of the Border Security Force from the Eastern frontier to Western frontier and vice-versa: "Foggy weather in North India adversely affected train operations... to ensure punctual running of trains, extra rakes are being utilised to run scheduled trains and to move central paramilitary forces to Jharkhand to ensure safe conduct of elections there..."

"The *teerth yatras* of senior citizens should not be stopped... People whose tickets were confirmed must be really sad now. My message to them is — don't be disappointed. I will talk to the Centre and get the yatras resumed. It may take some time," CM Arvind Kejriwal tweeted.

ANAJ MANDI BLAZE THAT KILLED 43

At same building, minor fire broke out six months ago

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

INVESTIGATION INTO the blaze at a five-storey building in Old Delhi's Anaj Mandi, which killed 43 people including five minors, has revealed that a minor fire broke out in one of the rooms on the ground floor around six months ago as well, but it was doused by locals as well as the fire department, police have said.

The ground floor is owned by key accused Mohammed Rehan's brother, Mohammed Imran.

On Wednesday, the Special Investigation Unit (SIU) of the Crime Branch arrested Rehan's brother-in-law, Mohammed Suhail, who had been "in hiding" since the incident. Police had earlier arrested the building's owner, Rehan, and his manager Mohammed Furkan on Sunday, following the blaze. According to police, the owner had rented out about 15 rooms in the building to different people.

"Apart from Rehan, his brother Imran, who is absconding, also owned part of the property along with their brother-in-law Suhail. Rehan got the ground floor and first floor of the building, while Imran owned two rooms on the ground floor, both vacant. The second, third and fourth floors have 18 rooms, of which Rehan owns 10, and the other two men own four each," a senior police officer said.

During Sunday's firefighting operations. *Praveen Khanna*

During questioning, Furkan told police that he worked as caretaker of the building and that around six months ago, a minor fire had broken out in one of the rooms that belonged to Imran. However, it was doused with the help of locals and the fire department. "Police are now sending a letter to the fire department, asking them to provide details of the incident that took place six months ago," an officer said.

A Delhi Fire Services source said they are yet to received the letter from police. Another source said they are going through their records and are yet to come across the alleged incident.

The SIU Wednesday also called the executive engineer of the North MCD's building department to measure the height of building, and found it was 17 metres. "Rehan is learnt to have told police that he illegally constructed two floors in 2008 with connivance of civic body officials and local police," the officer said.

During questioning, Rehan told police that he was sleeping at home Sunday morning when he came to know about the incident. "After reaching the spot, he met Furkan and they tried to douse the fire. They also asked someone to run and inform fire officials at the nearby fire station. They were part of the initial rescue operation, but fled the spot later after they discovered that the death toll was mounting," the officer said.

Meanwhile, a team of BSES officials and officers from the CBI's forensic lab visited the spot. As reported by *The Indian Express*, the fire had broken out at one of the sub meters installed on the second floor.

Licencing officer noticed issues days before blaze

MALLICA JOSHI
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

TWO DAYS before a fire in North Delhi's Anaj Mandi claimed 43 lives, a licencing officer of the North Delhi Municipal Corporation had red-flagged a plastic moulding machine installed on the ground floor. The machine was not supposed to be used in a non-industrial area and its use can attract coercive action, such as sealing.

"The officer came back with photographs of the first-floor installation and it was clear that the unit would be issued a show-cause notice to explain why it shouldn't be shut since illegal activity was observed. Since the officer could not access the top two floors, he returned and a notice was not issued," said North civic body commissioner Varsha Joshi.

Officials said Anaj Mandi is a mixed land use area, where retail shops are allowed to operate along with household industries. In Delhi, a little over 110 domestic industries are allowed to operate from houses. This includes trades like repair, packaging, assembly, clay modelling, data processing and making cardboard boxes and candles. Plastic moulding machines cannot be set up in households.

In the case of Anaj Mandi, several illegal units operating out of residential buildings would manufacture items to be sold in nearby Sadar Bazar.

The internal enquiry report of the North Corporation, which is awaited, is expected to fix accountability of erring officials under whose jurisdiction the illegal operation thrived.

On Tuesday, police accompanied a corporation official to measure the height of the building, which was supposed to be residential in nature. The measurement, however, revealed that the building did not meet the height criteria as it was 17 metres tall, as opposed to the permissible height of 15 metres. It is the responsibility of the municipal building department to check illegal buildings.

Since Monday, the corporation has surveyed 186 buildings under their jurisdiction, of which 13 have been sealed, 425 were issued showcause notices and 226 were found to be vacant.

EXPLAINED

Under scanner in SC too

THE SUPREME Court is hearing the matter of unauthorised/non-conforming polluting units operating in the city and had directed municipal corporations to take swift action against them. Over the past three months, 4,552 units have been surveyed, and showcause sealing notices have been sent to 3,376 units. Till December 8, the day of the fire, 1,307 units were reported closed while 390 were sealed.

BRIEFLY

Hauz Khas: 2 held for theft

New Delhi: Two persons, including a woman, were arrested for robbing Rs 4,42,000 from a house in Hauz Khas, where they worked as domestic helps, police said.

Truck hits bike, 1 dead

New Delhi: A man was killed and his brother injured after the motorcycle they were riding was hit by a truck in North Delhi's Timarpur area early Tuesday, police said.

Two held for dacoity

New Delhi: Two men, wanted in a case of robbing jewellery worth Rs 90 lakh from a moving train near Subzi Mandi railway station, were arrested from Gaya in Bihar.

1 held for teen's rape

Gurgaon: A week after a teenage girl in Palwal was allegedly gangraped by four men, police have arrested one person for the crime.

3 policemen suspended

New Delhi: Three police personnel, including a sub-inspector and two constables, were suspended for allegedly kidnapping an MCD inspector. An inquiry has been ordered. **ENS**

Bijli, paani, road to polls

Subsidies in power and water have been, and continue to be, key poll planks for the Aam Aadmi Party government. A survey of 2,298 Delhi voters by Lokniti-CSDS assesses to what extent benefits have reached the ground

SHREYAS SARDESAI & BISWAJIT MOHANTY

MONTHS AFTER failing to win a single seat in the Lok Sabha elections in May, the AAP government in Delhi took two back to back decisions on electricity and water. On August 1, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced that households consuming up to 200 units of electricity would not have to pay electricity bills, and that those consuming between 200 and 400 units would get a 50% subsidy.

On August 27, he announced a one-time waiver of arrears on water bills and an exemption from late payment fee, provided consumers get functional meters installed. This was in addition to the already existing water subsidy scheme that provides households 20,000 litres of water free of cost every month.

While both decisions were ostensibly taken to provide relief to consumers and bring more of them into the billing network, many, especially the opposition, saw a political motive ahead of the 2020 Assembly polls. Three months on, an opinion survey among 2,298 Delhi voters, conducted between November 22 and December 3, 2019 by the Lokniti programme of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), attempts to establish to what extent people benefitted from the announcements, and how their perception of the government changed as a result.

Water

In the survey, 83% of respondents reported that their households get water through the tap, while the rest reported having to fetch it from outside, mostly from water tankers (table 1). Respondents who reported getting piped water supply were asked whether they were paying more or less as compared to earlier. Over two-thirds either said their water bills had decreased or become zero (table 2).

While low income households were more likely than high income households to report a decrease in water bills (particularly zero bills), among the latter too, two-thirds said their water bill had decreased or become zero. The reporting of decreased bills was found to cut across all segments of society and all types of areas — low and high income.

The survey subsequently asked voters whether they had benefited from the recent announcement by the Delhi government to waive water arrears. Over three in every five (61%) respondents reported that their households had indeed benefited from the announcement.

Respondents were also asked whether there has been an improvement in water supply and the quality of drinking water being supplied to their area. While nearly three fourths (72%) either reported an improved or 'good as before' water supply, when it came to the quality of drinking water, the results were't as positive. While 56% said the quality of drinking water in their area had either improved or was as good as earlier (table 3), a sizeable 41% reported a deteriorated or poor water quality. This finding is significant in the context of the face-off between the Delhi government and the Central government over the quality of drinking water in Delhi. The survey was conducted when the verbal battle between the BJP and the AAP over the Bureau of Indian Standards report was at its peak.

The survey found dissatisfaction with the quality of drinking water to be greatest among residents living in the surveyed areas of East Delhi, New Delhi, North East Delhi and South Delhi. About 7% of the voters in the survey explicitly stated (in response to an open-ended question) that water-related problems are going to be the single-biggest voting issue for them during the assembly poll; this sentiment was found to be particularly strong among voters who do not have a water connection at home and have to fetch it from outside.

Electricity

Asked whether their electricity bills had decreased in the last few months, over three-fourths (77%) of the respondents either reported a decrease or a zero bill (table 5), while one in every five either reported an increase or a status quo. Again, this finding cut across all income groups and residential areas, although lower income households and slum areas were more likely to have seen their power bills decrease in the last few months.

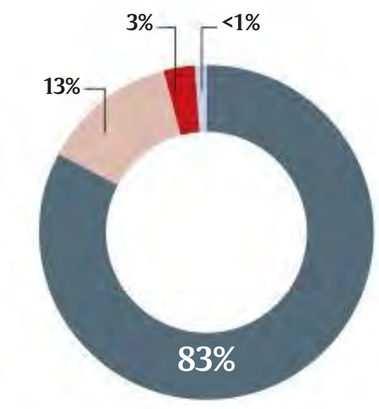
As far as electricity supply is concerned, nearly nine of out ten (87%) respondents reported an improved situation in their area and another 5% said it was as good as before (table 3). Respondents in East Delhi were, however, more likely than those in other parts to report deterioration in power supply to their area.

(Shreyas Sardesai is Research Associate at Lokniti-CSDS. Biswajit Mohanty is Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at the Deshbandhu College, University of Delhi. He is also the State Coordinator of Lokniti-CSDS in Delhi.)

TOMORROW
TRANSPORT

1: 13% RESPONDENTS REPORTED HAVING TO FETCH WATER FROM OUTSIDE; 83% GET PIPED WATER

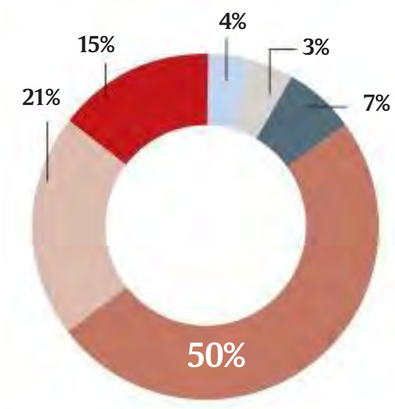
QUESTION ASKED: Does the water in your house come from the tap or do you have to go outside the house to fetch it?



Note: Figures may not add to 100 due to rounding

2: SEVEN OF TEN HOUSEHOLDS WHO GET THEIR WATER FROM TAP REPORTED A DECREASE IN WATER BILLS OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS

QUESTION ASKED: (If water comes by tap or both from tap and outside) Has the water bill of your house increased, decreased or become zero in the last few months?

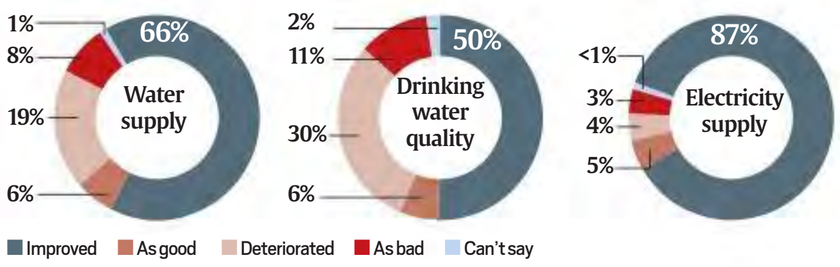


3: WHILE 66% REPORTED AN IMPROVEMENT IN WATER SUPPLY IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS, 30% SAID THE QUALITY OF WATER BEING SUPPLIED TO THEIR AREA HAD DETERIORATED

QUESTION ASKED: In the last five years has the supply of water improved or deteriorated in your area?

QUESTION ASKED: In the last five years has the quality of drinking water improved or deteriorated in your area?

QUESTION ASKED: In the last five years has the supply of electricity improved or deteriorated in your area?



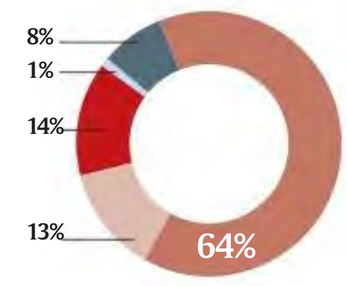
Note: Figures may not total 100 due to rounding

4: THOSE WHO DO NOT GET WATER FROM TAP ARE THREE TIMES MORE LIKELY TO SAY 'WATER' WILL BE BIGGEST VOTING ISSUE FOR THEM THAN THOSE WHO GET TAP WATER

	Water woes will be biggest voting issue (%)
All respondents	7%
Tap is source of water	5%
Have to go outside the house to fetch water	15%

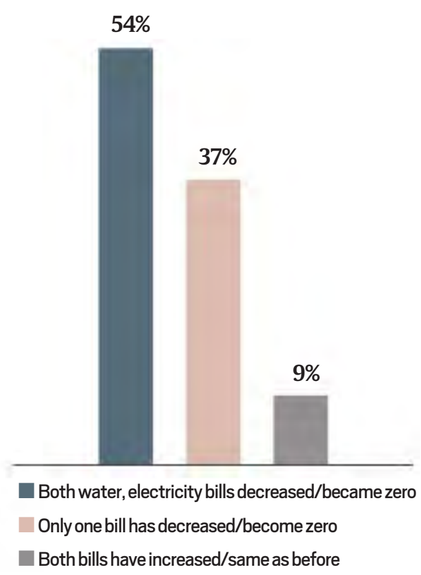
5: THREE-FOURTHS SAID POWER BILL HAS DECREASED OR BECOME ZERO IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS

QUESTION: (If meter is attached) Has your electricity bill increased, decreased or become zero in the last few months?



Note: Figures may not total 100 due to rounding

6: HALF OF THE RESPONDENTS REPORTED A DECREASE IN BOTH WATER AND POWER BILLS



HOW THE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED

THE FINDINGS presented here are from a survey conducted in Delhi by the Lokniti programme of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS). The survey was conducted from November 22 through December 3, 2019 among 2,298 voters in 115 locations (polling stations) spread across 23 Assembly Constituencies of the capital. The sampling design adopted was multi-stage random sampling. The Assembly Constituencies were randomly selected using the probability proportional to size method. Thereafter, five polling stations within each of the sampled constituencies were selected using the systematic random sampling method. Nearly 50 trained field investigators conducted face-to-face interviews of the respondents in Hindi asking them a set of standardised questions on mostly governance-related matters. The interviews were conducted at every fifth house of a polling station in order to ensure randomness. The interview duration was about 30 minutes on average. In order to ensure representativeness and correct for underrepresentation of key demographics, the achieved raw sample has been weighted by Gender, Religion, and Caste group based on Census 2011 data. All analysis here has been presented on the weighted data set. The survey was designed, supervised and analysed by a team of researchers associated with Lokniti. They include Shreyas Sardesai, Biswajit Mohanty, Himanshu Bhattacharya, Manjesh Rana, Dhananjay Kumar Singh, Vibha Attri, Jyoti Mishra, Sakshi Khemani, Aditya Pandey, Neel Madhav, Fakru Zzaman, Deepti Mary Minj, Muzamil Yaqoob and Jagannath Kashyap. Prof. Suhas Palshikar and Prof. Sandeep Shastri guided the research team in analysing the data and with the write-ups. The survey was directed by Prof. Sanjay Kumar of CSDS. Lokniti would like to acknowledge the support of Durba Chattaraj of Ashoka University who partially supported this survey with the Franklin Research Grant of the American Philosophical Society.

SAMPLE PROFILE: RAW AND WEIGHTED

	PROPORTION IN RAW SAMPLE	PROPORTION IN WEIGHTED SAMPLE*
Scheduled Castes	16.40%	16.80%
Muslims	14.10%	12.90%
Sikhs	3.00%	3.40%
Women	37.90%	46.50%

Note: Weighted by Census 2011 data

FROM 27.6% IN 2010-11 TO 15.2% IN 2018-19

Over nine years in Delhi govt schools, sharp dip in Class XI, XII students opting for maths

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE NUMBER of students in Delhi government schools opting for mathematics in class XI and XII has dropped considerably in the last nine years — from 27.6% of the total number of students in 2010-2011 to 15.2% in 2018-2019.

On Monday, *The Indian Express* had reported that close to 73% students in the current class X batch in these schools have opted for 'basic mathematics' — the option to write a simpler mathematics paper in the upcoming board examinations for those who do not want to take up the subject in class XI and XII. Those who opt for the paper cannot take up mathematics as a subject in class XI and XII. However, those who change their mind may write the standard mathematics paper in the compartment examination.

Data analysed by *The Indian Express* shows that a small percentage of Delhi government school students opt for mathematics at the higher secondary level — most recently, of 1,29,917 who wrote the 2019 CBSE Class XII board exam, only 19,718 had opted for mathematics.

There has also been a downward trend in the number of students from these schools opting for the subject at this level over the years. It hit its lowest in 2016-2017, when 11.57% of students taking the Class XII exam had opted for maths. The numbers increased to 17% in 2017-2018 and dropped to 15.2% in 2018-2019.

According to heads of these schools, the general pattern at the time that students select their subjects for class XI and XII is that the humanities section fills up first, followed by commerce without mathematics. While commerce with mathematics and 'medical science' or science without mathematics have fewer takers, science with mathematics have the fewest.

In fact, this year, the government's education department struggled to fill its science seats in class XI, even though the science stream is offered in very few of its schools — something officials have attributed to the low numbers of students who want to study mathematics. Of the 1,030 schools run by the government, only 294 offer science at the senior secondary level.

However, this August, the education department sent a circular to heads of schools: "It has been observed that in some of the schools, science section of class 11 has less than 40 students (sanctioned strength). In order to address the situation, all heads of government schools under DoE are directed to encourage and motivate the eligible students to opt for science stream in class 11."

The principal of a school attributed the low numbers to the poor standard of teaching maths and science at the senior secondary level. "Many senior secondary teaching positions are filled on the basis of promotion of those who were earlier qualified to teach from class VI to X and did an MSc 20 years ago. More than 80% of those teaching physics and maths in XI and XII are not competent. One 10-day-long SCERT seminar is not enough to bring them up to standard. Students learn from the experience of their seniors and don't make that choice," the principal said.

He also suggested that the fall in numbers of those opting for mathematics could be linked to the rise in popularity of B.Com Pass programmes, which do not require mathematics.

FEAR OF NUMBERS

Over the years, the number of students taking the mathematics paper in Class XII has decreased

Year	Total students	Math students
2010-2011	1,12,189	30,969 (27.6%)
2011-2012	1,21,345	29,264 (24.1%)
2012-2013	1,39,003	31,225 (22.4%)
2013-2014	1,66,257	25,348(15.24%)
2014-2015	1,40,191	20,050 (14.3%)
2015-2016	1,31,354	18,739 (14.2%)
2016-2017	1,21,681	14,078 (11.5%)
2017-2018	1,12,826	19,193 (17%)
2018-2019	1,29,917	19,718 (15.2%)

73% of Class X students in Delhi govt schools opt for basic maths

The Indian Express report dated December 11

No archaic Urdu in FIRs, common words okay, clarifies HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE DELHI High Court Wednesday clarified that it had, in an earlier order, directed that police FIRs should be registered in a simple language, and that only archaic Urdu and Persian words need to be avoided. A bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar further clarified that Urdu and Persian words of general use can still be used by police while registering complaints.

"Archaic Urdu and Persian words ought not to be utilised (while lodging FIRs) and that is what we intended to convey by our order of August 7 in a separate pending PIL before us. Urdu and Persian words of general use can be used," the bench said.

The High Court's clarification came while disposing of a PIL, which had challenged a police circular to its stations to stop use of 383 Urdu or Persian words while registering FIRs.

The petitioner, Naima Pasha, had claimed in the PIL that the circular was purportedly issued on the court's August 7 direction. To this, the bench said it will clarify the order.

In the other petition by advocate Vishalakshi Goel, the High Court had on November 25 called for 100 FIR copies to ascertain whether the circular of November 20 was being adhered to. Police submitted a copy of the FIRs before the court, which observed that words prohibited in the circular were still being used while registering complaints. The bench, however, observed that the police were taking steps in the right direction, noting that there was a decrease in usage of such terms.

In August, the bench had observed, "The FIR is for the public... It should not be something for which one has to do a doctorate in Sanskrit, Urdu or Persian".

Sexual harassment case: JNU official pulled up by court

PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE DELHI High Court Wednesday expressed displeasure over the failure of the JNU Registrar to produce relevant files related to a sexual harassment case filed by a PhD student against two professors, and ordered that the same be done within five days, or there would be "serious consequences".

The court was irked after JNU Registrar Dr Pramod Kumar informed that he was unable to access files and relevant documents of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) since the administrative block has been closed down completely.

Justice Prathiba M Singh however said there was an order passed on September 12 that an affidavit be filed by the Registrar within two weeks, during which there was no lockdown of JNU's administrative office.

"Be that as it may, considering that JNU is a functioning university, such a lockdown of the university building cannot be permitted. Moreover, in the present case, the petitioner (the student) has raised serious allegations in respect of two professors and a decision is yet to be taken on her representation for re-registration in the PhD course," the court said.

It asked the Registrar to file his affidavit and produce the files within five days, failing which "would entail serious consequences, especially in respect of the two professors who are stated to have been deputed to other organisations/institutions".

Justice Singh directed police to ensure that JNU's administrative building is not blocked by protesting students so there can be proper functioning of the varsity from tomorrow, and that protests should be held beyond 100 metres from the building.

"The police shall provide adequate protection to the V-C, Registrar and all other staff for entering the administrative block of the JNU building. The police authorities shall ensure that the 100-metre area is cordoned off, in whatever manner, so as to ensure that the administrative block is accessible to the staff and administration of JNU, and non-agitating students are also not inconvenienced," the court said.

The woman's advocate, Dibyanshu Pandey, alleged in the court that despite a recommendation by the ICC from August 2018 that a competent authority reconsider her application for a PhD programme, authorities were neither accepting nor rejecting the same. The JNU counsel argued that the admissions committee reconsidered the woman's application and decided in September 2018 to not recommend her for the PhD course.

The woman's counsel said no such order by the admissions committee was communicated to the woman, who has been evicted from campus.

Students have been protesting against hostel fee hike. *Express*

As JNUSU and HRD meet, some headway but deadlock remains

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE MEETING between Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) committee, JNU administration and students' union made some headway Wednesday but failed to break the deadlock over the hostel fee hike protest.

While sources in the MHRD panel said JNUSU agreed to call off the protest after assurances, including one that promised to use UGC funds for service and utility charges, the students' body denied agreeing to call off the strike and said they will meet the panel again Friday.

"There has reportedly been a draft in circulation regarding the talks between the JNUSU & MHRD. Talks are still going on. There has been no agreement yet," the JNUSU tweeted.

Sources, meanwhile, said the JNU administration had agreed to five points, including using UGC funds for utility charges and service charges "till further orders", and after ratification by the Inter Hall Administration (IHA).

The draft agreements mentions that the "administration and students would follow orders of High Court for notification of JNUSU"; the Academic Council will be requested to postpone examinations by two weeks; JNUSU would call off its agitation and not hold dharnas; and the university would take a "lenient view" of the protests.

While MHRD claimed JNUSU has agreed to the hike in room rent — from Rs 10 to Rs 300 for single-seater rooms, and Rs 20 to Rs 600 for double-seater rooms — this was dismissed by the students' union.

JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh said, "We had agreed on some of the points but the talks are still on. What is the validity of the document without us or the JNU administration signing it?"

'Decide on prosecution sanction in two months'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

A DELHI court has given the state government two months to decide whether or not to accord sanction to prosecute former JNU Students' Union president Kanhaiya Kumar and others in the 2016 sedition case.

The direction by Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Purshottam Pathak came after Delhi Police informed the court that the decision to grant prosecution sanction is still pending before the Delhi government's home department. The court adjourned the matter for further hearing on February 19, by which time it is expected that the government would have taken a decision.

Time and again, the court had granted time to Delhi Police to procure the requisite sanction. As per official records, police had applied to the Delhi government for sanction just two hours before filing the chargesheet on January 14. The court has been deferring taking cognizance of the chargesheet against the accused in the absence of a prosecution sanction.

In September, *The Indian Express* had reported that the Delhi government had decided to turn down Delhi Police's request for prosecute sanction.

In the chargesheet, police had claimed Kumar was leading a procession and supported seditious slogans raised on the campus during an event on February 9, 2016 to mark hanging of Afzal Guru.

'Register new cars only after disposing old ones'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

A PARLIAMENTARY panel on traffic management in Delhi suggested that registration of new vehicles, belonging to those who have previously owned vehicles, be allowed only if the old vehicle is either scrapped or disposed of. Headed by Congress leader Anand Sharma, the 31-member Department Related Standing Committee on Home Affairs on 'The Management of Worsening Traffic Situation in Delhi', which submitted its report to the Rajya Sabha Wednesday, also suggested that people be allowed to buy a new vehicle only if they can show they have proper space to park their car.

Similar rules are also in place in urban areas of other states such as Himachal Pradesh.

As per vehicle registration figures, over 1,400 vehicles are registered in the capital each day.

The panel also recommended that insurance premiums of vehicles be linked with traffic rule violations to ensure deterrence. Those with higher rule violations must be charged a higher premium, the panel suggested.

The Committee reviewed traffic situation at seven congested spots in Delhi — Connaught Place, Lajpat Nagar, Nehru Place, Bhikaji Cama Place, Karol Bagh, Kamla Nagar Market and Krishna Nagar Market.

Commenting on the push for electric vehicles, the panel said that caution needs to be exercised over mandating their purchase.

Soon, child care rooms in all offices

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

DELHI DEVELOPMENT Authority (DDA) Wednesday modified the building bylaws, making it compulsory for all office spaces in the the city — both private and government buildings — to have a child care room. The agency has also made it compulsory for all new buildings to have points for charging electric vehicles.

"Child care rooms in public buildings were not seen as a necessity so far. These provisions shall make the public buildings more humane. The approved proposal will be sent to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for approval," said DDA vice-chairperson Tarun Kapoor.

The land owning agency also approved a proposal to include provisions for charging electric vehicles at all new parking lots.

"Based on the occupancy pattern and the total parking provisions in the premises of various building types, charging infrastructure must be provided for electric vehicles," said a DDA official. The push for electric vehicles is a step towards reducing the carbon footprint, he added.

The DDA has also made changes in rules to allow stockists and wholesale dealers of medicine and drugs to operate in residential areas as part of mixed use regulations under master plan 2021.

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Secretary
NPSC Society, Plot No. 5, Sector-2, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075

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All are Welcome

Fault lines run deep in House

BJP slams 'votebank politics', says Bill won't hit equality

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

IN SUPPORT of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB), the ruling BJP maintained that the proposed legislation is to protect persecuted minorities in the neighbouring countries and it will not affect the equality for citizens.

While the party projected the Bill in the Lok Sabha in contrast to the Opposition's vote bank politics, in the Rajya Sabha, it argued that the government, by providing citizenship to the minority communities persecuted in the neighbouring countries, is just fulfilling what India stood for for ages and pledges of its founding leaders, including those from the Congress,

Every speaker from the party, including working president J P Nadda maintained that the Bill was just trying to give refuge to those persecuted in the name of their religion.

Defending the Bill, Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said Parliament is supreme in lawmaking. "As per Constitution, two houses of Parliament are sovereign in lawmaking. With due respect to judiciary, let me say this Parliament has powers to undo the court's decisions also, by addressing the issues...This law is constitutionally valid, in national interest and also subserves a larger humanitarian order."

Nadda argued that his party was fulfilling what even Congress leaders had been seeking — to help refugees from Bangladesh — and said that the CAB is a fulfilment of the Jawaharlal Nehru-Liyakat Khan pact of protecting the minorities in India and (undivided) Pakistan.

Nadda said the minorities in Pakistan have been persecuted. In 1947, minorities accounted for 23 per cent of Pakistan's population, but in 2017, this had dipped to 2.3 per cent, he said.

According to Nadda, when the persecution is on the basis of religion, the solution has to be based on religion. He also cited a speech by former prime minister Manmohan Singh in the Upper House in 2003 over treatment of refugees in India. Nadda said Singh had stated that minorities were persecuted in Bangladesh and had told then deputy prime minister Lal Krishna Advani that it was the country's moral obligation to make the Citizens' Act more liberal to help them. "We have brought this Bill respecting his words only (Singh)," said Nadda.

He said the Bill would not have any impact on the equality clause in the Constitution.

BJP leader Bhupender Yadav said the government has fulfilled what Swami Vivekananda had pledged. According to him, between 2003-2014, when the UPA was in power, the government had admitted at least 20 times that Hindus in Pakistan were facing persecution. "You knew their helplessness, but you never took any step," he said.

Taking a swipe at the Opposition, Yadav said, "In the pursuit of votebank politics, do not violate human rights, this is my request."

BJP's Saroj Pandey highlighted the "appeasement politics" of Opposition-led governments and Vinay Sahasrabuddhe said Indian Muslims had no problem with Article 370, Ram Mandir or CAB as they are patriots. "Muslims are not scared of us, they are scared of you and your votebank politics," he said.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah speaks in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. *PTI*

Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut at Parliament on Wednesday. *Anil Sharma*

Two days after it voted for Bill in LS, Sena walks out of RS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

TWO DAYS after 18 Shiv Sena MPs voted in favour of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha, the party's three MPs in Rajya Sabha walked out before voting on the Bill on Wednesday. This comes after the Congress, the Sena's new ally in Maharashtra, reportedly expressed strong displeasure over Sena MPs supporting the Bill in the Lower House.

While participating in the discussion, Sena parliamentary party leader Sanjay Raut said, "We should discuss this Bill on the basis of humanity, not religion. There is a difference between intruders and refugees."

The Sena, he said, did not need prove how "staunch Hindu" and "patriotic" it was. Raut said there should not be any "votebank politics" while giving citizenship to non-Muslim minorities under the Bill and added that there will be "some balance" if voting rights were not given to them for 25 years.

"We don't need any certificate to prove how patriotic we are and how staunch Hindu we are. We are the headmaster in the school where you study. Our school headmaster was Bal Thackeray and Atal (Bihari Vajpayee) *ji* and Syama Prasad Mookerjee. We believe in them." People in India have voted for members sitting on the treasury as well as opposition benches, Raut said.

"I also read and heard that it is being said that those who don't support this Bill are speaking the language of Pakistan. What does this mean? This is not Pakistan's assembly. We are all citizens of this country...If you don't like Pakistan's language, there is a majority government, it can eliminate Pakistan. We are with you."

Addressing the BJP parliamentary meeting earlier in the day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said some political parties were speaking the same language as Pakistan.

Unconstitutional law to advance Hindutva agenda: Cong's chorus

MANOJ C G & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE CONGRESS on Wednesday strongly opposed the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Rajya Sabha, accusing the government of bringing a "patently unconstitutional" and "divisive" legislation to "advance its Hindutva agenda". The party argued that the Supreme Court will strike down the Bill on the ground that it is arbitrary and added that it "fails the morality test" and hurts the "soul of India".

"I am convinced that the Bill that you have brought is an assault on the very foundational values of the Indian Constitution, it is an assault on the Republic of India, it hurts the soul of India, it is against our Constitution, against our democracy, it fails the morality test, it is divisive and discriminatory, it is against the very preamble of the Constitution...which talks of liberty, equality and secularism," Congress's Anand Sharma said.

Former Home Minister P Chidambaram said the government is introducing a new category of citizenship called "citizenship by arbitrary executive fiat" and is seeking Parliament's support in passing what is "patently an unconstitutional law" to advance its "Hindutva agenda". "You think it will stop here. It will not stop here. It will eventually go to the judges and the judges are respectable people but they are unelected. This unelected judges and unelected lawyers will ultimately decide whether what we do is constitutional or not. This is a slap on the face of Parliament," he said.

"Fortunately, we have three organs of the state...the executive is complicit, the legislature is being invited to collaborate, hopefully the judiciary will strike it down and will save India and the idea of India," he said.

Former Union minister Kapil Sibal asked Home Minister Amit Shah to explain how the proposed law chooses to allow persecuted minorities when the Bill does not mention the phrase "persecuted minorities" anywhere. "Where is the provision for persecution? How will you prove he was persecuted unless he says so?"

"Has any illegal immigrant who has ever come to India said he was persecuted? Which Hindu has said he was persecuted? You know what they've said in their legacy papers? That they are residents of India. You are forcing them by law to lie that they were persecuted," he said.

Sharma also hit back at the BJP for blaming the Congress for Partition. He said when the Congress was banned and its leaders imprisoned during the World War II, the Muslim League and Hindu Mahasabha told the British that "we will help in formation of governments in the provinces loyal to her majesty's government". In 1943, he said, it was Savarkar who had said "I have no problems with Jinnah's proposal for a two-nation theory".

Asking the government to follow the principles of Mahatma Gandhi, he said, "Gandhiji's spectacles are not just for advertisements. There is a need to see the entire nation, the society and humanity through them."

Congress leader P Chidambaram at Parliament on Wednesday. *Anil Sharma*

Congress leader Kapil Sibal speaks during the debate on Wednesday. *PTI*

BJD, AIADMK and SAD back Bill, raise exclusion of Muslims

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

NDA ALLIES BJD, AIADMK and SAD supported the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday but expressed concerns over the exclusion of Muslims from the purview of the legislation.

While the BJD said the government has a duty to allay concerns about non-inclusion of Muslims, AIADMK raised the issue of Tamils from Sri Lanka, including Muslims, not being part of the Bill.

The SAD welcomed the Bill but said the legislation should have only talked about minorities from neighbouring countries without specifying religions.

BJD's Sasmit Patra contended that the CAB and NRC are two different propositions and the Bill should not be viewed through a communal lens. "I have three suggestions. Include Sri Lanka where many Hindus and Muslims are being persecuted and do not link it to NRC. Also the government has a duty to allay the criticism and concerns about the non-inclusion of Muslims..."

AIADMK's S R Balasubramanium said, "We are concerned about Tamils from Sri Lanka, who have been living here for years, and are not included in this Bill."

Balwinder Singh Bhunder of SAD said, "We suggest just say minorities from neighbouring countries rather than specifying religions."

Oppn targets govt: Real agenda installation of Hindu Rashtra

MANOJ C G
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

UPA ALLIES DMK, NCP and the RJD and the Left Wednesday came down heavily on the BJP government over the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, arguing that it would be a blow to "secularism" if the Bill is passed and alleging that the government's real agenda was installation of a "fascistic Hindu rashtra".

CPI's Binoy Vishwam said he feared the Bill will lead to the "death of India". "Don't kill India. Let the people of India live forever. Let the great country march forward. This Bill will be a hindrance to that march."

K K Ragesh, Sanjay Singh

DMK's Tiruchi Siva asked why the government has cherrypicked Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh and left out all the other neighbours. "I would like to say that Christians pray in their houses in Bhutan. And if they want to pray in churches, they are coming to India. Are you going to discard them?," he asked.

CPM's K K Ragesh said arguments extended by the government are "ridiculous". "The government and the minister is desperately trying to hide the real agenda...and that real agenda is the fascistic Hindu rashtra."

SP's Javed Ali Khan said, "The Home Minister says this has nothing to do with Indian Muslims. How? Aren't we citizens of India? Don't we have a stake? Are we second class citizens...this is actually a very old agenda."

IUML MP Abdul Wahab said, "The Bill cannot be read in isolation but alongside the mood of the government... to dehumanise Indian Muslims without any rights into a state of statelessness..."

Accusing the government of following the Israel model, AAP's Sanjay Singh said, "You are talking about crores of infiltrators. And you are telling Bangladesh that this is our internal matter. So after they are declared illegal immigrants, are you going to create a separate country for them within India and give them free power, food and water?" —WITH ENS DELHI

TMC minces few words: People who drafted this drew from Nazi copybook

ABANTIKA GHOSH & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

TRINAMOOL CONGRESS leader Derek O'Brien on Wednesday launched a scathing attack on the government over the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, saying that "people who drafted this Bill have drawn from the Nazi copybook".

Speaking in Rajya Sabha, he called the legislation "anti-India", "anti-Bengali" and violative of the Constitution and pointed out that the 1 crore people who entered West Bengal in 1971 did so due to linguistic and not religious persecution.

"There is a view that the Bill from here will go 3.7 km down to another domed building i.e. the Supreme Court. But, in between, we have a different view. In between, there will be a people's movement," he said.

"We have recently seen many have been trying to portray themselves as Bengali-lovers. They come and say even in Parliament that Durga Puja is not being celebrated in Bengal. Sir, thousands of Durga Pujas are celebrated ...do not try to teach Bengalis about patriotism; do not try to teach the Bengalis about citizenship."

"One crore people came from East Pakistan. This is not about persecution-religious; this was linguistic persecution, linguistic persecution in the 1970s," O'Brien said.

"We are moving from a democracy to a dictatorship. It's not rhetoric; it's a fact...People who drafted this bill have drawn from the Nazi copybook," he said.

Saying that the CAB and NRC cannot be separated, he said, "You could not run NRC in one state... and now you have the gumption to tell Parliament it will happen in 27."

"Someone said, I think, yesterday, or the Prime Minister said, may have read it, it was that 'after this, it will be written in golden letters'. Yes, Sir, it will be written in golden letters. I will tell you where it will be written. This great day! It will be written on the Father of the Nation's grave. But which Father of the Nation? In Karachi — Mazare-e-Quaid. That will be written on Jinnah's grave; not on our Father of the Nation's grave," he said. "I appeal to those parties who are sitting here, the JD(U) and BJD, very humbly, that today is the day for you to stand up and be counted. Not because what you have to answer to your Chairperson in Bihar or Odisha. No. What will you tell to your grandchildren 20 years from now when they ask you which button did you press?," O'Brien said.

TMC MP Derek O'Brien at Parliament House Wednesday. *Anil Sharma*

North-East will be overrun by outsiders, say voices of region

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

MOST RAJYA Sabha members from the North-East on Wednesday opposed the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB) and said the legislation will result in the Northeastern states being overrun by outsiders and indigenous communities will be reduced to minorities. Even those who supported the Bill did so with caveats.

Ripun Bora

While supporting the Bill, Rajya Sabha member from Nagaland's NPF, K G Kenye said he was from "ground zero" and the region was most likely to be affected by the CAB. The NPF is a BJP ally in Nagaland.

"The sentiment in the North-East is very different from the thinking about the Bill at the national level. We are not communal and this is not about a religious bias. Because of the Centre's inaction over a period of 48 years, there are porous borders which have led to the infiltration of illegal immigrants...Our fears are real. This is creating an irreversible situation...illegal immigration is a threat to the integrity of the nation," he said.

Pointing out that Assam and the rest of the North-east "are burning", Congress MP from Assam Ripun Bora said that on various occasions, the Indian government has failed to furnish details of the number of illegal immigrants in the country. "If you don't even have this information, on what basis are you going to grant citizenship and to whom? What is your hidden agenda? When I asked the government how many immigrants arrived after the 1971 war, the government said that there is no authentic information on the issue."

"There are people who have lived in Assam and in India for decades. They have voted in elections, they hold jobs, they participate in festivals. They are Indians. Now you are forcing these very same people to say that they are not Indians," added Bora.

Congress MP from Mizoram Ronald Sapa Tlau said Buddhist Chakmas from Bangladesh did not first arrive in Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh as refugees due to religious persecution but were displaced due to the construction of a dam in Bangladesh. "These Chakmas are half of the total population of Mizos now."

Congress MP from Meghalaya Wansuk Syiem said that while most areas in her state had been exempted from CAB, Shillong had not been. "Shillong will become a ghetto and a slum," she said.

THE DEBATE

In echo of Art. 370, Shah becomes Govt face for CAB too

KRISHN KAUSHIK & SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

AROUND 1.40 pm, an hour into the debate on the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB), Union Home Minister Amit Shah walked out of the House. The benches on both sides of the aisle had thinned by then since there was no lunch break. Former PM Manmohan Singh, who was seated since noon when the debate started, had walked out minutes before.

As Shah walked out, BJP MPs stood to greet him, he nodded at some, ignored others, and then shook hands with Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan before leaving.

With Prime Minister Narendra Modi not present throughout the debate, Shah was the face of the CAB in parliament.

But the discussion in Rajya Sabha was not as belligerent as it had been in Lok Sabha.

For most part, members of treasury and opposition benches refrained from heckling or interjecting each other. It was mostly during the response by the Home Minister that Opposition MPs stood up in protest.

Shah said it is probably a "coincidence" that statements made by Congress and the ones that come from Pakistan, including by its Prime Minister Imran Khan, "*ghul-mil jaate hain*". Several Congress members objected, but Shah continued.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah at Parliament on Wednesday. *Anil Sharma*

The Home Minister also had a heated argument with TMC members when he referred to a speech which he said TMC chief Mamata Banerjee made in Lok Sabha in 2005. TMC MPs claimed that Shah was "misleading" the House. Shah denied the allegation and moved on.

Two hours after the discussion started, the House strength was down to to just 60 members as most had gone out for lunch. Slowly, however, the leaders started returning.

Congress leader P Chidambaram could be seen consulting deputy leader of the party in the House Anand Sharma first, and then party colleague Kapil Sibal.

Shiv Sena's Sanjay Raut went beyond the time allotted to him and before he could state whether the party was supporting the Bill or not, his mic was switched off. He was later seen walking towards the treasury benches, shaking hands with BJP working president J P Nadda. Sena's members were absent when the voting took place.

Towards the end of the voting process, TMC's leader in the House Derek O'Brien told Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu that he won't move an amendment he proposed if the Chair allowed him to just say one sentence. On getting the opportunity, O'Brien looked at the treasury benches and said, "It is very apparent today where the majority is." Then he turned to the Opposition benches and stated, "It is very apparent where the morality is."

CAB PASSAGE

Maharashtra: IPS officer quits in protest over citizenship Bill

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

A SENIOR officer of Maharashtra Police tendered his resignation to the state government on the day that the Parliament passed the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019, which he termed "divisive" and "unconstitutional".

Abdur Rehman, Special Inspector General of Police, Maharashtra State Human Rights Commission, had applied for voluntary retirement in August.

"When I saw that the Parliament had approved the Bill, I felt it was very discriminatory and that by remaining in service, I will not be able to do much. I have written a book on the plight of the Muslim community and have seen that the attitude of the government is to consistently target a particular community. The resignation is in opposition to that," Rehman said.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Rehman said he would firm up plans on opposing the Bill on Thursday. A 1997-batch IPS officer, Rehman also tweeted a letter in which he elaborated on his reasons for quitting. "...the whole idea behind the Bill is to divide the nation on religious and sectarian lines. It creates fear among the people belonging to the Muslim community. It also compels Muslims to leave their faith and adopt some other religion to save their citizenship..."

Adding that the Bill runs against India's religious pluralism and spirit of tolerance, Rehman claimed that if implemented, "it will destroy the brotherhood and common fabric among people. I condemn this Bill. As a civil disobedience, I have decided not to continue in service..."

Rehman had applied for voluntary retirement in August. The previous government had refused to promote him to the rank of IGP. Among other allegations of misconduct cited by the state government for Rehman's poor Annual Confidential Report was him denying information under RTI to an applicant when he was posted as Additional Superintendent of Police, Yavatmal District, between 2001 and 2002, an officer said.

Sonia: Dark day in our constitutional history

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

AS THE Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019, sailed through in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, Congress president Sonia Gandhi said it was a "dark day" in the constitutional history of India and argued that the passage of the "flawed" legislation marks the victory of narrow-minded and bigoted forces over India's pluralism.

She said the Bill is antithetical to the spirit of the freedom movement and violative of the soul of the nation.

"The Citizenship Amendment Bill is not just an affront to the eternal principles of equality and religious non-discrimination that have been enshrined in our Constitution, but represents a rejection of an India that would be a free nation for all her people, irrespective of religion, region, caste, creed, language or ethnicity," Gandhi said in a statement.

'The Bill fundamentally challenges the idea of India'

Today, she said, marks a dark day in the Constitutional history of India. "The passage of the Citizenship Amendment Bill marks the victory of narrow-minded and bigoted forces over India's pluralism. The Bill fundamentally challenges the idea of India that our forefathers fought for and, in its place, creates a disturbed, distorted and divided India where religion will become a determinant of nationhood," she said.

"In its design, its grave implications, this flawed legislation is antithetical to the spirit of the freedom movement and violative of the soul of our nation," she added. Arguing that India has historically offered refuge and protection to the persecuted of all nations and of all faiths, she said "we are a proud nation that has never been broken by the insecurity of a few, for we have always stood firm with the knowledge that a free India can only remain free if her people are liberated, if her voices are heard, and if our institutions, our governments and our political forces dedicate themselves to securing the inalienable rights of the citizens of this country."

"It is ironic that the Bill has been pushed through at a time when the country and indeed the whole world are celebrating the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. In this moment of anguish, I would like to reiterate the Congress Party's determination to be relentless in our struggle against the BJP's dangerously divisive and polarising agenda," she added.

Some Oppn leaders speaking Pak's language on CAB, says PM

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

HOURS BEFORE Home Minister Amit Shah alleged that Congress leaders were talking like Pakistani leaders on the floor of the Rajya Sabha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday accused "some Opposition leaders" of "speaking Pakistan's language with its commas and full stops" on the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, sources said.

Modi, who was addressing the BJP parliamentary party, also reportedly told them that his government has been fulfilling the dreams of the party's founding fathers and that the legislative measures it has taken in the last five-and-a-half years including the scrapping of Article 370 and the CAB will be "written in golden letters".

"The last five-and-a-half-year period has created history in everyone's life. Those who have witnessed it and those who participated in it are fortunate. This period is the one with the most glorious achievements and this period will be written in golden letters in history. It is a remarkable achievement and you all are stakeholders in it," Modi was quoted as saying by a source who was present at the meeting.

PM Narendra Modi arrives for the BJP parliamentary party meeting in New Delhi on Wednesday. *Anil Sharma*

This was the first time Modi addressed his party MPs in this session.

According to sources, Modi lauded Shah for the CAB, which was passed by the Lok Sabha on Monday and was debated in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, and all the members who were part of the process.

He took strong exception to the Opposition, which accused the government of bringing a law that discriminates against citizens on the basis of religion.

"The Prime Minister said that some Opposition leaders were talking the same language of Pakistan with its commas and full stops. He said they speak exactly like them," said the source.

Later in the day, while replying to the debate on the CAB, Shah accused Congress leaders of speaking like leaders of Pakistan.

Modi said that those who fled religious persecution have long lived a life of "uncertainty" in India and will get "permanent relief" once the proposed law comes into effect. According to party sources, the PM instructed the MPs to bust the "myths" being spread about the CAB.

"He said just passing the Bill in both Houses will not end our responsibility. We have to reach out to people, clearing the doubts and conveying that it is BJP's achievement," said an MP.

Modi reportedly asked the party to mobilise the beneficiaries of the legislation at different levels — mandal, booths, district and state — to campaign about the legislation. "He said we should make them talk about the pathetic lives they led in those countries and the newly generated self confidence after the legislation," said the source. On the upcoming Budget, Modi told BJP MPs to gather feedback from all sections of society, including farmers, traders, the poor, businessmen and industrialists, and share the inputs with the finance minister.

A protest against the Citizenship Amendment Bill in New Delhi on Wednesday. *Gajendra Yadav*

20 AMU students booked for protest on campus, hunger strike begins

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, NOIDA, DEC 11

A TOTAL of 20 Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) students were booked by the police in the past 48 hours for allegedly violating CrPC section 144 that was imposed across Lucknow in the wake of Citizenship (Amendment) Bill being tabled in Parliament. They were also booked on charges of clashing with the police Tuesday, when several students took out a 'torch procession' in protest against CAB.

Students continued their protest Wednesday and launched a 24-hour hunger strike.

Former president of AMUSU, Salman Imtiaz, said, "All 25,000 students of the varsity did not eat in protest. The hunger strike started this morning will end tomorrow (Thursday) morning. This Bill against the Constitution and as students of this country, we are opposing it and will continue our protest," claimed Imtiaz.

They also claimed to have boycotted academic activities, but the university administration denied this and said examinations and classes were held as scheduled. The administration also maintained that there was calm on the campus.

Students protest at the AMU campus on Tuesday night. *Express*

"Apart from the 20 students, more than 500 unidentified persons have also been booked for gathering without permission as a large demonstration had taken place Tuesday. Rapid Action Force (RAF), Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) and personnel from four police stations have been deployed at the University for preventive measures. Protests in small pockets are currently taking place and the situation is under control," said Anil Kumar, Circle Officer (City 3rd).

According to the police, outgoing Imtiaz is among the named accused.

Station House Officer, Civil Lines, Amit Kumar said additional police force, RAF and PAC were deployed outside the varsity as a "precautionary measure."

Shafe Kidwai, member and in-charge of Public Relations of AMU, said, "A protest was held against CAB and NRC on the university premises and students gave speeches. Academic activities like examinations were held as per schedule."

Law unconstitutional, says Oppn; Shah says court will uphold it

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

WHILE THE Home Minister reiterated in the Rajya Sabha that the Citizenship Amendment Bill was an attempt to correct the wrongs of Partition, the Opposition warned it could be struck down as unconstitutional by courts.

Describing the law as "patently unconstitutional," former Union minister P Chidambaram said he is "absolutely confident that the law will be struck down". "We cannot pronounce on the constitutionality but we have a responsibility to pass what is constitutional," the senior Congress leader added.

Senior Congress leader Kapil Sibal asked Home Minister Amit Shah to explain how the proposed law allows persecuted minorities when the Bill does not mention the phrase "persecuted minorities" anywhere. "Where is the provision for persecution? How will you prove he was persecuted unless he says so?"

"Has any illegal immigrant who has ever come to India said he was persecuted? Which Hindu has said he was persecuted? You know what they have said in their legacy papers? That they are residents of India. You are forcing them by law to lie that they were persecuted," Sibal said.

Chidambaram also questioned why the law specifically addresses only religious persecution. "Are people not persecuted for political reasons?" he asked.

Shah, in his reply, said he was confident that the law is constitutional and that the courts will uphold it if challenged. "The courts are open for everyone. We do not fear that someone will go to court. The law is undoubtedly constitutional and when you go to argue before the court, even judges will tell you the same," Shah said, referring to both Congress leaders.

Both Chidambaram and Sibal also asked the Home Minister who advised him on the Bill. To this, Minister for Law and Justice Ravi Shankar Prasad responded that the law was vetted by the legislative department of the ministry. Chidambaram requested Shah to invite the Attorney General to Parliament to defend the law. "The Parliament is sovereign in law-making. We respect the judiciary but we have the power to even undo verdicts of the court," Prasad said.

Parliament cannot invalidate or overrule a court judgment but can amend or pass fresh legislation altering the law on which the court's judgment was founded. However, if the court strikes down a legislation on the basis that it violates the basic structure of Constitution that is unamendable, it becomes virtually impossible for Parliament to undo the judicial verdict.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Cheer over Bill in Assam's Barak Valley

TORA AGARWALA
SILCHAR, DECEMBER 11

WITH THE Rajya Sabha passing the Citizenship Amendment Bill on Wednesday evening, there was much cheer in Assam's Barak Valley, the state's predominantly Hindu Bengali region.

Shortly after the announcement, BJP members set off firecrackers to celebrate outside the party's office in Itkhola locality. "Morality and majority both with BJP," said Rajdip Roy, BJP MP from Silchar, minutes after Rajya Sabha passed the Bill.

While protest roiled Assam last week, it has been business as usual in the three districts (Cachar, Karimganj, Hailakandi) of Assam's Barak Valley, particularly its biggest town, Silchar.

As students around Assam have come out in thousands to oppose the Bill, students of Assam University in Silchar have come out in support of the Bill. On Wednesday evening, a group of students took out a procession to mark their support for the Bill.

"In fact, the Bill has come too late," said Milan Das of Assam University. "While I completely respect the sentiments of the people who are protesting across Assam, it is important to understand why the Bill is important to us," said Sharmila Chakravarty, a 25-year-old law graduate who was part of a support rally in Silchar on Wednesday.

"If Hindus don't come to India, where else will they go? This Bill is not about Muslims at all. It is about saving the Hindus," she said.

Among them are those Hindus who have failed to make it to the NRC. "I am confident that now the problem of citizenship for Bengali Hindus will be sorted out," said Kabindra Purkayashtha, former MP and Union minister and senior BJP leader.

Some however, did express concerns over implementation.

"There are still conditions to fulfil...The fact is most Hindus, even if they came in before 1971, don't have documents to prove religious persecution," said M Bhattacharjee of the All Assam Bengali Hindu Association.

Kishor fires fresh salvo at JD(U), seeks to remind it of 2015 victory

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PATNA, DECEMBER 11

JD(U) NATIONAL vice president Prashant Kishor on Wednesday stuck to his guns, stating that the party — headed by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar — should have spared "a moment for all those who reposed their faith and trust in it" in 2015.

Kishor, also took a dig at Kumar for his turnaround of 2017 when he dumped the Grand Alliance and returned to the NDA

"While supporting #CAB, the JD(U) leadership should spare a moment for all those who reposed their faith and trust in it in 2015. We must not forget that but for the victory of 2015, the party and its managers wouldnt have been left with much to cut any deal with anyone," Kishor tweeted.

The poll strategist-turned-politicians latest comments came barely a few hours after Kumar's close aide and state minister Sanjay Jha had dismissed contrary opinions expressed by Kishor and national general secretary Pavan Varma as "personal opinions".

Rajya Sabha member and president of the JD(U)s Bihar unit Vashishth Narayan Singh also said in the national capital that once the party had made its stand clear, leaders should have refrained from "making public their personal views".

There was no fresh comment from Varma, who also voiced disagreement on supporting CAB, and had urged Kumar to "reconsider" the stand when the legislation is debated in the Rajya Sabha.

Earlier, on Monday while the Bill was being put to vote in the Lok Sabha where it was passed by an overwhelming majority with all the 16 JD(U) MPs voting in support, Kishor had expressed disappointment with his party's decision to back the legislation.

ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON GOATS
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Fax No. 0565-2763246

F. No. 2-3(9)/R&P/2016/Part-I Dated: 11th December, 2019

VACANCY NOTIFICATION

One (01) contractual positions of Senior Research Fellow (SRF) under NASF Project is entitled MAP and DIVA is Proposed to be filled through walk-in interview on 21.12.2019 from 11:00 AM onwards.

Interested candidates may visit our website www.cirg.res.in for details.

ASST. ADMN OFFICER

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(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)

SEC/PR/109/2014 Part II 10 December 2019

NOTIFICATION REGARDING TENDERS FOR COCHIN SHIPYARD LIMITED

The 'Invitation for Bids' / 'Notice Inviting Tenders' (IFB/NIT)/ the tender requirements of CSL for procurement of goods, services/ works **will not be** henceforth published in newspapers. All the concerned are hereby notified that tender enquiry of CSL shall be published on CSL website **(www.cochinshipyard.com)** and Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) at **www.eprocure.gov.in/GEM** (in applicable cases). All the interested bidders are requested to refer above websites on a regular basis for tenders of CSL.

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Sd/-
Company Secretary & General Manager (Finance)

Citibank N.A., 5th Floor, Dlf Square, Dlf City Phase II, Gurgaon-122002

AUCTION SALE NOTICE (Under SARFAESI Act, 2002)

Auction Sale of Immovable Property mortgaged to the bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) read with rules 5,6,7,8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement Rules, 2002).

Whereas the Authorized Officer of the Bank has issued a demand notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act and thereafter in exercise of powers under section 13(12) of SARFAESI Act has taken possession of Properties mortgaged to **Citibank N.A.** under Section 13(4) and 14(1) of the SARFAESI Act and the undersigned in the capacity of Authorized Officer has decided for sale of the property by public auction on **10th-Jan-2020** at the place and time mentioned below.

DETAILS OF SALE

S No	Name of borrower, Loan A/c. No., Description of the Property & Upset price	Secured Debt, EMD amount	Place And Time of Auction
1	Ms. Sakshi Sehgal, Mr. Manish Sehgal M/s. Nimbus fabrics, Mr. Kewal Sehgal **Flat No. 237**, 2nd Floor, Dhudial Appatments, Pitampura, New Delhi - 110034 **A/c # 134319** **UPSET PRICE - Rs. 90,40,000** Floor Area: 1119 sq.ft.	**Rs. 1,23,09,496/-** as on 04th-Dec-2019 **EMD Rs. 9,04,000**	Date of Inspection on 7th-Jan-2019 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. **Auction Venue:** Citibank N.A., 5th Floor, Dlf Square, Dlf City Phase II, Gurgaon - 122002 **10th - Jan - 2020 at 11.30 A.M.**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AUCTION

1. The property is sold on **'AS IS WHERE IS & AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION'.**
2. The Bidder is obliged to exercise full due diligence in all respects, including to inspect each of the details of the property(ies) mentioned above on the scheduled dates & times.
3. Submission of bids to **Citibank N.A.** would be construed a deemed acceptance by the bidder that (i) he/she/it has exercised due diligence in all respects; (ii) is satisfied with all details/measurements of property(ies); (iii) acknowledges full knowledge of terms and conditions that govern the auction and (iv) waives all his/her/its rights to make any contrary claims against bank at any future date.
4. The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank, if the borrower/guarantor pays the bank in full before sale, no sale will be conducted.
5. The Bidder shall remit Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by Banker's Cheque / DD drawn in favour of **Citibank N A Loan A/c 134319,** along with the bid form in a Sealed Cover addressed to The **Authorised Officer, Citibank N A.** upto **11.30 a.m. on or before 10th Jan- 2020 Citibank N.A.** Citibank N.A., 5th Floor, Dlf Square, Dlf City Phase II, Gurgaon- 122002, Please note that, in reference to successful bidder(s), EMD is adjustable against the sale consideration receivable by Citibank N.A. Also, EMD is refundable to the unsuccessful bidder(s).
6. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the bid amount immediately on the sale being knocked down in his/her/its favour and the balance within 15 days by Banker's Cheque / DD drawn in favour of **Citibank N A, Loan A/c Number 134319.**
7. In case the successful bidder fails to deposit 25% of the bid amount immediately on sale being knocked down in his/ her/its favour and/or the balance amount within15 days, Please note that, in reference to successful bidder(s), **EMD** is adjustable against the sale consideration receivable by Citibank N.A. Also, EMD is refundable to the unsuccessful bidder(s), the deposit made by the bidder shall be forfeited without any notice and the sale will be cancelled.
8. The charges / fees payable for conveyance such as stamp duty, registration fee, maintenance charges electricity charges etc shall be borne by the successful bidder. The Authorized Officer will not be held responsible for any charge, lien, property tax or any other dues to the Government or local body or any other authority in respect of the property under sale.
9. The Authorised Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject the bid or adjourn / postpone/cancel the sale/modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice or assigning any reason therefore.
10. The Sale will only be in favour of successful bidder and not his/her nominee. For inspection of properties and other details, intending buyers may contact **Mr. Vishal kumar, Mr. Kapil Jain (O) 0124 4977625 (M)+91- 8076063777 (M) +91 -9811487755.**
11. This Notice is also to the Borrower(s) Guarantor(s) in particular and the public in general.

Place: Gurgaon
Date: 04-Dec-2019

Vishal Kumar (Authorised Officer)
Citibank N.A.

HARYANA STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY
O/o DIRECTOR GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES HARYANA, SWASTHYA BHAWAN, SECTOR-6, PANCHKULA

ADVERTISEMENT FOR FILLING UP OF VACANT POSTS ON CONTRACT BASIS

1. Haryana State AIDS Control Society (HSACS) intends to fill following posts on contractual basis for period upto 31.03.2020 which will be renewed on year to year basis on assessment of perfomance as per guidelines received from NACO. The remuneration is consolidated and no other allowance is admissible. The first three months of appointment will be the probation period during which the work and conduct will be assessed and in case of unsatisfactory performance the contract shall be terminated by the appointing authority without assigning any reason. The service conditions shall be governed according to National AIDS control Organization (NACO), MOHFW, Govt. of India guidelines issued from time to time:-

1	Medical Officer OST Consolidated Salary Rs. 36000/- P.M. 1. CH Faridabad-1 2. CH Jind-1 3. CH Bahadurgarh Jhajjar-1 4. CH Panipat-1 5. CH Rewari-1 6. CH Sirsa-1	6	MBBS with valid registration with the medical council. Those with MD psychiatry/Diploma in Psychiatry Medicine (DPM) will be preferred.
2	Senior Medical Officer ART Centre, PGIMS Rohtak Consolidated Salary Rs. 45000/- P.M	1	First preference will be given to candidates MD in medicine or any other clinical Discipline OR MBBS plus diploma in any clinical discipline OR MBBS with fellowship in HIV medicine or diploma in public health having three years of exerience
3	Medical Officer ART Centre, PGIMS Rohtak Consolidated Salary Rs. 36000/- P.M.	2	MBBS with valid registration with the medical council
4.	Medical Officer, ART Centre Consolidated Salary Rs. 36000/- P.M 1 ART Centre Panipat-1	1	MBBS with valid registration with the medical council

- The number of posts are subject to increase/decrease.
- The posts are District specific and non-transferable
- Reservation as per Haryana Govt. policy.
- The applicants should have passed Hindi/Sanskrit upto Matric
- Age-70 years as per NACO letter dated 4th December, 2019.
- Retired persons with requisite qualification can also apply.
- Walk in Interview on every Monday and Thursday (subject to vacancy). Eligible candidates to contact the office of concerned Civil Surgeon for district posts and MS, PGIMS, Rohtak/Nodal Officer, ART Centre, Rohtak for posts of ART Centre, PGIMS, Rohtak along with Biodata and self attested copies of certificates/testimonials and two photographs. Original certificates/Testimonials shall be verified at the time of Interview.

HSACS reserves the right to cancel the above advertisement at any time without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Project Director
Haryana State AIDS Control Society
Panchkula

79578/HRY

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL

MATTER OF LANGUAGE

STUDENT PROTESTS in BHU over the appointment of a Muslim professor to the Sanskrit faculty had attracted flak from the academic and political community. On Monday, Khan resigned from the Sanskrit faculty to join the Arts faculty. This evoked a reaction from Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa. He tweeted, "After exulting in their success in making Firoze Khan quit his job due to their protest, what would BHU students like to do with 'Gul-e-Naghma' by Raghupati Sahay (Firaq Gorakhpuri) for which he got the Jnanpith Award? He earned respect and fame for his unmatched Urdu poetry."

JOVIAL MOOD

PM NARENDRA Modi, who could not attend the BJP parliamentary party meetings during the winter session, was present at Tuesday's meeting — the last one of this session. He addressed MPs on a serious issue like CAB, but seemed to be in a jovial mood, said sources. During the address, he expressed regret for not attending two meetings, which he said he would not have avoided if he did not have important meetings including a Jharkhand poll rally. Modi said he decided not to miss Tuesday's meeting hoping that Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi would distribute sweets for the party's victory in Karnataka bypolls. He added playfully that he was disappointed that no sweets were distributed.

BACK IN CHAIR

AS VOTING on several sections of the CAB was under way more than eight hours after the discussion started in Rajya Sabha, Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu asked the Deputy Chairman to take over. Though Naidu had not been sitting for the entire duration of the discussion, he was present for the commencement and the conclusion. As soon as he left, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi and his junior minister V Muraleedharan went to check after him. They were stopped by the marshal, who apparently assured them that he would be back. Naidu was back in minutes, in what appeared to have been a toilet break.

LS refers data protection Bill to joint select committee

Tharoor says move sets dangerous precedent, Prasad rejects allegations

KARISHMA MEHROTRA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

SIDESTEPPING THE Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology, the Lok Sabha adopted a resolution moved by Union IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad to refer the Personal Data Protection Bill to a Joint Select Committee (JSC).

Amid protests by the Opposition, Prasad introduced 'The Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019' in the Lok Sabha. Rejecting the Opposition's allegations of surveillance as "completely wrong, unsustainable, malicious and misleading", Prasad said, "What we are doing is, we are protecting the privacy of Indians."

The minister said, "If one misuses data beyond the permissible consent, he will face consequences. We have given provision of penalty of crores of rupees... We have decided to put data into three categories. One is critical data — critical is what, the government will notify it from time to time; the second is sensitive data which relates to income, medical records, sexual preferences and a whole lot of things. Critical data cannot go out of India at all. Sensitive data can go out of India only with the consent of the individual and with the approval of the authority." The Speaker then asked Prasad to introduce the Bill but Opposition members sought a division. MPs of the Congress, NCP, DMK and TMC later staged a walkout. Moving a resolution in the House, Prasad said the Bill may be referred to a joint committee. The resolution was passed by voice vote. In a letter to the Lok Sabha Speaker later, it is learnt that IT Standing Committee chairman Shashi Tharoor urged the Speaker to "caution this government against such wilful exercise of undermining the House". "In a brazen disregard for the Committee, and by extension, the parliamentary convention relating to Standing Committees, this government has chosen to establish Joint Select Committee, presumably in order to extend its control by a Chairman from the ruling party. The exercise in creating a Joint Select Committee on a matter that rests squarely within the purview of an existing Standing Committee sets a dangerous precedent..." he wrote.

The IT Parliamentary Committee's meeting scheduled for Wednesday was postponed to Friday. According to Tharoor, the Speaker had asked him to do so considering a whip issued by the BJP to Rajya Sabha MPs. Two other people who were scheduled to speak in front of the Committee also said that they received a call from the Cabinet Secretariat's office saying the Speaker had directed the meeting be cancelled.

With a photo of the schedule for the day, Tharoor tweeted that he had asked the Speaker whether other panel meetings were affected. "I specifically asked the Speaker whether his request affected all Committee meetings scheduled for today. He assured me it did. I am shocked to learn that the other Committees held their meetings and ours was the only one not allowed to meet. Does the government have something to hide?" he tweeted.

-WITH ENS, DELHI

Ravi Shankar Prasad, Shashi Tharoor in Lok Sabha. *PTI*

EXPLAINED

Surprise move, leaves questions

THE Bill was widely expected to be sent to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on IT. However, MPs were taken by surprise when the IT Minister moved a resolution to hand it over to a joint select committee. While the Standing Committee on IT is chaired by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, the joint select committee will be headed by a ruling party member. While Tharoor wrote to the Lok Sabha Speaker in protest, many questioned the motive given the red flags raised by experts on the sweeping powers the Bill accords to government agencies to call for personal data of individuals.

CONSTITUTION (126TH AMENDMENT) BILL

Anglo-Indian body raises objections ahead of tabling in RS

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

EVEN AS the government prepares to table the Constitution (126th Amendment) Bill, 2019 in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, objections have been raised from the Anglo-Indian community about the census numbers.

The Bill, while extending reservation for SC/STs in legislative bodies, also does away with the provision for nomination of Anglo-Indians to the Lok Sabha and some state Assemblies. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi had pushed for its passage in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday without discussion, but the House didn't agree.

In a letter to PM Narendra Modi, the All India Anglo-Indian Association objected to Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad's claim that there are just 296 members of the community.

Barry O'Brien, president-in-chief of the association, said: "We accessed government data which is from 2011 census. It shows nine Anglo-Indians in West Bengal. There are probably more than that in my own family. It shows zero in UP and Uttarakhand, yet those Assemblies have sitting members from the community... Also, a petition we started already has 750 signatures of Anglo-Indians. The truth is nobody knows how many Anglo-Indians there are in the country. All we know is it's probably somewhere in the lakhs."

Barry is the brother of Trinamool RS MP Derek O'Brien. Their father Neil O'Brien was briefly a nominated Lok Sabha MP in 1996. Talking about the Bill in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, Derek traced the roots of his Irish grandfather to talk about how it was because of the Constitution of India that the O'Briens of India stayed put, while those of Pakistan moved to Canada, England or Australia.

The Anglo-Indian community in India traces its origins to a policy of the British East India Company to encourage marriages of its officers with local women. A Pagoda — about nine shillings or Rs 5 — was paid to every child born of such a marriage.

The provision for nomination of two Anglo-Indians to Lok Sabha was made under Article 331 of the Constitution. It deals with representation of the community in the Legislative Assemblies. Currently, 14 states have one Anglo-Indian member each in their Assemblies. The 126th amendment, if passed by Parliament and notified by the President, will do away with this.

"What appears to have shattered our community today is the suddenness with which this is being done and the fact that not a single Anglo-Indian leader or member of the community has been consulted, nor has a justification been offered..." Barry wrote.

INTERVIEW: TRS MP NAGESWARA RAO

'Economy down... Centre not releasing money'

TRS MP **NAMA NAGESWARA RAO** spoke to **HARIKISHAN SHARMA** about why he raised the issue of pending GST compensation to states in the Lok Sabha. Excerpts:

'As per GST Act, Centre has to compensate shortfall in revenue'

What is the issue you raised?

As per the GST Act, the Centre has to compensate whatever the shortfall in the revenue of a state is. Telangana has to get around Rs 4,531 crore... We have requested several times. We have written letters to the Finance Minister, we are also requesting the House... According to the state reorganisation Act, we should get money for development of backward regions. But an amount of Rs 450 crore is also pending.

What do you expect from the Centre?

On one hand, the entire economy is down. On the other hand, whatever money we should get from the Centre, they are not releasing it. Cash flow is required for the state. This is affecting development ...

Are there other funds not being released by the Centre?

Yes, an amount of Rs 450 crore is pending for the development of the backward areas under the state reorganisation Act.

FULL INTERVIEW ON www.indianexpress.com

A LIGHT MOMENT

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar with former President Pranab Mukherjee during an event at the Indian Statistical Institute, in Kolkata on Wednesday. "I am not worried over the slow rate of GDP growth in the country. Certain things happening will have their impact," Mukherjee said. *Express*

Drop Rajiv Gandhi name from south campus, suggests BHU panel

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 11

THE BANARAS Hindu University court has recommended that former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's name be struck off from the varsity's south campus because he made "no contribution" towards the educational institute.

The court, an advisory body of the university, has sent its proposal to the university's decision-making body — the academic council.

Established in 2006, the campus is located in Mirzapur district and called 'Rajiv Gandhi South Campus Barkachha'.

Chancellor Giridhar Malviya, a retired judge of the Allahabad High Court, chaired the meeting of the court on Monday. He confirmed that the proposal would be sent to the academic council.

"The members of the court said that former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi never visited BHU... Former Human Resource Development minister Arjun Singh had named the south campus of BHU after former PM Rajiv Gandhi," said Justice Malviya.

"It was then decided that the proposal to remove Rajiv Gandhi's name from the south campus will be sent to the academic council for consideration," said Malviya, adding that the proposal was backed by all the court members.

SC suggests probe by retired SC judge into Hyderabad encounter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday said that it proposed to order an inquiry by a retired judge of the apex court into the killing of four men accused of raping and murdering a veterinary surgeon in a police encounter in Hyderabad on December 6.

Heading a three-judge bench, Chief Justice of India S A Bobde said the court was aware that the Telangana High Court is already seized of the matter and added that "the only thing we propose to do is have an inquiry by a retired SC judge".

He added that the judge, if and when appointed, will conduct the inquiry from Delhi and asked the parties to suggest names. CJI Bobde said the court had already checked with Justice (retired) P V Reddy, but it did not come through.

The bench, also comprising Justices S Abdul Nazeer and Sanjiv Khanna, was hearing a PIL by Advocates G S Mani and Pradeep Kumar Yadav. The bench said it will hear the matter again on Thursday.

The petitioners have alleged that the encounter was "fake" and that it "was conducted only to divert the public reaction over sensational gang rape and murder cases against innocent young girls and may be to protect the real culprits which is very serious, painful and not only impermissible under the rule of law but such fake encounter killing amounts to pre-planned murders in the hands of police official...".

It contended that the rape and murder took place due to the "failure" of police and that the incident had sent shock waves among the public. Pointing to news reports, it said police "refused to take immediate action and register an FIR" when the rape victim's family member went to lodge a complaint. These had turned public against police, the PIL claimed and added that to divert the public mood, police claimed to have arrested the accused within 24 hours.

"The police...themselves executed death sentence without any due process of law", it said.

The petitioners said "no one including the investigating agency like police has right to punish any accused without due process of law".

The petition said there was a "clear chance" of the police officers involved in the encounter trying to destroy evidence and urged the court to restrain the personnel concerned from official duties till the completion of an independent investigation.

According to Telangana police, the accused were killed in retaliatory firing after two of the accused opened fire from pistols snatched from the police personnel.

Plays on topics like Ayodhya, Art 370 barred from contest

RUCHIKA GOSWAMY
PUNE, DECEMBER 11

THE ORGANISING body of 'Firodiya Karandak', a popular annual inter-collegiate drama competition in Maharashtra, has decided to restrict plays and skits that are based on 'sensitive topics' such as Babri Masjid, Article 370, India-Pakistan relations, Hindu-Muslim relations or caste.

It is the first time in the history of the 40-year-old festival such restrictions are in place.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Ajinkya Kulkarni, organiser of the festival, said, "For the past few years, we have observed that several participants from various colleges are focusing on these specific topics... Since we do not have methods of censorship on performances, we have decided this year to not allow plays and skits that have any association with sensitive topics... There is a high possibility that the context of the performance can be misinterpreted..."

"...We have never put any restrictions earlier... at the end of the day, the organising body will be held accountable," he added.

Addressing the restriction, noted social and political scientist Suhas Palshikar tweeted, "In a manner of speaking, this is actually happening in Pune: Organisers of a more than four decades old theatre competition for students has this year dictated what topics cannot be used for the plays to be eligible for prizes."

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

SI/EXESI/EXE
V. P. TIWARI DSP
DURGAPUR

MARTYR OF CISF ON 12 TH DECEMBER 1983

CISF proudly remembersremembers the supreme sacrifice of this brave-heart.heart. On this day, he laid down his life at the altar of dutylife at the altar of duty. His courage and bravery would remain an ourage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the forcefor the force. The force will remain eternally indebted to debted to him for his noblest deed.

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Office of The Executive Engineer (Special Project) Rohini
Sub Zonal Office building, 3rd Floor, Sector-17, Rohini, Delhi
N.I.T. No. EE (Sp. Pr.)RZ/TC/2019-20/05 Dated: 11.12.2019

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

North Delhi Municipal Corporation invites responses from eligible bidders for **"Empanelment of contractors for disposal of RDF recovered from biomining process at Bhalswa dump site in Delhi".**

Last date of Registration with IT Department of North DMC	: 24.12.2019 upto 15:00 hours
Last date for downloading of tender document	: 24.12.2019 upto 17:00 hours
Pre Bid Meeting	: 19.12.2019 at 15:00 hours
Submission of Technical Bid	: 26.12.2019 at 15:00 hours
Opening of Technical Bid	: 26.12.2019 at 15:15 hours
Opening of Financial Bid	: To be intimated separately
Bid Security	: Rs. 1.00 lakh
Cost of Tender Document	: Rs. 1,000/-
Time period after award of contract	: 12 Months
Bid Validity Period	: 06 Months

North DMC intends to follow a single stage two bid system for selection of a Bidder. The tender document can be purchased/ downloaded through web site **www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER.** If any date specified hereinabove happens to be a holiday, then next working day will be considered for that activity and time will remain same. Corrigendum or any other information, if any would appear only on the website i.e., **www.mcdonline.gov.in & www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER.**

RO No. 185/DPI/North/2019-20 Executive Engineer (Special Project)

PLEA IN SC AGAINST ABROGATION OF J&K SPECIAL STATUS

'Under President's Rule, Governor can't concur with Constitutional change'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

A GOVERNOR acting as an agent of the President during the latter's rule has very little residual powers and they would not include the power to give concurrence to a Constitutional change, petitioners challenging the Centre's decision to make changes to Article 370 of the Constitution — which granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir — and re-organise the state into two UTs, told the Supreme Court on Wednesday.

"Whatever be the power of the Governor otherwise, certainly the power of concurrence for a Constitutional change cannot be part of any other capacity of a Governor, who does not have a council of ministers to aid and advise him during President's rule," Senior Advocate Raju Ramachandran, appearing for former IAS officer Shah Faesal and activist Shehla Rashid, told a five-judge Constitution bench headed by Justice N V Ramana.

"If the powers of the Governor are assumed by the President and delegated to the Governor, then the residue of powers (with the Governor) in this interregnum is very limited," he told the bench, also comprising Justices S K Kaul, R Subhash Reddy, B R Gavai and Surya Kant.

Challenging the concurrence given by the then J&K Governor Satya Pal Malik, the senior counsel said the Governor during this period is only an agent of the President and his "concurrence is undemocratic for want of public reason".

The bench however, did not seem convinced.

"It can't be. He is empowered as Governor and to act on President's behalf," observed Justice Ramana.

Justice Gavai added "in fact, proclamation says he will act as Governor and representative of President".

Justice Surya Kant sought to know who, according to the petitioners, would be the competent authority to reconstitute the Assembly of the state. Ramachandran replied saying, "ultimately that question can only be answered if there is a democratic route involving people of J&K".

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

Amid J&K lawyers protest, HC issues notices to four advocates

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, DECEMBER 11

TAKING SERIOUS note of the 40-day long indefinite strike by lawyers here in protest against the transfer of power of document registration from judicial to revenue officers, Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Wednesday issued notices against four practicing lawyers asking why criminal contempt of court proceedings should not be initiated by them.

Notices were sent to S Baldev Singh, Nitin Bakshi, Azhar Usman Khan and Mahinder Singh Palli.

The change in the system of registration of documents came after the Central Registration Act was implemented after the Centre revoked the state's special status under Article 370 and bifurcated it into two Union Territories.

On Tuesday, the UT administration offered lawyers to station revenue officers authorised to register documents in a building near the court's complex, but the agitating lawyers did not agree.

Ordering the court registry to list the case on January 29, a division bench comprising Chief Justice Gitta Mittal and Justice Rajesh Bindal on Thursday also ordered that notices be issued to these lawyers asking them why action should not be initiated against them under rules 10, 11 of the Jammu and Kashmir Advocates (Regulation of Practice in the High Court and Subordinate Courts) Rules, 2003, as well as for acts which have a penalty under the the IPC.

Directing these advocates to file a response within two weeks of the receipt of the notices, the bench observed that the response shall be accompanied by a date-wise list of cases where these lawyers were engaged by litigants between November 1, 2019 and Wednesday and the courts where these cases were listed, the bench ordered.

Through another order, the bench issued notices to the Government of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Government of India through their respective Home Secretaries to urgently consider deployment of Central Armed Police Force to provide security to both the wings of the high court as well as the district courts in J&K and Ladakh.

N.E. W.S.

NORTH

Man accused of attempting to rape dancer held

Kurukshetra (Haryana): The Haryana Police on Wednesday claimed to have arrested a man for allegedly trying to rape an orchestra dancer who had attempted suicide alleging police inaction in the case. Paramjit Singh, a resident of village Ugala and owner of the orchestra group, was arrested on charges of attempting to rape the victim, DSP Shahbad Markanda, Surinder Manhju said. He further said that the dancer who was admitted to a private hospital in Kurukshetra after she allegedly tried to end her life on Tuesday has since been discharged. **PTI**

The PSLV-C48 carrying India's radar imaging earth observation satellite and nine foreign satellites blasts off from the spaceport in Sriharikota Wednesday. *PTI*

EAST

BSF rescues Russian dogs from Indo-Bangladesh border

Kalyani (WB): The BSF has rescued a pair of expensive Russian dogs from being smuggled to Bangladesh from West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district, an official of the border guards said here on Wednesday. The around 7-month-old Borzois — a male and a female — were handed over to the police and subsequently to a veterinary doctor. "A BSF jawan spotted a man walking with two bags near Amudia border outpost early in the morning. As his body language was suspicious, the jawan told him to stop. The man then dropped the bags and ran away to Bangladesh," said Arun Dahiya, Commandant of the BSF's 112 Naga battalion. **PTI**

WEST

Organisation seeks passage of 'Persons of Goan Origin' Bill

Panaji: Revolutionary Goans, a local organisation, said on Wednesday that it has planned a yatra to press its demand that only those whose ancestors lived in Goa before 1961 should get benefit of state government's welfare schemes and government jobs. It has drafted the Persons Of Goan Origin (POGO) Bill which should be passed by the Assembly, said Manoj Parab, who heads the organisation. The yatra will begin from December 15, he said. Persons of Goan Origin, defined as those whose ancestors were living in Goa prior to 1961, should have hundred percent reservation in government jobs and 80 per cent reservation in the private sector, he said. **PTI**

SOUTH

Actor Shane Nigam apologises for outbursts against producers

Kochi: Facing a ban over his alleged non-cooperation in completing two Malayalam movies, actor Shane Nigam on Wednesday tendered an apology to film producers over his recent outbursts against them. The 22-year-old actor recently hit out at the producers, saying "I doubt the producers have suffered not mental trauma but mental illness." Admitting that he had made such a remark against producers during his interaction with the media on Monday, the actor, in a Facebook post, said "my apologies if anyone is hurt by my words." The producers had demanded a public apology from the actor for his outbursts against them. **PTI**

Newspaper office demolished in Indore

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, DECEMBER 11

THE INDORE district administration (IDA) on Wednesday demolished the office of Sanjha Lokswami as part of crackdown on the properties owned by the Indore-based eveninger owner-editor and businessman Jeetu Soni.

On December 5, the administration had demolished four properties, including his bungalow and three hotels. On December 9, another bungalow owned by the controversial businessman was pulled down.

On December 5, the Indore Development Authority served a notice on the eveninger accusing its owner of usurping a plot in the Press Complex that was allotted to someone else. The registration of the newspaper has already been cancelled. While Soni is absconding, his lawyer Manohar Dalal replied to the notice calling the proposed action discriminatory.

The demolition squad arrived at the Press Complex early on Wednesday and pulled down the structure within hours. Late on Tuesday, a police case was filed against Soni and a partner Ravindra Nigam for illegally occupying the land allotted one Ravindra Pandit. The IDA had allotted the land to Pandit for his newspaper which he ran for three years. The complex also housed an event management company run by Soni's son.

The eveninger had published a series of stories in connection with the honey trap case.

2002 GUJARAT RIOTS

Nanavati report junks evidence by 3 former IPS officers, indicts then JCP

VAIBHAV JHA
AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 11

EVEN AS the Justice G T Nanavati Commission junked evidence provided by three former IPS officers in its detailed report on incidents in Ahmedabad during the large scale anti-Muslim violence in Gujarat in 2002, especially pertaining to Gulberg Society and Naroda Patiya massacres, it indicted the then Joint Commissioner of Police (JCP) MK Tandon for his failure to "assess the seriousness of the situation and bring in additional force to control the mob".

The report points to the role of the then JCP, mentioning how the senior police officer left Naroda Patiya and Gulberg Society areas, which were under his jurisdiction, just before the violence and returned only after the killings.

A total of 97 people (including one Hindu) were killed in Naroda Patiya on February 28, 2002, while 44 persons (39 Muslims and 4 Hindus), including former Congress MP Ahsan Jafri, were killed in the Gulberg Society massacre.

However, the Commission chose to ignore evidence provided by then IPS officers R B Sreekumar, who is now retired, Rahul Sharma, who took voluntary retirement and practises law at the Gujarat HC, and Sanjiv Bhatt, who was dismissed from service and is now in jail.

Sreekumar had suggested that the government had not done enough to control the riots. Sharma had collected records of calls made from February 27 to March 4, 2002, from two private mobile service providers — Celforce and AT&T — as evidence and presented it before the Commission. Bhatt had claimed he was in a meeting called by then chief minister Narendra Modi at his residence on the evening of the train carnage, where he had allegedly said that "Hindus must be allowed to vent their anger".

Tandon is the only senior officer whose role in controlling the riots has been found to be inadequate by the commission. The sector under Tandon's jurisdiction saw the maximum deaths.

However, the report has given a clean chit to personnel posted at Naroda and Meghaninagar police stations for the violence at Naroda Patiya and Gulberg Society, respectively, on the ground that meagre police force deployed at these two areas was not adequate to deal with the massive mob that had gathered that day.

EXPLAINED

12 yrs for probe, 5 for public report

THE JUSTICE G T Nanavati Commission appointed by the Gujarat government took 12 years to complete its inquiry into the Godhra train carnage and the riots that followed. It submitted its final report in November 2014. The Gujarat government took five years to make the report public. Minister of State for Home Pradeepsinh Jadeja said it was "lengthy and needed time to study every aspect". This was in sharp contrast to the Commission's first report inquiring into the Godhra train carnage, which was submitted to the then chief minister Narendra Modi, giving him a clean chit, in September 2008, and that was tabled in the state Assembly within days. Nanavati is the same judge who headed the one-man commission that probed the anti-Sikh riots of 1984.

Panel recommends 'reasonable restriction' on media during riots

PARIMAL DABHI
GANDHINAGAR, DECEMBER 11

ONE OF the significant recommendations of Justices (retired) G T Nanavati and AH Mehta Commission to the Gujarat government is to put "reasonable restriction" on media during communal riots. Citing certain statements by police officers, the panel said "people got excited and indulged in communal violence" because of the wide publicity given by the media to the Godhra incident and subsequent riots.

The Commission has cited statements of two former IPS officers — R B Sreekumar and Rahul Sharma — whose evidence, otherwise, was rejected by it.

"Not only police officers but also some persons from the public who have given evidence or statements before this Commission, have stated that because of the wide publicity given by the media to the Godhra incident and the incidents which happened thereafter, people got excited and indulged in communal violence," states the report.

"Sreekumar, who was then head of the State Intelligence Bureau, has stated in one of the affidavits that 'biting and chilling live reportage' and publishing news relating to communal riots in a 'greatly irresponsible manner' had led to communal violence at many places," it said.

44 persons, including former Congress MP Ahsan Jafri, were killed in the Gulberg Society massacre. *Express Archives*

What Modi told the commission

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 11

IN VOLUME 9, the Nanavati-Mehta Commission has put out responses given by then chief minister Narendra Modi to questions raised by the Commission, specifically related to former Congress MP Ahsan Jafri, Congress leader and former CM Amarsinh Chaudhary, former IPS officer Sanjiv Bhatt and measures taken to control the riots.

Jafri was among the 68 killed in the Gulberg Society massacre. Jafri's wife Zakia had claimed that Modi was among the many people her husband had called to seek help. However, Modi said that he got no call from former Congress MP Ahsan Jafri "either on 28.2.2002 at 1 pm or at any other point of time".

Amarsinh Chaudhary, who was the then president of the Gujarat Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC), had said in an affidavit to the Commission that he met Modi along with Congress leader Naresh Rawal on February 28, and apprised him of the "grave danger to the life of Shri Jafri and other occupants of Gulberg Society". He had told the Commission that he "did not find any positive response from the chief minister". The commission notes that on basis of this circumstance, "it is alleged that the chief minister allowed that incident to happen and did not take any step to prevent it".

The commission reproduces Modi's statement, recalling having met Chaudhary but not recollecting "the exact date and time" when they met "in connection with the riots". Modi has been quoted as saying, "I recollect he having met me once but never mentioned about any particular incident of violence at any particular place".

As for Bhatt, Modi has refused having met him at all.

Modi also told the Commission that in his capacity as chief minister and home minister of Gujarat, he was "personally reviewing the situation continuously by holding appraisal/review meetings" with senior government and police officials.

SC to take up review petitions against Ayodhya verdict today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE SUPREME Court will on Thursday take up petitions seeking review of its November 9 judgment in the Ayodhya case.

The judgment was delivered by a bench headed by the then Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and also comprising Justices S A Bobde (the current CJI), D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer.

But with Justice Gogoi retiring on November 7, the bench has been reconstituted to include Justice Sanjiv Khanna.

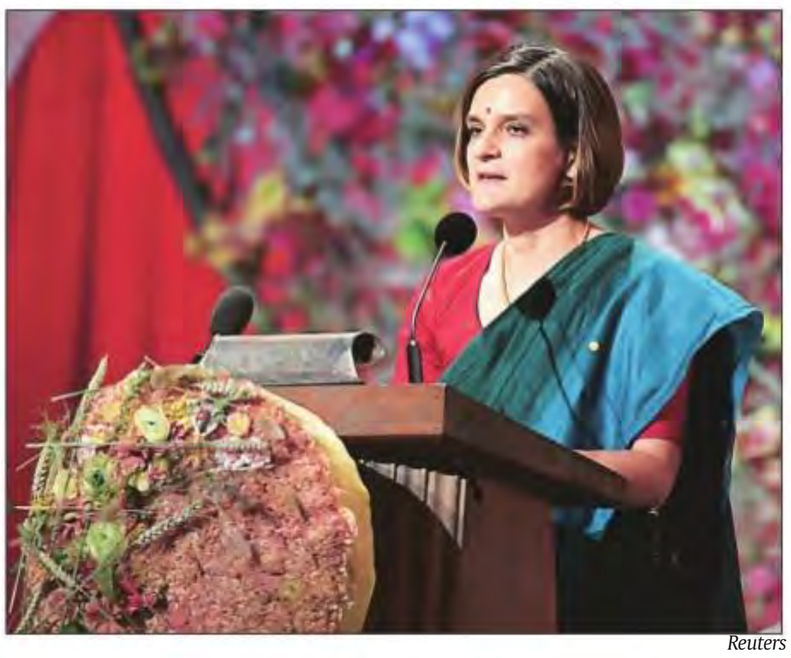
The judges will take up the matter in chamber and they will take a call on whether or not to allow the pleas to be heard in open court.

As per the list of business uploaded on the apex court's website, the bench would consider 18 review petitions in-chamber, out of which nine have been filed by parties who were part of the earlier litigation, and the other nine by "third parties".

Bringing to an end a seven-decade legal battle over the title to the disputed Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid site in Ayodhya, an issue that roiled India and propelled the rise of the BJP, the SC in its unanimous November 9 verdict ruled that the entire disputed land be handed over to a trust to be constituted for construction of a Ram temple and that Muslims be given five acres at "a suitable prominent place in Ayodhya" for building a mosque.

Those who have filed review petitions include Maulana Syed Ashhad Rashidi, legal heir of original litigant M Siddiq and Uttar Pradesh president of the Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind, five petitioners "supported" by the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, the Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha and 40 "concerned citizens", including economist Prabhat Patnaik, historian Irfan Habib and ex-civil servant Harsh Mander.

AP/PTI



Reuters

THE NOBEL

Swedish finance minister Magdalena Andersson and Economics Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee arrive at the Nobel banquet at Stockholm City Hall, in Stockholm; Economics Nobel laureate Esther Duflo delivers her speech.

Karnataka govt to HC: Kids of illegal immigrants above 6 yrs to stay in child welfare homes

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, DECEMBER 11

CHILDREN OF illegal immigrants arrested in Karnataka will be housed in child welfare homes in the state if they are above the age of six — as per the Juvenile Justice Act — while those below the age of six will stay with their parents at the detention centre, the Karnataka government informed the High Court here on Wednesday.

The government was responding to queries posed by Justice K N Phaneendra on the measures that would be taken to protect the children of illegal immigrants when the parents are detained for deportation under the Foreigners Act, 1946.

The court, which is hearing a bail plea by alleged illegal Bangladeshi immigrants Babul Khan (46) and his daughter Taniya (20), has asked state government to ensure that illegal immigrants are housed in a manner that meets international norms before they are deported.

Two weeks ago, an advocate for two alleged illegal immigrants, who were arrested in September last year, pointed out in court that two children of those arrested were housed in a home for children and separated from their imprisoned mother for over a year.

The High Court has told the state government that the deportation process must begin as soon as an FIR is registered. The court has also indicated that alleged illegal immigrants must be housed in detention centres established as per international convention, and not in prisons.

On October 25, the Bengaluru Police arrested 60 alleged illegal Bangladeshi immigrants, including 40 women and children, as part of a crackdown. In the absence of a detention centre, 58 of those arrested were sent to Kolkata on November 22 as part of an informal arrangement with Bangladesh.

Journalist says wrong to suggest allegations against Akbar fiction

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

JOURNALIST GHAZALA Wahab told a Delhi court on Wednesday that allegations of sexual harassment she made against former Union Minister MJ Akbar were not a work of fiction and that that she did not maliciously concoct a story to damage his reputation.

Akbar had to resign after journalist Priya Ramani levelled allegations of sexual misconduct on Twitter, following which he filed a defamation lawsuit against her. The court has set January 16 for the next date of hearing when final arguments will be addressed.

As Wahab's cross examination concluded, the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Vishal Pahuja ordered journalists reporting on the case to restrain from making comments on lawyers in the media.

This development happened after Akbar's counsel Geeta Luthra made an oral complaint about a news report in which allegations were made against members of her team.

The court ordered, "It has been brought to the attention of this court by the counsel for the complainant that personal comments are being passed about lawyers in media. Without pinpointing anyone from the media it has been conveyed that personal remarks of legal teams should not be made public in future."

Luthra started the cross examination by asking Wahab, "Are you aware that the IPC has a section for sexual harassment ?" Wahab replied: "I am not aware". Luthra then asked, "Are you aware that in August 1997, Supreme Court of India pronounced a judgment titled Vishaka vs State of Rajasthan which was widely reported in the newspapers?" Wahab replied that she was aware and was working at *The Asian Age* at the time.

Wahab was then asked whether she knew that the judgment dealt with sexual harassment at workplace, to which she replied, "I was aware that it is about sexual harassment at the workplace as a news item but I did not know what implications it will have at the workplace."

She was also asked whether as a journalist she was aware that in 2013 a Bill on sexual harassment at the workplace was introduced, to which she replied that she was aware.

Luthra put forward a slew of suggestions which Wahab denied.

She also denied suggestions that the allegations of sexual harassment by Akbar during her examination in chief were false. "It is wrong to suggest that the details of the events as claimed by me are a work of fiction. It is wrong to suggest that I have maliciously concocted a story to damage complainant's reputation even though I had left Asian Age in 1998..."

Wahab also denied that she made allegations against Akbar in order to damage his career and also told the court that Akbar had not been doing good work as a Minister for External Affairs.

Unnao victim's family sits on dharna near her grave

MAULSHREE SETH
UNNAO, DECEMBER 11

REFUSING TO climb down from their demand to meet Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at their residence, the family of the Unnao gangrape and murder victim on Wednesday reiterated their call and sat on a dharna near her burial ground. They also wanted Adityanath to announce that the culprits will be sent to the gallows within a week.

The 23-year-old victim's mother, father, brother and two sisters reached the burial ground early morning. They offered flowers at the temporary grave and refused to leave till the chief minister visited them.

"He (Adityanath) can come to seek votes but can't visit the poor now. He should announce in public that the accused will be sent to the gallows in a week," the elder sister of the victim said.

HC stays order allowing re-instatement of IISc prof accused of sexual harassment

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, DECEMBER 11

A DIVISION bench of the Karnataka High Court has stayed the order of a single judge of the court which allowed re-instatement of a professor of the Indian Institute of Science, who has been accused of sexual harassment by a doctoral student.

On August 6, Justice P B Bajanthri had set aside the dismissal of the professor on October 17 last year on the grounds that the IISc and an internal committee on sexual harassment did not follow the procedure for the probe.

A division bench stayed the order which had annulled the compulsory retirement ordered by IISc of the decorated scientist, professor Giridhar Madras, on December 6 following appeals by the IISc and the internal committee on sexual harassment in September.

An appeal filed by the student is pending admission in the High Court.

In its appeal against the August 6 order, the IISc stated there were no violations of procedure during investigation of the sexual harassment complaint by the student against her thesis guide.

The singe judge had ruled that "due to lapses on part of Inquiry Committee and Disciplinary Authority, whole proceedings are vitiated till imposition of penalty". An inquiry conducted by an internal committee and the voluntary retirement imposed on the professor are "liable to be set aside, the court had ruled.

Ranchi: Rs 30 lakh seized from man, he says it belongs to ex-MP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RANCHI, DECEMBER 11

SECURITY PERSONNEL at the Ranchi airport seized Rs 30 lakh from a man who claimed that the money was of former Rajya Sabha MP Dheeraj Sahu.

The money was intercepted in the scanning machine while the passenger carrying was enroute to Delhi from Ranchi.

Ranchi Deputy Commissioner Rai Mahipat Ray, who is also the District Electoral Officer, said, "It came to our knowledge that the money was of former MP D Sahu. We have handed the case to Income Tax Department and they are investigating it."

Assembly elections in Ranchi among other constituencies is scheduled on December 11.

HANDLING OF MINOR'S CASE

HC directs Mewat judge, SP to appear in person

SOFI AHSAN
CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 11

DISTURBED OVER the manner in which a minor's case was dealt with by the lower courts, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has in a very rare order directed the Mewat district and sessions judge — the seniormost judicial officer of the district — to appear in person along with the Mewat superintendent of police before the court on December 19. The 16-year-old, whose release the HC ordered, had been in detention for over one year for the alleged dowry death of his wife, who was 22-years-old at the time.

It is rare for a high court to seek appearance of a subordinate judge on the judicial side. The bail order — which was challenged before the high court — declining relief to the minor, was passed by an additional sessions judge and not the district and sessions judge who has been called by the court.

Justice Fateh Deep Singh in the order said the "serious remiss" in the matter has impelled the court to exercise its inherent powers to call upon the district and sessions judge and Mewat SP "to appear in person before this court on December 19 with a view that such remises which have serious repercussions on the mental and physical health of a child in future do not occur repetitively".

The minor from Mewat had challenged the dismissal of his application for bail by the additional sessions judge in April this year. A case was registered against him in August 2018 under sections 498-A (husband or relative of husband of a woman subjecting her to cruelty), 304B (dowry death) and 34 (acts done by several persons) of IPC. The Muslim boy was aged 15 when he was married to a Muslim girl aged around 21 years on February 26, 2017. The girl "died by hanging" on October 10, 2018, following which the minor was incarcerated on September 10 that year.

SC permits Rlys to cut over 400 trees in TTZ for tracks between Delhi, Agra

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday permitted Northern Railways to axe over 400 trees in the Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) for construction of additional rail tracks between Delhi and Agra if mandatory compensatory afforestation is undertaken.

A bench comprising Chief Justice S A Bobde and Justices S A Nazeer and Sanjiv Khanna, decided to monitor the afforestation to be undertaken by the Railways and directed the member secretary of the National Legal Service Authority Of India to appoint a person to visit the tree plantation sites regularly and file a report before it. "We want a report on (plantation of saplings) in every three months updating on the conditions of the saplings, whether they have died or are alive and whether they are properly watered or not," the bench said.

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
MAHANADI GODVARI BASIN
RAIPUR (C.G.)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal:https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in
(1st Call)

System Tender No. 59064/NIT No.:30/SAC/2019-20, Durg, Dated: 09.12.2019

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 30.12.2019 at 17.30 Hour

Name of Work:- RENOVATION OF NANKATTI DIVERSION HEAD WORK, AND REMODELING & LINING OF CANAL WITH CONSTRUCTION OF 08 NOS V.R.B. 01 NOS D.C., 10 NOS INLET, 12 NOS COLABA FIXING IN BLOCK AND DISTRICT DURG.

Probable Amount of Contract:- Rs. 291.91 Lakhs

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Intergrated e-Procurement (Portal:- **http:/eproc.cgstate.gov.in**) **from Date 16.12.2019 at 17.31 Hours (I.S.T.) onwards.**

NOTE:- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the e-Procurement portal (**http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in**) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Tandula Water Resources Divsion Durg (C.G.)
75720 For, Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Godavari Basin
Raipur (C.G.)

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division No. II, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, I&FC Wing, Vikas Bhawan-II, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054.invites on behalf of the President of India, online tender from approved and eligible contractor registered with Irrigation & Flood Control Department or Manufacturer/Authorized Dealer of Transformers & sub-station equipments etc. for the following works:

N.O.W:- Supplying installation, testing & commissioning Of 800 KVA Transformers and sub-station equipments etc. at LM Bund office complex.

(**H.O.A:-** MH 2711 ("Non Plan")

Estimated Cost: Rs. 39,54,466/-
Earnest Money: Rs. 79,089/-
Period of completion : (30) Days, Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 3:00 p.m on 13/12/2019.
(Tender I.D 2019_IFC_185117_1)
Note 1) The Tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website **http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in**
DIP/Shabdarth/1109/19-20

REGISTRATION OF FIRMS AS SUPPLIERS FOR MILITARY HOSPITAL, KIRKEE, PUNE- 411020

1) MH Kirkee invites applications from firms as suppliers of expandable & non-expandable Medical Stores Items against Local Purchase out of DGLP & ECHS funds for FY 2020-21.
2) The following Documents are mandatory for all the firms applying for Registration. (a) valid Drugs License with non-Conviction certificate issued by drugs controller (b) IT Return or Balance Sheet of last Financial Year & Receipts of GST Paid © GST Certificate(d) Shop Registration Certificate with Proof of Existence & address Proof(e) Contact Details Incl e-mail(f) Proof of Registration with Defense Procurement Portal(g) photographs of Office/Shop/ware house Premises.
3) Application Forms can be Obtained by sending a written request addressed to commandant MH Kirkee or via e-mail along with a DD of INR 500 in favour of Regimental Fund Account, Military Hospital Kirkee payable at Pune.
4) Last date for Submission of documents is 05 Jan 2020. Other Details & Terms & Conditions are given in Application Form.
5) Queries if any may please be send to dglpmhk@gmail.com or Contact us on 7875443897
(Medical Stores Procurement Cell)

Place : Kirkee, Pune
Date : 11th Dec 2019

(Col AK Mishra)
Presiding Officer
Med Stores Procurement
Committee for Commandant

भारतीय खाद्य निगम
Food Corporation of India
Regional Office, 1st Floor, U.C.F. Sadan, Vishnu Vihar, Near Prasar Bharti Office, Hardwar Byepass Road, Dehradun - 248001 (Uttarakhand)
Email- gmukfci@gov.in, agmcontuk.fci@gov.in Website: fci.gov.in

NOTICE FOR INVITING e-TENDERS- 05/2019-20

FCI Ro Dehradun invites Online e-tenders for appointment of H&TC/RTC for the transportation or handling & transportation of food grains at various centers of Uttarakhand Region for a period of two years. The detailed NIT, MTF & BOQ can be downloaded from website **http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.** Other information also available at **http://fci.gov.in/tender.php**

Date of floating of tender : 12.12.2019 at 03:00 P.M. Last date of online submission of the tender : 02.01.2020, 01:00 P.M. Opening of Technical Bid: 03.01.2020 at 02:00P.M.

General Manager (Uttarakhand)

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division No. II, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, I&FC Wing, Vikas Bhawan-II, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054. Invites on behalf of the president of India, online tender from approved specialized agencies or eligible contractors of I&FC, M.E.S., Railways, CPWD & Deptt. of Central/State Govt. (whose registration details have been verified by the I&FC Deptt.) dealing with similar nature of work for the following works:

N.O.W:- R/M of H/M Draglines TWL 101ME (Heavy Earth Moving Machines for the year 2019-20.

Sub Work:- Operation and Preventive Maintenance of 2 Nos HM Draglines TWL 101 ME (Heavy Earth Moving Machines) for a period of 6 months from the date of commencement of work/Job.

(**H.O.A:-** MH 2711 (NON PLAN)

Estimated Cost: Rs. 18,95,784/-
Earnest Money: Rs. 37,916/-
Period of completion : (180) Days, Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 3:00 p.m on 13/12/2019.
(Tender I.D 2019_IFC 185077_1)
Note 1) The Tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website **http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in**
DIP/Shabdarth/1107/19-20

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No.IX, I&FC Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sector-15, Rohini, New Delhi-110085 invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage ratc icnder from approved and eligible contractor registered with Irrigation & Flood Control Department for the following works:

1. NIT No: EE/CD-IX/NIT/44/2019-20
Name of work:- A/R & M/O Supplementary Drain.
Sub-Work:- Dismantling existing wornout wearing coarse and relaying of fresh wearing coarsc on Sec-II Bridge at RD 14100 m of Supplementary Drain.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 22,21,200/-
Earnest Money: Rs. 44,424/-
Period of completion: 01 Month, Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 03:00 pm on 13.12.2019.
(Tender I.D.- 2019_IFC_185025_1)

2. NIT No: EE/CD-IX/NIT/45/2019-20
Name of work:- Development work in Unauthorized colonies in NCT of Delhi.
Sub-Work:- Construction of roads by providing factory made cement concrete interlocking paver block and side drains in Unauthorized colonies at Vijay Vihar Phase-II, Rithala AC-06. (Regn. No. 372 Part-II).
Estimated Cost: Rs. 4,57,49,938/-
Earnest Money: Rs. 9,14,999/-
Period of completion: 06 Months, Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 03:00 p.m on 13.12.2019.
(Tender I.D.-2019_IFC_185026_1)

3. NIT No: EE/CD-IX/NIT/46/2019-20
Name of work:- MLALAD Fund.
Sub-Work:- Providing and fixing Steel Gates in Budh Vihar Phase-I in Rithala (AC-06).
Estimated Cost: Rs. 66,15,379/-
Earnest Money: Rs. 1,32,309/-
Period of completion: 03 Months, Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 03:00 p.m on 13.12.2019.
(Tender I.D.- 2019 IFC_185029_1)

4. NIT No: EE/CD-IX/NIT/47/2019-20
Name of work:- MLALAD Fund.
Sub-Work:- Providing and fixing Steel Gates in Budh Vihar Phase-II in Rithala (AC-06).
Estimated Cost: Rs. 79,28,896/-
Earnest Money: Rs. 1,58,578/-
Period of completion: 03 Months, Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 03:00 p.m on 13.12.2019.
(Tender I.D.-2019 IFC_185032_1)

5. NIT No: EE/CD-IX/NIT/48/2019-20
Name of work:- Development of old Bus Stand Park and Open Gym in village Badli in Assembly Constituency-05.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 92,69,066/-
Earnest Money: Rs. 1,85,381/-
Period of completion: 01 Year, Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 03:00 p.m on 13.12.2019.
(Tender I.D.-2019_IFC_185036_1)

Note.1) The Tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website **https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in**
DIP/Shabdarth/1110/19-20

PARADIP PORT TRUST
e-TENDER NOTICE

Name of the work : "**Allotment of 05 Nos. of Mechanical Iron Ore / Iron Ore Pellet Plots**", License Fees : **₹ 2,63,62,380/-**, Wharfage Fees : **₹ 14,92,110/-** . Last date and time of submission of Bid : **27.12.2019 up to 15:00** Hrs. Refer our website for details: **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.**

Traffic Manager
PPT/PR/542/19-20, DT.11.12.2019

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI, IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CD-III L.M. BUND OFFICE COMPLEX, SHASTRI NAGAR, DELHI -110031

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No.III, I&FC, Delhi invites on behalf of the President of India. online tender for the following works.

1. NIT No: EE/CD-III/NIT/32/2019-20
HOA : 4217 Development of Unauthorised Colony
Name of work :- Improvement of side drains and street pavement in A-Block Mandwali Fazalpur in AC-58 Laxmi Nagar Assemby Constituency (Regd.No.1597). **Estimated Cost:** Rs.80,10,337/- **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,60,207/- **Period of completion :** 120 Days: Last date & time of submission of tender: upto 3:00 p.m on 17.12.2019.
(Tender I.D 2019_IFC_185114_1).

Other details can be seen at Website **http://delhigovt.nic.in/tender**
Executive Engineer, CD-III

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, SOURA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL
Tel. E-mail: mechanicalskims@gmail.com

Re-01
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE
Gist of e-NIT No. 39 of 2019-20 Dated 09.12.2019

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Mechanical, SKIMS, Soura, Srinagar, invites e-tenders from Registered/ Repute/ Experienced Firms having relevant experience of repairs and maintenance of Hot Water Generators on annual contract basis.

Sr. No.	Name of the Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)
1.	**Replacement of Old/Unserviceable Fan Coil Unit with allied Jobs at Habakatoon Nurses Hostel/Unmarried Doctors Hostel SKIMS, Soura, Srinagar.**	**2.98**

The complete tender document is available at website: http://jktenders.gov.in. Interested Bidders/Tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarifications and submit their bids online upto the date and time mentioned in the table below. Tender Document contains qualifying criteria for bidders. Specifications, Bills of Quantities & Terms and Conditions of the contract and other relevant details.

i.	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale of Tender documents (Starting Date)	11.12.2019 from 11.00 hrs.
ii.	Date & Time of Bidding Queries/ clarification/ Pre-Bid meet	16.12.2019 at 11.00 hours
iii.	Last Date & Time of Bid uploading	17.12.2019 upto 16.00 hours
iv.	Date of Submission of hard copies (Only Original EMD/DD for Document Fee)	18.12.2019 upto 14.00 hours
v.	Date & Time of Commercial/ Technical Bid (Cover-I) opening	19.12.2019 11.00 hours (or next convenient day)
vi.	Date & Time of Financial Bid (Cover-IInd) opening of the qualifying Bidders.	Shall be intimated separately
vii.	Cost of e-Bid Document	Rs. 200/- (Rupees Two Hundred only)
viii.	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit (CDR/FDR)	Rs. 6,000/- (Rupees Six Thousand only)
ix.	Completion Time	Ten (10) days
x.	Budget Head	M&R Non Plan for the Year 2019-20

No. SIMS 139 EX.471/19-1989-98-3959-62
Dated: 09.12.2019
Sd/- Executive Engineer
Mechanical, SKIMS.

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि०
कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत जानपद खण्ड, 132 के०वी० उपस्थान काठगोदाम (हल्द्वानी)

निविदा सूचना

अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा निम्नलिखित जानपदीय कार्यों हेतु केन्द्र/राज्य सरकार/निगमों के अनुभवी प्रतिष्ठित, आयकर, जी०एस०टी० एवं ई.पी.एफ./ई.एस.आई आदि में पंजीकृत तथा ई.पी.एफ./ई.एस.आई जमा करने के नवीनतम चालान की प्रतिधारी ठेकेदारों से हस्ताक्षरयुक्त मुहरबन्द निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं जो दिनाँक 30.12.2019 के पूर्वान्ह 11.00 बजे तक बेची जायेंगी तथा निविदाएँ उसी दिन अपरान्ह 02.30 बजे तक जमा की जायेंगी जोकि उसी दिन अपरान्ह 03.00 बजे अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा उपस्थित निविदादाताओं/अधिकृत प्रतिनिधियों के समक्ष सार्वजनिक रूप से खोली जायेंगी। उक्त तिथि में अवकाश होने पर निविदाएं अगले कार्य दिवस में प्राप्त की व खोली जायेंगी। निविदा की वैधता खुलने की तिथि से 03 माह होगी। निविदाएँ किसी भी कार्य दिवस में अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में देखे व निविदा धनराशि बैंक ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर्स चैक जमा करने पर निविदा प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं किसी भी अथवा सभी निविदाओं को बिना कारण बताये अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा निरस्त करने का अधिकार सुरक्षित है। डाक से निविदा मँगवाने पर डाक व्यय रू0 100.00 अतिरिक्त देय होगा तथा डाक से हुए विलम्ब पर विभाग का कोई उत्तरदायित्व नही होगा। जिन निविदाकारों पर विभाग द्वारा पेनाल्टी लगाई गई हो अथवा जिनके द्वारा विभागीय कार्य संतोषजनक एवं पूर्ण नहीं किए गए/कराये जा रहे हों, उन्हें एकल अथवा संयुक्त रूप से भी निविदा नहीं बेची जायेंगी। शर्तेधारी निविदाएं स्वीकार नहीं की जायेंगी। निविदाकार निविदा प्रपत्र खरीदने से पूर्व निर्माण कार्य स्थल का भली-भाँति निरीक्षण कर लेवें। पिछले 03 वित्तीय वर्ष में एक अनुबंध के अन्तर्गत अनुमानित लागत का 80% या दो अनुबंधों के अन्तर्गत प्रत्येक में 60% या तीन अनुबंधों के अन्तर्गत प्रत्येक में 40%, तक के जानपदीय कार्य (Civil works) का अधिशासी अभियन्ता (जानपद)/उच्च स्तर के अधिकारी द्वारा जारी किया कार्य अनुभव प्रमाण-पत्र प्रस्तुत करना अनिवार्य है।

निविदा भाग 01 मे, अनुभव प्रमाण-पत्र, आयकर मुक्त, जी0एस0टी0, ई.पी.एफ. पंजीकरण एव चरित्र प्रमाण पत्र, निविदा वैधता हेतु हस्ताक्षरयुक्त रू0 100.00 के स्टाम्प पेपर पर रू0 01.00 का रसीदी टिकट लगा तथा धरोहर धनराशि, अधोहस्ताक्षरी के पक्ष में प्रतिभूत करते हुए सी0डी0आर0/एफ0डी0आर0/एन0एस0सी0 के रूप में तथा वाँछित प्रमाण पत्रों तथा ई0पी0एफ0 जमा करने की सत्यापित प्रति सहित प्रस्तुत की जायेगी। धरोहर धनराशि निविदा के निर्णय होने से पूर्व वापस नही की जायेगी। निविदा भाग 02 में कार्य की दरें प्रस्तुत की जायेंगी। निविदा भाग 01 में वाँछित धरोहर धनराशि आदि वाँछित प्रपत्रों के नहीं पाये जाने पर निविदा भाग 02 नहीं खोला जायेगा।

क्रम संख्या- 1-कार्य का नाम- 33/11 केवी उपस्थान महुवाडाबरा, काशीपुर में परिसर की चाहरदीवारी का निर्माण। निविदा संख्या 12/विजाखह/2019-20, धरोहर धनराशि रू0 71500.00, निविदा मूल्य रू0 1120.00 (जी.एस.टी. सहित), कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि-05 माह।

2- 33/11 केवी उपस्थान चासमण्डी, रामनगर में स्थित आवासीय भवनो की विशेष मरम्मत एवं अन्य विविध जानपदीय कार्य। निविदा संख्या 13/विजाखह/2019-20, धरोहर धनराशि रू0 46000.00, निविदा मूल्य रू0 1120.00 (जी.एस.टी. सहित), कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि-05 माह।

3-पुराना डीजल पावर हाउस, काठगोदाम स्थित डिसास्टर रिकवरी सेन्टर की विशेष मरम्मत का कार्य। निविदा संख्या 14/विजाखह/2019-20, धरोहर धनराशि रू0 46000.00, निविदा मूल्य रू0 1120.00 (जी.एस.टी. सहित), कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि-04 माह।

4- विद्युत वितरण मण्डल कार्यालय भवन हाईडिल कालोनी, रानीखेत की विशेष मरम्मत। निविदा संख्या 15/विजाखह/2019-20, धरोहर धनराशि रू0 39500.00, निविदा मूल्य रू0 1120.00 (जी.एस.टी. सहित), कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि-04 माह।

5- स्यालीधार अल्मोड़ा में विद्युत परीक्षण प्रयोगशाला के ऊपरी मंजिल में विद्युत परीक्षण खण्ड कार्यालय हेतु कक्षों का निर्माण। निविदा संख्या 16/विजाखह/2019-20, धरोहर धनराशि रू0 81000.00, निविदा मूल्य रू0 1120.00 (जी.एस.टी. सहित), कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि-06 माह।

पत्रांक सं. : 729/वि0जा0ख0(ह0)/टी-1
दिनांक : 11.12.2019 "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें" **अधिशासी अभियन्ता**

BUREAU OF PHARMA PSUs OF INDIA (BPPI)
(Society set up under the aegis of Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India)

E-1, 8th Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Extn., New Delhi - 110055 Tel. 011- 49431800

प्रधानमंत्री भारतीय जन औषधि परियोजना

Walk-in-Interviews

BPPI is the implementing agency for **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana** of **Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India.** The objective of the scheme is to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all. BPPI is expanding its operations and has urgent requirement on following post:

Post Name	No. of Post	Date of Interview	Interview Timings
Management Assistant	01	16.12.2019	10:00 AM to 01:00 PM

Eligible candidates may appear for Walk-in-Interviews at **BUREAU OF PHARMA PSUs OF INDIA (BPPI), E-1, 8th Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Extn., New Delhi – 110055.** For application form, detailed terms and conditions visit at our website: **janaushadhi.gov.in**

U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD
PARICHHA THERMAL POWER PROJECT PARICHHA JHANSI

1-E-Tender-ET-07/ECM&EMD/ PTPP/ 2019-20 work of **"M&R of Cable Gallery for unit no. 3 & 4 at PTPP, Parichha."** Estimated Cost Rs. 11,91,169.00 e-bid Submission **dt.:** 13.12.19 up to 13:00 Hrs.

2- E-Tender-ET-04/ECCU/PTPP /2019-20 work of **"Work for chain link fencing around chlorination building 2x210MW at PTPP, Parichha."** Estimated Cost Rs. 4,67,311.00 e-bid Submission **dt.:** 10.01.20 up to 13:00 Hrs.

3-E-Tender-T-71/O&MC-VIII/CAMD-III/ 2x250MW/PTEP/2019-20 work of **"Routine & preventive maintenance of Fire fighting system installed at 2x250MW, PTPP, Parichha."** Estimated Cost Rs. 3,56,970.00 e-bid Submission **dt.:** 07.01.20 up to 14:00 Hrs.

4-E-Tender-T-72/O&MC-VIII/CAMD-III/ 2x250MW/PTEP/2019-20 work of **"Round the clock Operation and Routine/ Preventive maintenance of CW chemical treatment plant installed in 2x250MW, PTPP, Parichha."** Estimated Cost Rs. 9,03,375.00 e-bid Submission **dt.:** 07.01.20 up to 14:00 Hrs.

5- E-Tender-T-12/AHD-II/PTPP/ 2019-20 of **"Servicing repairing and overhauling of overhead hoist of Ash Slurry pump house I.A.C. house Ash water pumps house and vacuum pump house of unit no. 3 and 4 of 2x210MW, PTPP, Parichha."** Estimated Cost Rs. 80,000.00 e-bid Submission **dt.:** 04.01.2020 at 14:00 hrs.

6-E-Tender-T-15/O&MC-VII/C&ID-III/ PTPP/2019-20 work of **"Overhauling of on Load Condenser Tube Cleaning (OLCTC) System of Unit #3, 2x210MW, PTPP, Parichha."** Estimated Cost Rs. 1,91,693.00 e-bid Submission **dt.:** 07.01.20 up to 12:00 Hrs.

7-E-Tender-T-16/O&MC-VII/C&ID-III/ PTPP/2019-20 work of **"Preventive/ Routine and Breakdown maintenance of CEMS and EQMS system installed at PTPP, Parichha."** Estimated Cost Rs. 8,71,000.00 e-bid Submission **dt.:** 07.01.20 up to 12:00 Hrs.

8-E-Tender-T-17/O&MC-VII/C&ID-III/ PTPP/ 2019-20 work of **"Restoration, Reconditioning and Overhauling of Mekaster make Rack & Pinion type Stack Elevator installed at unit #3 & 4, 2x210MW, PTPP, Parichha."** Estimated Cost Rs. 7,67,226.00 e-bid Submission **dt.:** 07.01.20 up to 12:00 Hrs.

9-Following Corrigendum of E-Tenders:-
I.E-Tender-T-04/AHD-II/PTPP/2019-20 extended as follows:- e-bid Submission **dt.: 26.12.2019 at 14:00 hrs.**
II.E-Tender-T-12/O&MC-X/EMD-VI/ 2x250MW/PTEP/2019-20 extended as follows:- e-bid Submission **dt.: 12.12.2019 at 18:00 hrs.**

The other terms and conditions and place of hard copies submission and opening shall remain same/ unchanged.

NOTE:-
1. The details of tender cost, earnest Money and submission of bids/tender Extension are available in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website **http://etender.up.nic.in.**
2. The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-Tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system. Date of Opening of: 2nd Price Bid shall be declared later on.

"Save Electricity"
PATRANK: 462/E&T/P.T.P.P. DATED: 11.12.2019

उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड ई-निविदा सूचना निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु कार्य/आपूर्ति हेतु ई-निविदायें दो भागों में (जी.एस.टी.) में पंजीकृत, प्रतिष्ठित एवं अनुभवी ठेकेदारों/ फर्मों से आमंत्रित की जाती हैं, निविदा के प्रथम भाग (ऑन-लाइन) में निविदा मूल्य तथा धरोहर राशि आर.टी.जी.एस/एन.एफ.आई.टी./ बैंक गारन्टी के माध्यम से अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, मुरादाबाद के भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, मुख्य शाखा मुरादाबाद में संचालित चालू खाता सं.- **10896364702, IFSC Code- SBIN 0000682 (MICR No. 110024101)** में निविदा खुलने की तिथि से 01 दिवस पूर्व सायं 17:00 बजे तक जमा कर, यूटीआर नं., खाता के नाम/सं., निविदा सं., जारी करने वाले बैंक अधिकारी तथा निविदादाता द्वारा हस्ताक्षरित प्रति, इन्कम टैक्स, पैन नं., जी.एस.टी. पंजीकरण प्रपत्र की छायाप्रति, अनुभव सम्बन्धी प्रपत्र तथा पात्रता की अन्य नियम एवं शर्तें अवश्य होने चाहिये अन्यथा की स्थिति में निविदा का भाग-2 विचारणीय नहीं होगा। द्वितीय भाग में दरें होनी चाहिये। निविदा सभी प्रपत्रों सहित खुलने की निर्धारित दिनांक को 13:00 बजे तक ई-माध्यम से प्राप्त की जायेंगी और उसी दिन ई-माध्यम से प्रथम भाग 15:00 बजे तथा प्रथम भाग के परीक्षणोपरान्त द्वितीय भाग खोला जायेगा। उक्त तिथि को अवकाश होने पर निविदायें अगले कार्यदिवस में निर्धारित समय पर खोली जायेंगी। आमंत्रित निविदायें केवल ई-निविदा पोर्टल वेबसाईट **'http://etender. up.nic.in'** पर ही खुलने के दिनांक को समय 13:00 बजे तक ही **Download/submit** की जा सकेंगी, निविदा प्रपत्र उपरोक्त पोर्टल वेबसाइट पर निविदा **submit** करने की दिनांक व समय तक उपलब्ध रहेंगे। दरों की वैधता निविदा खुलने की तिथि से कम से कम 90 दिन होनी चाहिये। अन्य नियम व शर्तें विभाग के निर्धारित नियम व शर्तें उ.प्र.पावर कारपोरेशन लि. के फार्म ए/बी के अनुसार होंगी जिन्हें किसी भी कार्यदिवस में अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में देखा जा सकता है। किसी भी या समस्त निविदाओं को स्वीकार/निरस्त करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी को बिना कोई कारण बताये सुरक्षित रहेगा। निविदा सम्बन्धी निविदा शुल्क एवं धरोहर राशि जमा करने सम्बन्धी उक्त पे-इन-स्लिप निविदा खुलने से एक दिवस पूर्व इस कार्यालय को ऑनलाइन (seetdmbd@gmail.com) उपलब्ध कराना अनिवार्य है, अन्यथा की स्थिति में निविदा नहीं खोली जाएगी। निविदा शुल्क एवं धरोहर राशि के जमा होने के सम्बन्ध में बैंक स्टेटमेन्ट की उपलब्धता पर जांचोपरान्त ही निविदा का भाग-2 खोला जायेगा। (अ) **अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा खुलने का दिनांक-** 14.12.2020: 1- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**223/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, संभल के अन्तर्गत 132 केवी उपकेन्द्र, चन्दौसी पर 40 एमवीए परिवर्तक के तेल की सेंट्रीफ्यूजिंग का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 1000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 295/-, (ब) **अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा खुलने का दिनांक-** 19.12.2020 1- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**224/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, संभल के अन्तर्गत 220 केवी एवं 132 केवी उपकेन्द्रों पर ट्रांसफारमर ऑयल की लीकेज रोकने का का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 590/-, (स) **ई-निविदा खुलने का दिनांक-** 10.01.2020 1- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**225/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, रामपुर के अंतर्गत 132 केवी उपकेन्द्र, शाहबाद पर 20 एमवीए एचएचइ मेक परिवर्तक के गैसकिट बदलने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 4000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 590/-, 2- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**226/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, सम्भल के अन्तर्गत 132 केवी उपकेंद्र, सम्भल पर विभिन्न बोर्ड्स लगाने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 590/-, 3- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**227/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, सम्भल के अन्तर्गत 220 केवी उपकेंद्र सम्भल पर यार्ड में HPSV लाइटों की मरम्मत का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 590/-, 4- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**228/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, सम्भल के अन्तर्गत 220 केवी उपकेन्द्र, चन्दौसी के कंट्रोल रूम के बाहर गार्डन में ल्यूमिनेशन का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 590/-, 5- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**229/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, संभल के अन्तर्गत 132 केवी उपकेन्द्र चन्दौसी पर 120 वॉट एल.ई.डी. लाइट लगाने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 590/-, 6- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**230/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, सम्भल के अन्तर्गत 132 केवी उपकेन्द्र सम्भल पर स्विचयार्ड में स्थापित विभिन्न उपकरणों की अर्थिंग के सुदृढ़ीकरण का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 590/-, 7- **ई-निविदा संख्या-**231/ई.टी.सी.एम./2019-20 विद्युत पारेषण खंड, रामपुर के अंतर्गत विभिन्न 132 केवी उपकेन्द्र, बिलासपुर पर पर पुराने एवं जंगग्रस्त 33 केवी सीटी/पीटी जंक्शन बॉक्सेज को हटाकर नये 33 केवी सीटी/पीटी जंक्शन बॉक्सेज लगाने एवं पेंटिंग आदि कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2000/-, निविदा प्रपत्र का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु. 590/-, **"राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें"** हस्ता./- **अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल-प्रथम उ.प्र.पा.ट्रां.का.लि. मुरादाबाद** पत्रांकः 2967/वि.पा.मं.मु./ई-निविदा/2019-20 दिनांकः 09/12/2019

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
SOURA, SRINAGAR KASHMIR
Department of Materials Management (Imports Section)
E-mail:- ammoimports@skims.ac.in, Fax: 0194-2403404

EXTENSION

Subject:- Second Extension to the eNIT No. SIMS-324-NIT 18 (Imports) of 2019 dated 12.10.2019 (Tender ID 2019_SKIMS_83735_1) regarding Supply/ Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Automatic Coagulation Analyzer for Cl. Hematology, SKIMS.

The NIT is hereby extended as per following schedule:-

Last Date for Submission of Online Bids	19.12.2019 upto 04.00 P.M.
Date of Opening of Technical Bids	23.12.2019 at 12.30 P.M.

Sd/- Asstt. Materials Management Officer Imports.

NO.: SIMS 324 eNIT 18 (Imports) 2019-4879-85-3341-43
Dated: 04.12.2019

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, SOURA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL
Tel.: E-mail: mechanicalskims@gmail.com

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE
Gist of e-NIT No. 38 of 2019-20 Dated 09.12.2019

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Mechanical, SKIMS, Soura, Srinagar, invites e-tenders from Registered/ Repute/ Experienced Firms having relevant experience of repairs and maintenance of Hot Water Generators, on annual contract basis.

Sr. No.	Name of the Work	Estimated Cost (In lacs)
1.	**Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Walk in Cold Storage Room for Virology Lab at SKIMS, Soura.**	**10.75**

The complete tender document is available at website: http://jktenders.gov.in. Interested Bidders/Tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarifications and submit their Bids online upto the date and time mentioned in the table below. Tender Document contains qualifying criteria for bidders. Specifications, Bills of Quantities & Terms and Conditions of the contract and other relevant details.

i.	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale of Tender documents (Starting Date)	11.12.2019 from 11.00 hours
ii.	Date & Time of Bidding Queries/ clarification/ Pre-Bid meet	14.12.2019 at 11.00 hours
iii.	Last Date & Time of Bid uploading	24.12.2019 upto 16.00 hours
iv.	Date of Submission of hard copies (Only Original EMD/DD for Document Fee)	26.12.2019 upto 14.00 hours
v.	Date & Time of Commercial/ Technical Bid (Cover-I) opening	27.12.2019 11.00 hours (or next convenient day)
vi.	Date & Time of Financial Bid (Cover-IInd) opening of the qualifying Bidders.	Shall be intimated separately
vii.	Cost of e-Bid Document	Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees One Thousand only)
viii.	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit (CDR/FDR)	Rs. 21,500/- (Rupees Twenty One Thousand & Five Hundred only)
ix.	Completion Time	One Month
x.	Budget Head	Machinery & Equipment for the Year 2019-20

No. SIMS 139 EX. 474/19-1972-81-3963-66
Dated: 09.12.2019
Sd/- Executive Engineer
Mechanical, SKIMS.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general information that I, Ansari Begum W/o Rafiq Ahmad R/o-B-65/2-A, B-Block Shastri Park, East Delhi-110053. inform that my name is wrongly-written as Hamsari Begum in my LIC Policy-No.122731056 & other documents. The actual name of mine is Ansari Begum which may be amended accordingly. 0040523780-8

I,Surendra Pal Rana S/o Raghuveer Singh R/o-E-20/7, Lajpat Nagar,Sahibabad, Ghaziabad,U.P.,have changed my name to Surendra Rana for all future,purposes. 0040523746-5

I,Sharad Kumar Ramchandra Dubey S/o Ramchandra Dubey R/o-G-1304,Hawelia Valencia Homes,Sector-1, Bisrakh, Greater Noida,U.P., have changed my name,to Sharad Kumar Dubey for all future purposes. 0040523746-3

I,Pooja W/o Naval Kishore R/o-F-91,DTC Colony,Hari Nagar-Depot, Jail Road, New.Delhi-110064, have changed,my name to Damyanti for all future, purposes. 0040523841-1

I,Amit Goel S/o Anil Prakash R/o-C001,ICON-Apartment,Chi-3,Greater Noida,G.B. Nagar U.P.,have changed my son's name,from Shrey Prakash Goel to Shrey Goel for all future,purposes. 0040523746-1

I, Vinod Kumar S/O Hari Kishan Gupta R/O H.No-451, Jammu Mohalla Delhi-110053 Have Changed My Name To Vinod Kumar Gupta. 0040523780-5

I, Vinay Padroo S/o Vijay Kumar Padroo R/o House No. 1467, Sector-3, Faridabad, Haryana-121004, inform that due to inadvertence, in the passport records my daughter's name is mentioned as Yashvee Padroo . Whereas, it should be "Yaashvi Padroo" and for all purposes in future. 0040523801-1

I, Vijay Kumar Padroo S/o Late Sh. Sham Lal Padroo R/o House No. 1467, Sector-3, Faridabad, Haryana-121004, inform that due to inadvertence, the name of my father is mentioned as Shyam Sunder Lal Padroo in the passport records. Whereas, it should be Sh. Sham Lal Padroo (Late). 0040523797-1

I, Vijay Kumar Gupta also known as Vijay Kumar S/o Late Sh. Om Parkash Gupta R/o C.R.-216, Lalita Park, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Vijay Gupta. 0040523744-1

I, Tashwar Ali S/O Manjoor Hasan, H.No.278 Top-Floor Gali No.14 Zakir-Nagar Jamia-Nagar New Freinds Colony 110025. Changed My Name To Tasawwur Ali. 0040523800-5

I, Sushila Chand W/o Vijendra Gahlot R/o-C-368,Paramount Golf foreste,opp sec-zeta-1,Greater Noida,have changed my,name to Sushila Chand Gehlot for all future,purposes. 0040523746-4

I,Vijay Kumar S/O Parveen Kumar R/O-1240, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009. Changed My Name To Vijay Kumar Sehgal. 0040523775-10

I, Santosh Relhan @Santosh Kumari Khurana D/o Late Ved Prakash Khurana, W/o Sudhir Relhan R/o-WZ-1851,First-Floor Multani-Mohalla Rani Bagh, Shakur-Basti Delhi-110034, changed my name to Santosh Khurana for all future purposes. 0040523800-3

I, Rani Uneza W/O Anas Mirza, H-No.1430, Chatta Nawab Saheb Farashkhana Delhi 110006. Changed My Name To Oneza. 0040523800-4

I, Ram Narayan Katiyar S/o-Sham Lal R/o-Kh.no.782 3rd-floor extended Lal Dora Kamalpur Burari Delhi-84. Changed my name Ram Narayan. 0040523775-3

I, Ram Chander S/o Ram Pal R/o 331, First Floor, Surya-Nagar, Phase-2, Sector-91,Faridabad, Haryana-121013.have changed my name to Ram Chander Verma. 0040523775-4

I, Rahul Kumar S/o Late Shri Banarsi Giri, R/o A-204, Navjiwan Camp, Govindpuri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019. Informs that I have changed my name from Rahul Kumar to Rahul Giri for all future purposes. 0040523732-1

I, R.K. Arora S/O Shri.Khairati Lal R/O-Yuth Hostel, Club Road, Civil-Line, Punjabi-Camp, Delhi-110054. have changed my name to Raman Kumar. 0040523825-4

I, Pradeep Kumar Singh alias Pradip Kumar Singh S/o Raghu Bir Singh R/o RZ-224 A, Pratap Vihar-I, Nangloi, New Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Pradeep Kumar Singh for all purposes. 0040523736-1

I, Parveen Sehgal/Parveen Kumar Sehgal S/O Sita Ram R/O-1240, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009. Changed My Nameto Parveen Kumar. 0040523775-9

I, Chann Sachdeva S/o Pratap Lal R/o NP-100, Pitampura, Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Gurcharan Lal for all purposes. 0040523800-2

I Kusum W/o Gyanendra Kumar R/o 2297/174 Tri-Nagar Ganeshpura Delhi-110035, Have Changed My Name To Deepika Saini. 0040523825-5

I, Paavan alias Paavan Singh D/o Anil Kumar, R/o A133, 2nd Floor, Inderpuri, New Delhi-110012, have changed my name to Paavan for all purposes. 0040523734-1

I, No.14843209W SEP/MT Prasanta Barui S/o Late Shyam Sunder Barui, Vill-Madhabpur, Post-Mahisrekha, Teh-Uluberia, Dist-Howrah, West Bengal-711303, inform that in my service record my wife name wrongly written as Tanushree Ghorui instead of Tanushree Barui. 0040523738-1

I, No 15491836H ALD Ravindra Dundanatti of Vill- Dundanatti, PO. Benachinamardi, Teh. Gokak, Dist. Belgaum, State: Karnataka, have changed my mother name from Mayavva to Mallavva Dundanatti vide Affidavit dated 10 Dec 2019 before Notary, Shama Rani (Regn. No. 2682) Area, Delhi. 0040523739-1

I, Nitesh Bhardwaj, S/o Sanjay Bhardwaj, R/o H.No.151/28, Gali No.2, Main Road, Mandawali, Delhi-110092 have changed my name from Nitesh to Nitesh Bhardwaj for all purposes. 0040523773-1

I, Nibha Kumari W/o Rahul Giri, R/o A-204, Navjiwan Camp, Govindpuri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019. Informs that I have changed my name from Nibha Kumari to Nibha for all future purposes. 0040523731-1

I, Naresh Kumar S/o Jai Bhagwan R/o 73-74, Pocket-D-14, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Naresh Kumar Garg. 0040523780-7

I, Mohd. Amif Khan S/o Shahamat Hussain R/o D-179, Super Mig Sector 93, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201304 have changed my name to Arif Khan for all purposes. 0040523829-1

I, Mohd Osama S/o Mohd Zakir R/o 769, Gali Imam Wali, Jama Masjid, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Kabir. 0040523730-1

I, Seema Rani Rawat W/O Jaipal Singh Rawat, H-No F-18, Karampura Delhi-110015 Changed My Name To Seema. 0040523800-6

I, Mobin Ahmed S/o Amir Hussain R/o J-2000, Jahangir Puri, New Delhi-110033, have changed my name to Mobeen Ahmad. 0040523800-1

I, Meena Gupta W/O Amit Goel R/O Tp-64, Pitampura, Delhi-110088. Have Changed My Nane To Mahima Goel. 0040523800-8

I, Mary Moolan Paul w/o Sebastine Kanichukunnath Raphel R/o A-402, Sanghamitra Appt., Plot No.-20, Sector -4, Dwarka, New Delhi- 110078, have changed my name to MARY SEBASTINE. 0040523765-1

I, Madhumita Roy Chowdhury W/O Gautam Kumar Banerjee. H-No-Quarter.No-1125 Type-4, Sector-12 Ramakrishna-Puram, South/West-Delhi-110022. Changed My Name To Madhumita Banerjee. 0040523853-1

I, Madan Lal Garg S/o Desh Raj R/o F-79, Second Floor, Rajendra Park Extension, Nangloi, Delhi, have changed my name to Madan Lal permanently. 0040523743-1

I, Lakshmi Padroo D/o Late Sh. Rugh Nath Dhar W/o Vijay Kumar Padroo R/o House No. 1467, Sector-3, Faridabad, Haryana-121004, inform that in the Passport my name is mentioned as Lakshmi Dhar and after marriage I have changed my name as Lakshmi Padroo for all purpose. 0040523803-1

I, Kumar Gaurav Kohli S/o Sh. Ashwani Kohli R/o E-149/1, Gali No-16, Rama Vihar, Delhi-110081, have changed my name to Gaurav Kohli for all purposes. 0040523819-1

I, Kawal Kumar S/O, Nand Singh Khurana R/o H.No-850, Sector-9, Faridabad have changed my name to Kawal Khurana for all purposes. 0040523800-11

I, Jugesh Sethi D/o-Jagat Ram Arora W/o-Yog Raj Sethi, R/o-House.No.1, Vipin-Garden, Kakrola-Mor, Uttam-Nagar, New-Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Yogesh Sethi. 0040523775-5

I, Jai Prakash S/o Sh. B.P. Sharma R/o UG-1, Plot No.749, Sector-5, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010, have changed my daughter's name from Anshu Kumari to Anshu Bhardwaj for all future purposes. 0040523728-1

I, Harjeet Singh S/o Satnam Singh R/o-1833, B-Block Near-State-Bank Jahangirpuri Delhi-110033, have changed my Minor Daughter's name from Sukhmani to Prabhleen Kaur, for all purposes. 0040523825-2

I, Harish Kumar S/o Bhedi Singh R/o-Khasara No. 31/25/1, ELD-36 Rani-Khera Delhi-81. Have changed my name to Harish Kumar Gautam. 0040523775-7

I, Gurbaksh Singh S/O Late Sardar Tara Singh R/O WZ - 243/2, Ground floor, Gali No - 3, Virender Nagar, Janak Puri, New Delhi 110058 have changed my name to Roopinder Singh Sachdeva. 0070687654-1

I, Geeta Goyal D/o Des Raj Goyal R/o N-1/1, Phase-1, Budh Vihar, Delhi-110086, that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as Geeta Goel and Des Raj Goel respectively in my Educational Documents and PAN Card. The actual name of mine and my father is Geeta Goyal and Des Raj Goyal respectively. 0070687663-1

I, Gaurav Miglani S/o Tilak Raj Miglani R/o 469, Sector-31, Faridabad have changed my name from Gourav to Gaurav Miglani for all future purposes. 0040523723-1

I, Anjun Khan W/o Firoz Khan R/o-I-342, Sector-Alpha-2,Greater Noida,U.P.,have changed,my name to Anjum Khan for all futurepurposes. 0040523746-2

I, Ex Sub. Vijender Kumar (JC-270260M) R/o H.No 202, Vill-Pathreri, Tehsil- Manesar, Distt-Gurugram (Haryana), Pin-122413, want to change my son's name in all documents from Pawan to Pawan Joon. The correct name after the change will be Pawan Joon. 0040523737-1

I, Crystal Elaine Johannes D/o-William Johannes R/o-Plot.No.85,S-4, Sector-2B,PNB Road,Vaishali,Ghaziabad,U.P.-201010,have changed my name from Crystal Elaine Johannes to Crystal Johannes for all,purpase. 0040523746-6

I, Anu Mala D/o Rajmal W/o Shyam Lal, R/o VPO-Jharsa, Gurgaon-122001, Haryana have changed my name to Anumala. 0040523775-6

I, Baljeet Kaur W/O Charanjeet Singh R/O B-97, I-Floor, Hari Nagar, Delhi-110064. Have Changed My Name To Shashi Kaur. 0040523800-7

I, Akash Verma S/o Late Shri S.P. Verma R/o Flat No. 204, Tower 4, Exotica Dream, Ville,Greater Noida West, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP. I have changed my name to AAKASH VERMAfor all future purposes. 0040523741-1

I, Ajay Kumar S/O Vijay Kumar R/O-C-583, Sector-01, Avantika, Rohini, Delhi-110085. Changed My Name To Ajay Singh. 0040523775-8

I, Adit Verma S/o Aakash Verma R/o. Flat No. 204, Tower 4, Exotica Dreamville, Sector-16C,Greater Noida West, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP. I have changed my name to Yuvrraj Verma for all future purpose. 0040523789-1

I, Aashna D/o Raju Sharma, R/o. U-13, First-Floor, Green-Park Main, New Delhi-110016.have changed my name to Aashna Sharma. 0040523775-1

I Vijay Kumar S/o Suresh Kumar Vashisht R/o House No-22, Auchandi Road, Vill Bawana, Delhi-110039, have changed my name to Devraaj S Vashisht. 0070687679-1

I Savita khubani w/o Ramesh kumar khubani R/o-BC-77C, East Shalimar-Bagh District-North West Delhi-110088. Have Changed My Name & Husband's Name To Savita kubani w/o Late.Ramesh kubani, For All Purpose. 0040523780-3

I Richa Sengupta D/o Ek Bahadur R/o H.No-D2, C-60/b, Apoorva Apartment, Chhattarpur Enclave, Phase-2, ND-74 have changed my name to Richa Manandhar for all purposes. 0040523800-9

I Rajni D/o Neki Ram R/o K-2/544, K-2 Block, Mahipalpur Extn. Mahipalpur, Delhi-110037, have changed my name to Shanaya. 0070687661-1

I Raghandran Gururaj S/o Panduranga Rao Kulkarni R/o 4, DACG Govt Polytechnic Quatres, Rathnagiri Road, Chikmagalur, Karnataka-577101, have changed my name to Raghavendran Guru. 0070687682-1

I Pardeep W/O Rahul R/O-Rz-34 Roshan Garden Najafgarh Dwarka Delhi-110043 Have Changed My Name To Pardeep Kaur. 0040523780-2

I Param Jit Sharma alias Paramjeet Sharma D/o Late Sh.Shivender Kumar Sharma W/o Sh.Rakesh Sharma R/o R-95, R-Block, Model Town-3, North West Delhi, Delhi-110009 have changed my name to Pooja Sharma for all purposes. 0040523726-2

I Mayank Jyoti F/O-Ayam Jyoti R/O-Flat No. 402, Sherwood, The Forest Omaxe, Sector-92, Noida, U.P. Have Changed My Son's Name,From Ayam Jyoti To Ayam Jyoti Srivastava,For All Future Purposes. 0040523775-2

I Mansoor Ahmed S/o Abdul Shakoor R/o 1064, Gali Rajan, Farash Khana, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Mohd. Mansoor for all purposes. 0040523726-1

I Kalpana Kumari D/O Pooran Singh R/O Vpo-Tharker Dheera Teh-Palampur Kangra Himachal Pradesh-176101. Have Changed My Name To Priya. 0040523780-1

I Km Sunita W/O Krishan Pal Chauhan R/O-B-40 Gali No-11, Mandawali Fazalpur Delhi-110092 Have Changed My Name To Sunita Devi. 0040523825-1

I Akhlakh S/o Late.Nanhe Khan Qureshi Alias Iqramuddin R/o-E-72,GF, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019. have changed my name to Ikhlakh Qureshi, for all purposes. 0040523825-6

I Inderjit Kaur W/o-Suresh Kumar Malik R/o-C-54, Tagore Garden Extn, New Delhi 110027 have changed my name to Anju Malik. 0040523780-6

I Geetanjali Kakkar W/O Late Sh.Punit sehgal R/O WZ-1468 3rd floor Ranibagh Delhi-110034. Have changed my name to Deepali sehgal. 0040523825-3

I Chetan janardhan bhisikar S/o Janardhan Haribhau Bhisikar R/o-201 WZ-47A AADARSH GALI NO-1 PALAM-VILLAGE NEW Delhi-110045, have changed my name to CHETAN BHISIKAR. 0040523780-4

I Atul Kumar S/o Suresh Kumar Vashisht R/o House No-22, Auchandi Road, Vill Bawana, Delhi-110039, have changed my name to Arjun S Vashisht. 0070687666-1

I Anshu W/o Nitin Aggarwal R/o House No-8, Near Ram Mandir, Kewal Park, Azadpur, Delhi-110033, have changed my name to Shruti Aggarwal 0070687655-1

I Anju Bala D/o Late Sh.Hari Chand W/o Sh.Rajesh Narula, R/o I-41, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi-110024 have changed my name to Anju Narula for all purposes. 0040523726-3

I Abhishek Kumar R/o house no 1047, block -D, street no 1/C, Sangam Vihar Delhi -110062 changed my name to Abhishek Tiwari as per documents. 0070687652-1

LOST & FOUND

I, Sagar chauhan S/o Vikram Chauhan R/o-D-51/A st.no-5 west-jyotinagar shahdara, delhi-110094 have lost my original certificate/ marksheetClass-10th (2012) Rollno-8130588 class-12th (2014) Rollno-9127750 CBSE, Delhi. 0040523825-7

It is notified for the information that my Original-Qualifying Examination-Certificate of class-10th year-2017 Roll.No.8169420,issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Achintya Sharma,D/o-Ravinder Sharma-09999499029. 0040523853-4

Lost my original Relinquishment Deed of my Flat No. 454, First Floor, Pocket-A, Sector-13, Phase-2, Dwarka, Delhi. Finder may contact Gyatri Pathak at above noted address. 0040523824-1

I, AYESHA D/O Late.mohd hussain R/o-S-548D school-block shakarpur Delhi-92. have lost my original certificate class-10th year-1993 Rollno-6324136 CBSE- Delhi. 0040523825-10

I, Avinash Kumar S/o Ram Gopal R/o H.No.A-108, Railway-Line Azadpur-Village New Delhi-110033, Have lost my original-10th & 12th-Class Certificate and Marksheet Passing Year-2012, Roll No.8687120, 2014 Roll No-9683827. 0040523780-10

I, Piyush Bhardwaj S/o Satish Bhardwaj R/o-Plot.no-18a east azadnagar st.no-.13 krishna-nagar Delhi-51 have lost my origina certificate Class-10th Rollno-8626088 year-2015 CBSE- Delhi. 0040523825-9

I, AMIT Kumar S/o Lallu ram R/o.h.no-132 st.no-10 block-q mongolpuri Delhi-83. have lost my original certificate class-10th year-2013 Rollno-8710025 CBSE-Delhi. 0040523825-8

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to the general public at large on behalf of my client Shri Gurmukh Singh S/o Late Sh. Sardar Bawa Singh and Smt. Balvinder Kaur W/o Sh. Gurmukh Singh both R/o H.No. 116, Pocket-3, Sector-24, near Delhi Public School, Rohini, Delhi-110085 that my aforesaid client has disowned and disinherited his son Shri Manjeet Singh and his wife Smt. Navneet Kaur from their al movable and immovable properties. In case anybody deal with him, he/she/they shall do the same at his/her/their own risks, costs and consequences and my above named client shall not be responsible for the same in any manner whatsoever.

Sd/-
VARUN MITTAL(Advocate)
Ch. No. 328, Rohini Court, Delhi-85

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the certificate for 80(Eighty) Equity shares under Folio No. 01262807 Certificate No. 5550 having distinctive no. 560861-560940 of M/s Hexaware Technologies Limited standing in the name of Mrs. Renu Bhatnagar has been lost or mislaid and the undersigned has applied to the company to issue duplicate certificate for the aforesaid shares. Any person who has a claim in respect of the said shares should lodge such claim with the company at its registered office-Bldg. No. 152, Millennium Business Park, Sector-III, A-Block, TTC Industrial area, Mahape, Navi Mumbai-400710, within 21 days from this date else the company will proceed to issue duplicate certificate.

Shiv Narain Bhatnagar
Express View Appt. Flat No.81C, Sec-93, Noida-201304
Date: 12.12.2019 Place - Noida

PUBLIC NOTICE

ENTIRE THIRD FLOOR ALONG WITH ENTIRE TERRACE OVER AND ABOVE THIRD FLOOR OF THE FREEHOLD PROPERTY BEARING NO. 5 – 92, PANCHSHEEL PARK, NEW DELHI

Public at large is hereby informed that the captioned property is subject matter of **Equitable / Registered Mortgage with State Bank of India, at present the property is mortgage with HDFC Bank** and a Sale Deed executed by M/ s Sanskar Homes Pvt Ltd through its authorized signatory Shri Arun Arora in favor of my client i.e. Shri Krishan Kumar Wadhwa, duly registered vide Regd. No. 4944, Book No. I, Vol. No. 775, pages 15-39, dated 29.08.2014.

It is further informed that the perpetual Sub Lease as well as Conveyance Deed in the property documents found Laminated and Will in title is available in photocopy executed by Mrs Sudharshan Lal in favor of Shri Atul Lal and Akhil Lal, duly registered vide Doc. No. 5759, dated 17.12.1993.

It is hereby notified that any person or entity, firm / company, Bank , financial institution having claim any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of documents mentioned above or otherwise and / or objection to thereof, he/ she/ they may lodge/ notify the same to the undersigned with documentary proof/ court judgment within 15 days from the day of publication, failing which the title/ Sale Deed executed in favor **Shri Krishan Kumar Wadhwa** shall be deemed to be clear and marketable without any defect encumbrance, flaw and impediment and my client (s) is/are free to create Equitable / Registered Mortgage by deposit of Chain of available title documents with any person/ firms, company financial institution / Bank.

NIRMAL KUMAR (Advocate)
Mobile - 8537086197, Email - nk2verma@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to public at large that my client Sh. L.S. Brar S/o Late Sh. G.S. Brar R/o Plot No. B-606, Vasant Kunj Enclave, New Delhi-110070 has entered into Agreement to Purchase property No. 519, 520 & 521, Mukeem Pura, Umrao Chowk, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007 any person/persons having claim in the property may contract me at Moblie No. 9711718979

Sd/-
Chander Shekhar (Advocate)
181-182, Meer Vihar, Madan Pur Dabas, Delhi-81

Public Notice

It is informed that my client Sh. Ranjeet Gupta S/o Sh. Manohar GuptaR/o-Madhopur, Madhopur Rasra,Bhelai, Ballia U.P.-221712 her/his Disowned & debarred her my Son Ashish Kumar Gupta S/o Shri Ranjeet Gupta From her entire movable/ immovable properties My client shall not be responsible in any way for his acts or claim as he broken all links whatsoever him for ever.

Sd/- M.K. Sharma (Advocate)
Reg.No. 563/2004, D.C.Office, Kapashera, New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known all that my client Aiesha Imran widow of Late Mohd. Imran Chandana R/o 2225, Gali Hinga Beg, Tilak Bazar, Delhi- 110006. That the original papers, possession and keys of the property bearing no. 1157, 3rd Floor onwards Baradari, Tilak Bazar, Behind Novelty Cinema, Delhi-110006 is with my client as my client had given a loan to the Mohd. Mashkoor @ Khurram S/o Late Rillagat Hussain who has 25% share in the said property and had handed over the possession and original documents to my client against the said loan.

Anybody dealing with said Mohammad Mashkoor @ Khurram in regard to the said property shall be doing at their own costs and risks and have no binding upon my clientess.

B. P. Singh (Advocate)
Ch. No. 735-L, W Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed that my client Rambir S/o Om Prakash resident of house no-499, Prahladpur Banger Village, North West Delhi, Delhi-110042 has disowned his son Vishal Mann along with his family from all movable and immovable property of my client. My client is not responsible for their actions and whosoever will deal with him, will be doing so at his own risk and responsibility. General public be informed of the same.

Sanyam Malik (Advocate)
GC-16, Shivaji Enclave, Rajoun Garden, New Delhi-27

NOTICE

Public at large are hereby informed that my client Mrs. Neetu Gupta, wife of Shri. Pawan Kumar Gupta, resident of M-122, Panchsheel Garden, Naveen Shahdara, Delhi-110032, intends to purchase Property (bearing number 111287-A, old Property number 25-A, out of Khasra number 114, 500/117, situated at village Utchanur, in the abadi of Gali no. 1, Subash Park Extn., Naveen Shahadra, Delhi - 110032 admeasuring 100 Sq. yards (the Property) from Smt. Subhadra Dev Sharma, wife of Shri Raj Kumar Sharma resident of E-40, Gali No. 5 Mansarover Park, Shahdara, Delhi-110032 (the legal owner), again's consideration. Any person, who has got rights, interest, title, claim, encumbrances, charges of any nature whatsoever in respect of the above said Property or any part thereof, can exert their objections with their documentary evidence at below address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be presumed that the said Property is entirely is free from all such claims, interest, charges, encumbrances etc.

This notice is published on **12th December 2019.**

Ravi Sachdeva (Advocate)
JRS Associates, B-85, Sector-40, Noida-201301, Dist. Gautam Budh Nagar (UP)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all concern that my client Sh. Sumit Gupta S/o Sh. Ashok Kumar Gupta R/o G-5, Lal Quarter, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051 intends to purchase Built-up Property No.1779, Cheera Khana, Nai Sarak, Chandni Chowk, Delhi-110006 measuring 95 sq.yds. approx. from its owners namely (1) Sh. Naresh Bihari Lal Mathur S/o Late Sh. Anand Bihari (2) Sh. Bhuvnesh Swaroop S/o Late Smt. Madhu Swaroop (3) Sh. Kamesh Swaroop S/o Late Smt. Madhu Swaroop (4) Smt. Manju Mathur W/o Late Sh. Suresh Bihari Lal Mathur (5) Sh. Mukul Mathur S/o Late Sh. Suresh Bihari lal Mathur (6) Sh. Chetan Mathur S/o Late Sh. Suresh Bihari Lal Mathur (7) Smt. Sneh Lata Mathur D/o Late Sh. Anand Bihari Lal & W/o Late Sh. Hansh Mathur (8) Smt. Abha Singh D/o Late Smt. Santosh Mathur all at H.No.1779, Cheera Khana, Nai Sarak, Chandni Chowk, Delhi-110006. The said vendors have assured that they are sole and exclusive owners and the aforesaid property in question is free from all sorts of encumbrances including sale, transfer, mortgage, gift, court case, stay, Will etc. If any person(s) has/have got any right or claim in the aforesaid property, he/she/they can file his/her/their claim/objection in the office of the undersigned within 15 days of publication of this public notice.

N.K. Jain & Girish Gaur Associates (Advocates)
Ch. No. 773 & 591, W Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that M/s. Shree Krishna Paper Mills & Industries Ltd. is the registered owner of property bearing No T-4, Old Industrial Area, Bahadurgarh, Distt Jhajjar (Haryana). However, the original Sale Deed dated 18.05.1974 has been misplaced and not traceable. Any other person(s) by virtue of that missing Deed shall not have any right, claim or interest over the property and it shall be supposed as null & void. Whosoever try to use those documents in any manner shall be prosecuted as the matter has been reported to this effect to Delhi Police vide LR No. 1983702/2019 on 10.12.2019. Moreover, by virtue of remaining deeds, M/s. Shree Krishna Paper Mills & Industries Ltd. is the absolute owner of the property in hand in all respects whatsoever.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Property Bearing Khasra Nos. 232 (6-4), 233 (1-16), 234 (1-14), 236 (5-9), 237 (5-18) and 238 (2-13), Total Area 23 Bighas and 14 Biswas, Situated at Village Bhati, New Delhi.

Be it known to all concerned, I hereby inform that my client Smt. Shamsher Kaur, wife of Late Sh. G.S. Randhawa had purchased 1/4th undivided share in total land measuring 23 Bighas and 14 Biswas, bearing Khasra Nos. 232 (6-4), 233 (1-16), 234 (1-14), 236 (5-9), 237 (5-18) & 238 (2-13), situated at Village Bhati,New Delhi, from Sh. Harkesh and Ors., vide Sale Deed duly registered as Document No. 3412, on 08.05.1985 That during the Mutation of the aforesaid Property, the Khasra No. 232 (6-4) has been missed out inadvertently and my client has filed an application bearing No. 53043, dated 30.09.2019, before the office of Tehsildar for rectification of the Mutation entry with respect to Khasra No. 232 (6-4).

Any person(s) having any sort of right, claim, title or interest of any nature (whatsoever) in respect of the aforesaid rectification, may put forth his/her claim to the Office of the Tehsildar, M.B. Road, Saket, New Delhi, within 3 (three) days from the date of publication of this notice and thereafter no claim shall be entertained in future.

AMIT V. AWASTHI
Advocate, Supreme Court of India
R-296-A (Basement), G.K.-1, New Delhi-110048.
Ph. 45532238, 9891317238

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verka

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.
SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-13

Notice Inviting e Tender

www.verka.coop

e Tenders are hereby Invited for the purchase and supply of following items -

Sr No	Name of the Item	Contract Period	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/ downloading of e-tenders online	Last Date & Time of Submission of online e-tenders	Date & Time of opening of e-tenders
1.	C. Boxes for TFA 180 ml x 30 Nos	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Head Office, SCO No. 153-155, Sector 34A, Chandigarh (Ph No. 0172-5041836-37-38)	200/-	21,000/-	12.12.2019 from 11:00 AM	23.12.2019 Up to 10:00 AM	Technical Bid 23.12.2019 at 02:00 PM
2.	Jumbo Tape	-do-	-do-	200/-	10,000/-	12.12.2019 from 11:00 AM	23.12.2019 Up to 10:00 AM	Technical Bid 23.12.2019 at 02:00 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, Internal Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-Tendering portal i.e. **eproc.punjab.gov.in** and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970284 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e- tendering please visit website **eproc.punjab.gov.in**. Tender processing Fee is Non- Refundable.

Note: Corrigendum if any will be uploaded on website only

General Manager (QA&E)

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR,
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
DEEMED UNIVERSITY, SOURA-SRINAGAR

Advertisement Notice No. SIMS/ACAD 20 of 2019
Dated: 09.12.2019

a) **Date of Commencement for Submission of Online Application Forms:** 12.12.2019.
b) **Last Date for Submission of Online Application Form:-** 11.01.2020

Online Application Forms are invited from Eligible Male/Female Candidates for Admission to the following Degree Courses for the Session 2019-20 at SKIMS, Srinagar (Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir) with the eligibility & other details as under:-

Course Duration	No. of Seats		Eligibility Criteria for General Category & SKIMS In-Service Candidates
B.Sc. Nursing (04 Years Course)	OM	25	The Candidate should have Passed 10+2 Examination through a Recognized Board/ University with Physics, Chemistry, Biology & English having Secured 50% and above marks for Open Merit and 40% marks and above for Candidates belonging to other Reserved Categories. **Note: The Female Candidate must be un-married.**
	SC	04	
	STGB	03	
	STL	01	
	STK	01	
	OSC	01	
	RBA	10	
	ALC	02	
	CDP	01	
	SP	01	
	JKPMF&SPP	01	
Total No. of Seats		**50**	
B.Sc. Radiation Technology (03 Years Course)	OM	03	**FOR DIRECT CANDIDATES** The Candidate should have Passed 10+2 Examination through a Recognized Board/ University with Physics, Chemistry, Biology & English having Secured 50% and above marks for Open Merit and 40% marks and above for Candidates belonging to other Reserved Categories.
	SC	01	
	STGB	01	
	STL	01	
	RBA	01	
	SKIMS In-Service	01	
Total No. Seats		**08**	
B.Sc. Radiology & Imaging Technology (03 Years Course)	OM	03	**For SKIMS In-Service Candidates:** a) Candidate should have Passed 10+2 Examination through a Recognized Board/ University with Physics, Chemistry, Biology & English have Secured 50% or above marks in aggregate. b) Candidate must have worked as Senior Technician/ Technician for a period of 05 years in the Respective/Allied Department at SKIMS.
	SC	01	
	STO	01	
	OSC	01	
	RBA	01	
	SKIMS In-Service	01	
Total No. of Seats		**08**	
B.Sc. Operation Theater Technology (03 Years Course)	OM	07	
	SC	01	
	STGB	01	
	STO	01	
	RBA	03	
	ALC	01	
	JKPMF&SPP	01	
	SKIMS In-Service	05	
Total No. of Seats		**20**	
B.Sc. Medical Lab Technolgoy	OM	07	**Abbreviations Used**
	SC	01	
	STGB	01	
	STK	01	
	RBA	03	
	ALC	01	
	SP	01	
	SKIMS In-Service	05	
Total No. of Seats		**20**	
B.Sc. Medical Technology	OM	07	
	SC	01	
	STGB	01	
	STL	01	
	OSC	01	
	RBA	03	
	CDP	01	
	SKIMS In-Service	05	
Total No. of Seats		**20**	
B.Sc. of Perfusionist Technology	OM	01	
	SKIMS In-Service	01	
Total No. of Seats		**02**	

OM = Open Merit
RBA = Resident of Backward Area
STGB = Scheduled Tribe (Gujjar & Bakarwal)
STK = Scheduled Tribe (Kargil)
STL = Scheduled Tribe (Leh)
STO = Scheduled Tribe Other
SC = Scheduled Caste
OSC = Other Social Caste
ALC = Resident of Actual Line of Control
SP = Sports Personnel
CDP = Child of Defense Personnel
JKPMF & SPP = Child of Para Military Force & State Police Personnel

Note:- **The Seats will be Allotted to the Candidates through Counseling as per Merit to be Obtained by the Candidate in the CET.**

02 of Advertisement Notice No.:- SIMS (ACAD) 20 of 2019 Dated: 09.12.2019
i) Age for Direct Candidates as on 31.12.2019 **17 years to 28 years**
ii) (No Age Bar for SKIMS In-Service Candidate)
Examination Schedule:-
Date of Entrance Examination:- will be announced subsequently

How to Apply:-

a) The Application Form for the above mentioned Seats shall be filled Online on SKIMS website **(www.skims.ac.in).**
b) No Application Forms shall be issued/submitted in the Academic Section, SKIMS. However, mere submission of Application Forms by the Candidates through Online Mode shall be subject to verification of their requisite Certificates/ Documents in due course of time and no under process Certificate shall be entertained.
c) A Link for Online filling of Form shall be available on SKIMS website. Candidates shall first register to till up the Form. Once the Form is completely filled, Candidates can proceed to payment part by J&K Bank Challan & have to print e-Challan for making payment of Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees One Thousand) as Application Fee at any Branch of J&K Bank in Account Number 0342010100000183 Branch SKIMS, Srinagar & obtain the Candidates counterfoil of the Application Fee payment Challan duly Authenticated by the Bank with (i) Branch Name & Code No. (ii) Transaction Number & (iii) Date of Deposit filled by the Branch Official. Fill in the payment details of Bank Challan Transaction Number Date etc. Online to complete submission of the Form and take a Printout of Submitted Form. The Candidates are required to submit payment Challan of Fee in the Office of Administrative Officer (Academic) SKIMS, Srinagar by Registered Post only upto Last Date of Submission of Online Application Forms. The Candidates selected in CET are required to submit the Hard Copy of Application Form along with requisite Certificates/Documents in the office and when required the Date of Submission shall be announced separately.
d) Candidates

U.P.R.V.U.N.L. TENDER NOTICE HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (HQ). HTPS, Kasimpur 1. E-Tender No. 06/SE(HQ)/ S&ETD/HTPS/ 2019-20, Name of work: Outsourcing of Para Medical staff to Provide the medical facility for employees of Harduaganj Thermal Power Station, Kasimpur, Aligarh, Estimated cost Rs. 21.20 Lac, Earnest money Rs. 42,400.00, Tender cost Rs. 1180.00 (including 18% GST), Time of Completion: 01 Year, "Extended dates of opening of tender are below:- Last date and time for submission of e-bid 20.12.2019 upto 14.00 Hrs., e-bid Opening date/time (Part-I) 21.12.2019 at 16.00 Hrs. or later. **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&MC-III, HTPS, Kasimpur:** 2. TENDER NO. & NAME OF DIVISION: E T - 0 8 / O & M C - I I I / C & I M D - 1/DTPS/HTPS/ OH#8&9 & C&IMD-I NAME OF WORK: "Overhauling of Electrical and Pneumatic actuators, SADC system, SWAS System, Flame Scanners, Igniters, Solenoid valves, Hot air gate, Pneumatic damper/ Power cylinder, Hydra steps, temperature & pressure measurement system, Analyzers (SOX, NOX, Dust, 02), Mill discharge „valves. Seal air valves of bowl mills, Vibration Monitoring System (VMS), ERV, C&I field equipment of Coal Mill reject system, C&I field equipment of Ash Handling system, MAX-DCS etc of unit- 8&9, DTPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh". Estimated cost: Rs. 21,06,919.00, Earnest Money: Rs. 42,000.00 only, Tender Cost: Rs. 1000.00 + Rs. 180.00 (G.S.T.) Rs. 1180.00. Opening date of tender are as below: - "Due date of submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http:// etender.up.nic.in is 20.12.2019 up to 12:00 hrs (Extended), due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite docuinents with tender cost & earnest money in the office of undersigned: 20.12.2019 up to 14:00 hrs (Extended), Part-I of the Tender shall be opened on date 20.12.2019 at 16:00 hrs (Extended) and Part-II of the Tender shall be opened on date 23.12.2019 at 16:00 hrs (Extended)." Note: (1) The details for submission of bids are available on the e-procurement website: http:// etender.up. nic.in. (2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, ELECTRICITY CIVIL MAINTENANCE CIRLCE, HTPS, Kasimpur** 3. Short term E-Tender No. 32/ECMC/ ECMD-I/HTPS/2019-20, Name of work: General maintenance works of water supply and sanitary in residential and non buildings of new colony at Harduaganj Thermal Power Station, UPRVUNL Kasimpur Aligarh UTTAR PRADESH. Estimated cost Rs. 18.59 Lac, Eamest money Rs. 37,000.00, Tender cost Rs.1900.00+342.00 GST (Present Rate is 18%) = Rs.2242.00, Extended Last date and time for submission of e-bid (http://etender.up.nic.in) 26.12.2019 upto 14.00 Hrs., Extended Opening date/time (Part-I) 27.12.2019 at 16.00 Hrs. or later. TIME OF COMPLETEION 12 MONTH **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE CIRCLE-IV, DTPS. KASIMPUR** 4. E-Tender Notice No. ET- 18/0&MC-IV/DTPS/EMD-II/DT.P.S./2019-20, "Round the Clock Routine/Preventive maintenance/ Overhauling & Motor shifting of various capacities LT motors ranging from fractional KW to 200 KW LT motors of Unit 8 & 9 and BOP area (Excluding CHP), Harduaganj 'D' Thermal Power Station, Kasimpur) for the period of One Year" Estimated Cost Rs. 9,80,352.00, Earnest Money Rs. 19,607.00 Cost of Tender document Rs. 1000.00 +180.00 (GST) = Rs. 1180.00 Opening date of tender aro as below:-Extended due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs., Extended due date of depositing Tender Cost & Earnest Money in the HTPS account through RTGS/B.G. up-to maximum on dated: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs. Extended due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned maximum on dated: 28.12.2019, Tender opening Extended date, Part-A: 28.12.2019 at 16:00 Hrs. NOTE: (1) The details for submission of bids will be available on e-procurement website: http://etender.up.nic.in Tender ID No. 2019_RVUNL_377637_1 w.e.f. 18:00 Hrs. dated:- 03.09.2019. (2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-Tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 5. E-Tender Notice No. ET- 26/0&MC-IV/DTPS/ EMD-II/DT.P.S./2019-20, "Supply & Erection of balance works, commissioning testing of Electrical and C&I System of Ash Water Recirculation System of 2x250 MW Units of HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh) for the period of Four Months" Estimated Cost Rs. 72,13,727.00, Earnest Money Rs. 1,44,275.00 Cost of Tender document Rs. 7200.00 +1296.00 (GST) = Rs. 8496.00 Opening date of tender are as below:-Extended due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs., Extended due date of depositing Tender Cost & Earnest Money in the HTPS account through RTGS/B.G. up-to maximum on dated: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs. Extended due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned maximum on dated: 28.12.2019, Tender opening Extended date, Part-A: 28.12.2019 at 16:00 Hrs. NOTE: (1) The details for submission of bids will be available on e-procurement website: http://etender.up.nic.in Tender ID No. 2019_RVUNL_385151_1 w.e.f. 10:00 Hrs. dated: 26.09.2019. (2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-Tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE CIRCLE-II, 'D'TPS, KASIMPUR** 6. Tender No. ET-10/BMD-II/DTPS/ O&MC-II/19-20, Name of Work: "Overhauling of Bowl Mills (XRP-903) and Gravimetric raw coal feeders of Unit # 9, D TPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh" for a period of one year Estimated Cost: Rs. 9,59,000.00, Earnest Money: Rs. 19,180.00, Tender Cost: Rs. 590.00 Extended date of opening are as below:-Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in: 26.12.2019 up-to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS account)/ B.G.: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned:-28.12.2019, Tender Opening Date: Part-I: 28.12.2019 at 16:00 Hrs. Note: (1) The details for submission of bids are available w.e.f. 25.10.2019 at 17:00 Hrs, in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website: http://etender.up. nic.in 2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the c-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 7. Tender No. ET-11/BMD-II/DTPS/O&MC-II/19-20. Name of Work: "Overhauling of ID/FD/PA/Seal Air Fans of Unit # 9, D'TPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh." for a period of one year Estimated Cost: Rs. 3,93,400.00, Earnest Money: Rs. 7,868.00, Tender Cost: Rs. 590.00 Extended date of opening are as below:-Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in: 26.12.2019 up-to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS account)/B.G.: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned:-28.12.2019, Tender Opening Date: Part-I: 28.12.2019 at 16:00 Hrs. Note: (1) The details for submission of bids are available w.e.f. 25.10.2019 at 17:00 Hrs, in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website: http://etender.up.nic.in (2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 8. Tender No. ET-12/BMD-II/DTPS/O&MC-II/19-20, Name of Work: "Replacement and refitment of Blade seal, Grafoil and Spring seal assembly of Hot and cold air dampers and Hot and cold air gate respectively along-with alignment and calibration of all above systems of Hot and cold air dampers and gates of U # 9, D'TPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh" for a period of one year Estimated Cost: Rs. 2,49,500.00, Earnest Money: Rs. 4,990.00, Tender Cost: Rs. 590.00. Extended date of opening are as below:-Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in: 26.12.2019 up-to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS account)/B.G.: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned:-28.12.2019, Tender Opening Date: Part-I: 28.12.2019 at 16:00 Hrs. NOTE: (1) The details for submission of bids are available on the e-procurement website: http:// etender.up.nic.in w.e.f. 17:00 Hrs, dated:- 25.10.2019 (2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 9. Tender No. ET-13/BMD-II/DTPS/O&MC-II/18-19, Name of Work:- "Installation of Channels /Beams/Angles of various size and placement of Gratings over it with safety side railings near the vacant area at ID fans. Hoists travelling area for the safe approach at Hoist system at U # 8 & 9. D'TPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh" for a period of one year Estimated Cost: Rs. 2,55,000.00, Earnest Money: Rs. 5,100.00, Tender Cost: Rs. 590.00 Extended date of opening are as below:-Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in: 26.12.2019 up-to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS account)/B.G.: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned:-28.12.2019, Tender Opening Date: Part-I: 28.12.2019 at 16:00 Hrs. Note: (1) The details for submission of bids are available w.e.f. 25.10.2019 at 17:00 Hrs. in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website: http://etender.up.nic.in (2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 10. Tender No. ET-14/BMD-II/DTPS/O&MC-II/19-20, Name of Work: "Overhäuling of Bowl Mills(XRP-903) and Gravimetric raw coal feeders of Unit #8, D'TPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh" for a period of one year Estimated Cost: Rs. 9,59,000.00. Earnest Money: Rs. 19,180.00, Tender Cost: Rs. 590.00 Extended date of opening are as below:-Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http:// etender.up.nic.in : 26.12.2019 up-to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS account)/B.G.: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs.. Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned:-28.12.2019, Tender Opening Date: Part-I: 28.12.2019 at 16:00 Hrs. Note: (1) The details for submission of bids are available w.e.f. 26.10.2019 at 17:00 Hrs, in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website: http:// etender.up.nic.in. (2) The bidders are required to be registered witt: U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 11. Tender No. ET-15/BMD-II/DTPS/O&MC-II/19-20, Name of Work: "Overhauling Of ID/FD/PA/Seal Air Fans of Unit # 8, D'TPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Aligarh." for a period of one year Estimated Cost: Rs. 3,93,400.00, Earnest Money: Rs. 7,868.00, Tender Cost: Rs. 590.00 Extended date of opening are as below:- Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http:// etender.up.nic.in : 26.12.2019 up-to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS account)/B.G.: 26.12.2019 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned:-28.12.2019, Tender Opening Date: Part—I: 28.12.2019 at 16:00 Hrs. Note: (1) The details for submission of bids are available w.e.f. 26.10.2019 at 17:00 Hrs. in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website: http:// etender.up.nic.in (2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. **Superintending Engineer, MMC, Harduaganj `D' TPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh)** 12. E- Tender No. : ET-112/MMC/EPD/ DTPS/ 2019, Name of Supply: Supply of Industrial Air Conditioner for O&M & O/H of Unit No. 8 of 'D' TPS, Kasimpur. Estimated cost: Rs. 7,90,000.00 Earnest money: Rs. 15000.00, Tender cost: Rs. 500.00 + 90.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission extended End Date : 19.12.2019 Tender shall be opened on extended date : 21.12.2019 (Part-I) & 27.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers/ their Authorized Dealer/ experienced suppliers can participate in this tender. 13. E- Tender No. : ET-113/MMC/EPD/ DTPS/ 2019, Name of Supply: Supply of Pneumatic Actuators for O/H of Unit No. 8 of `D' TPS, Kasimpur. Estimated cost: Rs. 91140.00 Earnest money: Rs. 1800.00, Tender cost: Rs. 500.00 + 90.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission extended End Date : 19.12.2019 Tender shall be opened on extended date : 21.12,2019 (Part-I) & 27.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers / their Authorized Dealer/experienced suppliers can participate in this tender. 14. E- Tender No.: ET-130/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Supply of Chemicals for silica analyzer for O&M of 'D' TPS, Kasimpur. Estimated cost: Rs. 2,00,808.00, Earnest money: Rs. 4000.00, Tender cost: Rs. 500.00 + 90.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission extended End Date: 19.12.2019 Tender shall be opened on extended date : 21.12.2019 (Part-I) & 27.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers / their Authorized Dealer/experienced suppliers can participate in this tender. 15. E- Tender No.: ET-131/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Supply of LPH Level Transmitter and Hotwell Level Transmitter for O&M of `D' TPS & O/H of Unit No. 8 DTPS, Kasimpur. Estimated cost: Rs. 14,56,100.00, Earnest money: Rs. 28000.00, Tender cost:- Rs. 1000.00 + 180.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission extended End Date : 19.12.2019 Tender shall be opened on extended date : 21.12.2019 (Part-I) & 27.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers / their Authorized Dealers can participate in this tender. 16. E- Tender No.: ET-134/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Supply of LT Motor Terminal Plates & Cooling fans etc for overhauling of Unit No. 8, HTPS, Kasimpur. Estimated cost: Rs. 7,17,889.00 Earnest money: Rs. 14000.00, Tender cost: Rs. 500.00 + 90.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission extended End Date : 18.12.2019 Tender shall be opened on extended date : 21.12.2019 (Part-I) & 27.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers / their Authorized Dealer/experienced suppliers can participate in this tender. 17. E- Tender No. : ET-135/MMC/EPD/ DTPS/ 2019, Name of Supply: Supply of spares of EOT Cranes & Hoists for overhauling, of Unit No. 8 & 9, HTPS, Kasimpur. Estimated cost: Rs. 5,70.860.00 Earnest money: Rs. 11500.00, Tender cost: Rs. 500.00 + 90.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission extended End Date : 18.12.2019 Tender shall be opened on extended date : 21.12.2019 (Part-I) & 27.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers / their Authorized Dealer/experienced suppliers can participate in this tender. 18. E- Tender No.: ET-136/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Supply of Male Female Jaw contacts for overhauling of Unit No.9, HTPS, Kasimpur. Estimated cost: Rs. 4,55,700.00 Earnest money: Rs. 9000.00, Tender cost: Rs. 500.00 + 90.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission extended End Date: 18.12.2019 Tender shall be opened on extended date : 21.12.2019 (Part-I) & 27.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers / their Authorized Dealer/experienced suppliers can participate in this tender. 19. E- Tender No.: ET-137/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Supply of Generator Transformer as Insurance Spare for Harduaganj `D'TPS, Kasimpur. Estimated cost: Rs. 12.58 Crore Earnest money: Rs. 13.00 Lac, Tender cost: Rs. 1000.00 + 180.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission extended End Date : 07.01.2020 Tender shall be opened on extended date : 10.01.2020 (Part-I) & 16.01.2020 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers can participate in this tender. 20. E- Tender No.: ET-151/MMC/ EPD/DTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Supply of MS E 9,00,000.00 Earnest money: Rs. 18000.00, Tender cost: Rs. 500.00 + 90.00 (GST), e-Bid online submission End Date : 08.01.2020 Tender shall be opened on date : 10.01.2020 (Part-I) & 13.01.2020 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only reputed Manufacturers / their Authorized Dealer/ experienced suppliers can participate in this tender. **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, ELECTRICITY CIVIL MAINTENANCE CIRLCE, HTPS, Kasimpur**. 21. E-Tender No.18/ECMC/ ECMD-II/HTPS/2019-20, Name of work: Construction of balance civil works of Ash Water recirculation system 2x250mw extn. at- Harduaganj Thermal Power Station, U.P.R.V.U.N.L. Aligarh:" UTTAR PRADESH Estimated cost Rs. 192.37 Lac, Earnest money Rs. 3,84,000.00, Tender cost Rs.10000.00+1800.00 GST (Present Rate is 18%) = Rs.11800.00, Extended Last date and time for submission of e-bid (http://etender.up. nic.in) 23.12.2019 upto 14.00 Hrs., Extended Opening date/time (Part-I) 24.12.2019 at 16.00 Hrs. or later. TIME OF COMPLETEION 06 MONTH **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, ELECTRICITY CIVIL MAINTENANCE CIRLE, HTPS, Kasimpur** Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 31. Tender No. ET-41/0&MC-I V/E M D-I/H d j.'C'T. P. S./2 0 1 9-20,"Testing of ICT-1T, ICT-2T, 9T, 10T, R-1, R-2 at Harduaganj TPS, Kasimpur,"as per scope of work, for the period of one year" Estimated Cost Rs. 3,60,000.00 Earnest Money: Rs. 7,200.00 Cost of tender document: Rs. 400.00 + Rs.72.00 (GST) = Rs. 472.00 Opening date of tender are as below:- Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in: 13.01.2020 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS Account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS Account)/ BG up to dated: 13.01.2020 up to 14:00 Hrs. due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned maximum on dated: 15.01.2020 up to 14.00 hrs. Tender opening date, Part-A: 15.01.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. NOTE: (1)The details for submission of bids will be available on e-procurement website: http://etender.up.nic.in w.e.f. 18:00 Hrs, dated: - 11.12.2019. (2)The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-Tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE CIRCLE-II, 'D'TPS.KASIMPUR** 32.Tender No. ET-07/BMD/'C'TPS/O&MC-II/19-20, Name of Work; "Various Preventive & Maintenance works on Main Boiler and Pressure part of Unit No-7, like attending leakages, Round the clock Routine, Preventive & Breakdown Maintenance works, cleaning and associated works as per technical scope of work for a period of one year" Estimated Cost: Rs.-14,40,345.00, Earnest Money: RS-28,810.00, Tender Cost: RS-1440.00 ı 260.00 (GST) = Rs-1700.00, Opening date of tender are as below:- Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in : 21.01.2020 upto 14:00 Hrs.. Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS account)/B.G.: 21.01.2020 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned: 23.01.2020 up to 14.00 Hrs., Tender Opening Date: Part-I 23.01.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. Note: (1)The details for submission of bids are available w.e.f. 12.12.2019 at 17:00 Hrs. in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website: http://etender.up.nic.in (2)The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fces for participation in the e-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 33. E-Tender Notice No. ET-22/BMD-I/DTPS/O&MC-II/19-20, Insulation of Pipe, Valve & Equipment in various area of Boiler & ESP of Unit # 8 & 9, 2x250 MW, HTPS" for a period of one year" for a period of one year" under BMD-I 'D' TPS, Harduaganj Thermal Power Station" Estimated Cost Rs. 54,98,000.00, Earnest Money Rs. 1,10,000.00, Cost of Tender document Rs. 5,500.00 + 990.00 (GST) = Rs. 6,490.00 Opening date of tender are as below:- Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procuremeut website http://etender.up.nic.in : 21.01.2020 upto 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS account)/B.G.:21.01.2020 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned: 23.01.2020 up to 14.00 Hrs., Tender Opening Date: Part-1 23.01.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. Note: (1) The details for submission of bids are available w.e.f. 12.12.2019 at 17:00 Hrs, in the bid document uploaded on the e-procurement website: http://etender.up.nic.in (2) The bidders are required to be registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation, Ashok Marg, Lucknow by depositing requisite fees for participation in the e-tendering. The bidder must also be registered with their Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) in the e-bidding system, after that the bidder can participate in bid submission activity. 34. E-Tender Notice No. ET-23/BMD-I/DTPS/O&MC-II/19-20, "Overhauling of APH, Seal trough, repairing of SCAPH system etc. of Unit # 9, of 2x250 MW, HTPS" for a period of one year" for a period of one year" under BMD-I 'D' TPS, Harduaganj Thermal Power Station" Estimated Cost Rs. 19,29,000.00, Earnest Money Rs. 38,600.00, Cost of Tender document Rs. 1,900.00 + 342.00 (GST) = Rs. 2,242.00 Opening date of tender are as below:- Due date of Submission of e-Bid (Technical & Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in : 21.01.2020 upto 14:00 Hrs., Due date of depositing Tender Cost through RTGS (in the HTPS account) & Earnest Money through RTGS (in the HTPS accounty/B.G.: 21.01.2020 up to 14:00 Hrs., Due date of submission of hard copy of all the requisite documents in the office of undersigned: 23.01.2020 up to 14.00 Hrs., Tender Opening Date: Part-I 23.01.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. 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Estimated cost: Rs 2,50,000.00, Earnest money: Rs. 5000.00, Tender cost: Rs 118.00, Date of Starting of E-bid submission: 31.08.2019, Extended Last Date of submission of E-bid: 26.12.2019, Tender shall be opened on Extended date: 27.12.2019 (Part-I), 28.12.2019 (Part-II) E-Tender ID: 2019_RVUNL_376740_1 Eligibility Conditions: Only manufacturers/their authorized dealers /Experienced Suppliers can participate in this tender. 37- Tender No. & Name of Division: ET-115/MMC/EPD/CTPS/HTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Procurement of MRI Meter (Meter Reading instrument) with accessories for reading & recording of ABT Energy Meters. Estimated cost: Rs 2,00,000.00, Earnest money: Rs. 4000.00, Tender cost: Rs 118.00, Date of Starting of E-bid submission: 31.08.2019, Extended Last Date of submission of E-bid: 26.12.2019, Tender shall be opened on Extended date:27.12.2019 (Part-I), 28.12.2019 (Part-II) E-Tender ID: 2019_RVUNL_376741_1 Eligibility Conditions: Only manufacturers/their authorized dealers/Experienced Suppliers can participate in this tender. 38- Tender No. & Name of Division: ET-122/MMC/EPD/ CTPS/ HTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Procurement of different types of line material for EMD-III, HTPS for project Colony,HTPS, Kasimpur Estimated cost: Rs 6,33,750.00, Earnest money: Rs.13000.00 , Tender cost: Rs 590.00, Date of Starting of E-bid submission: 23.09.2019 , Extended Last Date of submission of E-bid: 26.12.2019 , Tender shall be opened on Extended date: 27.12.2019 (Part-I), 28.12.2019 (Part-II) E-Tender ID: 2019_RVUNL_383493_1 Eligibility Conditions: Only manufacturers/their authorized dealers /Experienced Suppliers can participate in this tender. 39- Tender No. & Name of Division: SET-140/MMC/EPD/ CTPS/HTPS/2019. Name of Supply: "Procurement of different type of Rubber Gasket & heat resistant rubber sheet, Gland Packing & consumables for mill and fans for overhauling of unit no. -9 for BMD-II and AHD 'DTPS' of HTPS, Kasimpur." Estimated cost: Rs. 4.83 Lakh Only. Earnest money: Rs. 10000.00. Tender cost: NIL. Extended Last Date of submission of e-bid: 26.12.2019. Tender shall be opened on Extended date: 27.12.2019(Part-I) 28.12.2019(Part-II). E-Tender ID: 2019_RVUNL_404071_1 Eligibility Conditions: Only Manufacturer / Authorized Dealer/ Regular experienced Supplier can participate in this tender. 40- Tender No. & Name of Division: SET-141/MMC/EPD/CTPS/HTPS/2019. Name of Supply: "Procurement of different Consumable Rubber Gasket, Gland Packing Item etc. for O/H unit no. 8&9 for BMD-II, EMD-I'DTPS' and CAMD2x250 MW of HTPS, Kasimpur." Estimated cost: Rs. 7,42,460.00 Only. Earnest money: Rs. 14000.00. Tender cost: Rs. 590.00. Extended Last Date of submission of e-bid: 26.12.2019. Tender shall be opened on Extended date: 27.12.2019 (Part-I) 28.12.2019 (Part-II). E-Tender ID: 2019_RVUNL_404074_1 Eligibility Conditions: Only Manufacturer / Authorized Dealer/ Regular experienced Supplier can participate in this tender. 41- Tender No. & Name of Division: SET-142/MMC/ EPD/CTPS/HTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Procurement of electrical consumables for EMD-I ,'D'TPS HTPS for overhauling of Unit No 8 &9 Estimated cost: Rs 2,47,844.00, Earnest money: Rs. 5000.00, Tender cost: Nil, Date of Starting of E-bid submission: 20.11.2019 ,Extended Last Date of submission of E bid: 26.12.2019, Tender shall be opened on Extended date: 27.12.2019 (Part-I),28.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only manufacturers/their authorized dealers /Experienced Suppliers can participate in this tender. 42-Tender No. & Name of Division:SET-143/MMC/EPD/ CTPS/HTPS/2019, Name of Supply: Procurement of various conductors/ wires for EMD-II, 'D'TPS HTPS, Kasimpur for overhauling of Unit No 9 &8 Estimated cost: Rs 5,07,950.00, Earnest money: Rs. 10000.00 , Tender cost: Nil, Date of Starting of E-bid submission: 20.11.2019 ,Extended Last Date of submission of E-bid: 26.12.2019, Tender shall be opened on Extended date: 27.12.2019 (Part-I),28.12.2019 (Part-II) Eligibility Conditions: Only manufacturers/their authorized dealers /Experienced Suppliers can participate in this tender. 43- Tender No. & Name of Division: ET-153/MMC/ EPD/ CTPS/HTPS/2019. Name of Supply: "Procurement of Limestone for Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) system of 1X660 MW EXTN HTPS Kasimpur.." Estimated cost: Rs. 5,40,00,000.00 only. Earnest money: Rs. 5,40,000.00 Tender cost: Rs. 1180.00. Last Date of submission of e-bid: 15.01.2020. Tender shall be opened on date: 16.01.2020(Part-I) 17.01.2020(Part-II). E Tender ID: 2019_RVUNL_411427_1 Eligibility Conditions: Limestone Mines owners/Trader/ Experienced Suppliers/ Agencies can participate in this tender. Note: - For further details please log on our web site i.e. http://etender.up.nic.in Sd/- **Superintending Engineer (H.Q.) (Harduaganj TPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh) U.P.R.V.U.N.L E-Tender Notice** E-Tenders are invited for the followings supply/works items in two parts. Part- I shall contain Tender Cost/Earnest money and other necessary documents as per pre qualifying conditions and Part - II will contain price bid as per bill of quantity. Tender specification may be downloaded from the website (http:// etender.up.nic.in) and other specification details can be seen on Nigam website www.uprvunl.org The contactors have to submit the hard copy before the schedule date/time in the concern office in sealed envelope containing details of the tender mentioned on the envelope. Tenders are advised to send their hard copy directly to the concerned tendering authority of the Circles/ Division. Who reserve the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof. "Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity" Sd/-**Superintending Engineer(H.Q.) Harduaganj Thermal Power Station, Kasimpur (Aligarh). PATRANK-73/SE(HQ)/ADVT/CAMP-1(57)/19 DATED: 10/12/2019**

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TELLING NUMBERS

In vehicle sales, the sliding numbers since December 2018

Getty Images

MONTH ON month, vehicle sales in absolute numbers for each month since December 2018 has been lower than sales in the same month the previous year, according to data tabled by the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises in response to a Parliament question. In terms of earnings, sales of automobiles of all categories reached approximately Rs 4,90,849 crore in 2018-2019, which was higher than in 2017-18 (Rs 4,64,447 crore) and 2016-17 (Rs 4,15,811 crore).

In April 2018, the number of automobiles sold was 23.8 lakh, which dropped to 20 lakh in April 2019. In subsequent months in the current financial year, sales were 20.9 lakh in May (22.8 lakh in May 2018), 20 lakh in June (22.8 lakh in 2018), 18.3 lakh in July (22.5 lakh in 2018), 18.2 lakh in August (23.8 lakh in 2018), 20 lakh in September (25.8 lakh in 2018) and 21.8 lakh in October (24.9 lakh in the previous October). The Ministry tabled data until October 2019.

On the number of auto and ancillary units that have shut since 2014, the Ministry said no closure of any such units has been reported.

SALE OF VEHICLES (NUMBERS IN LAKH)

Month	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
April	20.3	23.8	20
May	20.4	22.8	20.9
June	18.2	22.8	20
July	20.8	22.5	18.3
Aug	23	23.8	18.2
Sept	24.9	25.8	20
Oct	21.6	24.9	21.8
Nov	19.4	20.4	—
Dec	16.7	16.2	—
Jan	21.2	20.2	—
Feb	21.1	20.3	—
March	22.2	19.1	—

Source: Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises

TURNOVER ESTIMATES THROUGH DOMESTIC SALES (Rs CR)

THIS WORD MEANS

WI-FI CALLING

Service introduced in Delhi-NCR; elsewhere later

BHARTI AIRTEL, which recently removed its FUP (Fair Usage Policy) on calls to other networks, has introduced Voice over Wi-Fi (VoWiFi), a first for India. Airtel Wi-Fi calling claims to enhance indoor voice calling experience for smartphone customers.

WHAT IT MEANS: Wi-Fi Calling is aimed especially for areas where cellular networks are not strong. It uses high speed Internet connection, available via broadband, to make and receive high definition (HD) voice calls. Users don't have to pay extra for these calls as it is using a Wi-Fi network. This is not much different from a voice call using WhatsApp or any other over-the-top messaging platform, but here the call is from one number to another, and not using an app. Since these calls use stable Wi-Fi connections, call drops are not expected to be a problem.

Wi-Fi Calling can be configured on compatible smartphones by upgrading operating systems to the version that supports Wi-Fi Calling, and enabling this in Settings. Keeping VoLTE switched on will help in seamless voice calling, but this is not essential.

HOW THE SERVICE WILL WORK: At the moment the service is limited to Delhi-NCR users with compatible devices. This will not be charged extra as it will use Wi-Fi and not Airtel's networks. The catch: for now, it will work only for users who have Wi-Fi on Airtel Xstream Fiber home broadband. Airtel says it will soon be compatible with all broadband services and Wi-Fi hotspots, and rolled out in other locations. Reliance Jio can be expected to roll out its own VoWiFi service soon.

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SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

What Nanavati panel found

Five years after it was submitted, Nanavati Commission final report on Godhra train burning and Gujarat riots is tabled, giving a clean chit to then CM Modi. What are its broad findings, and what took it so long?

PARIMAL DABHI
AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 11

ON WEDNESDAY, the Gujarat government tabled in the Assembly the report of the Nanavati Commission, which it had appointed to probe the burning of the Sabarmati Express in 2002 and the subsequent riots in the state. It gave a clean chit to then Chief Minister Narendra Modi, as well as to police, the BJP, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Bajrang Dal.

What is the Nanavati Commission?

It was set up in 2002 following the burning of the Sabarmati Express near Godhra station on February 27, 2002, in which 59 died. Initially a one-judge Commission headed by Justice K G Shah, it was later expanded to be headed by retired Justice G T Nanavati. Following Shah's death in 2008, Justice Akshay Mehta was appointed in his place. Justice Mehta was the presiding judge when Babu Bajrangi, prime accused in the cases of violence in Naroda in Ahmedabad, got bail.

The Commission inquired into events leading to the Sabarmati Express incident, and subsequent incidents of violence in the state in which nearly 1,200 persons had been killed (including the 59 in the train carnage); the inadequacy of administrative measures taken to prevent and deal with disturbances; and whether the incident in Godhra was preplanned and whether information was available with agencies to prevent it; and to recommend measures to prevent such incidents in the future. In 2004, its scope was expanded to include inquiry into the role and conduct of Modi and/or any other minister(s), police officers, other individuals and organisations. The Commission got 24 extensions until it submitted the final report in 2014.

Why did it take five years to table it?

The final report was submitted in 2014 to then Chief Minister Anandiben Patel, months after Modi became Prime Minister. Minister of State for Home Pradeepsinh Jadeja, explaining why it took the government five years to table the report, said it was "voluminous and we needed to study every aspect before putting it out in public".

Retired DGP R B Sreekumar, one of the witnesses before the Commission, had gone to the Gujarat High Court with a public interest litigation seeking its tabling. The Gujarat government told the court in September that it would table in the upcoming (now ongoing) Assembly session.

Justice Nanavati submitted the report to then CM Anandiben Patel in 2014. *File*

Why is called the final report?

The first report, containing a single volume dealing with the inquiry into the burning of the coaches, was tabled in the Assembly in 2008. That too gave a clean chit to Modi, his council of ministers and police officers. It concluded that the train burning was "preplanned act" and done to "cause harm to the *kar sevaks* travelling in that coach".

What does the final report cover?

The final report, which is of nine volumes across 2,500 pages, again gave Modi and his council of ministers a clean chit. The commission trashed evidence provided by former IPS officers retired DGP Sreekumar, Rahul Sharma and Sanjiv Bhatt, that alleged complicity on the part of the government and its functionaries. It has also cleared former ministers the late Haren Pandya and Ashok Bhatt, and Bharat Barot. The commission deemed false the evidence provided against the then Minister of State for Home Gordhan Zadaphia. Following the findings, MoS (Home) Jadeja said the government would initiate departmental proceedings against the three former police officers.

The report deals with North, South, Central Gujarat, and Saurashtra and Kutch in dedicated volumes. One volume is dedicated to Vadodara City and two to Ahmedabad City and district, the urban centres that saw the highest number of casualties in the cases of Best Bakery, Naroda Patiya, Naroda Gam and Gulberg Society, which were among the nine cases being investigated and tried under the supervision of the Supreme Court.

What are the key findings?

The Commission found that there was no conspiracy involved in the riots and they were largely the outcome of the anger over the Godhra train burning incident. The Commission considered testimonies provided to counter the evidence and testimonies provided by NGOs and rights groups like Teesta Setalvad of Citizens for Justice and Peace, and Jan Sangharsh Manch led by the late Mukul Sinha, who is credited with leading the cross-examinations of government officials and political functionaries.

What are its findings about Modi?

It quoted Modi as having told it that he was being "kept informed about the incident (when it) started happening on 27.2.002 and from 28.2.2002 by the senior officers heading their respective departments. The senior officers heading their respective departments were also keeping me posted with the steps taken by them to control the sudden violent situation erupted in the aftermath of Godhra train burning incident with the effective aid and assistance of all forces including para military forces and military which the state agencies had deployed immediately".

What did it say about ministers, police and various organisations?

It concluded that "there is no incident to show that either BJP, VHP or any other political party or its leaders or any religious organisations or their leaders had instigated attacks on Muslims. Only in two cases it was alleged that VHP persons had taken part in those incidents... The incidents against Muslims appear to have happened because of the anger of the people on account of the Godhra incident... Anti-social elements appear to have taken part in some incidents."

It said a number of affidavits were filed stating that the police had taken prompt and effective steps to curb violence and had saved lives and properties. The Commission said it found no evidence to show there was any inaction or negligence on the part of police in maintaining law and order in the district, or to show involvement of any Minister of the State Government in the incidents or any interference by a Minister in the functioning of the police.

What are the key recommendations?

One is that "reasonable restriction be placed upon the media in matter of publication of reports about the incidents (during communal riots)". The Commission cited testimonies accusing media of giving "wide publicity to the Godhra incident and the incidents that happened thereafter people got excited and indulged in communal violence". It also found "deep rooted hatred between some sections of Hindu and Muslim communities" as one of the causes of communal riots and recommends government to take steps for removing this "weakness" from society. It cited instances to show that Hindus, in fact, were either assaulted for helping Muslims or alerted Muslims about possible attacks.

How barcode was born, how it changed retail

SNEHA SAHA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

ON TUESDAY, engineer-scientist George Laurer died in Wendell, North Carolina, at age 94. He was the co-developer of the Universal Product Code (UPC), or barcode, in 1973. It is an invention that changed the way businesses work.

Before the barcode

Today, shoppers simply pick up a product at a store or a mall, and pay the bill as determined by a scan of the barcode. Before the invention, store owners had to assign employees to individually label each product on sale. Laurer recalled the cumbersome process in a 2010 interview to *The Washington Post*: "Grocery stores in the 1970s were dealing with soaring costs and the labour-intensive requirements of putting price tags on all of their products." That's when Laurer invented barcode together with Norman Joseph Woodland, who died in 2012.

How the idea took shape

Barcode was the brainchild of Woodland; Laurer is credited with bringing the idea to fruition. It was in the 1950s that Woodland thought about developing a system based on barcode symbology, called Bulls-Eye Barcode, which would describe a product and its price in a code readable by a machine. Initially, Woodland took inspiration from the Morse Code, the well-known character-encoding scheme in telecommunications defined by dots and dashes.

Woodland's idea seemed workable but he was unable to develop the system as the cost of laser and computing technology was extremely high in the 1950s. Two decades later, in the 1970s, Laurer, who was then working for IBM, put Woodland's idea to work, armed with less expensive laser and computing technology.

Laurer found that a rectangle system, which we see on most barcodes today, would be more workable than Bull's-Eye, which used a series of concentric circles that looked complicated. He developed a scanner with strips instead of circles. The very first barcode transaction was on a pack of Wrigley's Juicy Fruit chewing gum.

What it is today

Over the years, the barcode has transformed the way the retail industry functions globally. Barcodes can be found in hundreds and thousands of products for identification and scanning, and allow retailers to identify prices instantly. They also allow for easy checkouts and fewer pricing errors, and let retailers keep better account of their inventory.

The barcode also changed the balance of power in the retail industry.

For a small, family-run convenience store, the barcode scanner was an expensive solution to problems they did not really have, BBC World explained in a 2017 article. But big supermarkets could spread the cost of the scanners across many more sales. They valued shorter queues, and also needed to keep track of inventory.

As a result, as the barcode spread in the 1970s and 1980s, large retailers also expanded.

During the 25th anniversary celebration of the barcode's invention at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington DC, Laurer told WRAL-TV in an interview that he was awestruck by his own invention. "When I watch these clerks zipping the stuff across the scanners and I keep thinking to myself... It can't work that well," he said.

UK votes in defining 'Brexit elections' today — here's what to look out for

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

ON THURSDAY, Great Britain will go to polls for the third time in four years, with voters making what a widely quoted former Conservative politician has described as an "appalling choice" between a "compulsive liar" and a "totalitarian" in a general election that will define their country's destiny.

These will be Britain's Brexit elections, which it has brought upon itself so it can take the next steps in the ongoing process of divorce from the European Union (EU) that the referendum of 2016 chose. The new government will decide whether the United Kingdom (UK) leaves the EU early in 2020 — and if so, what sort of relationship it will have with Europe in the future.

How did these elections come about?

David Cameron, who became Prime Minister in 2010, won a second term in the elections of 2015, but resigned within weeks of the referendum of June 23, 2016, in which Britain voted to leave the EU. Theresa May, who succeeded Cameron, called a snap general election in the hope of getting a stronger hand to negotiate Brexit. However, the elections of June 8, 2017 ended up reducing the Conservative Party to a minority in the Commons after their numbers fell to 317 from 330. In July this year, May resigned, after Parliament rejected her Brexit deal thrice.

Johnson, the man May's party chose to replace her, faced rebellions from within, which resulted in Parliament blocking the Brexit deal that he negotiated. The Prime Minister wanted fresh elections; however, provisions of the Fixed-Term Parliaments Act, 2011 could be bypassed only with the support of two-thirds of MPs. At the end of October, Labour agreed to the elections — once they had made sure that Brexit had been pushed back to January 31, 2020 from the previous deadline of October 31, 2019. Parliament was dissolved on November 6.

How will Thursday's voting take place?

The system is similar to India's. Voters will choose representatives for 650 seats in the House of Commons. All British, Irish and qualifying Commonwealth citizens who are 18 years of age, living in Britain, and who had registered by the deadline of November 26, will vote. Voting will be by ballot papers at polling booths or by postal ballots, or by proxy under certain circumstances.

Polls will open at 7 am local time and close at 10 pm. Results of an exit poll, which is far more reliable than in India, will be announced soon after polls close. Official results will come in as ballot papers are counted through the night. Like in India, the UK has a first-past-the-post system, and the candidate who wins the largest number of votes in a particular constituency will become its MP.

Boris Johnson *(left)* and Jeremy Corbyn, leaders of the two main parties. *Reuters*

Who are the key players in the election?

JOHNSON, CONSERVATIVE PARTY: The Prime Minister, whose full name is Alexander Boris de Pfeffel Johnson, is 55, and one of Britain's premier Brexiteers, who has promised to "unleash the potential of the whole UK". He has asked voters for a clear majority in order to "get Brexit done" by quickly passing his deal, so that the UK can be out of the EU next month. He then wants to begin negotiations with Europe for a set of free trade terms, and wrap up the process by its December 31, 2020 deadline. The Tories have also promised more funds for the National Health Service and for police.

JEREMY CORBYN, LABOUR PARTY: He has been leader of Labour since 2015, describes himself as a socialist, and is frequently seen as being a bit too left-wing, with unworkably radical foreign policy opinions. He is also rather unpopular — perhaps more than Johnson, who is not very popular himself. On Brexit, Corbyn has waffled, and the Labour manifesto has laid out a convoluted roadmap: it says it will renegotiate the Brexit deal in three months; then, within six months, hold another referendum to get the people's view on whether they want to leave the EU with this new deal, or would prefer to stay on in Europe after all. This will need time, and the EU's consent — and Corbyn has said he himself will be "neutral" on whether to leave or remain. Labour's problem is that a large part of its base wants to Remain, but it also has support in working class seats that voted Leave.

Labour has promised free university tuition, greater health spending, more taxes on the rich, and nationalisation of railways and broadband Internet.

JO SWINSON, LIBERAL DEMOCRATS: The Lib-Dems are pro-Remain, and their leader, Swinson, 39, wants to stop Brexit altogether. They can make a difference if a tight election returns a hung Parliament, and they win a few key seats. As of now, Swinson has said she won't back either of the two major parties.

NIGEL FARAGE, BREXIT PARTY: The party has a one-point agenda, and Farage, unlike Johnson, wants to just walk out of the EU immediately, without a deal. The Brexit Party is not challenging the Tories in the 317 seats they won the last time, which is likely to help Johnson by not splitting the Brexit vote. However, Farage will likely hurt him in other seats that may see a close contests.

And who seems likely to win?

In recent YouGov polls, the Conservatives have been seeing about a 10-point lead, and even though Labour has been picking up of late, the elections could still give Johnson a small majority of around 28 seats, according to latest estimates. Analysts, however, have been cautioning that 11 seats were decided by fewer than 100 votes in 2017, and many more by a few hundred votes — so even small shifts could swing the election around. Like in India, "tactical voting" has been widely discussed in the run-up to the elections.

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

BEFORE MASS LEADERS SEIZE FIT REALITY TO THEIR LIES, THEIR PROPAGANDA IS MARKED BY ITS EXTREME CONTEMPT FOR FACTS. — HANNAH ARENDT

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

BRUTE MAJORITY

Poisonous Citizenship Amendment Bill should have been stopped in House. Judiciary must rise to Constitution's defence

THE PASSAGE OF the Citizenship Amendment Bill 2019 is "historic" but not for the reasons that Union Home Minister Amit Shah called it so, while moving the Bill in the Rajya Sabha. In the guise of righting what it calls a Partition wrong, and giving refuge to persecuted minorities from neighbouring countries, the Narendra Modi government has bulldozed a poisonous bill through Parliament which effects a majoritarian recasting of the very idea of Indian citizenship, makes religion a criterion. This is not a law that concerns those it seeks to include — six minority groups from three countries. It is a political signal of a terrible narrowing, a chilling exclusion, directed at India's own largest minority. India is to be redefined as the natural home of Hindus, it says to India's Muslims. And that they must, therefore, be content with a less natural citizenship. The responsibility and blame for this offensive law, this tragic moment, rests squarely on the BJP, the party of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah. The party that proclaimed "sabka saath, sabka vikas, sabka vishwas" has diminished the people's mandate in interpreting it as a license to push through this impoverished and shrunken idea of citizenship after piloting a National Register of Citizens process in Assam that has ignited religious and ethnic faultlines and pushed lakhs of Indians to the edge of statelessness — the region is seeing renewed violence on the CAB. It brings in this law not long after revoking Article 370 in Kashmir in a way that silenced and relegated the Kashmiri people, and continues to isolate them.

In the gallery of shame, after the BJP and alongside it, are many of its allies who have earlier professed allegiance to a secular, capacious idea of India. Men like Nitish Kumar, chief of the JD(U), and Chief Minister of Bihar, who has, in his previous political incarnations, spoken long and loud for an inclusive national landscape more sensitive and respectful to the concerns and rights of its minorities. Men like Ram Vilas Paswan, whose voice has always rung louder than tiny LJP's electoral clout, and who once walked out of a BJP-led ministry because of the bloodletting in Gujarat under its watch. The political crime scene today bears the fingerprints of all those partners and allies that earlier nudged the BJP to pitch its tent wider — and are unabashedly cosying up to it today in its terrible shrinking.

Shah has assured the Muslims of India that they have no reason to fear, that they are and will remain citizens of the country. It will be a sad day for India if India's Muslims have to take this or any Home Minister's word for it. India is a constitutional democracy with a basic structure that assures a secure and spacious home for all Indians, including and especially its minorities, and this architecture has endured, by and large. The Citizenship Amendment Bill 2019 should have been stopped by the legislature, things should not have come to this pass. Now, the judiciary must rise again to the Constitution's defence, as it has done at several turning points before, and protect the spirit of the Republic, its very soul.

BHU LETS DOWN BHU

For want of institutional courage, Firoz Khan has had to bow out of his preferred faculty in the once-progressive university

FOLLOWING A MONTH-LONG protest by students of the Faculty of Sanskrit in Banaras Hindu University, newly appointed professor Firoz Khan has had to step away to the Sanskrit programme at the Faculty of Arts. This is despite the support of several colleagues at the university, including the teacher who had appointed him, who insist that he is perfectly qualified to teach Sanskrit literature, and that his religious affiliation is immaterial. Therefore, the blame for this breach of the fundamental right to freedom conferred by Article 19 of the Constitution, which includes the right to work as one wishes, must rest with the vice-chancellor's office. Had the BHU administration put its weight resolutely behind Firoz Khan, he would not have been forced to seek alternative employment.

Khan's case is ironic because the faculty whose students have forced him out was established in 1918 by Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya, shortly after he founded the BHU, with the purpose of purging society of misconceptions and fundamentalisms in matters of faith and spirit. It was a progressive project for promoting the study of the Sanskrit shastras and literature. The case is doubly ironic because the study of Sanskrit texts crossed the religious divide centuries ago. Neither the Panchatantra nor ancient Indian mathematics would have reached the rest of the world without the energetic intervention of Central Asian and Middle Eastern translators. And while Dara Shikoh is remembered for his interest in translating Sanskrit literature into Persian, it was a project patronised by the state repeatedly through the Mughal period. Firoz Khan himself comes from a Sanskrit-literate family. All his siblings are conversant in the language, though not enough to teach, and his father makes a living singing bhajans.

The history of Sanskrit stretches far beyond the footprint of Hinduism, to the Caucasus and the Hellenistic world. It is rich and layered, and cannot be reduced to the stiflingly narrow rubric of religion. If students deny a professor the right to teach Sanskrit literature only because he bears a Muslim name, they do not understand the subject they study. And if their university bows to their pressure instead of sticking up for the teacher, it is in desperate need of a more broad-minded and courageous administration. Indeed, the administration must bear the brunt of the blame for this incident, since it is presumed — in this case, erroneously — to know better than the student body.

WELCOME, BOUGAINVILLE

The world's newest country will come to be at a bleak time. Perhaps it can show a better way

THERE'S A BIRTHDAY party going on in Buka. After years of civil war, followed by an uneasy detente, Bougainville is set to become the newest member of the comity of nations. The celebrations in its capital followed the announcement of the results of a referendum — an overwhelming 98 per cent voted to be independent from Papua New Guinea. The vote had been a long time coming: In 2002, it was part of the peace deal to end the civil war, in which about 20,000 people (out of a total population of 2,00,000) from Bougainville were killed.

The tiny nation, like the young everywhere, will be eager to take its place at the table, out in the world on its own terms. But it will do so at a time when its elders can offer it little in terms of guidance. Liberal institutional democracy, in many of its bastions from the largest to the oldest, from Washington to Westminster, is closing in on itself. And once the heady, unifying light of their national struggle fades, the 19 linguistic groups in the country may have to find their own path to respecting plurality. Bougainville will also come to international relations at a time when might is the only principle, and market the only reason. And most of all, Bougainville will have to negotiate peace with its neighbour, the one from whom it has emerged. The Indian Subcontinent, in this regard, can be looked upon as an example to avoid.

But the pessimism of the bleak world it will be ushered into must not dampen the spirits of the young nation and its people. In fact, it must encourage them. More than ever, the world needs a country that defines greatness by its decency; by who it includes, not who it bullies. The small nation in the Solomon Sea could hold out that hope.

The morning after CAB

It will be a mistake to rely just on Court to rescue us from a republic that panders to its own worst instincts

PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

THE CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT Bill uses a legal instrument to send an insidious political message: Religious identity will play a dominant role in assessing claims to citizenship. Muslims will be increasingly marginalised from our conceptions of citizenship. No one denies that a country has a right to prioritise amongst different classes of refugees, based on a number of factors: Risk assessment, availability of alternatives, historical ties, ground realities, humanitarian concerns, international obligations or even security concerns. But for a bill to, ex ante, name some communities and exclude others from consideration in this pathway to citizenship is a clever way of keeping the communal pot boiling under a legal imprimatur. The bill is not meant to solve any problem that could not have been solved through a less discriminatory process; it may even create more problems.

But where does politics go, after CAB? We look to the Supreme Court for a semblance of constitutional deliverance. We have no idea how a court will rule. But one of the lessons of our recent history is that we misunderstand how a Supreme Court functions in a democracy. The Supreme Court has badly let us down in recent times, through a combination of avoidance, mendacity, and a lack of zeal on behalf of political liberty. We often explain this away as if this were the failing of individual judges. A particular judge might be compromised, or too scared to challenge the executive or they may simply be obtuse in their reasoning. In law as in politics, we carry on with the game, somewhere reassured that mistakes are idiosyncratic, and are possibly retrievable by the very processes that secured them.

But what makes this constitutional moment pivotal is that there is, somewhere, a looming air of irretrievable finality about the changes that are being enshrined. But we should recognise that this direction is not going to be set through the nice formalisms of law, or the contrived conventions we can adhere to in normal times. The direction is going to be set by the mob, by brute power, by mobilisation.

Much ink will be spilled over whether the CAB is unconstitutional or not. Learned minds will argue whether it passes the "reasonable classification" test, or whether it comports with "constitutional morality." This argument is all to the good, and necessary within our protocols of adjudication. But we should be under no illusion that the final adjudication will not be a product of some self-evident normative idea, or some compelling logic within the law. As the joke goes, in law there is only one certainty: There is a case for and a case against. The final adjudication will be a product of what collectively citizens of India are able to convey about the kind of country they want to create.

> What makes this constitutional moment pivotal is that there is, somewhere, a looming air of irretrievable finality about the changes that are being enshrined. But we should recognise that this direction is not going to be set through the nice formalisms of law, or the contrived conventions we can adhere to in normal times. The direction is going to be set by the mob, by brute power, by mobilisation.

The point of the idea of constitutional morality is exactly that it does not provide any legal standard for adjudication. Rather, it points to the fact that the work of constitutionalism has to be done outside of the formal process of the law: In building up an ethos that tolerates differences, in shaping a sense of self that is moved by the demands of equality, or perturbed by the attacks on liberty. So constitutional morality is not a doctrine we can appeal to, to settle our differences. It is what we bring to adjudication, not what we get out of it. Similarly, the term "reasonable classification."

The term "reasonable" is one of the most vexed terms in law and political theory. Arguments over it often have an air of circularity. Societies have often found discrimination "reasonable." When they cease to find it reasonable, it is often because larger social norms have changed, not because a court said so. If you took the CAB in isolation, detached it from the political context, and its possibly catastrophic alignment with the NRC, the government could make the argument that its classification is not unreasonable, even if not everyone agrees with it. Even the original NRC debacle was created in part by the Supreme Court, presumably in its own mind acting on reasonable classifications. So while the legal and philosophical work is necessary, don't count on them to do our work for us.

This is a truth that the BJP has realised. It moves the law, not by appealing to it, but by changing the norms in politics and society that shape our imaginations of the law. It did this in the Ayodhya case literally by changing the facts on the ground, and demolishing the Babri Masjid, and altering our historical imaginations. So much so, that while the judges acknowledged that the demolition of the Masjid was illegal, the fact that there was a structure there seem to have no meaningful bearing on the final claims of who has possession. Similarly, whether the NRC was the right thing to do was shaped less by law than by a historical and sociological imagination of the problem in Assam or a sense of the capacities of the state. Similarly on Kashmir, the delay in hearing habeas corpus and other petitions was guided neither by logic, nor law. It was most likely guided by deference to what was perceived to be public sentiment, pure and simple. Given that so much constitutional adjudication mixes both normative (what is the right thing to do) and statistical meaning (what is perceived public sentiment), the BJP has colonised the law by conveying a different sense of what public sentiment is.

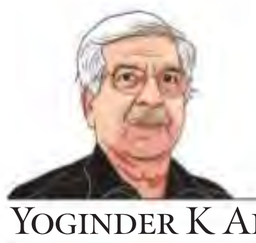
The lesson here is that we can rely on the courts, if at all, only if we do a lot of work outside the courts. If the public accepts the Home Minister's Orwellian statement that Kashmir is "normal," don't be surprised if that definition of normalcy becomes a de facto standard that allows the court to postpone its day of reckoning in Kashmir. If our entire public discourse is pervaded by an exaggerated bogey of illegal immigration, don't expect the court to call the bluff on a discriminatory NRC.

This is why it will be a mistake to rely just on the Supreme Court. The political challenge is to make sure that one party's diabolical version of what is reasonable is not mistaken to be common sense. It will require using the BJP's tactics: Political and ideological mobilisation outside the law to convey the sense that Indian citizens will not stand for a Republic that is discriminatory, fearful and panders to its own worst instincts. Only then may even the judges move.

The writer is contributing editor, The Indian Express

INDIA'S RCEP CHOICE

It was born out of the many complexities of the country's development needs



YOGINDER K ALAGH

INDIA IS NOT a part of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) trade pact and Japan is also holding its breath. These dissensions are a manifestation of the complexities in the relationship between the tiger and the elephant, and its ripple effects across Asia.

India has joined the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), which is funded by China. Delving into its functioning explains the context of the recent dissensions on RCEP. Last year, the third annual meeting of the AIIB was held in Mumbai. There was a preparatory meeting organised at Ahmedabad, which I was asked to chair. One of the issues raised by me was that the urban and the rural in India are a continuum and not separated by policies as in the Chinese model, where, conventionally, a person needed a permit to shift to an urban area.

In India, the Research and Information System (RIS) for developing countries and Assocham were mandated by the finance ministry to organise these discussions. The first issue was the definition of what is urban. I pointed out that during the last inter-censal period (2001 to 2011), over 40 million kisans had moved to what are called census towns. These were urban towns according to the census definition, but state governments preferred to keep them as rural habitations because of political reasons.

Ignoring these settlements means that the most dynamic aspects of the rural-urban linkage were being left out when conceiving of infrastructure provisions. The Chinese bank officials found it difficult to grasp that in a fast-growing economy, its agro-based non-grain commodity base — milk products, animal husbandry including poultry, fish and meat, vegetables and fruits — was the sector whose demand was rising. Also, this was a politically significant issue.

> It is not easy for the more specialised smaller RCEP countries to appreciate this, and hence, the pleas to India to fall in line. The Chinese paradigm is different. Infrastructure needs of these fast-growing sectors for transport, markets, first-stage processing are tremendous. The smart city systems in India also ignore these needs. While private and community investments are needed, the state had to fill the gap.

It is not easy for the more specialised smaller RCEP countries to appreciate this, and hence, the pleas to India to fall in line. The Chinese paradigm is different. Infrastructure needs of these fast-growing sectors for transport, markets, first-stage processing are tremendous.

The smart city systems in India also ignore these needs. While private and community investments are needed, the state had to fill the gap. I reminded the meeting that in a visit to a Walmart outside Shanghai, I had found a section in which farmer cooperatives and producer organisations, as we would define them, had been given space as a strategic partnership.

There is also a need to support the newer kind of farmers' organisations that are coming up. The need for initial financing for such arrangements, drawing in private rural savings and other financial sector savings, is tremendous. In fact, a number of these newer kinds of arrangements are important for the upsurge of agro-exports. Working capital needs could also be financed. The meeting recognised that it is these newer areas of the rural-urban linkage that are being focused on.

There was an interesting debate on the fact that, as regards the land question, there were a number of farmer-producer movements in India which protected the interest of farmers. The term-lending experts thought of this as a hindrance, but some of the town planners and NGO participants argued that it was important to configure processes in a way that included them in the investment and development systems rather than seeing them as bottlenecks.

The meeting noted that a number of professional town and country planners had their first field experiences in such movements. In Ahmedabad, the architect B V Doshi, the town planner Christopher Benninger, and I had started a School of Planning in the Seventies. Its earlier batches, who we taught, were by now legendary names in India and abroad. They had cut their teeth sitting with demonstrators in the slums of Gul Bai Ka Tekra in Ahmedabad.

Our Chinese friends would not fully understand. I remembered that on a visit to China, the mayor of Shanghai told me that he had relocated 60,000 persons in four months. I had to confess that as chairman of the Narmada Planning Group, it took me two-and-a-half decades to rehabilitate 20,000 families. Infrastructure development differs across Asia. It is wise to hasten slowly.

The writer, a former Union minister, is an economist

DECEMBER 12, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

INDIAN EXPRESS

12 Assam ministers send resignations to Governor directly

ASSAM RESIGNATIONS

TWELVE MINISTERS AND two parliamentary secretaries in Assam forwarded their resignations to the governor, L P Singh, directly. The ministers and the parliamentary secretaries had submitted their resignations to the chief minister on December 8, but he had not forwarded the same to the governor. CM Jogendranath Hazarika reiterated his claim that he still enjoyed majority support.

DELHI VERSUS CENTRE

MADAN LAL KHURANA has resigned as executive councillor (food and supplies) of the Delhi administration. In his resignation letter sent to the chief executive councillor, Kidar Nath Sahani, Khurana said he was resigning "in protest against the step-motherly treatments being given to Delhi by the caretaker central government." Khurana said that due to the non-cooperation of the Centre, the prices of sugar, vegetable oil, atta and bran had gone up. The Centre did not pay any heed to the protest lodged by the Delhi administration against its policies.

LOK DAL MANIFESTO

CORRUPTION, LUXURY AND wastage of national resources are the major matters of concern to the Lok Dal as spelt out in its manifesto. The party claims to have adopted a "firm, clear and radical strategy" to tackle these problems. One of the radical steps is to devise special agencies and procedures which can take legal notice of corruption complaints even without the government's initiative.

INDIA'S CONCERN

PRIME MINISTER CHARAN Singh has sent a letter to US President Jimmy Carter, expressing India's hope that the US would continue to exercise the restraint it has shown so far in dealing with the question of American hostages in Iran. Singh has also stated that attempts to use force or threats of force against any country's diplomatic establishment is a matter of universal concern.

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The US is the most powerful country in the world and yet it is the number one destroyer of order. This is the misfortune of the 21st century."

—GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

Redefining the republic

Citizenship law and proposed nation-wide NRC will not only change how the state views citizens but also revise the conception of group rights in India

CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT AND SHARIK LALIWALA

C R Sasikumar

THE CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT Bill (CAB) has reopened a fundamental debate that lies at the heart of India's identity quest. Who is an Indian is a question that has been central to the task of nation-building since the Raj as the country, after the Muslim League asserted itself as representing the largest minority, was divided on the basis of religion in 1947. India's Constitution-makers discussed and debated the topic for almost two years. They ultimately chose a territorial definition of Indian citizenship: Whoever was born in India was an Indian regardless of any other identity marker. This expansive definition stood in stark contrast with the idea of citizenship that Pakistan finally adopted: As the "homeland" of Muslims, this country could only have a Muslim head of state after the 1956 constitution was passed.

Vallabhbhai Patel, India's first deputy prime minister and home minister, commended the Constituent Assembly members for their inclusive idea of citizenship. He had reminded them of Mahatma Gandhi's struggle in South Africa against racial discrimination and had urged the members to not opt for an ethnicity-based notion of citizenship. This provision, to him and for many other members, was vital since it would be "scrutinised all over the world".

The Citizenship Act (1955), which resulted from all these debates, now governs the citizenship law in India. Though this law has been amended multiple times, the first successful attempt to insert ethno-religious categorisation of citizenship took place in early 2004 under the Vajpayee government. This amendment, simultaneous to the changes in citizenship rules, was passed in the face of growing unrest in Assam. While undocumented migrants were debarred from becoming citizens, this amendment allowed an exception for Pakistani Hindus from being considered illegal migrants, claiming that they were a persecuted community: India had begun to abandon the territorial idea of citizenship in favour of ethno-religious notions.

The current amendment to the Citizenship Act relies on the same idea. It intends to give shelter and protection to persecuted minorities by welcoming them as refugees and to grant them a fast track to citizenship by naturalisation after a period of six years. But it is prepared to do it in a discriminatory manner, preparing the ground for a faith-based definition of citizenship. Indeed, the CAB would only apply to undocumented "Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Christians, and Parsis" from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Such migrants would become "refugees" whereas Muslims and members of other minorities, or atheists, would remain illegal. The GoI argues that Muslims cannot be oppressed in countries where Islam is an official religion, but Ahmaddiyas and Shias are in Pakistan, like Hazaras (also Shias) in Afghanistan. The CAB also ignores other neighbouring countries, including Sri Lanka and Myanmar, where Tamils and Rohingya are at the receiving end of the state.

These contradictions reflect the majoritarian dimension of this reform. After its inability to secure passage of the Bill in early 2019 because of the opposition or abstention of a majority of MPs in the Rajya Sabha, the BJP re-activated the discourse on the citizenship amendments during the 2019 election campaign. BJP's president and now the country's home minister, Amit Shah, had termed the infiltrators as "termites" in one of his election speeches and promised to "throw them out" of India while protecting "refugees" if voted back to power. During the 2016 state elections in Assam, the BJP had already promised to "clean" this province of "illegal migrants" through the CAB.

On top of that, the government has pledged to bring an all-India National Register of Citizens (NRC) to drive out the undocumented "migrants", repeating the exercise recently completed in Assam. In the contentious final NRC draft of Assam, 19 lakh people were left out from Indian citizenship; at least one third of these people, according to estimates, are non-Muslims.

Hence, after the new citizenship law is passed, these non-Muslims will become refugees (and Indian citizens after six years), whereas an ethno-religious criterion will guide the exclusion of the Muslim migrants from citizenship. These developments are bound to change the political demography of Assam, making the Hindu voters a clearer majority.

A nation-wide combination of the CAB and NRC will mark India as the natural habitat of Hindus while deriding some Muslims as "foreigners". Indians will be called Indians not only on territorial grounds but also on ethno-racial and religious lines. This worldview is well in tune with the vision of V D Savarkar, the architect of the Hindutva ideology, who wrote: "The Hindus are not merely the citizens of the Indian state because they are united not only by the bonds of the love they bear to a common motherland, but also by the bonds of a common blood. They are not only a nation but a race-jati."

However, Savarkar, interestingly, added: "Any convert of non-Hindu parentage to Hindutva can be a Hindu, if bona fide, he or she adopts our land as his or her country and marries a Hindu, thus coming to love our country as a real Pithrubhumi (Fatherland), and adopts our culture and thus adores our land as the Punyabhumi (Sacred Land)."

> The CAB would not only change how the state views its citizens' rights but, it would also revise the conception of group rights in India. There has always been some tension between the liberal idea of individual rights and group-based rights in the Indian Republic. Until now, group rights have been used for emancipatory purposes to undo the historical wrongs — for instance, through quotas in public education and jobs for OBCs and Dalits.

In other words, for Savarkar, conversion to Hindutva (sic) was a way to become a citizen of India, but such a convert had to marry a Hindu too. This definition of the Indian identity has strong affinities with the ethno-nationalist ideologies of the European ideologues from whom the promoters of Hindutva drew their inspiration in the inter-war period. M S Golwalkar, for instance, refers to many German theoreticians of the ethnic nation in his 1939 book, *We, or Our Nationhood Defined*.

The CAB would not only change how the state views its citizens' rights but, it would also revise the conception of group rights in India. There has always been some tension between the liberal idea of individual rights and group-based rights in the Indian Republic. Until now, group rights have been used for emancipatory purposes to undo the historical wrongs — for instance, through quotas in public education and jobs for OBCs and Dalits. In that sense, the hierarchy of rights on class, caste or gender lines in India is meant for a gradualist, progressive social change. At other times, group differentiation has been used to respect diversity — through special cultural rights of religious as well as linguistic minorities and tribals, and by re-drawing the internal map of India on linguistic lines. The Modi government plans to radically reformulate the logic of community rights in India to exclude some Muslims from Indian citizenship. In turn, this new definition of group rights will worsen the socio-economic conditions of Muslims, who are already experiencing some decline.

The questioning of the autonomy of India's only Muslim-majority state, Jammu & Kashmir, the Supreme Court's decision to give Babri Masjid land to build a Ram Mandir, and a nation-wide NRC coupled with the proposed CAB would further change the character of the Indian Republic. India may no longer be a de facto Hindu Rashtra, but, to some extent, a de jure Hindu Rashtra with legally sanctioned religion-based exclusions effected without changing the Constitution. It is now for the courts to decide whether some of these changes will stand the test of constitutionality or not.

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Enablers of a slowdown

Opposition during UPA years, and Supreme Court judgments, must share responsibility for the current economic mess

KAPIL SIBAL

THE MACHINATIONS TO form and topple governments may be a priority for grabbing and sustaining political supremacy. However, with the economy tumbling for six straight quarters and GDP growth at 4.5 per cent (July-September quarter), we are in trouble. Tax receipts in Q2 (April-October) at Rs 6.83 lakh crore, with an expenditure of Rs16.55 lakh crore are worrying. The output of eight core industries in October contracted by 5.8 per cent compared to October 2018 with six of the eight sectors witnessing negative growth. Coal production fell by 17.6 per cent, crude output by 5.1 per cent, steel production by 1.6 per cent, natural gas by 5.7 per cent, cement by 7.7 per cent and electricity consumption by 12.4 per cent. Various international agencies have cut down their GDP predictions for the current financial year by 1.5 per cent on an average. The RBI, too, on December 6 lowered the growth estimate to 5 per cent in 2019-20 from 6.1 per cent. What is required is not patience, as the finance minister persuades us to believe, but urgent prescriptions to address structural issues.

What are these issues? First, the wheels of economic growth are undergoing qualitative changes. Automation and artificial intelligence are replacing manpower. Consequently, Indian industry is bound to suffer. While the adoption of both AI and automation by domestic industry is inevitable, it will also lead to a substantial loss of jobs. In recent years, we have seen job losses in IT and other labour-intensive sectors, which have in the past fueled growth. Second, it is imperative for our labour force to acquire skills to meet the needs of the fourth industrial revolution. To do that, we need to affect structural changes in our education system as children move from school to higher education. Instead, the Ministry of Human Resource Development is more concerned with changing the way we look at our past than reflecting upon the needs of the future. One might resurrect the heroes of the past but what we need is to put in place an environment to discover and encourage our heroes of the future. Unless we create an ecosystem in which our graduating students acquire the skills to meet the demands of the economy, we will not get the appropriate labour force required by industry.

Third, the contribution of both the Opposition during the UPA years as well as judgments of the Supreme Court to the economic mess that we find ourselves in. The C&AG's preposterous theory of presumptive loss in telecom latched on to by the then Opposition, resulted in a judgment cancelling telecom licences, which killed the goose that laid the golden eggs. Subsequent auctions of spectrum resulted in high bids. The revenue earnings of telecom operators were insufficient to discharge the debt to banks for loans taken to buy spectrum. Little was left for investment in infrastructure for mobile telecom efficiency. The result is, today, the sector which was efficient and highly competitive is reeling with a debt of close to Rs 8 lakh crore. Soon, the telecom sector may see the emergence of a duopoly. The telecom sector would have thrived but for the legacy of unsustainable prescriptions forced upon it. Auction money was viewed as a source of revenue to enrich the treasury rather than ploughing it back into the sector for investments in infrastructure.

The story of another sector, coal, is even more depressing. The SC, in an allegedly historic judgment, set aside all coal allocations since the early '90s. The government, upon such cancellations, assured the Court that coal production will see a new sunrise with the auction of coal mines. The result was the opposite. The auctioned coal mines had no takers and those who participated in the auction, preferred to have their securities encashed rather than pay the balance amount for the auctioned mines. Consequently, the import of coal has increased at an alarming pace, adding to cost since coal is the raw material for several industries. Coal India has not been able to meet the increasing demands of our emerging economy. Coal is the life blood of every industry including power, steel, and cement. As a result of these auctions and the SC judgment, the power sector is in the doldrums. The NPAs of banks reaching more than Rs 10 lakh crore is partly the result of the mindless protests by the Opposition and the SC judgments.

Fourth, is the crisis in agriculture as we promise to double farmers' income — a daunting task with agricultural growth at 2 per cent per annum. We need innovative policies in agriculture. Use of technology to increase productivity per acre, rational policies to reduce the mindless exploitation of groundwater and remunerative returns for the farmer are imperatives. The plight of indebted marginal farmers too must be addressed.

Crucial sectors of the economy that generate employment are in decline. Thirty million of the 100 million employed in the textile industry, our second largest employer, for a variety of reasons both domestic and global, have lost their jobs. Close to 3.5 lakh workers in the automobile industry have been laid off as auto sales have slumped to a two-decade low. With increasing incidents of lynching, the leather industry is facing challenges with local units closing down.

The cumulative effect of all the above coupled with the mindless decision of demonetisation followed by the implementation of a flawed GST made matters worse. These decisions paralysed the economy. The result: Economic growth is eluding us. Tax breaks for industry already flushed with cash will see no immediate outcomes. The key is to boost incomes of those at the bottom of the pyramid.

Finally, government must recognise that fear and enterprise don't go together. Keep the ED and the CBI at bay and ensure that income tax authorities act within the law. Enterprise alone can help fuel our economy. Otherwise the Ides of March are not far away.

The writer, a senior Congress leader, is a former Union minister

More equal care

PMJAY can help bridge the gender gap in availing of healthcare services

INDU BHUSHAN

THERE IS A large gap in the use of public services in the country. The "2018 Gender Gap Index" of the World Economic Forum and its sub-index, "Health and Survival" — India ranks 108 in the overall index and 147th out of 149 in the sub-index — shine a light on this challenge.

Girl children face discrimination even before they are born and continue to experience bias during their life, including in the provision of nutrition and use of health services. Faced with limited resources, families, in general, prioritise the healthcare, nutrition and other needs of men at the cost of women. Some cultural factors, such as the reluctance of women in some regions to consult male doctors, also constrain their access to healthcare services. The National Family Health Survey (4th round) shows that the main reasons women do not seek healthcare services are because these services are unaffordable, they are not easily available and there aren't enough women healthcare providers.

Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY seeks to bridge the gender gap in the use of healthcare services by addressing a key constraint — healthcare costs. Cashless services through PM-JAY are helping to narrow the gender gap in availing healthcare. Learning from the experience of earlier schemes like the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, PM-JAY's design incorporates several features that will improve the use of healthcare services by women and girls. First, families with no adult male members is one of the deprivation criteria for identifying target beneficiaries, which will help a large number of women. Second, there is no cap on the size of families. A cap of five beneficiaries from a family in earlier schemes worked against women. It was observed that large families preferred that their male members be beneficiaries. Finally, the packages include a large number of health conditions that exclusively, or primarily, affect women. Of the 1,393 health benefit packages under PM-JAY, 116 are women centric, 64 are for only men while 1,213 are common to both.

The initial data for utilisation of services under PM-JAY shows that the use of services is more or less evenly balanced among men and women. Of all hospital admission requests, 52 per cent were for men and 48 per cent were for women. In fact, the gender gap starts to show up at only above 50 years. In the age groups from 0 to 50 years, use of services by women is either equal to or greater than that by men.

It is important to note that some health conditions are prevalent either only among women or men. Looking at conditions that are likely to affect both men and women equally provides better insights. The disaggregation of data on utilisation of major specialty services shows mixed patterns. Use by women patients is higher in 10 specialties — OPD diagnostics, radiation oncology, follow-ups, palliative care, burns management, ophthalmology, pediatric cancer, PHC and surgical oncology. However, in others like pediatric surgery, general medicine, urology and cardiology utilisation by male patients is higher.

There are variations across states as well. For example, at the national level, 66 per cent of all treatment in orthopedics were received by men. However, in Kerala, the proportion is 53 per cent while it is much greater in UP and Maharashtra — 70 per cent. There are variations at the level of procedures. For example, within orthopedics, women are the majority users of packages such as total knee replacement — 57 per cent. There are state-level variations in this respect as well — with 83 per cent utilisation by women in Kerala, and only 40 per cent in Jharkhand and Punjab.

Among the three major specialty services provided by PM-JAY— oncology, cardiology and nephrology — a majority of the users of oncology services are women. However, there are large gender gaps in the use of cardiology and nephrology-related services. PM-JAY will need to analyse the reasons for this.

Some of the variation may be explained by the gender-wise difference in the prevalence of various diseases. Men and women may also have varying incidence of certain diseases because of the degree of exposure to the proximate cause or an individual's biological disposition. An analysis of these factors will need to be undertaken to effectively assess the potential gender gap in the use of services.

The overall message from the analysis of initial PM-JAY data is that the scheme seems to be on the right track, even though more effort is needed to achieve total gender parity. There is no gender-gap when it comes to people seeking several specialty services in many states. Up-to-date data available with PM-JAY will help in continuously assessing the gender pattern of health-service use, analysing the reasons for any gender-based discrimination and providing cues for corrective action.

Monitoring the disaggregated service utilisation data will help sensitise implementing agencies and district authorities about possible gender gaps. Gaps, if any, can be addressed by more informed and gender-sensitive planning, including targeted IEC (information, education and communication) campaigns. Women might need to be informed about their eligibility for the scheme so that they can get their e-cards made and seek treatment in time. In addition, tele-consultations with women healthcare providers might be required in case there are cultural barriers in consulting with male doctors.

PMJAY has a strong potential to empower women to take decisions on their health and wipe out the gender gap in use of health services. Within the deprived and vulnerable population that PMJAY seeks to serve, women constitute a particularly marginalised section. The scheme will be successful only when it can ensure that women and girls receive their due in the use of healthcare services.

The writer is CEO, PM-JAY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NONSENSE PREVAILS

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Hounded out, Sanskrit professor changes BHU post, students celebrate' (IE, December 11). Is this a curtain-raiser or an isolated aberration? Despite nationwide condemnation of the students' protest against the appointment of Firoze Khan as faculty of Sanskrit Vidya Dharma Vigyan, BHU, nonsense has prevailed over common sense. Vidya and Vigyan are the biggest losers, so is "merit", no matter how you define it.

L R Murmu, *Delhi*

ENCOUNTER CULTURE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Instant injustice' (IE, December 11). The "encounter" of those accused in the Telangana rape case promotes the lynching culture in India to the next level. Has the custodial killing really helped to combat the problem of women safety? No. The article clearly elucidates that rather than celebrating such encounters, people should shift their anger on questioning the slow court trials and poor utilisation of funds for women safety.

Rajeshwar Brar, *Patiala*

ONE-SIDED STORY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A law that includes' (IE, December 11). The author argues that the Citizenship amendment bill (CAB) is part of our long tradition of safeguarding persecuted people. It's true that we have the rich legacy in this regard, whether during the apartheid era in South Africa or welcoming the Dalai Lama. But the CAB has nothing to do with that tradition. The CAB does not address the persecuted Rohingya of Myanmar, nor the Uyghurs of China, Lhotshampa living in Bhutan and the Tamils of the Srilanka. These are people in our our neighbourhood states.

Suchak D Patel, *Ahmedabad*

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to editpage@expressindia.com or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301.

MEANWHILE

'SHARIF TO BE SHIFTED TO US'

Ailing former Pakistan prime minister Nawaz Sharif, under treatment in London, will leave for the US over the weekend for further specialist care, according to a media report on Wednesday. Sharif's family has contacted the Massachusetts General Hospital for treatment of his blocked carotid artery, *The Express Tribune* reported.

Pak court indicts Hafiz Saeed on terror financing charges

JuD chief and three of his aides charged amid mounting international pressure on Islamabad

M ZULQUERNAIN
LAHORE, DECEMBER 11

HAFIZ SAEED, the Mumbai terror attack mastermind and chief of the banned Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD), was indicted on Wednesday by a Pakistani anti-terrorism court here on terror financing charges, amidst intense international pressure on Islamabad to bring him to justice.

The anti-terrorism court (ATC) Lahore indicted Saeed and three of his top aides — Hafiz Abdul Salam bin Muhammad, Muhammad Ashraf and Zafar Iqbal — on terror financing charges.

ATC judge Arshad Hussain Bhutta directed the prosecution to produce the witnesses and adjourned the hearing till Thursday.

Saeed, 69, along with the other accused, were presented before the court on Wednesday under tight security.

"Saeed and his aides' lawyers made their arguments, requesting the court not to indict their clients," a court official told PTI after the hearing.

"Deputy Prosecutor General Punjab Abdur Rauf, pleading for framing charges against the accused, said Saeed and others are involved in terror financing and the Counter Terrorism Department of Punjab police has presented evidence for it," the official said.

The official said the accused were also provided the copies of the chargesheet.

Like the previous hearings, journalists were not allowed to enter the court premises to cover the proceedings. Saeed is detained at the high-security Kot Lakhpat jail here.

On December 7, the ATC could not indict Saeed, and others as one of the co-accused, Zafar Iqbal, was not produced before the court by the authorities.

Saeed's indictment comes amidst growing international pressure on Pakistan to rein-in terror groups operating from its soil and bring to justice terror group leaders like Saeed.

In October, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) warned Pakistan that it would be blacklisted if it did not control terror funding by February, voicing serious concern over the country's failure to deliver on most of its 27 targets.

The Paris-based international terror financing watchdog issued the warning to Pakistan while deciding to again place the country on the 'Grey List'. While asking Pakistan to swiftly complete its full action plan by February 2020, the FATF warned that it would take action against the country.

The threat to Pakistan's economy virtually put the country's entire machinery into an aggressive mode to show tangible progress within two months of the warning, *Dawn* newspaper noted.

Counter terrorism police in Pakistan's Punjab province on July 17 registered 23 FIRs against Saeed and his accomplices on the charges of terror financing and arrested Saeed.

The cases have been registered in Lahore, Gujranwala and Multan for collection of funds for terrorism financing through assets/properties made and held in the names of Trusts/Non Profit Organisations (NPO) including Al-Anfaal Trust, Dawatul Irshad Trust and Muaz Bin Jabal Trust. **PTI**

Saeed was arrested after 23 FIRs were registered against him and his accomplices on July 17 related to terror financing

US BLACKLISTS PAK'S 'ENCOUNTER SPECIALIST' OFFICER OVER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Washington: The US has blacklisted a retired Pakistani police officer, known as an "encounter specialist", for committing serious human rights violations by staging fake killings in Sindh province.

Accused of extrajudicial killings, Rao Anwar Ahmed Khan served as senior superintendent of police in the Malir District of Karachi in Sindh.

Anwar is designated for being responsible for or complicit in, or having directly or indirectly engaged in, serious human rights abuse, the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) said on Tuesday on the occasion of International Human Rights Day. He was also responsible for extortion, land-grabbing, narcotics and murder, it said. **PTI**

HEARINGS ONGOING AT ICJ

Aung San Suu Kyi attends a hearing in a case filed by Gambia against Myanmar alleging genocide at the International Court of Justice in The Hague on Wednesday. *Reuters*

Suu Kyi: Genocide case brought against Myanmar misleading

SHOON LEI WIN NAING & TOBY STERLING
THE HAGUE, DECEMBER 11

MYANMAR LEADER Aung San Suu Kyi said the case brought against her country at the World Court was "incomplete and misleading" as she began her defence to accusations of genocide against the Rohingya Muslim minority on Wednesday.

Gambia, a small West African country, has launched a case against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice, the UN's highest court, alleging it has violated the 1948 Genocide Convention.

Leading Myanmar's defence herself at the court in The Hague Suu Kyi, Myanmar's top political leader and a Nobel Peace prize laureate acknowledged disproportionate force may have been used at times by the military, but said the conflict in the western Rakhine state was "complex and not easy to fathom".

"Gambia has placed an incomplete and misleading picture of the factual situation in Rakhine state in Myanmar," she said.

More than 730,000 Rohingya fled Myanmar after the military launched a crackdown in western Rakhine state in August 2017. Most now live in crowded refugee camps in Bangladesh.

Myanmar argues the military "clearance operations" in Rakhine were a justifiable response to acts of terrorism and that its soldiers have acted appropriately. **REUTERS**

> **Gambia has placed an incomplete and misleading picture of the factual situation in Rakhine state in Myanmar**
> **— AUNG SAN SUU KYI**
> MYANMAR LEADER

TOP OF THE WORLD

USA

Greta Thunberg is *Time* person of the year for 2019

New York: Greta Thunberg, the Swedish 16-year-old who began a global movement by skipping school to demand action on climate change, and angrily thundering "How dare you" at the world's most powerful leaders during a UN Climate Summit for their inaction, was on Wednesday declared as *Time* magazine's 2019 Person of the Year. "For sounding the alarm about humanity's predatory relationship with the only home we have, for bringing to a fragmented world a voice that transcends backgrounds and borders, for showing us all what it might look like when a new generation leads, Greta Thunberg is Time's 2019 Person of the Year," the US publication said.

HONG KONG

Foreign experts quit police probe, questioning its independence

Hong Kong: Foreign experts said they had quit advising a Hong Kong police watchdog on Wednesday due to doubts over its independence and ability to conduct an investigation into police conduct during months of anti-government protests. The panel of five experts from Australia, Britain, Canada and New Zealand was recruited in September by the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) to help ensure its probe into allegations of police brutality was credible. "We ultimately concluded that a crucial shortfall was evident in the powers, capacity and independent investigative capability of IPCC," the foreign experts panel said in a statement.

AFGHANISTAN

Blast damages hospital near biggest US base

Kabul: At least one person was killed and dozens wounded when a bomb exploded close to the largest US military base in Afghanistan Wednesday, damaging homes and a hospital under construction near Bagram Airfield, officials said. The attack — which has not yet been claimed — comes as Washington resumed talks with the Taliban on Saturday, three months after President Donald Trump abruptly halted efforts that could end America's longest war.

US Congress gives consent to designate India's NAVIC as 'allied' system

LALIT K JHA
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 11

THE US Congress has consented to designate India's NAVIC as an "allied" navigational satellite system, along with the European Union's Galileo and Japan's QZSS.

Approved as part of the conference report of the National Defence Authorisation Act (NDAA) 2020, it designates Russia's GLONASS and China's Beidou as a "non-allied systems". This means that the US satellite navigation system will not co-operate or exchange data with these two satellite navigation systems.

Indigenously developed, NAVIC is an autonomous regional satellite navigation system that provides accurate real-time positioning and timing services.

As per the NDAA 2020, approved by a bicameral conference report, the India's NAVIC system would be treated as an "allied system" at par with the Galileo system and the QZSS upon designation by the US Defence Secretary in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence.

The conference report now needs formal approval by the House and the Senate before it can be sent to the White House for the President to sign into law.

The designation of India's NAVIC as an "allied system" is part of the American effort to develop a prototype programme for multi-global navigation satellite system receiver development.

As per NDAA 2020, the Air Force Secretary shall carry out a programme to prototype an M-code based, multi-global navigation satellite system receiver. **PTI**

6 killed in attack on Jewish market in US

One of the assailants had published anti-Semitic, anti-police posts online: official

AGENCIES
JERSEY CITY, DECEMBER 11

SIX PEOPLE, including a police officer and three bystanders, were killed in a furious gun battle that filled the streets of Jersey City with the sound of heavy fire for hours, authorities said.

The dead included the two gunmen, Jersey City Police Chief Michael Kelly said.

The slain officer, Detective Joseph Seals, 40, was killed by gunfire that erupted near a cemetery, authorities said.

At the scene of gunfire in Jersey City. *AP*

The shooting then continued at a kosher market about a mile away, where five more bodies were found, Kelly said.

Jersey City Mayor Steven Fulop's said on Wednesday it was "clear" that gunmen targeted the kosher market. Kosher is a term that describes food that comply with the dietary standards set out in Jewish law.

The New York Times quoted a law enforcement officer as saying that an assailant involved in the shooting had published anti-Semitic and anti-police posts online and investigators believe the attack was motivated by those sentiments. Investigators also found a manifesto-style note inside the assailants' van, the law enforcement official said, according to the *NYT*.

So far, authorities have not identified the attackers, who were killed in the firefight. None of the three victims inside the store have been publicly identified by officials.

Trump poised to sign order that interprets Judaism as a nationality

Order aimed at 'targeting anti-Semitism' on US campuses

PETER BAKER & MAGGIE HABERMAN
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 11

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump plans to sign an executive order Wednesday targeting what he sees as anti-Semitism on college campuses by threatening to withhold federal money from educational institutions that fail to combat discrimination, three officials said on Tuesday.

The order will effectively interpret Judaism as a nationality, not just a religion, to trigger a federal law penalising colleges and universities deemed to be shirking their responsibility to foster an open climate for minority students, according to the officials.

In signing the order, Trump will use his executive power to take action where Congress has not, essentially replicating bipartisan legislation that has stalled on Capitol Hill for years. Prominent Democrats have joined Republicans in promoting such a policy change at a time of rising tension on campuses over anti-Semitism as well as the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement against Israel.

But critics have complained that such a policy could be used to stifle free speech and legitimate opposition to Israel's policies toward Palestinians in the name of fighting anti-Semitism. The definition of anti-Semitism to be used in the order, which matches the one used by the State Department, has been criticised as too open-ended and sweeping. **NYT**

Trump's order also targets the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement against Israel. *NYT*

EXPLAINED

New interpretation for protection under Civil Rights Act

THE CIVIL Rights Act of 1964 allows the government to withhold federal funding to educational institutions that discriminate on the basis of race, colour or national origin. Religion is not covered under this part of the law. The Trump administration's Department of Education has already ordered two universities to remake their Middle East studies programmes over perceived anti-Israel bias. In order to allow the Department to go further and invoke the Civil Rights Act, Trump's executive order interprets Judaism as a nationality, not just a religion.

Israel faces 3rd election in less than a year

JEFFREY HELLER
JERUSALEM, DECEMBER 11

ISRAEL HEADED on Wednesday towards a third national election in less than a year with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu facing the fight of his life for political survival after a criminal indictment.

After giving its preliminary approval, and barring last-minute progress in deadlocked efforts to form a new government, parliament was set to vote for its dissolution later in the day and approve a March 2 election date already agreed by the two major parties.

What had once seemed nearly impossible to many Israelis — a third visit to polling stations after inconclusive elections in April and September — carries a heavy economic price: it will be well into 2020 before a new budget is passed, which will mean months of cutbacks that weigh on growth.

Neither Netanyahu's Likud party nor the Blue and White party led by his main rival, Benny Gantz, won enough seats for a governing majority in the previous two contests. **REUTERS**

EU hikes its 2030 climate targets; what about 2020, BASIC countries ask

EXPRESS IN MADRID

AMITABH SINHA
DECEMBER 11

WITH THE proceedings in the meeting rooms bringing little reason for hope, the Madrid climate talks was on Wednesday energised by news from Brussels where the European Union announced its intention to increase its climate targets and make an additional 10% reduction in its emissions by 2030 from 1990 levels.

The announcement by the EU, which is the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases, came on a day when a group of about 200 climate activists and protesters, increasingly impatient with the reluctance of countries to increase their climate action, barged inside the conference venue and inside the main negotiating hall where UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres was among those present and listening to ministers making their statements. The protests resulted in many activists being barred from entering the conference venue.

In its announcement, EU said it would bring in legislation by March next year to commit itself to a net-zero emission status by 2050, and a comprehensive plan by middle of next year on increasing its emission reduction targets from the current 40% of its 1990 levels by 2030 to at least 50 or 55%.

The EU, however, skirted the question of fulfilling its pre-2020 climate targets, including providing technology and finance to developing countries. EU had promised to reduce its emissions by 20% by 2020 on 1990 levels but it is not on track to meet that target

The issue of unfulfilled pre-2020 climate action has been repeatedly raised by India and other developing countries, and it was reiterated in the statement of the BASIC countries — the grouping of Brazil, South Africa, India and China — after their ministers met on Tuesday.

Their statement, released on Wednesday, said progress on pre-2020 agenda would "be the benchmark of success" for the Madrid meeting. It also said the Madrid meeting, in its final decisions, must "urge developed country parties to fulfil their commitments on providing finance, technology development and transfer of capacity building support to developing countries".

"Commitments made by developed countries in the pre-2020 period must be honoured because the completion of pre-2020 agenda is of critical importance in building the basis for mutual trust and ambition in the post-2020 period," the ministers said.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

NEARLY 98% BACK INDEPENDENCE

'We are reborn': Bougainville votes for independence from Papua New Guinea

JONATHAN BARRETT
SYDNEY, DECEMBER 11

THE SOUTH Pacific islands of Bougainville have overwhelmingly voted to be independent from Papua New Guinea, the referendum commission said on Wednesday, in a historic poll that will embolden separatists as they start negotiating the terms of their sovereignty.

Almost 98% of the 181,067 votes cast backed independence in the non-binding poll that is part of a peace pact struck in the aftermath of a decade-long war between Bougainville's rebel fighters and PNG forces, which ended in 1998.

The referendum gave voters in the island cluster a choice between independence and greater autonomy.

"There's tears, tears of joy, raw emotion — people have waited a long time," referendum Chairman Bertie Ahern said in the town of Buka. "The pen is always mightier than the sword."

Bougainville's quest for independence is one of dozens of separatist movements in play around the world. There is a strong movement in Scotland seeking independence from the United Kingdom, while Catalan separatists in Spain remain active.

Thousands of protesting Papuans also recently called for an independence vote, seeking to separate from Indonesia.

The comprehensive vote in Bougainville will be used to strengthen the hand of negotiators as they start discussions on the terms of independence with the PNG government.

Any agreement struck in the negotiations would still need to pass through PNG's parliament.

Just 3,043 voters backed the other option on the ballot — greater autonomy — while a small number of informal votes were recorded.

Pajomile Minaka, from Bougainville's southern region, told Reuters he was taking a law course to equip himself to help rebuild his homeland.

"That's my dream, to go and rebuild," said the 36-year old, who was a child during the conflict. "We need the best policies, the best laws, to be the best country. We are reborn."

The islands are still recovering from the conflict, which killed 20,000 people in a fight over land royalties and pollution in rivers near the now-shuttered Panguna gold and copper project.

It was the deadliest conflict in the area since World War II.

There was a mood of celebration throughout the two-week referendum, which ended on Dec. 7, with many voters carrying Bougainville's predominantly blue flag to polling stations.

The crowd that assembled at a vote count centre in Buka on Wednesday to hear the results broke out into cheers and applause after the numbers were released.

The referendum commission said the vote was orderly and peaceful. "We witnessed voting that was informed, free of fear and accessible," it said.

Ballots from different areas were mixed before officials tallied the results to eliminate the risk of reprisals.

Once the economic engine of PNG, Bougainville has fallen to the bottom of almost every financial indicator, despite boasting mineral riches, fertile volcanic soil and stunning geography. **REUTERS**

Officials count ballots in Buka, Bougainville. Reuters

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE

General public is here by informed that one girl **Namely:** Soni Devi with two son Ankur & Ankush both age 5 years , **W/o** Shyam Babu **R/o** H.No. C-226, Laxmi Park, Nangloi, Delhi. **Age:** 30 years, **Height:** 4'1", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Green Sari-Red Blouse & Chapple in Feet. Has been missing / kidnapped since 18.10.2019 form the area of PS. Nihal Vihar.

In this regard a DD No. 10-A dated 19.10.2019 has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this female but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: http://cbi.nic.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi
Ph. 011-25946700, 25946710
DP/2849/OD/19

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Directorate of Technical Education, J&K

Srinagar: Bypass Road, Bemina Srinagar 190018(May to Oct) Phone:0194-2491613 Fax 0194-2491668
Jammu: Polytechnic Premises, Vikram Chowk, Jammu 180004(Nov to April) Phone: 0191-2435190 Fax 2451345

SHORT TERM INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, E-tenders are invited from the Registered Firms/Manufacturers & their Authorized Dealers for Establishment of Language labs in Govt. Polytechnics of J&K **on turnkey basis** for the financial year 2019-20.

The complete Tender document for Establishment of Language labs shall be made available to the interested Registered Firms/reputed manufacturers/ authorized Dealers/ suppliers/OEMs on the Website **jktenders.gov.in** and official Website of the Department of Technical Education www.jkdte.org. Interested bidder/Tenderers may view/ download the e-bid document and submit their e-bid online upto the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding document contains of the Contract and other details.

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	06.11.2019
2	Document Download/Sale Start Date	06.11.2019, 02:00 PM
3	Start Date and Time for Uploading of Bids	06.11.2019 03.00 PM
4	Last Date and Time for Uploading of Bids	12.12.2019 04.00 PM

No: DTE/PUR/2019-20/523-24
Dated: 06.12.2019
DIPJ-10456

Sd/-
(Dr. RS Sharma) KAS,
Director, Technical Education, J&K,
(Chairman SLPC)

HIMACHAL PRADESH I&PH DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING E-PROCUREMENT BID

Executive Engineer I&PH Division Dalhousie, on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, invites the online Lump Sum/Item Rate Contract bids on turnkey basis from the eligible bidders of Indian Entity through online bidding system on or before 30.12.2019 at 1700 hrs. IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs.) on the site https://hptenders.gov.in

Sr. No.	Description	Estimated Cost	Bid Security	Time	Cost of Bid
1.	Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Testing, Commissioning, Trial Run of various components of Kakira Kasba, Gahar, Parchhore and Other Multi Villages Rural Piped Water Supply Scheme for Part of Block Bhattiyat District Chamba (H.P .) under Jal Jeevan Mission (Har Ghar Ko Nal se Jal) for ultimate capacity of bringing 3.60 MLD treated water (16 hours of pumping) from the source Hobardi Khad (Nallah Source) for 40 villages of Bhattiyat Block in single package on "Turn-key job basis" including trial & test run for three months, defect and liability period as 03 months after test run of all components of the scheme, as certified by Engineer-in-Charge of the entire scheme.	Rupees 20,45,30,720/-	Rupees 20,77,807/-	Two Years (including all seasons but excluding trial run period of 03 Months	Rupees 2,500/-

BRIEF SCOPE OF WORK:-

Carrying out required topographical survey for various components, carrying out Hydraulic design / structural design wherever necessary as per norms and guidelines, approval of designs and drawings, Construction, testing & Commissioning of Multi Village Piped Water Supply Scheme including all contingent Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Piping & Instrumentation works with trial run, defect and liability period and commissioning of all works.

Lump Sum Bid shall be inclusive of all items of work as per technically approved project. The estimate can be seen in the office the Executive Engineer I&PH Division Dalhousie in the working hours.

Before submitting the bid bidder/firm shall visit the site physically.

1. Bid documents and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal http://hptenders.gov.in, by the Bidders registered on the website which is free of cost.
2. Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Testing, Commissioning, Trial Run of various components of Kakira Kasba, Gahar, Parchhore and Other Multi Villages Rural Piped Water Supply Scheme for Part of Block Bhattiyat District Chamba (H.P .) under Ja lJeevan Mission (Har Ghar Ko Nal se Jal) for ultimate capacity of bringing 3.60 MLD treated water (16 hours of pumping) from the source Hobardi Khad (Nallah Source) for 40 villages of Bhattiyat Block in single package on "Turn-key job basis" including trial & test run for three months, defect and liability period as 03 months after test run of all components of the scheme, as certified by Engineer-in-Charge of the entire scheme as covered under this bid, shall be sustainable and responsive to standard norms as stipulated.
3. Accordingly, the bidder/firm must make all necessary provision for required qualified resource personnel, their time and other costs, and appropriate engineering / technical considerations in resurvey, design, construction, erection, execution, commissioning process and O&M for the project; including necessary documentation and inspections.
4. International Competitive Bidding for bidders shall be conducted in accordance with "Single Stage Three Envelope" Bidding Procedure. Eligibility information, Technical Bid and Financial bid should be uploaded online as per procurement method. The bids shall be submitted online electronically only.
5. **Bid evaluation criteria**-Eligible Technically Qualified lowest evaluated bidder (L1) shall be considered as a successful bidder. However, the acceptance of the proposal shall rest with the EMPLOYER who does not bind itself to accept the lowest proposal, and reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the proposals received without assigning any reason.
6. As the bids are to be submitted online are required to be encrypted and digitally signed, the bidders are advised to obtain Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from suitable vendors or from any authorized agency at the earliest.
7. **KEY DATES SHALL BE AS UNDER:-**

a	Date of Online publication	10.12.2019
b	Downloading of e-bid Documents	From 10.12.2019 at 1000 Hrs IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs.) to 30.12.2019 at 17.00 hrs. IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs.).
c	Date of submission of e-bid	From 10.12.2019 at 1000 Hrs IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs.) to 30.12.2019 at 17.00 hrs. IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs.).
d	Physical Submission of Original Bid Security (in case of offline deposit of Bid security)	Upto 11.30 hrs. IST (GMT + 5.30 Hrs) on 31.12.2019
e	Date of opening of bids:	
	1) Cover-1 Eligibility Criteria	On 31.12.2019 at 12.30 hrs. IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs.)
	2) Cover -2 Technical bid	Shall be intimated separately
	3) Cover-3 Financial Bid	Shall be intimated separately
f	Site Visit	Between 11.00 hrs. IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs.) dated 16.12.2019 to 17.00 hrs. IST (GMT + 5.30 hrs.) dated 17.12.2019 along with the Assistant Engineer/concerned Junior Engineer, I&PH Sub Division, Chowari.
g	Pre-Bid Meeting	On 27.12.2019 at 11.00 hrs. IST (GMT + 5:30 Hrs) in the Office of Engineer-in-Chief I&PH Department, Jal Shakti Bhawan Tutikandi Shimla. The queries of the bidders to be discussed during Pre-bid shall be submitted till 4.00 P.M. on 26.12.2019. No queries shall be entertained afterwards.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-

1. **The e-bid documents shall be uploaded online in 3 (three) covers:-**
   (a) Cover -1 shall contain Scanned copies of eligibility information".
   (b) Cover -2 shall contain **"Technical Bid"**
   (c) Cover-3 shall contain **"Financial bid"** on the prescribed form
2. **Cover-1** shall contain scanned legible copies of following **"Eligibility Information"** (Scanned legible copies to be uploaded in pdf file).
   (i) The Bid security in favour of Executive Engineer, I&PH Division Dalhousie, shall be submitted either through online mode (e-payment) and offline mode in the form of NSC/Time Deposit receipt/ Demand Draft of any nationalized bank duly pledged in favor of "Executive Engineer" I&PH Division, Dalhousie. Exemption of Bid security shall not be allowed.
   (ii) The cost of bid form as shown above shall be submitted online or in favor of "Executive Engineer" I&PH Division, Dalhousie. Exemption of cost of bid form shall not be allowed.
   (iii) Copy of Certificate of registration with I&PH Department or any other state/central Govt. department or Govt. Undertakings in appropriate class. The successful bidder should get himself registered in appropriate class with HP I&PH Department before award of work.
   (iv) Copy of Certificate of EPF registration. If not registered then the successful bidder should get registered within one month after acceptance of the bid by the employer.
   (v) Annual Turnover of last three years.
   (vi) Bid Form as per Chapter IV of Form – 12 duly accepted.
   (vii) **Pre-qualification criteria proof :-** (a) A bidder/firm shall be considered pre-qualified for the work if he has:-

a) **Financial Qualification:**
Bidder must have achieved minimum average annual financial turnover (at current price level) from contract receipt of works (in all classes of civil engineering construction works only) of 30% of estimated cost in last three(3) financial years i.e. from year 2016-2017 to year 2018-2019.

b) **Similar Nature of Work:**
Bidder must have Experience of having completed similar work during last Seven years ending 31st march of the previous financial year to the one in which applications are invited, of either of the following values.
Three similar completed works costing not less than 40%of the estimated cost.
or
Two similar completed works each costing not less than 50%of the estimated cost.
or
One similar completed works costing not less than amount equal to 80% of estimated cost.

Note: Similar work means execution/construction of work of drinking water supply scheme/Lift Irrigation Scheme involving execution of Rising main pipe/gravity main, Water Treatment plant, water retaining structure, installation & commissioning of pumping machinery, Mechanical & Electrical equipment etc. Completed works means work physically completed as per award or as required for successful completion of the project/scheme. A certificate to this effect from the Engineer-in-Charge not below the rank of Executive Engineer of a State/ Semi Govt. Deptt./Central Govt. Deppt. Or Govt Undertaking,. of India is mandatorily required.

c) Joint venture is not allowed. However the firm shall be free to engage any number of specialist firms for execution of specialized component of Projects.
   (viii) PAN (Permanent Account No.), GST registration and EPF registration (if EPF not registered then before award of work).
   (ix) Work done, Experience Certificates as per Pre-qualification criteria.
   (x) The authorization letter regarding digital signature certificate (DSC) of the person authorized by the registered bidder to upload the bid, be uploaded along with the other documents online.
   (xi) A scanned copy of undertaking (as per Chapter IV of Form – 12) that I have carefully studied all the terms and conditions stipulated in the contract document before quoting the rates.

Note: No physical submission of documents, except original Bid Security/bid cost deposited through offline mode, will be allowed. Any document / information found false / fabricated during scrutiny or later anytime, the bid is liable to be cancelled immediately. In such case 'Bid Security' shall be forfeited.

3. **Cover-2 shall contain "Technical bid"** which shall be opened at a later date to be notified separately & shall be opened only of those bidders /Firms whose documents as per Eligibility Information "Cover-1" will be found in order. Cover 02 shall contain only technical bid as under:
   a) Detailed proposal alongwith drawings of the proposed head weir and intake arrangement.
   b) Make/ model of the proposed pumping machinery alongwith the characteristic curves.
   c) Flow diagram of Booster stage/complete scheme as per the site conditions.
4. **Cover-3 shall contain "Financial Bid"** which shall be opened at a later date to be notified separately & shall be opened only of those bidders /Firms whose documents as per technical Information "Cover-2" will be found in order. The Financial Bids shall contain only Financial Bid /Offer on departmental Schedule of quantity/BOQ where bidder /firms shall quote his /their offer for each item. The Non BOQ Items shall be paid as per Clause 59 of the PWD Form 12 and GCC & SCC.
5. Rates quoted must be in INR (Indian Rupee) and shall be inclusive of all taxes applicable at the time of opening of bids.
6. The bidder shall not be permitted to bid for the work in the HPIPH Circle (responsible for award and execution of the contract) in which his near relative is posted as Divisional Accountant or as an officer in any capacity between the grades of Superintending Engineer & Junior Engineer (both Inclusive). He shall also intimate the name of the persons who are working with him in any capacity or are subsequently employed by him who are near relative to any gazetted officer in the I&PH department. Any breach of this condition by the bidder would render him liable to be removed from the approved list of bidders of this department.
7. Bid security of L1, L2 and L3 shall be retained till the finalization of the offer of the lowest bidder or 120 days whichever is earlier. .
8. No subletting of work as a whole by the bidder is permissible however the bidder may subcontract the specialized components of the work e.g. Design & Drawings, Pumping Machinery, Automation but not more than 25% of the total contract amount.
9. In case, opening day is a holiday, the bids shall be opened on next working day at the same time.
10. The validity of the bid shall be kept open for 120 days or till the finalization of the offer of the lowest bidder.
11. Ambiguous/telegraphic/ Conditional bids or bids by Fax/E-mail shall not be entertained/ considered in any case.
12. Conditional bids are liable to be rejected without assigning any reasons.
13. The Executive Engineer, reserves the right to reject/cancel any or all the /bids without assigning any reason(s).
14. Any enquiry regarding bids can be obtained on e-mail of the divisional officer under e-mail address xeniphdlu@yahoo.co.in
15. Rates should be quoted both in figure as well as in words in Indian Rupee (INR).
16. Quoted Rates shall be inclusive of all taxes (i/c G.S.T).

Executive Engineer
I&PH Division, Dalhousie, Distt. Chamba (HP)-176304

No. IPHD-DLU-EA-I-E-Tender/2019- 12870-12896 **Dated: 09.12.2019**

3441/H.P.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR

(At:- Ambapua, Po:- Engineering School Near Income Tax Office, Berhampur-760011)
E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com Tel/FAX:- 0680-2404287

O-604

E-Mail/E-Despatch

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

Bid Identification No. Online Tender/18-2019-20/BPR

Identification No.	Name of work	No. of Works	Approx. Estimated Cost (In lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
Online Tender/ 18-2019-20/ BPR	Road Works under Connecting to Unconnected Villages Scheme	06 Nos.	From Rs. 216.22 lakhs to Rs. 594.41 Lakhs	"B" Class, "A" Class & "Special" Class as applicable	09 (Nine), 11 (Eleven) & 12 (Twelve) Calendar Month as provided

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender online for bidding	
		From	To
Superintending Engineer, R. W. Circle, Berhampur	Online Tender/ 18-2019-20/ BPR	17.12.2019 at 10.00 A.M.	31.12.2019 upto 3.00 P.M.

(i) EMD/ Bid Security, Cost of Bid document is to be transferred through On-line as per the procedure mentioned in the DTCN.
(ii) Non-submission of the information/ documents through online by the bidder as per the items mentioned in the eligible criteria of the DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.

Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website:- **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
R.W. Circle, Berhampur

25071/11/0018/1920

HARYANA STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY
O/O DIRECTOR GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES HARYANA, SWASTHYA BHAWAN, SECTOR-6, HARYANA

Advertisement for Filling up of Vacant Posts on Contract basis

1. Haryana State Aids Control Society (HSACS) intends to fill following posts on contractual basis for period upto 31.03.2020 which will be renewed on year to year basis on assessment of performance as per guidelines received from NACO. The remuneration is consolidated and no other allowance is admissible. The first three months of appointment will be the probation period during which the work and conduct will be assessed and in case of unsatisfactory performance the contract shall be terminated by the Appointmenting Authority without assigning any reason. The service conditions shall be governed according to National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), MOHFW, Govt. of India guidelines issued from time to time:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Post with Consolidated Remuneration	NO. OF POSTS	QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE
1.	**Counselor (Blood Bank)** **Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. CH, Ambala 1 2. CH, Gurugram 1 3. CH, Fatehabad 1 4. MAMC Agroha Hisar 1 5. CH, Hisar 1 6. CH, Narnaul 1 7. CH, Palwal 1 8. SHKM, Nalhar Mewat 1 9. CH, Sirsa 1 10. CH, Sonipat 1 11. BPS Khanpur Kalan, Sonipat 1	11	**Essential Qualification:** Post Graduate in Social Work/ Sociology/ Psychology/ Anthropology/ Human Development from a recognized University **Experience:** Minimum Two Year after essential Qualification **Desirable:** ● Knowledge of Computers ● Proficiency in MS Office
2.	**Lab. Technician, Blood Bank** **Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. CH, Gurugram 1 2. CH, Hisar 1 3. MAMC Agroha Hisar 1 4. CH, Palwal 1 5. BPS Khanpur Kalan, Sonipat 1	5	**Essential Qualification:** Degree in Medical Laboratory Technology (M.L.T.) or Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (D.M.L.T.) Should have completed 10+2 before obtaining Diploma or Degree The Degree or Diploma should be from an Institution Recognized by State Government of Haryana. The Candidate should be Registered with Haryana para- Medical Council. Knowledge of Computers **Experience:** Minimum Two years after Degree and Three years after Diploma Degree Holders must have minimum Six Months experience in Blood Banking Diploma holders must have minimum one Year's experience in Blood Banking. **Desirable:** ● Post Graduate Degree ● Proficiency in MS Office
3.	**Counselor (ICTC)** **Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. MM Medical College Mullana Ambala 1 2. CH Ambala 1 3. CHC Baund Kalan, Bhiwani 1 4. ESI Hospital Manesar, Gurugram 1 5. CH Sector-10, Gurugram 1 6. CHC Rajond, Kaithal 1 7. CHC Raipurani, Panchkula 1 8. CHC Hatin, Palwal 1 9. CHC Sampla Rohtak 1 10. CHC Kalanaur, Rohtak 1 11. Microbiology PGIMS, Rohtak 2 12. CHC Gohana, Sonipat 1 13. CHC Ganaur, Sonipat 1 14. B.P.S. Khanpur, Sonipat 1 15. ESI Hospital, Jagadhari Yamuna Nagar 1 16. Kalpna Chawla Medical College, Karnal 1 17. ESI Hospital, Panipat 1 **Counselor (Mobile ICTC)** **Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. Gurugram 1	19	**Essential Qualification & Experience** Post Graduate Degree/ Diploma in Psychology/ Social Work/ Sociology/ Anthropology/ Human Development/ Nursing from a recognized University with minimum 1 Year experience after PG Degree/ Diploma of working in field of Counseling in health Sector; preferable in HIV/ AIDS. or Graduate in Psychology/ Social Work/ Sociology/ Anthropology/ Human Development or Diploma in Nursing with minimum 3 Years of experience in HIV AIDS. In case of those recruited from community of people infected with or affected by HIV/ AIDS, Graduates from any field or Diploma in Nursing may be considered if they have minimum 1 year of experience in HIV/ AIDS. First preference will be given those with Post Graduate Degree in Psychology or Social work Other experience required: 1. Working knowledge of Computers.
4.	**Lab. Technician (ICTC)** **Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. CHC Siwani Mandi Bhiwani 1 2. CHC Bawani Khera Bhiwani 1 3. ESI Hospital No. 8, Faridabad 1 4. CHC Sohna, Gurugram 1 5. ESI Hospital Manesar, Gurugram 1 6. CH Sector-10, Gurugram 1 7. CHC Adampur, Hisar 1 8. CHC Jullana, Jind 1 9. CHC Uchana, Jind1 10. CHC Jamalpur, Jhajjar 1 11. CHC Pundri, Kaithal 1 12. CHC Ghula, Kaithal 1 13. CHC Indri, Karnal 1 14. CHC Meham Rohtak 1 15. Microbiology Deptt. PGIMS Rohtak 1 16. CH Sirsa 1 17. CHC Kharkhoda, Sonipat 1 18. CH Panipat 1 19. ESI Hospital Panipat 1 20. PHC Mustafabad, Yamunanagar 1 21. ESI Hospital Jagadhri Yamunanagar 1	21	**Essential Qualification & Experience** Graduate in Medical Laboratory Technology (B.Sc.); with minimum 1 year experience after Graduation OR Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (DMLT) from Haryana Government approved Institution. The Candidate should be registered with Haryana Para- Medical Council. Working knowledge of Computer
5.	**Counselor (STI)** **Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. Ambala Cantt 1 2. MAMC Agroha Hisar 1 3. GMC Nalhar Mewat 1 4. Maharishi Markandeshwar Medical College Mullana Ambala 1	4	**Essential Qualification & Experience** Post Graduate Degree/ Diploma in Psychology/ Social Work/ Sociology/ Anthropology/ Human Development/ Nursing from Recognized University; with minimum 1 year experience After PG Degree/ Diploma of working in Field of Counseling in Health Sector; Preferably in STI/ RTI and HIV/ AIDS Or Graduate in Psychology/ Social Work/ Sociology/ Nursing; with minimum of 3 Years experience after Graduation of working in field of Counseling in Health Sector; preferably in STI/RTI and HIV/ AIDS; In the case of those recruited from the Community of people infected with or affected by HIV/ AIDS, the experience will be relaxed to a minimum of one year experience in the field of HIV/ AIDS. Other expertise required: 1. Knowledge of Computers
6.	**Counselor (OST)** **Consolidated Salary** Rs. 13,000/- P.M. 1. CH Panipat 1 2. CH Sonipat 1 3. CH Ambala 1	3	Bachelor Degree in Psychology/Social Science/Humanities Those who have received training in Counseling of drug users and prior experience of working with drug users are preferred.
7.	**Data Manager (OST)** **Consolidated Salary** Rs. 13,000/- P.M. 1. CH Rewari 1	1	Should be graduate with formal training in Computer applications.
8.	**Counselor-cum-Data Manager** **ART/FI-ART** **Consolidated Salary- Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. FI-ART Centre Ambala 1 2. ART Centre Panipat 1	2	Master degree in Social work (Preferable specialized in Medical & Psychiatric Social work/Psychology) Or If no candidate with above qualification is available then Postgraduate Degree in Sociology may be considered. Or Qualified Graduate Nurse Qualified and Competent PLHIV will be given preference
9.	**Staff Nurses** **ART/FI-ART** **Consolidated Salary Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. FI ART Centre Bhiwani 1	1	B.Sc Nursing/GNM Or ANM with minimum three years experience
10.	**Counselor ART Centre** **Consolidated Salary- Rs. 13,000/- P.M.** 1. ART Centre, PGIMS Rohtak 1	1	Master degree in Social work (Preferable specialized in Medical & Psychiatric Social work/Psychology) Or If no candidate with above qualification is available then Postgraduate Degree in Sociology may be considered. Or Qualified Graduate Nurse Qualified and Competent PLHIV will be given preference.

- The number of posts are subject to increase/ decrease.
- Applicant must be permanent resident of Haryana (Bonafide Domicile Certificate from Executive Magistrate should be furnished).
- The Posts are District specific and non-transferable.
- Reservation as per Haryana Govt. Policy.
- The applicants should have passed Hindi/ Sanskrit upto Matric.
- Age as per Haryana Government Policy.
- All the eligible candidates will be called for Written Test.

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A NEW BATTLEGROUND

In the UN, China uses threats and cajolery to promote its worldview

Some countries are pushing back

DESPITE ITS veto-wielding power in the United Nations, China has long been reluctant to stick its neck out. It has been 20 years since it last stood alone in exercising that right. But in the UN's backrooms, the country's diplomats are showing greater willingness to flex muscle, and their Western counterparts to fight back. Not since the cold war has the organisation become such a battleground for competing visions of the international order.

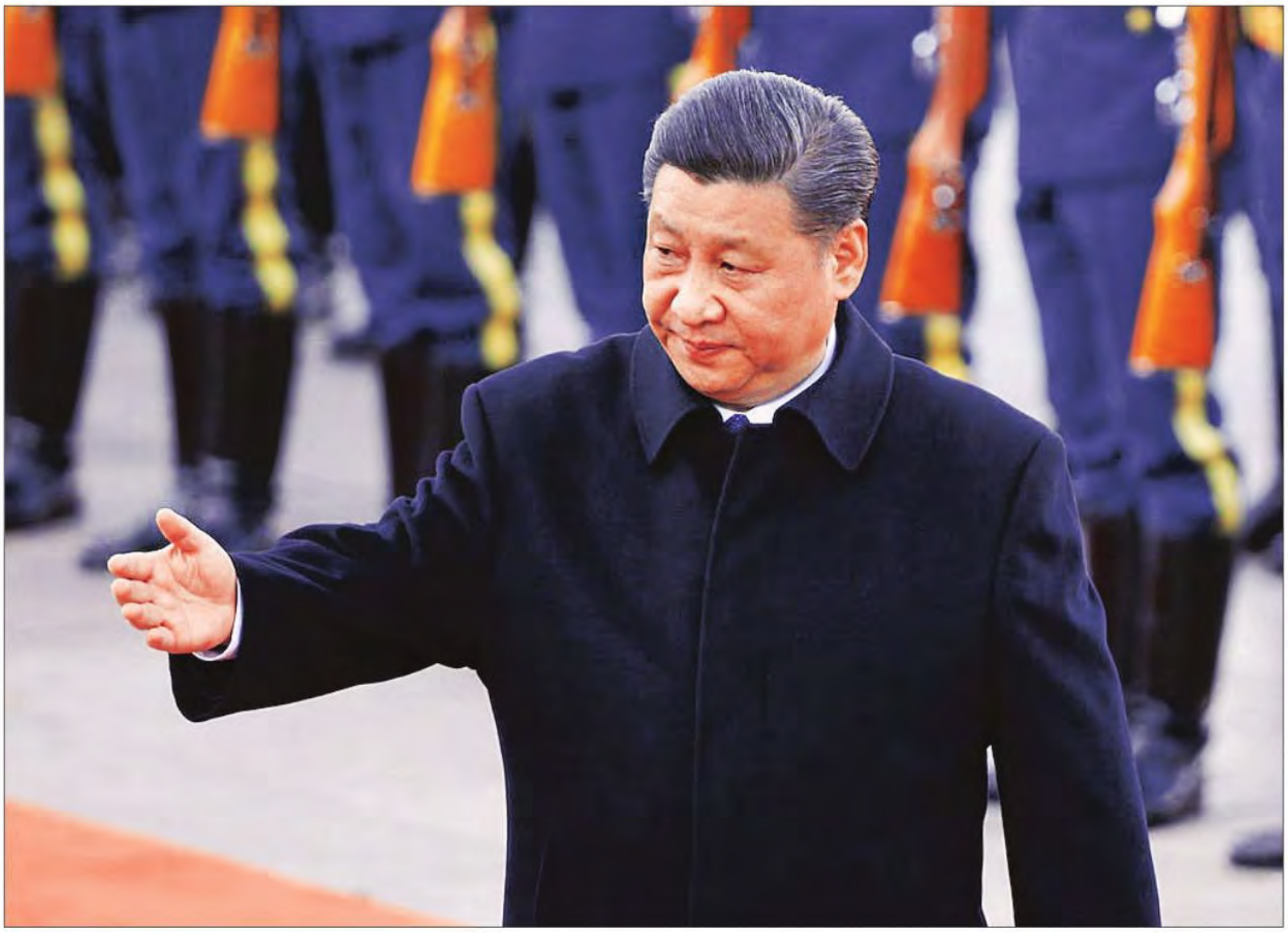
A struggle in October over China's mass internment of Uighurs, a Muslim ethnic minority, suggests how intense the fight has become. It involved Britain taking an unusual leading role in condemning China's human-rights record. The British representative at the UN, Karen Pierce, issued a statement, signed by 22 other countries including America, calling for unfettered UN access to the prison camps in China's far-western region of Xinjiang. A diplomatic brawl ensued. Chinese diplomats persuaded dozens of authoritarian countries, including mostly Muslim ones in the Middle East, to sign a counter-statement praising China's actions in Xinjiang as an enlightened effort to fight terrorism and eradicate religious extremism.

There were threats and reprisals, too. Chinese diplomats are said to have told Austrian counterparts that if their country were to sign Britain's statement, the Austrian government would not get land it wanted for a new embassy in Beijing. The Austrians signed anyway. Chinese officials cancelled a bilateral event in Beijing with Albania, another of the signatories. "A lot of countries came under a lot of pressure today," tweeted Jonathan Allen, Britain's deputy ambassador to the UN, on the day of his country's statement. "But we must stand up for our values and for human rights."

China's efforts span a broad range of UN activity, from human rights to matters relating to economic development. They appear to have two main aims. One is to create a safe space for the Chinese Communist Party by ensuring that other countries do not criticise its rule. The country has long bristled at any such "interference". Its officials are now becoming tougher in their response. China's other objective is to inject wording into UN documents that echoes the language of the country's leader, Xi Jinping. China is trying to "make Chinese policies UN policies," says a diplomat on the UN Security Council.

China senses that President Donald Trump's aversion to multilateral institutions such as the UN has given it more room to manoeuvre in them. Since Mr Xi took office in 2012 the country has dramatically increased its spending at the UN. It is now the second-largest contributor, after America, to both the general budget and the peacekeeping one. It has also secured leading roles for its diplomats in several UN bodies, including the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organisation (beating a candidate backed by America, to many people's surprise). Next year the country will join the three-member Board of Auditors, which keeps an eye on the UN's accounts.

The senior jobs being taken by China's diplomats are mostly boring ones in institutions that few countries care much about. But each post gives China control of tiny levers of bureaucratic power as well as the ability to dispense favours. "Each one of these slots has influence with somebody somewhere," says a European diplomat. When votes are taken on matters China regards as important, its diplomats often use a blunt transactional approach — offering financing for projects, or threatening to turn off the tap. This buys China clout, if not affection, other diplomats say.



China's President Xi Jinping attends a welcoming ceremony for Madagascar's President Hery Rajaonarimampianina (not pictured) outside the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, in 2017. Since Mr Xi took office in 2012 the country has dramatically increased its spending at the UN. *Reuters*

Mr Xi's influence is evident. Much of the language that Chinese officials try to insert into UN documents uses his catchphrases, such as "win-win co-operation" and "a community with a shared future for mankind" (keep your hands off China, is the underlying sentiment). For three years in a row, Chinese diplomats managed to inject favourable references to Mr Xi's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a "win-win" global infrastructure-building scheme, into resolutions on Afghanistan. They have persuaded senior UN officials, including the secretary-general, António Guterres, to praise the BRI in speeches as a model for global development. In 2018 China convinced the un Human Rights Council in Geneva (from which America withdrew later that year) to endorse its preferred approach of "promoting mutually beneficial co-operation" in this field, ie, refraining from criticism.

More than merely language is involved. In 2017 China sought successfully to cut funding for a job intended to ensure that all of the UN's agencies and programmes promote human rights. That same year Wu Hongbo, a Chinese diplomat who was then in charge of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, expelled Dolkun Isa, a Uighur activist, from a UN forum to which Mr Isa was an invited delegate, representing a German NGO (Mr Isa was eventually let back in after protests from American and German diplomats). Mr Wu, whose post required him to be non-partisan, later boasted about his actions on Chinese state television. "We have to strongly defend the motherland's interests," he said.

Opposition to China's more assertive approach may grow. "I think they are overdoing it and I think at some stage people will start to resist," says the Security Council diplomat. But some others at the UN do not share that view. Smaller states in Africa and the Middle East, many of them dictatorships, resent America's post-cold-war dominance of the UN. Why should China not push back, asks a diplomat from one country in that part of the world. The envoy says that countries may be subjected to pressure from China when it wants something, but that America, albeit not as blunt, can also be transactional. Some smaller countries may welcome having two great powers competing for their favour again.

"There's a degree of hypocrisy about it," says Richard Gowan of the International Crisis Group, a conflict-prevention NGO. "It would be weird to imagine that China as a rising power wouldn't want a bigger stake in the multilateral system." Few would imagine that now.

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NATO'S SUMMIT

New troublemakers emerge

As America draws back, members of history's most successful alliance are squabbling

SO MUCH TALK of "crisis" has surrounded NATO's 70th-birthday year that it has been easy to forget there are reasons to celebrate. Not only has the alliance proved remarkably durable by historical standards, but since 2014 it has responded aptly to Russia's aggression in Ukraine, refocusing on its core mission of collective defence. It has deployed multinational battlegroups into the three Baltic states and Poland and committed to improved readiness. Goaded by criticism from President Donald Trump, its members have raised their spending on defence. Though many countries, notably Germany, still fall short of their promises, NATO now estimates that between 2016 and 2020 its European members and Canada will shell out an extra $130bn.

This new money helps explain one welcome development at the meeting of NATO leaders in Britain this week. Mr Trump, previously the disrupter-in-chief, who used to call the organisation "obsolete" and caused consternation at a summit in Brussels in 2018 by threatening to withdraw if Europeans failed to take on a fairer share of the burden, has — however briefly — become a defender. In London this week he blasted President Emmanuel Macron's criticism of the alliance as "nasty" and "disrespectful". He made no sign of blocking stern words on Russia or the reiteration of Article Five of NATO's treaty, the cornerstone of the alliance. America's commitment will be on display next year, when some 20,000 of its troops are to practise reinforcing Europe in an exercise called Defender 2020.

In Britain NATO papered over the cracks. The summit's declaration affirmed its members' commitment to Article Five and proclaimed that "Russia's aggressive actions constitute a threat to Euro-Atlantic security"

The bad news is that other disrupters have emerged. The viscerally anti-NATO Jeremy Corbyn could conceivably become prime minister of one of its leading members after this week's British general election. Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has caused consternation by buying a Russian anti-aircraft system, obstructing NATO's decisions on eastern Europe and invading northern Syria without regard for his allies' interests. He responded with personal insults to a suggestion by Mr Macron that, given Turkey's actions in Syria, it might not be able to count on the mutual defence enshrined in Article Five.

The most surprising troublemaker, and the reason relations have turned ugly, is Mr Macron himself. In a recent interview with *The Economist* he said that NATO was experiencing "brain-death". He champions a stronger European defence, which Europe needs, and on December 4th insisted that this would "not be an alternative to NATO but one of its pillars". But there is lingering suspicion of his intentions among other allies. That is partly because of his enthusiasm for a "strategic dialogue" with Russia. He has emphasised the threat of terrorism over the task of defending against Vladimir Putin's aggression. Mr Macron is taking a long view and is seeking to stimulate fresh thinking, but most of his allies understandably hear his words as a threat to the progress of the past five years. Russia's actions, not just in Ukraine but also on NATO territory (including by sending assassins to Salisbury in Britain and, possibly, Berlin's Tiergarten), call for a strong response. Any desire for concessions will be seen in Moscow as weakness.

In Britain NATO papered over the cracks. The summit's declaration affirmed its members' commitment to Article Five and proclaimed that "Russia's aggressive actions constitute a threat to Euro-Atlantic security". That is welcome, but the alliance needs to find a new strategic coherence. Even if Mr Trump remains in favour, America's focus is shifting ineluctably to its rivalry with China in Asia and beyond. Exercises and increasing readiness will cement the alliance at a military level — and this will endure while the politicians come and go. Work on newish areas such as space and cyberwarfare will help, too. Eventually, a strategic dialogue with Russia might make sense. But to thrive NATO also needs a greater common purpose. Once the impetus came from America. Mr Macron was right to point out that in future Europe will have to play a larger part.

NATO leaders pose for a photo during the annual NATO heads of government summit in Britain last week. *Reuters*

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GOLD	RUPEE	OIL	SILVER
₹38,486	₹70.85	$64.80	₹44,640

*Indian basket as on December 10, 2019

SENSEX: 40,412.57 ▲ 172.69 **NIFTY:** 11,910.15 ▲ 53.35 **NIKKEI:** 23,391.86 ▼ 18.33 **HANG SENG:** 26,645.43 ▲ 208.81 **FTSE:** 7,207.46 ▼ 6.30 **DAX:** 13,106.99 ▲ 36.27

*International market data till 1900 IST

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 18

GST rate rationalisation should lead to gain in revenue, not inconvenience people: States

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

AS TALKS of a hike in goods and services tax (GST) rates gain momentum, there is a sense of disquiet among states regarding any major tinkering of the slabs, especially the lower tax slab and exempted items. The Council meeting of December 18, coming in the backdrop of the Centre's struggles on the revenue side sets the stage to reverse the direction of rate cuts.

The emerging view is that revenue gain from any such rate hike has to be substantial and not cause inconvenience to the common man, though they are of the view that ways need to be found to narrow the widening revenue gap.

Punjab's Finance Minister (FM) Manpreet Singh Badal said that knee-jerk reactions such as a cut in GST rates before elections and a hike in rates in times of revenue slowdown are not needed and GST needs to be looked afresh and a "holistic overview" needs to be taken. "We need to take a holistic overview of the entire GST, what I call GST 2.0. Let us go back to the drawing board, let us look at this whole gamut of GST afresh. You can't be running a modern state with knee-jerk reactions like when there were Gujarat elections, you reduced the rates. Then your collections reduce, then you raise the rates. Could you not foresee these problems when you were trying to get on to the populist bandwagon. Is this the way modern states are run? Let's see what the proposals are, agenda hasn't come as of now. Will make the suggestions at the Council meeting," Badal told *The Indian Express*.

Badal further said, "Will certainly ask government of India that if we can look at GST afresh and unless we do it, this is just fixing with punctures, this tyre is not going to run. It will take 2-3 months, we will fix it. It's nothing which is not fixable but the present design is very bad design."

Bihar FM Sushil Kumar Modi is of the view that the scope to increase rates is very "limited", especially of exempted items and 5 per cent slab. "A concrete proposal has to come for me to comment more. But as of now, the scope to increase rates is very limited. Making changes in the lower slab of 5 per cent is not going to yield much revenue. This is a sensitive issue and all states need to be on board. It is to be seen what will help in raising revenues without hurting the sentiment of the common man. Every state would want that revenues should also go up, tax compliance improves and cess pool also improves," he said.

Modi added raising tax rates in times of slowdown has a repercussion and maybe the states could consider bringing in more items under the ambit of cess or increase cess rates for existing items. "Not much scope to raise cess on automobiles, but maybe it can be increased for aerated drinks, tobacco. The revenue gap has to be filled...it's not related to one state, every state wants compensation at 14 per cent. How to do it, what can be done, this is a difficult exercise. And increasing tax in time of slowdown also has a repercussion. This is a delicate issue," he said.

State FMs said any such rate change exercise needs to be done slowly, with due inputs from officers and ministers of all states and after a thorough perusal by the fitment committee. States are of the view that hardly any luxurious or high-end items are there in the list of exempted items at present, so taking out items from that list may not be feasible.

Also, a merger of 12 per cent and 18 per cent slabs may not result in revenue gain on a net basis.

Kerala FM Thomas Isaac has spoken against tweaking rates for lower slabs and suggested tinkering with items in the higher slabs of 18 per cent and 28 per cent. "In the last GST Council meeting Union FC (Finance Commission) Chairman suggested states should revisit the compensation package in the context of decline in tax collection. All state ministers irrespective of politics rejected it. Now Centre is bringing it back to the agenda by forcing a dispute," he tweeted.

Over 50 per cent of the total items are under the 18 per cent slab under GST, around 20 per cent are in the 12 per cent slab and about 23 per cent of the items are in the lower slab of 5 per cent. 25 per cent of the items are in the peak 28 per cent slab, while 13 per cent of the items are in the zero category. So far, the Council, since the GST rollout from July 1, 2017, has held 19 meetings in which it has undertaken around 10 rounds of rate cuts. Any rate hike decision would be the first such move under the indirect tax regime.

RELATED STORY ON NEXT PAGE

CENTRE IS TRYING TO NARROW REVENUE GAP

- Punjab's Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal said GST needs to be looked afresh
- Bihar's FM Sushil Kumar Modi said the scope to hike rates is very "limited", especially of exempted items and 5 per cent slab
- The Council meeting of December 18, coming in the backdrop of the Centre's struggles on the revenue side, sets the stage to reverse the direction of rate cuts

ED probe: DHFL promoter met Iqbal Mirchi in London between Mar & Aug 2010 over land deal

KHUSHBOO NARAYAN
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

AN INVESTIGATION by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has found that Dheeraj Wadhawan, promoter of Dewan Housing Finance Ltd (DHFL) along with a few of his associates met gangster Iqbal Memon aka Iqbal Mirchi, a close aide of Dawood Ibrahim, multiple times in London, between March and August 2010 to negotiate a land deal between Mirchi and Sunblink Real Estate Pvt Ltd, a company linked to Wadhawan.

The money laundering probe into the Rs 225-crore Worli land deal between Sunblink and Mirchi has found that expenses for these London meetings with Mirchi were borne by Dheeraj Wadhawan's firms — RKW Developers Pvt Ltd and Wadhawan Holdings Pvt Ltd. The investigation has found that the meetings between Mirchi and Wadhawan and his associates were held at a prominent restaurant in London. The ED has arrested two associates of Dheeraj Wadhawan — Ranjit Singh Bindra and Humayun Merchant, who were also present in few of these meetings in London.

Emails to DHFL and its chief executive officer did not elicit any response.

The probe agency has also alleged that at least Rs 111 crore paid by Sunblink to a few alleged associates of Mirchi in India for the Worli- land deal was arranged from DHFL and RKW Developers.

The probe into Worli land deal between Sunblink Real Estate and Mirchi has found the expenses for the London meets with Mirchi were borne by Dheeraj Wadhawan's firms

The ED probe has alleged that to complete the land deal, Sunblink took a loan of about Rs 100 crore from DHFL in 2010. Sunblink, subsequently repaid this loan to DHFL in 2018 by taking a loan of about Rs 180 crore from RKW Developers at an interest rate of about 6 per cent per annum.

According to the investigation, at least 14 entities and persons allegedly received Rs 111 crore from Sunblink and ultimately routed this money to Mirchi. Apart from this the ED has alleged that Sunblink paid another Rs 154 crore to Mirchi through an entity in Dubai. Earlier in January, news portal *Cobrapost* reported that three firms linked to Wadhawan — RKW Developers, Skill Realtors Pvt Ltd. and Darshan Developers Pvt Ltd. donated of Rs 19.5 crore to the Bharatiya Janata Party between the financial years 2014–15 and 2016–17.

DHFL, which owes Rs 83,873 crore owes to banks, mutual funds and investors, is the first non-banking financial company (NBFC) to be referred to the bankruptcy court for resolution by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) last month. The RBI has superseded the board of DHFL and has appointed a three-member advisory body to advise the RBI appointed administrator of the company.

The ED on Wednesday said it has provisionally attached properties worth Rs 600 crore of Iqbal Mirchi, including two floors of Ceejay House in Worli, Mumbai, developed by Millennium Developer Pvt Ltd; three properties in Worli — Rabia mansion, Marium Lodge and Sea View sold to Sunblink; flats at Sahil Bungalow again in Worli, Mumbai, three prime commercial shops at Crawford Market and bungalows and land (more than 5 acre) in Lonavala, Maharashtra .

The ED probe has also identified over two dozen overseas properties of Mirchi in UK and Dubai. The agency has found that most of the business ventures of Mirchi in UK and Dubai were making losses and the late gangster Mirchi, was allegedly using a UAE-based firm Mihaj Investment Corporation Ltd, to pump in money generated allegedly from his criminal activities in India into these loss making firms, including his two hotels in Dubai.

The agency probe has also found that Mirchi and a few of his associates misled the court and the competent authority of Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act (SAFEMA) of the Finance Ministry on the ownership of properties in India to avoid confiscation of properties.

SECTOR SCAN
PERSONAL FINANCE

'22 mn seek credit each month; 70% drop out due to complexities'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

AS MANY as 22 million consumers are seeking credit opportunities every month, demanding a quick and easy digital application experience so that they can access funds more easily, but 70 per cent of them drop out mid-way due to the cumbersome procedures, according to a report by TransUnion Cibil, a credit information company.

However, current processes are still cumbersome and time-consuming, requiring credit applicants to go through multiple steps and provide several pieces of data and identity confirmation, a Cibil research report said. "This, combined with lenders' tight control over fraud checks and manual verifications, makes it incredibly difficult for them to meet consumer expectations," it said.

Cibil's research revealed that 70 per cent of credit applicants dropped mid-way through the application process due to reasons like long application times, too many fields requiring information, requirement for a branch visit or sending paperwork through the post.

In the credit cards segment, 86 per cent of credit card applications took longer than one day to be sanctioned, of which almost 60 per cent took more than 3 days to sanction, Cibil said.

"In personal loans, 77 per cent of personal loan applications took longer than one day to be sanctioned, of which 58 per cent took 3 days or more," it said.

In the case of two-wheeler loans, 91 per cent of two-wheeler loans took longer than one day to be sanctioned, of which almost 65 per cent took more than 3 days. In the car loan segment, 87 per cent of loans took longer than one day to be sanctioned, of which 64 per cent took more than 3 days, Cibil said.

TransUnion Asia President Satish Pillai said, "Consumers are increasingly demanding a seamless onboarding experience that provides a fast, personalized service. Although we have seen improvements in the number of credit products granted within a day of application over the past several years, it is still a surprisingly low percentage of the overall total. This, coupled with the fact that almost 22 million consumers are seeking credit opportunities every month, means the credit industry in India must evolve and undergo a true digital transformation."

"Lenders need to stay competitive and cater to the increased demands and expectations of consumers while still being able to efficiently manage risks," he said.

As per Cibil, the findings show that to be successful in onboarding customers, lenders need to streamline and modernise credit application processes while managing risks.

"Improving customer journeys can often seem like an insurmountable task. Lenders are often reliant on legacy or multiple systems and have to choose between maintaining them or developing new platforms," Pillai said.

'CFOs feel healthy culture vital for trust-building'

A significant number of financial officers of large organisations in India feel that a healthy corporate culture is critical to building trust among stakeholders, according to a survey by EY

1,000: Number of chief financial officers and financial controllers surveyed from globally

40 No. of respondents from India

95%: Percentage of Indian respondents who said governance, controls and ethical frameworks need to be developed and refined for artificial intelligence

85%: Percentage of Indian respondents who are concerned about security threats and regulatory risks on using AI in finance and reporting

95% of Indian respondents who said a corporate culture is critical to building trust

60% group CFOs globally who said quality of finance data produced by AI cannot be trusted the same way as data from existing finance systems

79% global respondents want more insight into corporate culture

TOP RISKS pertaining to turning non-financial data into reporting information:
- Maintaining data privacy
- Maintaining data security

Successful IBC bidders to be ring fenced from criminal proceedings

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE UNION Cabinet Wednesday approved changes to the insolvency law, including provisions to ring fence successful resolution applicants from criminal proceedings with regard to offences committed by previous promoters of a company. The amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) are aimed at removing certain difficulties being faced during insolvency resolution process to realise the objects of the Code and to further ease doing of business, the government said in a statement.

The IBC (Second Amendment) Bill, 2019, seeks to change various sections as well as insert a new section in the law. This amendment will help in expediting resolution of cases such as that of Bhushan Power & Steel (BPSL), where the successful resolution applicant JSW Steel has been seeking immunity against criminal investigations against the erstwhile promoters of BPSL. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) in October, attached land, building, plant and machinery of BPSL, Odisha, worth Rs 4,025 crore, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in a bank fraud case. This has created a hurdle in resolution of this key case.

Resolution of this major case, wherein banks will get nearly Rs 20,000 crore, will help in resolution of similar cases. Apart from BPSL, other IBC cases in which the ED has recently attached properties include Kudos Chemie Ltd, wherein the agency has attached, under PMLA, plant and machinery at Kuranwala and Saidpura, Mohali worth Rs 234.11 crore in a bank fraud case. Another IBC resolution case is of SPS Steel Rolling Mills Ltd, wherein ED attached properties worth Rs 92 crore under PMLA in a bank fraud case in September.

The government said amendments in the IBC would remove bottlenecks, streamline the corporate insolvency resolution process and that protection of last mile funding would boost investment in financially-distressed sectors.

Govt allows NHAI to set up InvIT

New Delhi: The Cabinet on Wednesday approved a facility for the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to monetise publicly-funded highway projects through the investment trusts (InvITs) route. The government is of the view that this will help attract patient capital to the highway sector as these investors are averse to construction risk but are interested in assets which provide long-term returns. **FE**

₹5,300 cr capital infusion into IIFCL

New Delhi: The Cabinet Wednesday okayed infusing additional Rs 5,300 crore capital into IIFCL via recapitalisation bonds in the current fiscal. Another Rs 10,000 crore will be infused in 2020-21. "This will be done via regular budgetary support and/or via issuance of recapitalisation bonds," an official statement said. **PTI**

EARLIER BANKS COULD BUY ONLY AA RATED POOLS FROM NBFCs

Cabinet approves partial credit guarantee to cover lower-rated pooled assets

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

IN A major relief for cash-strapped non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and housing finance companies (HFCs), the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a partial credit guarantee scheme to cover asset pools that are rated BBB+ or higher. By providing partial guarantee against credit loss, the scheme encourages banks to buy investment-grade rated assets of NBFCs and HFCs. While it helps banks build their retail portfolio of loans, it provides liquidity to NBFCs and HFCs.

The credit guarantee is limited to first loss of up to 10 per cent of fair value of assets being purchased by the banks under the scheme, or Rs 10,000 crore, whichever is lower. This will enable banks to purchase as much as Rs 1 lakh crore worth of rated pools of NBFCs and HFCs.

The scheme will cover NBFCs/HFCs that may have slipped into Special Mention Account (SMA-0) category — where loan repayments are due for up to 30 days — during the one year period prior to August 1, 2018. "The proposed government guarantee support and resultant pool buyouts will help address NBFCs/HFCs resolve their temporary liquidity or cash flow mismatch issues, and enable them to continue contributing to credit creation and providing last mile lending to borrowers, thereby spurring economic growth," the Centre said.

The scheme will remain open till June 30, 2020 or till Rs 1 lakh crore worth of assets are purchased by banks. To enable a larger number of stressed NBFCs and HFCs to get funding, the Centre has significantly relaxed the earlier conditions for the scheme. The earlier condition of banks buying only AA rated pools from NBFCs has been relaxed to BBB+. Banks have also been allowed to purchase assets from NBFCs/HFCs that may have slipped to SMA-0 category during one year prior to August 1, 2018. SMA-0 category accounts are those where repayments are due up to 30 days.

NBFCs/HFCs reported under SMA-I and SMA-2 category are ineligible under the scheme. SMA-I and SMA-2 accounts are those where repayments are due for more than 30 days and up to 90 days. While the revised scheme is effective up to June 30, 2020, the government has delegated the power to the Finance Minister for extending the scheme.

"This will provide liquidity to the NBFC / HFC concerned for financing the credit demand of the economy, and also protect the financial system of the country from any adverse contagion effect that may arise due to the failure of such NBFCs / HFCs," the Centre said.

In a report earlier this year, the RBI warned the struggling sector that failure of any NBFC or HFC will act as "a solvency shock" to its lenders and solvency losses caused by these shocks can "further spread by contagion".

In its Financial Stability Report in June, the RBI said that the failure of largest of these NBFCs/HFCs can cause losses comparable to those caused by the big banks, underscoring the need for greater surveillance over large HFCs/NBFCs.

EXPLAINED

Will help resolve temporary liquidity or cash flow mismatch

THE PARTIAL credit guarantee scheme for buyout by banks of BBB+ rated asset pools of NBFCs/HFCs will help in resolving the temporary liquidity or cash flow mismatch issues of these institutions.

Ever since the first default by IL&FS rocked the financial system, many NBFCs are still reeling under stress and are unable to raise funds at cost effective rates. The government guarantee provides the comfort to banks to lend to them.

US Fed leaves interest rates unchanged

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 11

THE FEDERAL Reserve is leaving its benchmark interest rate alone and signaling that it expects to keep low rates unchanged through next year.

The Fed's decision follows three rate cuts earlier this year. It reflects its view that the US economy has so far withstood the US-China trade war and a global slump and remains generally healthy.

Its benchmark rate, which influences many consumer and business loans, will remain in a low range of 1.5 per cent to 1.75 per cent.

Many analysts note that the economy faces risks from trade conflicts, a global slowdown and a potentially disruptive Brexit and say the Fed may feel compelled to cut rates at least once next year.

US Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell. *Reuters file photo*

Persistently low inflation with very low unemployment has led many Fed officials to conclude that rates can remain lower for much longer than they thought without spurring higher prices. Low rates help consumers and businesses afford to borrow and spend. Still, savers have struggled to find returns outside the stock market that can keep them ahead of inflation.

Chairman Jerome Powell has said earlier that this year's Fed rate cuts have helped lower mortgage rates and spurred growth in home purchases. Auto sales have also remained healthy as more Americans have borrowed to buy cars.

After having raised its benchmark short-term rate four times in 2018, the Fed reversed course this year and cut rates three times to a range of 1.5 per cent to 1.75 per cent . Powell has portrayed those cuts as mainly ₹₹insurance" against a slowdown resulting from weak global growth and President Donald Trump's prolonged trade war with China.

Monthly job growth reached its highest point this year in November, and the unemployment rate matched a 50-year low of 3.5 per cent . Measures of consumer confidence also remain at historically high levels.

Powell and other Fed policymakers have made clear that they are no longer worried that a healthy job market will necessarily fuel excessive inflation.

Great, great, great grandma a Tamil: Branson

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

VIRGIN GROUP founder Richard Branson on Wednesday said lab tests have revealed that a part of his ancestral origins lie in Tamil Nadu's Cuddalore, dating back to 1793.

In honour of the same, Virgin Atlantic, the carrier Branson founded 35 years ago, has decided to place a picture of his great, great, great grandmother Aria, who was an Indian, on their planes connecting Mumbai from London.

"I knew that I had past generations living in India, but haven't realised how strong our connections were. So, it turned out that from 1793, we had four generations living here in Cuddalore and one of my great, great, great grandmothers was an Indian named Aria who was married to one of my great, great, great grandfathers," Branson told reporters here.

Mahindra group Chairman Anand Mahindra and Virgin group founder Richard Branson at the launch of a Mumbai-London daily flight, in Mumbai, on Wednesday. *PTI*

He said a 'saliva test' was done in the labs, which revealed these results.

The maverick billionaire who dabbles in many businesses, including space tourism, said the family had a very grainy picture, and have used the image of Aria as a 'flying icon'.

"Every time I meet an Indian, I say we might be relatives'," he said. The carrier has re-launched a daily service connecting Mumbai with London in October, the third time that it has started the service. Branson said the route was not profitable earlier and thought it was better to pull out rather than burn millions by continuing with the route. He also said this is the reason why Virgin Atlantic has continued to thrive in the very difficult aviation market.

ADB lowers India's 2019-20 forecast to 5.1% from 6.5%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT Bank (ADB) on Wednesday lowered India's economic growth forecast for FY2019 (i.e. fiscal ending March 30, 2020) to 5.1 per cent on slowing job prospects, rural distress exacerbated by poor harvest and credit crunch.

The multilateral bank, however, expects the growth to pick up to 6.5 per cent next fiscal on supportive government policies.

"In South Asia, India's growth is now seen at a slower 5.1 per cent in fiscal year 2019 as the foundering of a major non-banking financial company in 2018 led to a rise in risk aversion in the financial sector and a credit crunch, the ADB said in a supplement to the Asian Development Outlook 2019 Update.

"Growth should pick up to 6.5 per cent in fiscal year 2020 with supportive policies," it added.

Earlier in September, ADB had trimmed India's GDP growth to 6.5 per cent from the earlier estimate of 7 per cent.

RBI Guv takes up credit flow, rate transmission with PSU bank chiefs

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

RESERVE BANK of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday took up the issues of interest rate transmission and the flow of credit to the productive sectors of the economy with the chief executives of major public sector banks (PSB).

In a meeting with managing directors and CEOs of major PSBs, Das said there has been some improvement in the banking sector, which remains resilient even though current economic conditions may pose certain challenges. He urged the banks to proactively tackle emerging challenges swiftly, particularly with regard to stressed assets resolution in a co-ordinated manner. During the meeting, the issue of transmission of monetary policy rates was also discussed. Das had earlier said that although the central bank is not in a hurry to keep reducing interest rates, it would work to ensure that the transmission turns more effective since much needs to be passed on.

Shaktikanta Das urged banks to tackle emerging challenges swiftly, particularly with regard to stressed assets resolution in a co-ordinated manner

While the RBI cut the repo rate by 135 basis points in five policy reviews in 2019, the one-year median marginal cost of funds-based lending rate has declined by only 49 bps. The weighted average lending rate on fresh rupee loans sanctioned by banks declined by only 44 basis points.

The RBI Governor also took up the issue of flow of credit to productive sectors, including MSME and NBFCs, and the outlook on resolution of stressed assets and recovery from NPAs. Another issue discussed was the progress with regard to deepening digital payments through focussed outreach activities planned by banks to make identified districts in each State/UT digitally enabled.

DEAL WORTH AROUND ₹3,200 CRORE

Qatar wealth fund to buy 25% in Adani's Mumbai power utility biz

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

QATAR INVESTMENT Authority, Qatar's sovereign wealth fund, has proposed to buy a 25.1 per cent stake in Adani Electricity Mumbai Ltd for around Rs 3,200 crore ($450 million). A part of Adani Transmission Ltd, AEML distributes power to three million consumers in Mumbai.

"Adani Transmission Ltd (ATL), Adani Electricity Mumbai Ltd (AEML) and a subsidiary of Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) have signed definitive agreements for the sale of a 25.1 per cent stake in AEML to QIA and for a shareholder subordinated debt investment by QIA in AEML," said an exchange filing. "The total QIA investment in AEML will be approximately Rs 3,200 crore," the filing added. This is the second biggest investment in an Adani group company after France's Total SA decided to buy a stake in gas distribution company Adani Gas in October.

SECOND BIGGEST INVESTMENT IN AN ADANI FIRM

- This is the second biggest investment in an Adani group company after France's Total SA decided to buy a stake in gas distribution company Adani Gas in October
- Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani said his company, together with QIA, will work towards improving the reliability of supply and consumer satisfaction
- ATL has a cumulative transmission network of around 14,738 circuit km

ATL acquired the power generation, transmission and distribution business in Mumbai run by Anil Ambani-led Reliance Energy Ltd for Rs 13,801 crore, after securing regulatory approvals in 2018.

AEML is the licensee for an integrated power distribution, transmission and generation business that currently serves over three million consumers across a license area of about 400 sq km in Mumbai. Its market share of Mumbai is close to 87 per cent by license area, 67 per cent by consumers served and 55 per cent by electricity supplied.

"As part of the transaction, ATL and QIA have agreed definitive plans to ensure that over 30 per cent of the electricity supplied by AEML is sourced from solar and wind power plants by the year 2023," the statement said. "In addition, ATL and QIA have agreed a number of other green initiatives to combat climate change and facilitate the transition to a sustainable, low carbon economy," it said.

Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani said his company, together with QIA, will work towards improving the reliability of supply and consumer satisfaction. "We believe this transaction is a significant step in the journey of the Adani Group, marking the start of a long term partnership with QIA," he said.

Mansoor Al-Mahmoud, CEO, QIA, said, "We look forward to a long term partnership with Adani Group, with whom we share an inter-generational perspective on investments and a common vision for the sustainable growth and continued success of AEML".

He added, "This investment demonstrates our confidence in India, with whom Qatar shares deep-rooted ties and excellent relations." The deal is expected to complete in early 2020 subject to receipt of regulatory approvals and satisfaction of customary conditions precedent.

ATL has a cumulative transmission network of around 14,738 circuit km, out of which 11,477 circuit km is operational and 3,261 circuit km is at various stages of construction.

BRIEFLY

SFIO begins probe against CG Power

New Delhi: CG Power and Industrial Solutions Ltd, in a regulatory filing, said the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) has started probe into the alleged irregularities at the company and its 15 group firms.

Jet Airways slots: NCLT seeks clarity

New Delhi: The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) Wednesday once again directed the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and the Civil Aviation Ministry to give clarity on the available slots of Jet Airways.

Insurers can invest in debt ETFs of CPSEs

New Delhi: The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India Wednesday allowed insurance companies to invest in debt ETFs (exchange traded funds) of central public sector enterprises (CPSEs).

PV retail sales rises 1% in Nov: FADA

New Delhi: The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) on Wednesday said that retail sales of passenger vehicles in November rose 1 per cent to 2,57,271 units against the same period last year, driven by festive demand during the month. **PTI**

10-bp cut in lending rates by UCO Bank

New Delhi: UCO Bank reduced its marginal cost of funds-based lending rates (MCLR) by 10 basis points across various tenors, with effect from December 10. The revised one-year MCLR stands at 8.30 per cent, down from 8.40 per cent existing. The revised overnight, one-month, three-months and six-months tenor MCLRs now stand at 7.70 per cent, 7.85 per cent, 7.95 per cent and 8.20 per cent respectively, 10 bps lower than their existing levels. **ENS**

Ayodhya case, Article 370 top India's 'What is?' list on Google for 2019

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

'WHAT IS Article 370?', 'What is Ayodhya case?' and 'What is National Register of Citizens of India?' were among the most asked questions from Indians on Google this year. According to Google 2019 Year in Search report, netizens in India searched for a variety of topics, seeking information on Article 370, exit poll, black hole and 'Howdy Modi' event.

Article 370, which provided special status to J&K, was scrapped earlier this year. The top 10 'What is' questions tally included users looking for 'Ayodhya case' and 'National Register of Citizens of India'. Google said, "Lists are based on search terms that had the highest spike this year when compared to the previous year." Lok Sabha elections this year also featured prominently in search trends, with election results topping the news charts. 'How to vote' and 'How to check name in voter list' figured at the first and third spot on the 'How to' list.

Globally, India versus South Africa match topped the search list, while Game of Thrones was the most searched for TV show.

Code on Social Security Bill introduced in LS

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE CODE on Social Security, 2019 was introduced in Lok Sabha on Wednesday, which proposes universalisation of social security benefits for the country's around 50 crore workforce, along with offerings such as medical, pension, death and disability benefits to them.

The unorganised sector, which accounts for a little over 80 per cent of India's total workforce, has largely been out of social security schemes as well as the ambit of labour regulations at present.

The Code also provides an enabling provision for constituting special purpose vehicles for the implementation of schemes for unorganised sector workers. It also seeks to expand the sources of the fund for various schemes under the Code to include funds from corporate social responsibility.

The Code empowers the Centre with an enabling provision to change the mandatory monthly contribution towards employees provident fund (EPF) for a certain class of employees for a certain period.

Employers will, however, have to contribute to the retirement fund at the existing rate. This will help increase the take-home pay of workers with relatively lower salaries.

The Bill also empowers the government to frame schemes for providing social security to gig workers and platform workers who do not fall under the traditional employer-employee relation. It also provides for payment of gratuity in case of fixed-term employment on pro-rata basis, even if the period for fixed term contract is less than five years. Under the current Act, an employee is entitled for gratuity only after completing five years of continuous service.

The Bill, moved by Labour Minister Santosh Gangwar, also provides for maternity benefit to the woman employees and compensation to the employees in case of the accidents while commuting from residence to place of work and vice-versa.

The Code will make Aadhaar mandatory for seeding at the time of registration of member or beneficiary or any other person to register or for receiving benefits. **FE**

Bill to regulate IFSCs tabled in Lok Sabha

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

THE LOK Sabha passed a Bill today, which seeks to set up a unified authority for regulating all financial activities in international financial services centres (IFSCs) in the country. The Bill was piloted by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

"We are bringing several regulators together as one unit to the limited extent of dealing with various institutions which are present in the IFSC," the Finance Minister said.

'NBFC, HFC growth to hit a decadal low of 6-8% this fiscal'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

PUMMELLED BY rising borrowing costs, re-calibration and de-risking of loan book and a slowing economy, growth in assets under management (AUM) of non-banks, comprising non-banking finance companies and housing finance companies, is set to fall to a decade's low of 6-8 per cent in 2019-20 as against 15 per cent last fiscal, a Crisil report has said.

Confidence deficit of investors who were initially focused on asset-liability maturity (ALM) profile have firmly shifted to concerns over asset quality, especially for the wholesale book. "With the headwinds unlikely to dissipate soon, non-banks, specifically the wholesale-focused ones without strong parentage, would need to make structural changes and re-orient their business models, leading to a recalibration of their AUM mix," the rating agency said.

According to Crisil, challenges continue on the liabilities side 15 months since liquidity problems surfaced, though steps by the government and regulators to support and structurally strengthen the sector have provided some relief. "Overall borrowings raised between July and September 2019 were the lowest in the last four quarters since September 2018. Incremental cost of borrowings has increased despite the interest-rate cycle turning south," it said.

However, there is a clear differentiation between non-banks backed by strong parentage and those without it, it said. Gurpreet Chhatwal, president, Crisil, said, "Non-banks with strong parentage, that account for 70 per cent of the sectoral AUM, have been less impacted on the funding front. They are likely to drive sectoral growth over the medium term." For standalone non-banks, the investor comfort with asset classes they operate in will dictate their access to funds at competitive rates, growth outlook and the extent of reorientation of business models.

CHALLENGES REMAIN

15 months

- As per Crisil, challenges continue on the liabilities side 15 months since liquidity problems surfaced, though steps by the Centre and regulators to support and strengthen the sector have provided some relief

Walmart, Flipkart to invest in Ninjacart

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

WALMART AND Flipkart Wednesday announced a joint strategic investment in Ninjacart, a Bengaluru-based fresh produce supply chain company.

The partnership will help Walmart and Flipkart strengthen direct sourcing of fresh produce for Walmart India's wholesale cash and carry stores and Flipkart's online grocery business Supermart. The investment will also support Ninjacart to expand its customer base, reach new cities and gain exposure to global best practices to enhance the efficiency of the local fresh produce ecosystem, the firms said in a joint statement. Founded in 2015, Ninjacart works with 20,000 farmers and supplies fresh produce to 60,000 retailers, according to its website.

Kalyan Krishnamurthy, CEO, Flipkart Group, said, "Developing Flipkart Supermart over the past year, we have focused on creating the right infrastructure, supporting local farmers, producers and food processors, and building sustainability into the ecosystem, all while creating thousands of new jobs and bringing quality, convenience and value to consumers. In Ninjacart, we see a company that shares our values, our pioneering mindset and our commitment to tech-driven innovation that improves life in India."

Ninjacart's focus on direct-from-farm sourcing resonates well with Walmart's commitment to supporting farmers in India, said Krish Iyer, President and CEO, Walmart India. "We are working towards our commitment of sourcing 25 per cent of produce in our Best Price cash-and-carry stores directly from farmers by 2023," Iyer said. **FE**

SBI
Marketing & Communications Department, Corporate Centre,
State Bank Bhavan, 8th Floor, Madame Cama Road, Mumbai - 400 021.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

State Bank of India has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of Public Relation Agency (RFP No.CC/M&C/2019-20/03). Kindly visit Bank's website **https://bank.sbi/**. Check "**Procurement news**" section for detailed RFP document. For future announcements, if any, in this regard, please keep referring to the website.

Place: Mumbai
Date: 12.12.2019

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager
(Marketing Operations)

RajCOMP Info Services Limited (RISL)
C-Block, 1st Floor, Yojana Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur.

RISL invites ebids from the eligible bidders for the following:

NIB No./ Date/ Unique bid no.	Particulars	Estimated Cost/EMD	Start of sale/ Last date
4987/04.12.2019 (RIS19208LOB00027)	Selection of Technology Partner for Development, Enhancement and O&M of Jan Soochna & e-Mitra Plus Application in Rajasthan	Rs.7.00 Crore/ Rs. 14.00 Lacs	04.12.2019 17.01.2020

Details can be seen on the websites : http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://doit.rajasthan.gov.in, http://risl.rajasthan.gov.in and Bids are to be submitted through http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in

Raj.Samwad/C/2019-20/4043 Managing Director

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
NCOE : ALAPPUZHA

No: SAI/SAG/ALPY/09/2019-20/ 11-12-2019

RE-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders in Two Bid system (Technical & Financial) are invited from reputed suppliers for supply of Mess items (Groceries, Vegetables & Fruits, Fish, Poultry Items and Diary items) from reputed agencies to the Mess of SAI Water Sports Centre, Punnamada, Alleppey.

Tenders will be accepted online only in the prescribed form which will be available in the website of the Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP) https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in or from www.lncpe.gov.in. Last date for submission of E-Tender document is on or before 01-01-2020, 5 PM. And the date of opening of Technical Bid is on 03-01-2020 at 11.30 AM.

Sd/- (K. Gopalakrishnan) Centre InCharge

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED
(TW Wing) - NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003
Phone : (0291) 2742336 Fax : (0291) 2745259

SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Short term Techno-commercial and Price e-Bids are invited from eligible bidders for various TW works as per governing specification under TNTW-472 (UBN No. JVV1920WLOB00171).

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Name of S/D & Circle	Name of Work
1	TNTW-472	AEN (CSD-I), Barmer	Supply, Erection & Dismantling of 33 KV, 11 KV, LT line, 11/0.433 KV & 6.35 KV S/S and 33 KV S/S Harsani Panta inside acquired land by BLMCL under AEN (CSD-I), jdVVNL, Barmer on turn-key basis
		AEN (CSD-II), Barmer	Supply, Erection & Dismantling of 11 KV, LT line, 11/0.433 KV & 6.35 KV S/S inside acquired land by BLMCL under AEN (CSD-II), jdVVNL, Barmer on turn-key basis
		AEN (Rural), Barmer	Supply, Erection of 11.85 KM 33 KV line on Lattice tower and 0.45 KM U/G cable from 400 KV GSS Gentu to Jasai MES work under AEN (Rural), Barmer on turn-key basis

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening etc. are available on our website at www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl and also at www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. The bidders, in their own interest are requested to read very carefully the tender documents before submitting the bid only through on line on website www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. Note : Interested bidders please note that in future any other notices / information regarding amendment / corrigendum / addendum / dates extension of bid submission etc. for above tender will only be available on website www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl

Raj. Samwad/C/4023/2019-20 Superintending Engineer (TW)

बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

Indian banks argue Mallya case, UK court reserves order

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LONDON, DECEMBER 11

A UK court on Wednesday reserved its judgement on a plea by a consortium of Indian public sector banks led by State Bank of India (SBI) seeking a bankruptcy order against embattled liquor tycoon Vijay Mallya as part of efforts to recoup around 1.145 billion pounds in unpaid loans.

Judge Michael Briggs reserved his judgment after hearing arguments from both sides in the insolvency division of the High Court on the petition filed by the banks last year, in relation to lending involving Mallya's now-defunct Kingfisher Airlines.

The verdict in the case is now expected only in the New Year, when the judge could either dismiss the petition and find in favour of the 63-year-old businessman or adjourn the case until the UB Group chief's latest settlement offer is decided upon by the Indian courts.

Saudi hails 10% debut jump in Aramco shares

REUTERS
RIYADH/DUBAI, DECEMBER 11

SAUDI ARAMCO shares surged the maximum permitted 10 per cent above their IPO price on their Riyadh stock market debut on Wednesday, in a move hailed by the government as a vindication of its towering $2 trillion valuation of the state oil company. The shares leapt to 35.2 riyals ($9.39) each, up from the initial public offering (IPO) price of 32 riyals and at the daily limit of price moves allowed by the Tadawul exchange.

That gives Saudi Arabian Oil Co (Aramco) a market value of about $1.88 trillion, comfortably making it the world's most valuable listed company and closing in on the $2 trillion price tag long coveted by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. "It's a great day for Saudi Arabia and the leadership of Saudi Arabia and for the people of Saudi Arabia. It's a D-Day for Aramco, it's a day of reckoning and vindication," Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman said.

Aramco CEO Amin H Nasser at a ceremony marking Aramco's IPO debut in Riyadh, Wednesday. *Reuters*

Opposition MPs raise pending GST compensation to states in Lok Sabha

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 11

AHEAD OF the GST council meeting, opposition members raised the issue of pending amount of goods and services tax (GST) compensation in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Raising the issue during Zero Hour DMK member TR Baalu said, "Tamil Nadu is reeling under a cash crunch. It is in a debt trap. Through you, I humbly request the Finance Minister to kindly release the due amount to the State of Tamil Nadu without fail."

He added, "Last month, ... the finance ministers of many states, namely, Delhi, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Kerala and Puducherry, had met the honourable Finance Minister and demanded their rightful share of GST compensation ... But, of course, the money has not yet been distributed to the States"

"My State, the State of Tamil Nadu, has not been represented by its Finance Minister or any Minister, but at the same time, the Leader of the Opposition in Tamil Nadu, Dr MK Stalin is vociferously appealing to the Government of India to see that GST compensation is extended forthwith to Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu is really at a severe cash crunch", he added.

Echoing a similar view, TRS member Nama Nageswara Rao said that as per the GST Act, whatever is the shortfall in the revenue of a state, the Centre has to compensate. "Telangana has to get around Rs 4,531 crore till date of IGST. We have requested several times. We have written letters to the Finance Minister, we are also requesting to the House," he said.

Shiv Sena also raised the issue of GST compensation, with its MP Arvind Sawant saying that Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has to the Finance Minister demanding Rs 15,558 crore, which is pending at the central government.

Trinamool Congress member Sudip Bandyopadhyay too raised the same issue, as some other members from the Opposition benches associated themselves to the issue.

The GST Council, the apex body which takes decisions about this indirect tax, is schedule to meet next week.

US FAA: 737 MAX won't be cleared in 2019

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 11

US FEDERAL AVIATION Administration (FAA) chief Steve Dickson confirmed Wednesday the agency will not allow Boeing Co's grounded 737 MAX, involved in two fatal crashes in five months, to resume flying before the end of 2019.

Dickson told *CNBC* in an interview ahead of his testimony before the US House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee that there are nearly a dozen milestones that must be completed before the plane can return to service.

भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

AAI invites E-tender (online) for work of **"Construction of 'B' type Residential staff quarters (128 Nos.) in AAI-PHHL colony at Juhu Airport. SH. :- SITC of 10 pax Elevators including ACMC for 05 (Five) years."** for Estimated Cost ₹ 1,66,41,972.00 (Tender ID :- 2019_AAI_36755_1) with period of completion of **08 (Eight) Months.** The last date & time for submission of e-bids (Cover 1, 2 & 3) is **24.12.2019 upto 18:00 hrs.**

For detailed information, log on to NIC CPP e-tendering portal website **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app** or **www.aai.aero.** Further clarification/corrigendum in this regards, if any, will be uploaded only on NIC CPP e-tendering portal.

As Samsung shifts operations to India & Vietnam, Chinese city turns ghost town

K J M VARMA
BEIJING, DECEMBER 11

HUIZHOU CITY on the north of China's flourishing Pearl River Delta has turned into a ghost town after Samsung closed its three-decade old factory and shifted operations to India and Vietnam in October, in the first visible fallout of the ongoing trade war between China and the United States.

The bustling city turned a "ghost town" after Samsung closed its last smartphone factory in China, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Wednesday.

Samsung relocated production to Vietnam and India in large part as a response to the trade war between the world's two largest economies, it said, adding that the industry insiders consider that it reflected China's changing position in the global supply chain.

Last year Samsung inaugurated its world's largest mobile factory in Noida, near the Indian capital. The new facility will enable Samsung to double its capacity for mobile phones in Noida from 68 million units a year to 120 million units a year, in a phase-wise expansion to be completed by 2020.

China, regarded as the world's factory, held a virtual monopoly over the global supply chain of manufacturing in the last three decades. US President Donald Trump launched the trade war with China last year demanding Beijing to reduce massive trade deficit.

Trump is also demanding an intrusive verification mechanism to supervise Beijing's promise to protect intellectual property rights (IPR) technology transfer and more access to American goods to Chinese markets.

While the two countries held several rounds of talks to end the trade war, the conflict left trail of devastation for the Chinese manufacturing industry which was badly hit by the economic slowdown and steady fall of exports in the last few years. **PTI**

'6 CIL arms did not devise MoEF mandated policy'

New Delhi: Six of the seven coal producing subsidiaries of the world's largest miner CIL did not devise a policy as mandated by the environment ministry, according to report tabled by the CAG in the Parliament on Wednesday.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) report on 'Assessment of Environment Impact due to Mining Activities and its Mitigation in Coal India Ltd and its Subsidiaries' stated, "Coal India Ltd (CIL) amended its original Corporate Environment Policy (CEP) and formulated a comprehensive Environment Policy only in March, 2012, followed by a revised policy in December 2018. **PTI**

NUTRIENT WOES

Spoiling the party

Urea shortage is threatening to take the shine off farmers' hopes of a bumper rabi harvest from surplus rains

MILIND GHATWAI
SEHORE (MADHYA PRADESH), DEC 11

SUNIL KUMAR learnt his lesson a few years ago, when he had not stocked up on enough urea. His wheat yield suffered as the crop did not get the desired level of nitrogen for growth at the right time. Since then, the 33-year-old farmer from Amajhir village of Sehore district and tehsil has always taken care to procure sufficient quantity of the fertiliser well in advance of the rabi sowing season. The Class 10 pass, who cultivates 10 acres, purchased 14 bags of urea (each of 45 kg) in late-September, more than a month before he was to commence planting of wheat post Diwali.

Kumar's decision was vindicated when he happened to go to the Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) in the neighbouring village of Mogra Ram around mid-November. By then, most farmers had completed sowing operations and were desperately queuing up before the PACS store that sold Iffco (Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Cooperative) urea. "I had never seen this kind of chaos before. Even the farmers who bought after standing in line for hours could manage to get only a few bags, much less than their requirement," he recalls.

Farmers generally buy 2.5-3 bags of urea per acre for wheat. Out of that, the first bag is applied within 20 days of sowing, just before the first round of irrigation.

Santosh Vishwakarma, a 12-acre farmer from Jatakheda village of Sehore — a district in Madhya Pradesh famous for production of the premium "Sharbati" wheat variety — was not as prescient as Kumar. He was late "by a few days" to turn up at the PACS in Naplakhedi, hardly 5 km from his village. The "few days" proved too costly. Frustrated by the long wait in the serpentine queue, which also fuelled uncertainty over whether he would get his bags of urea at the end of it, the 59-year-old decided to buy from a private trader.

"He charged Rs 400 per bag, way higher than the Rs 266.50 government-fixed rate I would have paid at the society. But I had no alternative. Without urea, my germinated seedlings would have wilted for lack of nutrition and there was no point giving water either," says Vishwakarma. "Yes, I could have bought the fertiliser in advance, but there is always a chance of it getting spoilt by moisture. In any case, I had never faced this kind of problem, as urea was always available and you didn't have to wait so long in lines. If there is a shortage, why don't they just ration the urea and distribute it equally among farmers?" he asks, while accusing the PACS officials of favouring farmers with clout and ignoring "*aam kisan* (ordinary cultivators)" like him.

Lakhan Lal, a *sahayak* (assistant) at the Naplakhedi PACS, says the society is rationing the nitrogenous fertiliser. "The moment there is news, right or wrong, about a shortage, it creates panic. Farmers then start forming lines to buy even if the fertiliser is not required to be applied immediately. In the process, many don't get even their basic quota of fertilisers. I haven't seen such long queues for urea," he adds.

Last year too urea shortage had been a huge issue in Madhya Pradesh — especially around the time of the Assembly elections in late-November. *The Indian Express* had reported about long queues in front of fertiliser outlets in many places. This time also there are similar reports — of tempers getting frayed, police deployment at stores and even the odd instance of urea bags being looted from trucks.

Santosh Vishwakarma bought urea for Rs 400 per bag, against the government-fixed rate of Rs 266.5; (left) urea bags outside a fertiliser retail outlet. *Milind Ghatwai*

Plus, in the current rabi season, there is additional fertiliser demand due to surplus rains. Rainfall during the southwest monsoon season (June-September) was 61% above the normal long-term average for west Madhya Pradesh (which is the main wheat belt) and 25% excess in the eastern part of the state. West Madhya Pradesh also received 37% above-average rains in the ongoing post-monsoon season (starting October 1). With water levels in the state's nine major irrigation dams at nearly 95% their full reservoir capacity and groundwater aquifers fully recharged as well, farmers have gone in for large-scale wheat planting.

As per data from the Union Agriculture Ministry, the all-India acreage under wheat, at 202.54 lakh hectares (lh) on December 6, was 4.3% higher than the 194.21 lh during this time last year. The figure is even higher, by 16.1 % (from 41.08 lh to 47.70 lh), for Madhya Pradesh.

At the same time, the progressive area sown under *chana* (chickpea) and *masur* (lentil) in the state has fallen from 30.78 lh and 5.14 lh to 21.98 lh and 4 lh, respectively. The latter two crops hardly require any urea, but the lack of any assured minimum support price-based government procurement means farmers prefer growing wheat — more so when there is plenty of water.

"Farmers usually stagger sowings and don't cultivate their entire land for lack of water. But this time, with widespread rains, they have used up most of their land and everyone has almost simultaneously planted — and that too, wheat. So, there is naturally more demand for urea," says Ghanshyam Patel, a 30-acre farmer, who has just bought six bags from the Naplakhedi PACS for the third time in the current season. In the previous two visits, he had managed to get 10 bags each.

At Pipaliya Mira village of Sehore tehsil, PACS manager Prahlad Singh is trying his best to humour farmers, as they wait for another vehicle with urea to arrive. The entire material from an earlier truck carrying 560 bags just got fully sold in no time. This society, catering to six villages, had sold 198 tonnes of urea during the last rabi season. This season, with three months still to go, the society has already sold 231 tonnes.

"*Jinne jugaad kar li, unko mil gaya* (the ones with connection have got their supply)," says Ismail from Gudbhela village, as he watches a truck pass by on the highway, not far from his 12-acre plot. According to him, reports about acute shortage aren't entirely true because "everyone has got something, but they want more". He himself has managed eight bags and is keen to have more. "In many fields, the leaves have started drying up and yellowing. If we do not apply immediately, our yields will fall. We cannot afford this, when most of us practically lost our soybean crop because of heavy rains during the kharif season. Farmers are hoping to recover from wheat what they lost in soybean," sums up Ismail.

The ruling Congress in Madhya Pradesh is blaming the BJP-led government at the Centre for the crisis. Chief Minister Kamal Nath claims his government sought 18 lakh tonnes (lt) of urea for the state in the current rabi season. As against this, the Centre allocated 15 lt, which is lower than the supply of 15.41 lt during the last rabi season from October 1 to December 31, 2018. "Reduced supply, along with higher and simultaneous demand from farmers, has led to some trouble," he admits.

Former CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, however, attributes the shortage to the absence of planning. "When our government was in power, we used to do detailed analysis of urea demand, both for kharif and rabi, and stock enough material in advance. Today, even when urea arrives, it is not distributed properly, leading to black marketing," he alleges.

The Department of Fertilisers data shows total urea sales this kharif season (April-September) to have dropped to 20.67 lt, from 26.75 lt during the same period of 2018. But sales in October-November 2019 have been higher, at 16.78 lt, compared with 13.73 lt for October-November 2018.

Real rural wages plunge 3.8% in Sept

HARISH DAMODARAN

REAL RURAL wages growth has fallen to an all-time-low of minus 3.8% in September, further confirming the deep structural slowdown in 'Bharat' that is also evidenced in sluggish fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) and two-wheeler sales.

The daily wage rate in rural India for male workers across 25 occupations (12 agricultural and 13 non-agricultural) averaged Rs 331.29 during September, as per field data compiled by the Labour Bureau. This was 3.42% higher than the corresponding level for the same month of 2018. But in "real" terms, after adjusting for inflation based on the all-India consumer price index (CPI) for rural labourers, the wage increase worked out to minus 3.77% year-on-year.

The accompanying chart maps month-wise annual growth in rural wages since 2017. The divergence between "nominal" and "real" growth can be seen particularly after January 2019. That, in turn, has mainly to do with inflation: Between December 2018 and September 2019, nominal year-on-year growth in rural wages has been more or less flat, registering only a marginal decline from 3.76% to 3.42%. However, CPI inflation for rural labourers during the same period has gone up from 1.66% to 7.20%.

Simply put, whatever little rising wages that rural workers have experienced has, in recent months (from March), been more than eaten away by inflation. And that also explains why sales of two-wheelers — considered a barometer of rural demand — recorded a 16.18% de-growth in April-September 2019 over April-September 2018, according to data from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers. The market research firm Nielsen has estimated rural FMCG consumption in India to have grown by just 5% year-on-year in July-September, the lowest in the last seven years.

There could be two reasons why real rural wage growth has slumped to negative territory during the current fiscal.

The first is structural: Low crop prices, especially in the post-demonetisation period, and the overall slowing down of the economy has reduced demand for labour in farms as well as non-farm avenues such as construction, manufacturing and assorted services.

The second is more immediate. Kharif crop production this time has been affected by a combination of early-season drought from the delayed onset of the monsoon and prolonged unseasonal rains towards the time of harvesting. Together, they have impacted farm labour demand, even amidst further diminishing employment opportunities in the rest of the economy.

What can one expect in the months ahead?

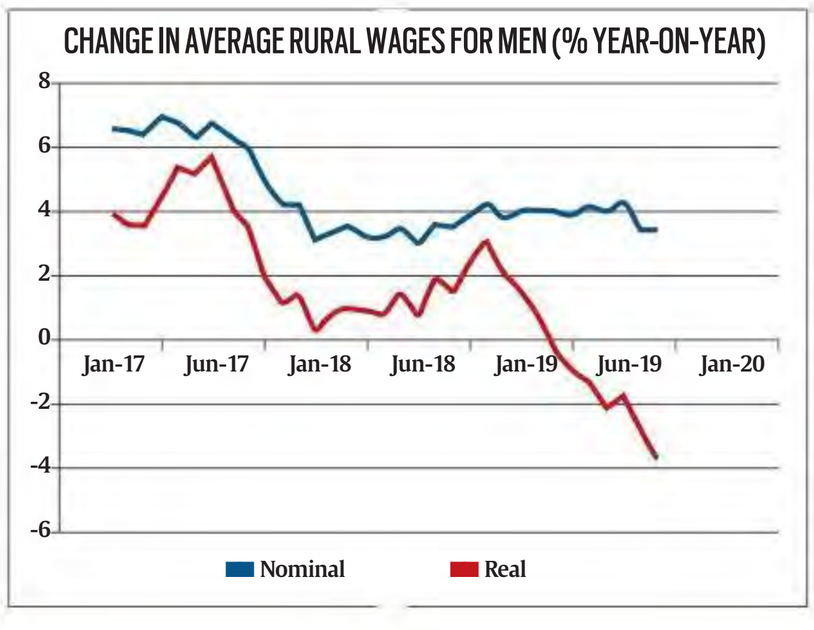
A possible source of optimism is the recovery of sorts taking place in crop prices — not only of onions, but also pulses, milk, soybean and maize (<https://bit.ly/2PAdLoV>). This, alongside the vastly improved soil moisture conditions from the late monsoon rains extending to November, should spur agriculture labour demand in the current rabi season.

It's interesting to note here that in the months immediately after the Narendra Modi government's demonetisation announcement in November 2016, rural wage growth actually saw an uptick. Nominal wage growth touched 6.9% in April 2017. The fact that even real wages showed acceleration, despite the scrapping of the old Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 denomination currency notes, was cited by many as proof of demonetisation not adversely hitting rural India.

The real reason for wage acceleration during that period, though, was a good monsoon coming after back-to-back droughts in 2014 and 2015. Farmers, therefore, planted more area both during the kharif (April-October 2016) and rabi (November-April) cropping seasons. The very prospect of harvesting a bumper rabi crop, and keenness to recoup the production losses of the previous two years, was motivation enough for them to plant at any cost. The resultant rise in demand for labour pulled up rural wages.

But subsequent events showed that while farmers did harvest a bumper rabi crop, the gains from it were offset by a crash in prices. That was largely induced by the post-demonetisation liquidity squeeze in produce markets. As crop prices entered a prolonged bear phase after April 2017, nominal rural wage growth slipped to below 5% by October and have continued to fall thereafter.

It remains to be seen whether the recovery in crop prices seemingly underway now is sustainable. If it turns out that way, wages of rural workers should also, hopefully, recover along with farm incomes.



AGRICULTURE MARKETING

How e-NAM has become an 'inam' for farmers

The pan-India trading portal is helping realise the vision of 'One Nation, One Market' for agri-produce

VASUDHA MISHRA

INDIA IS a Union of States as per our Constitution. Agriculture being a state subject, state governments have enacted agricultural produce market committee (APMC) legislations for regulating trade in their own territories. The APMC laws were originally intended for safeguarding farmers against exploitation by unscrupulous traders and ensuring transparent price discovery of agri-produce. Farmers, then, had limited knowledge of domestic and international prices or demand and supply forecasts for their crops. Nor did they really produce based on the quality preferred by consumers. The APMC market levied a cess and provided basic infrastructure for farmers to sell their produce to the highest bidders among the traders licensed to do business in that particular mandi. The APMC acted as a guarantor for the farmer not to be short-changed by fly-by-night operators.

Over time, however, the APMC laws became outdated. The physical boundaries of the *mandis* became cast in stone, so much so that they practically existed in isolation. The produce sold in one *mandi*, when traded again in another *mandi* even within the same state, was levied market fee afresh. Moreover, a trader wanting to buy or sell in more than one *mandi* needed to apply for separate licences in each of them. Also, with no mechanisms to vouch for the quality of produce, the trader or his trusted representative had to be physically present in every auction transaction. The farmer was, then, under compulsion to sell to whosoever was willing to buy. There was no relationship of prices with quality either. In the absence of proper grading facilities, only "fair average quality" produce ended up getting traded.

The Government of India, in 2002, circulated a model APMC Act. Some of its provisions were incorporated by a few states in their respective laws. In 2017, a more comprehensive Agriculture Produce and Livestock Marketing Act was prepared, which the Centre has again relentlessly being pursuing the states to adopt. But the most revolutionary initiative has been the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), the pan-India electronic trading portal launched on April 14, 2016, with the vision of creating 'One Nation One Market' for farm produce.

States seeking Central assistance under e-NAM were required to carry out at least three reforms in their APMC Acts: (1) Issuing a single unified trading licence for all *mandis* in the state, (2) implementing a single point levy of market fee, and (3) providing for e-auction/e-trading as a mode of price discovery.

e-NAM today 'virtually' connects 585 'physical' mandis of the country. *Express*

Today, 585 *mandis* in 320 districts across 16 states and two Union Territories have been integrated into this virtual marketplace, with physical markets at the backend. Almost 1.66 crore farmers and 1.97 lakh traders and commission agents are registered on the e-NAM platform, which had recorded Rs 86,572 crore worth of transactions till December 9. Assaying of produce, to enable farmers to realise prices commensurate with quality, is also on the rise. Since inception, nearly 64 lakh lots traded on e-NAM have been assayed. Between 2016-17 and 2018-19, the average number of bids placed per trading lot has gone up from 2.1 to 3.9. During the peak harvest season, the Adoni *mandi* in Andhra Pradesh connected to e-NAM received 34 bids per lot of cotton, while this stood at 24 bids for paddy and 27 for turmeric at the APMCs of Suryapet and Nizamabad, respectively, in Telangana. More number of bids is an indicator of expansion of the universe of buyers for farmers post e-NAM.

The e-NAM software has been continuously upgraded and is now enabled for making online payment to farmers. Such payments totalled Rs 238.32 crore in 2018-19, amounting to Rs 504 crore from the time the scheme was conceived till November 2019. The platform has also seen a pick-up in inter-*mandi* trade both within and, more recently, between states.

Farmers can now access round-the-clock commodity price information on their e-NAM mobile app, apart from an advance lot registration facility to reduce waiting time at the *mandi*. They can further view bids being placed for their produce, along with quality assaying parameters, on mobiles. Farmers are also receiving SMS alerts for the final bid price, apart from payments made by traders into their bank accounts. The e-NAM platform already enables them to sell their produce directly or through commission agents. Traders, likewise, can buy from more than one market with the same licence and quote bids even without being physically present in the particular *mandi*. The shopping cart feature in E-NAM is also allowing selection of preferred lots for bidding, thereby reducing searching time. They are, moreover, being encouraged to make e-payments through automatic discounts. Many states — including Uttarakhand, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh — are incentivising both farmers and traders to undertake transactions through e-NAM by way of exemptions/rebate of market fees.

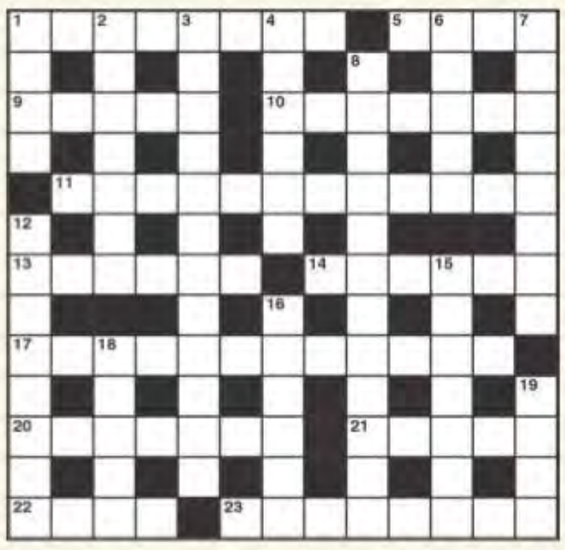
The coming months would see initiatives that are likely to further revolutionise agricultural produce trading through e-NAM connected *mandis*. That includes warehouse-based trading modules. Andhra Pradesh has designated 23 warehouses as "deemed markets", while Telangana has done the same in respect of 14. More than 850 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) have come on board the e-NAM platform, paving the way for aggregation of produce to enable cost savings as well as better price realisations. The FPOs are also being enabled to upload produce for selling from their own premises, even as the first farmgate-level transactions through e-NAM have taken place from Solan in Himachal Pradesh. In addition, new features relating to assaying have been incorporated, such as 360 degree image-capturing of commodity heaps through e-NAM mobile app and uploading of 2D images of laboratory-cum-equipment, for building trader confidence.

On the anvil are also plans to integrate 415 new *mandis* with e-NAM (taking the total to 1,000), inter-operability with other e-trading platforms (such as Rashtriya e-Market Services in Karnataka) and setting up an institutional mechanism for inter-state trade licensing and dispute settlement.

With all these measures, e-NAM would be fully able to achieve the vision of "One Nation One Market" for Indian farmers. e-NAM has the potential to be their true "*inam* (reward)".

The writer is Special Secretary in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Government of India

CROSSWORD 3986



ACROSS
1 Right-o, darling (4,4)
5 Didactic moralist in sprightly form (4)
9 It was ground in the gutter (5)
10 Crack mountaineers will be familiar with it (7)
11 Headlamp? (7,5)
13 Move it around for a purpose (6)
14 Confine one after another, we hear (6)
17 I am involved in a new translation of a passage (12)
20 Conrad's whirlwind romance? (7)
21 Girl's name provided or I am upset (5)
22 Drop woman a note (4)
23 Exhausted and insensitive to rhythm (4,4)

Down
1 Put one's foot down (4)
2 An application for outside relief (7)
3 Not a short class in arithmetic (4,8)
4 Empty one container into another (6)
6 Regretting having to destroy a note (5)
7 Tearful Scottish scene we get on a Christmas card (8)
8 Remind fellow to be very knowledgeable (4-8)
12 Copies I revise at times (8)
15 Subject to investigation (7)
16 Attitude a driver may take, of course (6)
18 Quite enough maple syrup! (5)
19 Continue after all others (4)

Solutions Crossword 3985: Across: 1 Righteous, 8 Aspic, 9 Adjudge, 10 Bertha, 11 Past it, 12 Economic, 15 Evidence, 18 Reeled, 20 Tonics, 21 Top hats, 22 Gleam, 23 Predators. **Down:** 2 India, 3 Haunts, 4 Eighteen, 5 Sateen, 6 Epitome, 7 Scratched, 11 Parentage, 13 Overload, 14 Pioneer, 16 Encamp, 17 Red-hot, 19 Enter.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis

CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson

MARVIN by Tom Armstrong

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Family relationships are under the spotlight and domestic conditions are in a state of some uncertainty. You're under definite pressure to improve your living standards, perhaps by making a firm and final break with the people and places of the past.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
The financial picture is confusing. It's very much up to how you play your cards as to whether you make massive gains or incur a large loss, so be very careful and stick to tried and tested methods. You're in a strong position, by the way, so you should have the confidence to pursue your personal goals.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Allow yourself the odd theatrical outburst. The general trend today is for people to say what they want, when they want, with a minimum of thought. I can see no reason why you shouldn't take the lead. You can also, if you wish, seize the moral high ground.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Today's lunar aspects will bring stressful conditions, mainly because you've got to make up your mind and choose between sharply different options. Yet, unlike some of your close friends, you may feel your energy lifted by a surge of emotional power. You may actually be in an optimistic mood.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
If you don't take steps voluntarily to resolve a financial question, you will be literally pushed into taking emergency action by today's dramatic lunar movements. The costs could be high, but the emotional toll could be higher. That's why you've got to be easy on yourself.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
You may have to revise plans to take a trip, or reassess the value of an overseas connection. Among the important considerations will be the question of whether a certain personal desire fits in with your higher principles. This is a roundabout way of saying that you might have to compromise.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
It seems inevitable that the coming days will be dominated by concerns of both a private and a professional nature, and you may feel caught on the horns of a dilemma, unsure where to turn. I suspect that the best course is to wait while events take their course and partners work out what they want.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
In spite of the fact that you're generally known as a cautious person, you have a surprising tendency to waste your money. There seems little doubt that your mood over the coming few days will be extravagant and self-indulgent, and your secret plans could cost more than you expected.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
If you're looking forward to a quiet weekend, forget it. Even if you're feeling fine, people in your immediate circle will be going through a period of doubt and uncertainty. Offer a shoulder to cry on and provide support for partners who have backed you in the past.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
What a moment this is. Hard work helps you overcome all restrictions. You may be feeling out of sorts, but only if you over-estimate the obstacles in your path. Actually, this is a good time to reassess your current responsibilities, perhaps with the aim of dropping some of them.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
Domestic questions are highlighted by today's lunar alignments and seem likely to bring a burst of enthusiasm for change. Somehow work and family are linked, but the connections may not be at all clear. At least, not until next week.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
Extra money could be arriving in your pockets quite soon, and you'll come to realise the advantages of teaming up with partners in profitable ventures. Your romantic life will be in a state of flux and you'll be driven by your deepest and most secret fantasies.

JUMBLED WORDS

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

Everything else you grow out of, but you never recover from ____.
- Beryl Bainbridge (9)

FLIOO

CLUYDD

EEHCL

RSTUHH

SOLUTION: FOLIO, LEECH, CUDDLY, THRUSH
Answer: Everything else you grow out of, but you never recover from **childhood**.
- Beryl Bainbridge

SUDOKU 4057

Difficulty Level 3s
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

	7		6		5			
					3			9
	9	5					8	
	3				9	5		4
6		2	4				1	
	2					8	3	
1			5					
			7		6		4	

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4056

2	7	9	5	6	1	3	4	8
8	4	6	3	2	9	5	1	7
5	1	3	7	4	8	9	6	2
1	6	2	4	5	3	8	7	9
4	5	8	1	9	7	2	3	6
3	9	7	2	8	6	1	5	4
7	3	4	8	1	2	6	9	5
9	8	1	6	7	5	4	2	3
6	2	5	9	3	4	7	8	1

NOTICE BOARD EDUCATION

CELEBRATIONS, EVENTS, APPOINTMENTS, HONOURS

HEPATITIS DAY- AMITY

To spread awareness regarding healthy liver and make India a Hepatitis-free nation, ILBS, New Delhi, under the patronage of Govt of NCT of Delhi,organised 22nd Hepatitis Day on the theme "Health through Liver" at ILBS, New Delhi. Like every year, Hepatitis Day was organised with the aim to raise awareness about Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, prevention of new infections and how to improve health outcomes of people living with Hepatitis B and C. Satyendra Jain, Minister for Home, Health and Industries, Delhi, inaugurated the art exhibition, showcasing artworks that humorously depicted the plight of the liver in the body.

CEREMONY- SPRINGDALES

The 64th Annual Award Giving Ceremony took place at Springdales School,Pusa Road recently. Over 300 students presented a dramatic performance commemorating 150 years of Gandhi titled, 'Gandhi keChinh- KalAajAurKal'. The Award Ceremony was presided over by Dr SY Quraishi, former Chief Election Commissioner and Akriti Kakar, renowned Bollywood singer and former Springdalian.

ACHIEVEMENT-AAFT

AAFT student, Vridhi Jain has won the title of Miss Teen Universe Asia 2019 at Mexico. Speaking on her achievement, Dr Sandeep Marwah, Chairman of the Asian Academy of Film and Television (AAFT), said, "We are proud of Vridhi Jain for her achievements and wish her all the success in life. I can happily say that Miss Teen Universe Asia 2019 Vridhi Jain has not only elevated the name of AAFT by winning this title but has brought laurels to the country also."

ANNUAL EVENT- SUNSHINE SOCIETY

Sunshine Society, an ngo for children and senior citizen, organized its 7th Annual event recently, on the theme "Celebrating Togetherness" with children, parents, teachers, elders, sponsors, guests, corporates & the team of sunshine intermingling with each other. The function saw a gathering of more than 500 people. The annual event started with sponsor-child meet where the sponsors & children came together & spent time understanding & bonding with each other. The cultural programs were an eye-opener with kid's dances on themes like banning plastic, yoga for health, himmataurdisha, love you zindagi, dance for fun & a play on "Road accident victim".

LAUNCH-STEPAPP

Amitabh Bachchan gave a clarion call of 'Apna Kal Khud Banao' to students as India's first-of-its-kind Gamified Learning Ed-Tech app, STEPapp was unveiled with an aim to revolutionize K-12 education in the country. STEPapp's vision is to provide universal access to quality education to every child in the country via technology. And this app is the first step in STEPapp's mission to create a bank of meritorious children for the country, removing the barriers of social, economic, gender, region and learning inequity. The app works on the most basic smartphone with minimal data requirement. The pricing is such that it is accessible to most people in India.STEPapp was unveiled in Mumbai by Praveen Tyagi (MD, PACE IIT & Medical; and Founder CEO, Eduisfun Technologies) in the presence of distinguished academicians and corporate honchos.

SESSION-BILLABONG HIGH INT'L SCHOOL

To foster the skills of listening, reading & to revive the dying culture of storytelling, the renowned author & storyteller, Anupa Lal was invited to Billabong High International School, Noida, for a storytelling session with the learners of grades 4-8. It was an interesting & interactive storytelling session by Lal using creative gestures, facial expressions & effective child-friendly approach. The learners asked her a plethora of questions which she happily answered.

CONFERENCE-ICAI

ICAI recently organised a 2-day International Conference at Mumbai to dwell deeper into emerging paradigm of Accountancy Profession and bring the Indian and global perspective together on issues that are of contemporary relevance while ensuring continuous professional development of its members.Padma Shri CA (Dr) TN Manoharan, Past President, ICAI & Alan Johnson, Deputy President, IFAC, CA. Prafulla P. Chhajed, President, CA. AK Gupta, VP, Central & Regional Council Members of ICAI were present during the inauguration of the Conference.

SCIENCE EXHIBITION- DPGITM

DPGITM sector-34, Gurugram, hosted a 2-day science exhibition titled "Aayam 2019" aimed at providing a common platform to various schools, teachers & students to exhibit their innovative ideas &learn from a gamut of science enthusiasts present under one roof. 97 innovative projects & models were displayed in the exhibition. Eminent &distinguished professors of IIT, Delhi Dr KK Chaudhary & Dr. Lajpat Rai were chief guests of the exhibition. Principal of DPGITM Dr Prahlad Singh introduced the schedule of the exhibition in his opening speech. Appreciating the grand festival, Prof. Rai asserted that this will help the students to work for the Nation-Building.

HONOUR- ITS GROUP OF INSTITUTION

ITS Group of Institution's ED, Dr Vikas Singh has been named as one of the top 50 Distinguished Educators in higher education in India. Singh, who is an Higher Education Expert & is Experienced in Establishment & Growth of Multi-discipline Universities, has joined the likes of UGC Chairman Prof DP Singh & AICTE Chairman Dr Vinay Shasrabuddhe in the coveted list which gets thousands of nominations from across the country. Dr Vikas Singh was named for the honour after uLektz Wall of Fame announced "Top 50 Distinguished Educators in higher education across India" for 2019. The initiative is split into two categories: "Top 50 Distinguished Educators in higher education across India" for 2019 & "Most Promising Educators in higher education across India" for 2019.

CONFERENCE-IMS, GHAZIABAD

IMS Ghaziabad organized its grand International Conference on 'Marketing in the Digital World: Impact on the Indian Economy' in academic collaboration with the University of Fredericton, Canada. The conference was jointly inaugurated by the Chief Guest Don Roy, The President, The University of Fredericton, Canada; VP-Academics. UFred, Canada; Amit Agnihotri, Chairman – MBA Universe, New Delhi; Prof. Alok Pandey, Director – IMS, Ghaziabad; Jonas Sandermoen, Dir, UFred, Canada; & Sheri Mckillop.The objective of this conference was to provide a common platform to academicians, researchers & business executives to exchange their knowledge & experiences.

GLBIMR The Institute is organizing Management Development Program (MDP) on "Big Data Analytics: Leveraging through Data Visualization" on Dec 21, 2019, at GLBIMR Campus. The MDP aims to enhance the knowledge of professionals about the importance of Big Data analytics in making more informed strategic and tactical decisions for sustainable business growth. The 1-day MDP will equip the participants with Big Data analytics tools for sorting and analyzing structured and unstructured data in real-time with hands-on experience. Nitin Sethi (Data Scientist, McKinsey & Company) & Vikram Kumar (Head-Business Intelligence Unit at SBI CAP Securities Ltd.) are invited as the Resource Persons. The event will have participation from Industry, Consulting organizations as well as Big Data enthusiasts.

IGNOU'S School of Management Studies has launched Work-based Bachelor of Business Administration (Services Management) Programme in collaboration with MKCL from January, 2020 Admission Cycle. The programme shall be on offer through ODL mode. The Students of this programme are required to be working in an organization offering a real-life work-experience to them in various entry-level roles in any of the service sectors during the entire minimum period of the programme (i.e. 3 years). The focus of this programme is on the ability enhancement & work-based learning and to make students employable. This programme is in the form of eLearning supported workplace provided by the industry partner wherein the learners get an intensive exposure, experience &practical skills under the guidance of mentor(s). It is an innovative learning programme which blends the work environment & learning environment.
In order to qualify for admission to this programme the applicant should have passed 10+2 or equivalent qualification from a recognized institution as on 1st January, 2020. The candidates must have attained at least 18 years of age, as on 1st January, 2020. They should have passed the entrance examination conducted for the purpose of admission to this programme. The candidate should be working / willing to work in services industry as a full-time Intern / Apprentice/ Employee.

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - III, DELHI
4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001.
Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules), 1993)
OA No. 424/2016/DRT-III
ICICI BANK LTD. ..... Applicant VERSUS
SRI PANDOKHAR LOGISTICS & ORS..... Defendants
To,
D-1, Sri Pandokhar Logistics (Borrowe) having its office at: B-27, Johnipur Extn., Gali No.2, Delhi -110094 through its Partners
D-2 Rajeev Kumar Gupta S/o. Sh. Ram Krishan Gupta, (Co-Borrower & Partner) R/o. B-116/11, B-Block, Johnipur Extension, Delhi -110094
D-3 Nitin Bansal S/o. Sh. Krishan Gopal (Partner) R/o A-33/6, Gali No. 1, Johnipur Extn., Near Mother Dairy, Delhi -110094
D-4 Vikas Babu S/o. Sh. Jwala Prasad (Partner) R/o. Panch Nagri, Sasni Gate, Aligarh, U.P.
Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 13/12/2019 at 10.30 A.M.
Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 23rd day of Nov., 2019.
Seal
By Order of the Tribunal
Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि.

अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (ई-निविदा) अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा दो भागों में प्रतिष्ठित एवं योग्य कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से निम्न कार्य हेतु निविदा शुल्क/ धरोहर धनराशि दिनांक 28.12.2019 तक ऑनलाईन पोर्टल पर प्राप्त की जायेगी एवं ई-निविदा दिनांक 30.12.2019 को अपरान्ह 1.00 बजे तक ई-टेन्डर पोर्टल पर प्राप्त कर प्रथम भाग अपरान्ह 4.00 बजे से खोला जायेगा। (1) **नि.वि.सं. 81/2019-20:-** मुख्य अभियन्ता (वितरण) जानपद क्षेत्र, 64 खम्बा बाई पास रोड सिकन्दरा आगरा 02 नं. अकुशल श्रमिक बाह्य ऐजेन्सी से रखने का कार्य। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये **www.dvvnl.org** एवं **http://etender.up.nic.in** पर देखें। हैल्प लाईन- 1800-180-3023 **हस्ता./- अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत जनपद मण्डल (वितरण) 64-खम्बा, सिकन्दरा, आगरा-7**
पत्रांक 6272/ वि.जा.म. (वि.)/ आ.टी-2
दिनांक: 11/12/2019

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION-I, U.P. JAL NIGAM, RAEBARELI
No. 3066/G-6/27
Date : 9/12/2019
SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE
The undersigned on behalf of the Chairman, U.P. Jal Nigam invites bids in electronic **PERCENTAGE** tendering system for execution of proposed **Gandhavi G.O.V. Reorganization Water Supply Scheme** in District Raebareli on Turn Key basis under NRDWSP programme up to **23-12-2019 till 14.00 hrs.** The details for submission of e-bids will be available in the tender document on the UP Govt's e-procurement website https://etender.up.nic.in from **13-12-2019 to 23-12-2019 till 14:00 hrs.**
The technical part of e-bids will be **opened on 23-12-2019 at 17:00 Hrs.** in the office of Executive Engineer, Construction Division-I, U.P. Jal Nigam, Raebareli. The cost of Bid Document is **Rs. 3,000.00 + 18% G.S.T. extra.** The e-notice can also be viewed on the official website www.jn.upsdc.gov.in.
ALL THE MODIFICATIONS/ CORRIGENDUM HEREAFTER WILL BE PUBLISHED ONLY ON THE E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL

ALONE AND HOW

Archie Yates will be the lead actor in the *Home Alone* reboot film. Ellie Kemper and Rob Delaney will play the role of his parents. The reboot of the 1990 hit film franchise is being directed by Dan Mazer.

Getty Images

The Story of the Humble Bulb

As India tackles another onion price crisis, we trace its history of cultivation over 5,000 years and its inextricable link with the caste system in India

KAUSHIK DAS GUPTA

ONIONS ARE known to be amongst the earliest food items cultivated by humankind. It has been cultivated for more than 5,000 years and there are doubts as to whether today it exists as a wild species. The exact place of the origin of the vegetable is not clear and researchers have ascribed onions to a region stretching from northwest India, parts of modern day Pakistan and Afghanistan in the west to parts of China and Central Asia in the northeast. One of the earliest recorded history of the vegetable dates back to the 4th BCE when labourers working on the famous pyramids in Egypt were fed onions to keep them in good strength. The Romans are known to have introduced the vegetable to different parts of Europe.

But the ancient world also had an ambivalent relationship to onions. In ancient Mesopotamia, writes the cultural geographer Fredrick J Simoons in *Plants of Life, Plants of Death*, though leeks and onions were freely eaten, they were banned in certain times of the year, especially during ritual occasions. Their pungent smells, propensity to introduce certain "baser sentiments" and supposedly aphrodisiac attributes gave the onions bad press in several parts of the world, including India.

But much of the onion story in India is inextricable with the caste system and gender-related restrictions. As the anthropologist Arjun Appadurai writes in a 1988 article in the *Journal of the Comparative Study of Society and History*, 'How to make a national cuisine, Cookbooks in Contemporary India', "Food taboos and prescriptions divide men from women, gods from humans, upper from lower castes, one sect from another". Widows were especially prohibited from consuming onions. In early India, writes Simoons, onion "was banned to Brahmins and other respectable castes" who had to perform penance for violations. In the laws of Manu, notes the cultural geographer, onions, garlic and leek are unsuited for "eating by twice-born men". The Vedic texts carry no mention of the onion. The moral dictums of the caste system played a big role in the rules of commensality and which food found a place within the folds of respectability. The 5th Century AD Chinese traveller to India, Fa Hsien writes in his memoirs "except for those who were scorned, few ate onions".

It is not difficult to locate who were the ones scorned. In the laws of Manu, writes Simoons, "onions and garlic emerge from unclean things, which mean should a person eat them, he would be deemed an outcast." Fa Hsien's fellow countryman Hieun Tsang, who visited India about two centuries later, almost mirrors his predecessor's observation on onions. "Very few people eat them. If anyone uses them for food, they are expelled beyond the walls of the town".

Their pungent smells, propensity to introduce certain "baser sentiments" and supposedly aphrodisiac attributes gave the onions bad press in several parts of the world

Some ancient medicinal texts, however, acknowledge the benefits of onions. The *Charaka Samhita*, compiled between 2nd BCE and 3rd Century AD — and possibly contains wisdom from earlier era — extols the digestive properties of the onion. "The consumption of onion makes the man healthy, stout and energetic, his voice turns melodious and his skin becomes lustrous," it notes, quoting a saying from an earlier age.

But moral prescriptions on food are often complicated by actual practices. The *Manasollasa* (literally refresher of the mind), one of the earliest Indian texts to pay attention to cooking, contains the usual proscriptions on onions. The writer, the Chalukyan king, Someswara, asks "kings to abstain from eating chicken, radish, garlic and onions". Nevertheless, onions find a place in more than one recipe in the 12th-13th century text. "Pieces of meat are mixed with a paste of gram, grounded with spices and fried. To this are added tender hyacinth beans, onion and garlic," notes one recipe.

Ibn Batuta, who visited India about a century after the *Manasollasa* was composed, notes in his *Rihla* that a favourite dish of the Muslim community in Kerala's Malabar region was a lamb dish that had grated coconut and onion. The vegetable also finds a place in his mention of the royal meal. The Tughlak emperor, writes Batuta, "ate bread, which is thin round cakes, meat cooked with ghee, onions and green ginger, sambusak or triangular pastries made of hashed meat and cooked with almonds, pistachios, onions and spices put inside a piece of thin bread fried in ghee".

In *Curry, A Global History*, food historian Lizzie Collingham writes, "By the time Babur conquered Hindustan, vegetarianism had become a powerful statement of one's position in Indian society... Orthodox Brahmins avoided all foods which were thought to stimulate the passions. These included meat, onions and garlic."

The onions seem to have come into their own in upper class cuisine during the Mughal age. The rice and meat dishes, kababs and kormas that became the hallmark of culinary culture of the court and the upper classes, were laced with onions. So did the Rajput cuisine of roast meats.

But what about the taboos on onion? Collingham has a vivid account. "Prakash Tandon observed the breakdown of caste restrictions in his own Punjabi Khatri family. Tandon's father was a member of the educated Indian middle class. Tandon's mother was a strict vegetarian, consequently her food was cooked separately. While she did not mind onions entering the kitchen, meat and fish were kept separately".

Mahatma Gandhi's writings have several references to onions as food for common people. In fact one of his earliest satyagrahas, in Kheda, was associated with onions. In his autobiography, *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*, the Mahatma writes that when the colonial state attached the properties of the Gujarat agriculturists, he asked them to "harvest their onion crops from fields which were wrongly attached".

Gandhi, a Vaishnav himself, did not grow up an onion eater. But in England he took to the vegetable with gusto. He gave up onions in South Africa, only to advocate them for nutritive purposes on his return. In 1936, he wrote what many Indians think today, "I don't know what the poor man will do without onions and garlic." (*Mahatma Gandhi, Collected Works, Volume 69*).

People dining at Pahalwan Dhaba; (below) onions being chopped at the dhaba *Gajendra Yadav*

Inside the Kitchens of Murthal

How the dhabas, which put Murthal on the paratha map of India, are dealing with the crunch

POOJA PILLAI

ON THE stretch of National Highway 1 which passes through Murthal in Haryana are over two dozen dhabas — both big and small. These popular rest stops started out catering to truckers, providing hearty, if simple, meals of parathas and dals, as well as cots on which their customers could rest. Since the 1980s, however, many have grown into restaurants that cater increasingly to customers who come from nearby Sonepat and even Delhi, just to sample the dhabas' famous tandoor parathas with white butter.

At noon on a Tuesday, the parking lot of one of the more popular eateries, Pahalwan Dhaba, is already full. Inside, bowls of sirka pyaaz (onions in vinegar) are on each table, along with green chillies and pickles. Platters of parathas, dals and other dishes emerge from the kitchen in a steady stream.

In a room behind the kitchen, surrounded by sacks of potatoes and seasonal vegetables like cauliflower and radish, two young men seated on chairs pull out onions from sacks piled in one corner and chop them into a large plastic container. These, we are told, will be used as tempering for some dishes, while many more will be boiled and then ground to a paste. The onions are chopped fresh, based on the dishes being ordered at the restaurant.

Many years ago, when the price of onions had shot up dramatically, the dhaba had tried to cut back on the use of this staple in its kitchen. "Nothing tasted the same," recalls Sudesh Sandhu who, along with her husband, owner Dayanand, runs the eatery. "Since then we decided that should the price of onions skyrocket again, we will still use as many as we usually do. Our customers come here for the taste, and if it eats into our profit for now, it's okay. We can make it up when the price drops, which it is sure to," she says.

Onions are currently selling for about Rs 90 per kg. On an average, Sandhu informs, Pahalwan Dhaba uses about 250-300 kilos of onions every day: this includes the onions used to make aloo-pyaaz and pyaaz parathas as well as the ones that are sliced and served raw as part of the salad or are preserved in vinegar. The bulk of the onions, however, go into the curries. Sandhu explains, "Our reputation is built on the taste of our food. And tomatoes and onions form the base of almost every curry that we serve here. If you reduce the proportion of onions in anything, the taste changes noticeably and that's not something we're willing to risk."

Pahalwan Dhaba, which has been around for more than three decades, does enough business annually to be able to absorb the cost of not letting onion prices affect customer experience. Sandhu says that smaller or newer eateries in the area haven't been able to do the same, with many substituting onions with daikon radish in the salads. One of these is the three-year-old Shiva Dhaba. While owner Pradeep Arya isn't able to offer an estimate of the dhaba kitchen's average per day onion usage, he says that in the past few weeks, the soaring prices have forced them to cut back by an estimated 30 to 35 per cent. "We've stopped serving free onions at the tables. We're now charging Rs 40 per serving. Of course, we understand that customers expect it to be served for free along with the pickles and chillies, but at this point, the cost is simply not something that we can bear," he says.

SNAP SHOTS

On a Roll

SESAME STREET has become the first television series to receive the Kennedy Center Honors. At the ceremony in Washington DC, performers and producers of the series and their puppets wore yellow feathers in memory of Caroll Spinney, who brought the characters Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch to life. Singer Linda Ronstadt, actor Sally Field, conductor Michael Tilson Thomas and music group Earth, Wind & Fire were this year's other honorees.

Top of the Pops

BRITISH SINGER-SONGWRITER Ed Sheeran has been named UK's Official Number 1 Artist of the Decade by the Official Charts Company. Sheeran's global hit *Shape of You* — which topped the charts for 14 weeks in 2017 — was named Song of the Decade. The four-time Grammy Award winner also won the Chart Record Breaker Award. Paul McCartney and Justin Bieber have been the previous recipients of the award.

For a Word

In its fifth edition, the Kerala Literature Festival will focus on environment

DIVYA A

THE FIFTH edition of the Kerala Literature Festival (KLF) will be held from January 16 to 19, 2020, in Kozhikode. A curtain-raiser for the event was held in the Capital on Tuesday evening at the residence of author and Thiruvananthapuram MP Shashi Tharoor, who said "the state had taken a lead in setting high standards for the written word".

The focus theme for KLF 2020 is environment and climate change. Festival Director K Satchidanandan said, "Gandhi and environment, the Gadgil Report in the context of Kerala's floods, organic agriculture and the impact of rock mining, deforestation and sand mining on our environment are some of the themes that will be taken up for analysis and debate."

To take place by the beaches of Kozhikode, this year's edition of the festival has Spain as the guest country, to be represented by a team of 20 artists, writers and journalists. The Indian language in focus is Tamil. "We have five participants from China, and others from the UK, Slovenia, Egypt, Ireland, South Africa, Sri Lanka and India," said Ravi Deecee, Chief Facilitator of KLF.

The fifth edition will introduce two new initiatives: the KLF Literature Awards in the categories of Fiction, Non Fiction, Popular Science, Travel and a grand prize for the Best Book in Malayalam; and the Vagamon Residency, a fully supported residency for writers and artists, which begins in April.

Besides topics related to the environment, other important sessions comprise debates and discussions on Islam and Women, the entry of women in Sabarimala, the Ayodhya Verdict, the emergence of community dialects and tribal tongues as literary languages, said Satchidanandan.

Shashi Tharoor at the event in Delhi

The list of speakers include experimental musicians Francisco Lopez and Angel Lopez from Spain, artiste TM Krishna, authors Krishna Ramanujan, Perumal Murugan and Manu Pillai, and historians William Dalrymple and Tony Joseph. Environmentalists Madhav Gadgil and Vandana Shiva, sculptor Subodh Kerkar, poets Cheran, S Patmanathan (Sri Lanka) and Chris Agee (Ireland) will also be present. The evening gigs include Carnatic concerts, rock performances and a Flamenco performance by Spanish artistes.

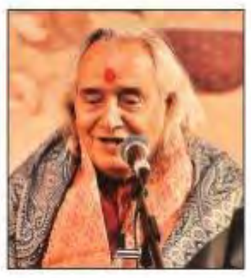
Notes From the Past

A festival brought to the fore the 200-year-old musical legacy of Hariharpur

Musicians from Hariharpur at the concert; (below) Pt Chhannulal Mishra

SUANSHU KHURANA

NAJARIYA LAG jayegi, mere kanha ko koi mat dekho... this age-old dazzling dadra in Khamaj, thumri's favourite raga, made an appearance at at Delhi's ML Bharatiya auditorium on popular demand last week. Seven students from Hariharpur, a sleepy little village about five km from Azamgarh in UP, sat on a stage amidst a small gathering, mostly of connoisseurs of classical music, and sang a rather interesting rendition of this dadra, which is also sung as a 'badhaiya' at weddings in UP. The rendition wasn't masterful, but also not extremely far from skillful. This was followed by a 'tabla yatra' — a performance by seven percussionists, led by Suraj Mishra. He led the group through the mathematical intricacies of rhythm and presented peshkaar, qaida, rela and chakradhaar — compositional forms in tabla. The enthusiasm was infectious. The students wanted to present all that they had mastered, but for many years had not found the opportunity to.



Hariharpur is an indistinct village with a rather distinct legacy. It has produced many generations of great musicians, and has been home to Pt Chhannulal Mishra, Pt Gudai Maharaj, Pt Sarda Sahay and Pt Birju Maharaj, among others. With such a vast presence of so many musicians in a village, where it is a norm for all Brahmin families to train in Hindustani classical music, Hariharpur gharana came into being. An off-shoot of the famed Banaras gharana, Hariharpur also has its own tradition of "purabi gayaki".

"It was very interesting to see young children, 10-11 years old, doing early morning riyaaz. But in the last few years, things have changed drastically," says SK Mishra, Chairperson of Indian Trust for Rural Heritage and Development (ITRHD) and former chairman of INTACH.

According to Delhi-based cultural impresario Anita Singh, Chairperson of Indian Music Society and a trustee with ITRHD, "There were hardly any concert options, so those who learned from their families began performing at weddings to earn livelihood." This disheartened many and led some to leave music to look at more lucrative career options.

Mishra says that his work at INTACH was urban-oriented but he was keen to look at the rural sector. So after a friend mentioned the village, he decided to visit Hariharpur seven years ago, and was taken by the passion that he saw and decided to support the village. ITRHD has been instrumental in reintroducing music to Hariharpur through various mediums. A guru from Chhapra, Pt Ram Prakash, is regularly sent to Hariharpur to teach students, and some students travel to Lucknow to learn at the university. During the school holidays, for six weeks, some of them are sent to Banaras to learn the art of playing sarangi from Pt Kanhaiya Lal Mishra and ITRHD funds the same. Mishra, along with his team, has also started a music academy in the village. He has been presenting the students at festivals in Azamgarh, Lucknow and Delhi. "This is a way to give an identity to these students and also to the Hariharpur gharana," says Mishra.

While the students performed, one of the most popular names to come out of Hariharpur, Pt Chhannulal Mishra, sat in the wings and smiled as he heard the renditions. In his performance later, he took one through a gamut of thumris and bhajans. "It all began in Hariharpur for him too," says Singh.

SMITH GETS ROLE

South Africa have named Graeme Smith as acting director of cricket for a three-month period, which covers England's tour of the country starting later this month, before he takes up a commentary role at the IPL.

Five-course meal before lunch

Prithvi Shaw hits century before break, goes on to make 202 to stamp class in first major knock since comeback following dope ban

DEVENDRA PANDEY
VADODARA, DECEMBER 11

The longest wait is often the sweetest too. Prithvi Shaw had never waited this long — precisely 463 days — between his first-class hundreds. Or any hundreds for that matter since his adolescent days at age-group cricket, scoring heavily at each entry.

The last was on his Test debut, against West Indies in Rajkot. The latest arrived on Wednesday, a shellacking double hundred against Baroda, his first at this level, and more importantly a stinging statement that the forced layoff from the game has only reinvigorated his desire and motivation to reclaim his Test stripes.

The 202 off 179 deliveries was as destructively freewheeling as it could get, Sehwagian in tempo and audacity, besides its game-changing dimension.

When Shams Mulani wrapped up Baroda for 307, three overs into the day, it seemed Mumbai would be content with the 124-run first-innings lead. Most sides would have settled for it, in their season opener. But not a rejuvenated Mumbai.

Not a pumped-up Shaw.

He began in blistering fashion, tearing the new-ball operators apart to all parts of the leafy ground. Baroda chopped and changed their bowlers around and set different fields but Shaw was unstoppable. Just before they parted for lunch, he slog-swept Krunal Pandya to complete his ninth first-class century. Off merely 84 balls. The scoring rate shouldn't surprise, it's the way Shaw has always approached the game.

But it's after his hundred that he tends to become over-adventurous, a reason he had yet to complete a double century. So he was relatively watchful in the second session, consuming 62 balls (brisk for most batsmen but not Shaw) to complete his 150.

Later in the day, Shaw revealed he was determined to put a prize on his wicket. Shaw wanted to be better than before —he knew the values of converting hundreds to double hundreds, to let the big scores do the talking. And then he broke loose — taking only 28 more deliveries to complete his maiden double hundred.

The thought of a double hundred hardly crossed his mind, until he was well past his 150. "It (200) was never on my mind. I was trying to score runs. That's it. But as I got closer to 200 runs I thought it's a time to grab it. People do score hundreds, not that it's easy to score hundreds, but I felt *kuch bada karna padega,"* Shaw told *The Indian Express.*

It might not have been so much the thoughts of returning to the national side that might have spurred him on, as all the pent-up frustration that had accumulated in his mind during his ban tenure. The six months was the longest he ever had stayed away from the game. It was difficult. Since the schooldays, his life had shuttled between home and a cricket ground. And now he couldn't even play in a park in Mumbai.

He still remembers the day he was informed about the failed dope test — self-admittedly due to the contents of cough syrup. He was in Bangalore and it took days for the news to sink in.

He remembered how he and his father were disturbed when the news broke in "*Sab log ke he sawal pochte tha. Kya hua, Kaise hua.* I was not feeling nice within. *Mujhe kisiko moo bhi dekhane ko acha lag nani raha tha,*" he recalls.

Shaw's father advised him to move abroad and spent some time away from the game. The latter he did reluctantly. He went to Manchester, spent the first week sightseeing before he began light gym-work. The trip was a blessing in disguise, he says.

He came back rejuvenated for the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, wherein he reeled out one half-century after the other. He was confident of translating the form to red-ball cricket too. And he did with a breezy half-century in the first innings and a double in the second.

His celebration was muted when he reached his double hundred.

"I waited for this day," he said. Maybe, indirectly, the ban was an eye-opener for him, in terms of gaining maturity and determination. "I feel this is the best time to show the world what kind of game I have. I believe I can do well and conquer things," he said.

Similar knocks could fuel his comeback bid. He could be in the fray for the third opener's slot for the New Zealand trip and he admits to nursing such thoughts. "To be honest I do think about the India comeback. I wasn't dropped and I was out of the team. It was not a nice feeling."

What Shaw began, Jay Bista sustained and Suryakumar Yadav continued. Bista impressed with 68 off 89 balls before Yadav helped himself to a 70-ball 102 before Mumbai declared on 409/4, setting Baroda a target of 534. With the hosts reeling at 74/3, Mumbai would be already sniffing blood. And Shaw would believe that the double century was well worth the wait. For the longest wait is often the sweetest too.

BRIEF SCORES: Mumbai 431 and 409/4 declared (Prithvi Shaw 202, Suryakumar Yadav 102) lead Baroda 307 and 74/3 (Viraj Bhosale 41; Shams Mulani 28/2) by 460 runs.

Prithvi Shaw on reaching his double hundred for Mumbai against Baroda on Wednesday. *Bhupendra Rana*

Mor stars again as Railways hold upper hand vs UP

DINESH MOR: 91 NOT OUT & 102.

VISHAL MENON
MEERUT, DECEMBER 11

WHEN THE likes of JP Yadav, Murali Karthik, Sanjay Bangar and Yere Goud were at their peak, Railways were a domestic superpower with a brace of Ranji and Irani Trophy titles each in their cabinet. The retirement of these stalwarts brought about a period of lull, and the team assembled in subsequent seasons couldn't replicate their predecessors' heady successes. 'Team in transition' was a term that would forever be attached to them.

But more than transition, Railways appeared to be in a state of perpetual flux. Sometime back, the selection panel decided to go in for a major overhaul - slacking seniors were shown the door making way for a bevy of fresh faces from the U-23 squad.

For their season-opener against Uttar Pradesh, a new-look Railways team was announced featuring three debutants. At the outset, it seemed a plan fraught with danger. But after three days of play, the selectors stand vindicated with each of them playing stellar roles in the team gaining the upper hand when stumps were drawn on Wednesday evening.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Dinesh Mor, who hit an impressive unbeaten 91, compiled his maiden first-class ton in the second essay, as Railways compiled 270 to set Uttar Pradesh a victory target of 349. Earlier, Mor's friend Himanshu Sangwan had prised out four crucial scalps to restrict Uttar Pradesh to a paltry 175 in the first innings, after Navneet Virk had made a courageous half-century on Day 1, and his partnership with Mor proved to be the cornerstone of the team's revival.

Selector Kulamani Parida earmarked Mor as a player for the future and explained that it's his hunger to play first-class cricket that brought out such mature performances. "He was not getting an opportunity to showcase his skills. He had been playing at the U-19 and U-23 levels for far too long. When he got an opportunity, he didn't let it go. He got hit on the stomach, on his right eyebrow, but never backed away. He has been the standout performer for us in this match," he explained.

A lot was riding on Mor when he walked out to bat with captain Karn Sharma on Wednesday. The Railways were in strife at 58/5 with a lead of just 136. Early wickets would have put the cat among the pigeons. But two factors worked in their favour. Firstly, the Victoria Park pitch, which had hitherto been a seamer's paradise, had flattened out. And Shivam Mavi, Uttar Pradesh's most potent pacer on view, was out with a stiff back.

To compound matters for the hosts, both Mor and Sharma survived a dropped chance each. Their 68-run sixth-wicket alliance helped Railways gain the upper hand. Even after Sharma's dismissal, Railways did not fold up. The lower order chipped in with vital contributions as Sangwan and Sangwan and Amit Mishra added 58 runs for the final wicket.

BRIEF SCORES: Railways 253 (Dinesh Mor 91 not out, Navneet Virk 58; Yash Dayal 5/47) & 273 (Mor 102; Shivam Mavi 4/19) vs U P 175 (Almas Shaukat 92 not out; Himanshu Sangwan 4/71) & 23/0.

Bilkul paka hua player hai, he has an evolved batting template

KIRAN MORE

JUST AFTER his ban got over, I got an opportunity to watch Prithvi Shaw bat. It was at the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy in Surat last month. There was no rustiness or lack of rhythm in his batting. His mindset was terrific. The ability to play strokes was for all to see.

After his innings, in which he scored a brilliant 50, I had a chat with him. I asked him why he didn't hit one particular bowler early despite the fact that he wasn't bowling well. He said "Sir, I could have hit him for three or four sixes but had I done that, they would have taken him off. I hit him later when the team wanted runs." That's how great players think. Prithvi is in a different league. Whenever I watch him, the young Sachin Tendulkar comes to my mind. This fearless brand of batting is common between the two.

Tendulkar, too, had the same ruthlessness. Prithvi's batting in the first session today was sensational. His hundred before lunch was very impressive. He stands out on the field, he is in a different class and a special talent.

People say he is gifted but I say he has worked really hard to hone his skills. All his life, he must have faced thousands and thousands of balls. Since a very early age, the only thing he has done, day and night, is play cricket, and bat.

Those long hours at the crease have programmed his mind. And that's the reason he judges the ball very early. Prithvi reads a bowler from his body language. Great players read a bowler's mind.

You look at him bat and you know that he is thinking ahead. That's how greats like Tendulkar, Brian Lara and Virender Sehwag batted, they pick line very early and are in position to hit the ball.

There are batsmen who pick the line and length once the bowler releases the ball, others play it off the pitch. But greats look for clues and pick the trajectory of the ball even before it is released. And that is the reason they know whether to move forward and backward. The other important aspect is his bat speed, bat swing and balance. He is a batsman with a very evolved template. *Bilkul paka hua player hai. (He is a finished product).* I look at him and think he is even good enough to face the bowling greats of the 1990s. It looks like the pitch doesn't matter to him. Even in this game, till the time he was batting, the pitch looked so easy.

His other quality is that he scores even off good balls. He doesn't need to wait for half-volleys. He has a way of turning good balls into bad balls. And he doesn't stop after hitting one shot. If he feels the second ball needs to be hit, he will go for it.

Like great batsmen, he plays with the bowler's mind. Even before the ball is bowled, these special players keep in mind their scoring areas.

They have the skills to manipulate the ball in those areas. They can pull this off because of their wrists and range of strokes. I have seen in so many games, players like Tendulkar and Lara force bowlers to change their line. That's what Shaw does. He is like a music conductor, a film director. You won't realise it but *woh game chalate hain (they control the game).* There are days when they will get out only when they make a mistake.

He always plays proper cricketing strokes. You will come across many players who have the tendency to play cross-batted shots once in a while but Shaw is always correct and shows grace in his batting. The other noticeable thing about great batsmen is the sweet sound of the ball hitting the bat. I hear that sound when Prithvi bats. He might have some off-field issues but if you are talking about cricket, he is too good. He should be picked in the Indian team right away. He is a player of a rare breed.

(More is a former chairman of selectors and India wicket-keeper. He spoke to ***Devendra Pandey****)*

RANJI ROUND-UP

JALAJ MARCHES ON

JALAJ SAXENA finished the last season with 551 runs and 28 wickets. The season before that, he had 522 runs and 44 scalps. But somehow, the MSK Prasad-led selection committee didn't consider him good enough for an India berth, even during their experiment overdrive in white-ball cricket. At 33 years of age, the spin-bowling all-rounder probably has missed the bus, but that hasn't lowered his motivation. On Wednesday, he almost single-handedly rolled over Delhi's batting with a six-wicket haul during their first innings. Delhi slumped to 142 all out and followed on. In the second innings, however, they made a strong start, finishing the day on 142/1. Then again, Delhi still need to score 241 runs to save the innings defeat. Saxena will surely fancy his chances on a fourth day pitch.

BRIEF SCORES (AT THUMBA): Kerala 525/9 decl. vs Delhi 142 (Jalaj Saxena 6/63) and 142/1 (Anuj Rawat 87)

SKILLFUL UNADKAT

Jaydev Unadkat is a different bowler in the winter, when there's moisture on the surface and nip in the air. As summer approaches, the left-arm seamer loses his sting and at times becomes pedestrian. But when conditions are favourable, Unadkat can be a match-winner. The game against Himachal Pradesh that Saurashtra won by five wickets on Wednesday, was a case in point. His nine-wicket match haul set up the win for his team. Saurashtra had a tricky chase in their second innings and although Cheteshwar Pujara, batting at No. 6, fell for 14, Prerak Mankad's 47 not out helped them get over the line.

BRIEF SCORES (AT DHARAMSALA): Himachal Pradesh 120 and 182 lost to Saurashtra 141 and 165/5 (Prerak Mankad 47 not out; Vaibhav Arora 3/57) by 5 wickets
POINTS: Saurashtra 6, Himachal Pradesh 0

J&K TO THE FORE

They had a troubled build-up to their Ranji Trophy campaign. But Jammu and Kashmir showed they have enough talent to overcome the odds, in an away fixture. Their 253-run victory against Uttarakhand came inside three days. Ram Dayal took a five-for in the second innings and took his match tally to nine wickets. Apart from Dikshanshu Negi, who made an unbeaten half-century, Uttarakhand batsmen surrendered to Jammu and Kashmir's relentless seam attack.

BRIEF SCORES (AT DEHRADUN): Jammu and Kashmir 182 & 304 beat Uttarakhand 84 and 149 (Dikshanshu Negi 55 not out; Ram Dayal 5/58) by 253 runs
POINTS: Jammu and Kashmir 6, Uttarakhand 0

VINAY ROLLS BACK THE YEARS

Pondicherry have brought in Vinay Kumar as an outstation professional and appointed J Arun Kumar as their coach because both have title-winning experience, as the former captain and coach of the Karnataka Ranji team respectively. Pondicherry made a roaring start to their campaign, securing a bonus point win. Vinay played a key part in the success with four wickets in the second innings. Given a victory target of 70, Pondicherry got there without losing a wicket.

BRIEF SCORES (AT PATNA): Bihar 173 and 196 (Vikash Ranjan 85 not out; Vinay Kumar 4/57) lost to Pondicherry 300 and 70/0 (Paras Dogra 42 not out) by 10 wickets
POINTS: Pondicherry 7, Bihar 0

SATISH'S CAREER-BEST

Ganesh Satish's career-best first-class score put Vidarbha in the driver's seat against Andhra. Resuming on overnight 113, Satish scored 237 off 397 balls, hitting 25 fours and five sixes. Although CV Stephen took a five-for for Andhra, the hosts are now chasing the game. Their captain Hanuma Vihari was dismissed for 27 in the second innings.

BRIEF SCORES (AT VIJAYAWADA): Andhra 211 and 100/2 vs Vidarbha 441 (Ganesh Satish 237; CV Stephen 5/110)

REX STARS IN MANIPUR WIN

Medium pacer Rex Singh's 10-wicket match haul helped Manipur secure a six-wicket win over Mizoram. Singh took two wickets in the second innings on the heels of his eight-for in the first.

BRIEF SCORES (AT KOLKATA): Mizoram 65 and 290 (KB Pawan 124; Rex Singh 2/49) lost to Manipur 289 and 69/4 by 6 wickets
POINTS: Manipur 6, Mizoram 0

YADAV'S SPIN PUNCH

Left-arm spinner Sanjay Yadav's 13-wicket match haul – nine scalps in the first innings – helped Meghalaya beat Nagaland by 110 runs.

BRIEF SCORES (AT SOVIMA): Meghalaya 285 and 142 (I Lemtur 6/54) beat Nagaland 136 and 181 (Sanjay Yadav 4/60) by 110 runs
POINTS: Meghalaya 6, Nagaland 0

KARTHIK KEEPS TN ALIVE

A century from Dinesh Karthik and two wickets in quick succession by Ravi Ashwin brought Tamil Nadu back into the game against Karnataka. Ashwin dismissed Pavan Deshpande and Shreyas Gopal in successive overs to reduce Karnataka to 59/5 in their second innings. Karnataka earlier had secured a 29-run first innings lead – K Gowtham bagging a six-for – and they finished Day Three on 89/5. Going into the final day, all three results are possible.

BRIEF SCORES (AT DINDIGUL): Karnataka 336 and 89/5 (R Ashwin 2/30) vs Tamil Nadu 307 (Dinesh Karthik 113; K Gowtham 6/110)

GURINDER SPINS A WEB

Left-arm spinner Gurinder Singh claimed six wickets for 50 runs as Chandigarh bowled out Arunachal Pradesh for 183 in 54.3 overs to win by an innings and 173 runs. It took Chandigarh only 9.3 overs on Wednesday to complete the win in their maiden Ranji Trophy game with Gurinder taking three wickets on the day and Shreshth Nirmohi scalping one. Rahul Dalal was the highest scorer for Arunachal with 81.

BRIEF SCORES (AT CHANDIGARH): Arunachal Pradesh : 147 & 183 all out in 54.3 overs (Rahul Dalal 81, Kamsha Yangfo 27, Doria 21, Gurinder Singh 6 for 50, Shreshth Nirmohi 3 for 38) lost to Chandigarh : 503 for 2 Decl) by an innings and 173 runs.
POINTS: Chandigarh 6, Arunachal 0

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BRIEFLY

Sindhu lost 18-21 21-18 21-8.

Sindhu loses to Yamaguchi

Guangzhou: PV Sindhu's poor run of form continued as she lost to Japan's Akane Yamaguchi for a dismal start to her title defence at the year-ending BWF World Tour Final here on Wednesday. Sindhu squandered an 11-6 lead in the second game to go down 18-21 21-18 21-8 in 68 minutes to former world no 1 Yamaguchi, who scripted a sensational comeback after losing the first game to claim her third successive win over the Indian. The 24-year-old Indian came into her campaign opener with a healthy 10-6 head-to-head record against Yamaguchi but she had lost to the Japanese in the last two meetings this year. The World No. 6 Sindhu will next face China's Chen Yu Fei in her second group A match on Thursday.

Bagan overwhelm TRAU FC 4-0

Kalyani: Kolkata giants Mohun Bagan registered their first victory of the 13th Hero I-League season, overwhelming debutants Tiddim Road Athletic Union (TRAU) FC of Manipur 4-0 at the Kalyani Municipality Stadium on Wednesday. The Mariners, who had picked up just one point from their first two outings, rode a Suhair VP goal sandwiched in between two Fran Gonzalez strikes and a 90th minute Subha Ghosh header to bring smiles on the faces of their adoring fans. Mohun Bagan now have four points from three games, while TRAU are yet to open their account after two away games.

Odisha inch closer to top half with win

Pune: A 10-man Odisha FC picked up their second win of the season as they overcame Hyderabad FC 3-2 in the Hero Indian Super League here on Wednesday. Carlos Delgado (27') and Xisco Hernandez (41') gave Odisha a first-half lead before Bobo (65') scored from the spot to set up a nervy finish to the game. After eight matches, Odisha are sixth on the table with nine points while Hyderabad are at the bottom with four points. On Thursday, Chennaiyin will look for their first away win when they take on NorthEast United in Guwahati.

Australian boxers to train in India

New Delhi: Indian boxers gearing up for the Olympic qualifiers in China will be training with their counterparts from Australia in Patiala from January 5 to 25 as part of their preparations, national men's coach CA Kuttappa told PTI. Australia accepted India's invitation to train in Patiala with Indian boxers in January ahead of the Olympic qualifiers in China scheduled to be held from February 3 to 14 in Wuhan, China. "We are expecting that the group will feature those who will be competing in the Olympic qualifiers," Kuttappa said after returning from the South Asian Games in Nepal where Indian boxers claimed 16 medals -- 12 gold, three silver and one bronze.

404 Rohit Sharma's sixes across formats, behind Chris Gayle (534) and Shahid Afridi (576).

241.37 Virat's Kohli's strike rate, his best ever in T20Is, bettering 236.6 vs NZ in Delhi (2016).

7 Kohli's sixes, his most in a T20I and the joint best in any format. Only once has he struck these many sixes in an international match—in an ODI against Australia in Jaipur (2013).

96 These many of India's runs came in sixes, which's 40 percent of the runs India scored at the Wankhede. Rohit hit 5, Rahul 4 and Kohli 7.

28 A total of 28 sixes (16 by India and 12 by West Indies) were struck in the match, the highest tally in a T20I match in the country.

Three Musketeers & a change of script

India's top three blast off from the start to orchestrate a gargantuan score, which turns out to be insurmountable for the Windies

CHARGE SHEET: Between them, Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul and Virat Kohli scored 232 runs, at nearly two runs per ball. *BCCI/PTI*

SRIRAM VEERA
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 11

IS INDIA finally beginning to have a go at the bowling from the start in T20s? The urgency shown by the top order at Wankhede Stadium was unmistakeable as KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma waded into the bowlers before Virat Kohli turned his swat-flick into an assault weapon to pulverise the West Indies. A cautious watcher would wait to see if India continue to show such intent if Rahul falls early.

It's clear that he is the chief enforcer in T20s as unlike a few others in the top order, he doesn't like to play the waiting game. What would have warmed the hearts though was Sharma too following a similar script and Kohli, choosing to come at No. 4 again, wasting no time in throwing his punches.

It all added up to India amassing a score of 240 for two in their 20 overs – a scoring rate of two runs per ball. If any team had the capability to give the target a shake, it was the Windies, but three early wickets and the unavailability of Evin Lewis took the wind out of their sails.

Skipper Keiron Pollard and Shimron Hetmyer hit some big shots, but they were always fighting a losing battle, daunted as they are by the massive total. The visitors were never really in the hunt and ended 67 runs short. It was an eventuality, despite the fleeting hope.

The curious hesitation they have shown at the top of the order has been a factor in India lying at no. 5 on the ICC T20 table. The cricketing nation that birthed T20 franchise cricket 11 years ago can't say they are still learning the format. By now, there shouldn't have been any doubts over how to go about in this format.

Not a residue of doubt was left at the Wankhede in front of a full house that had started to queue up hours before the 7pm start. Rahul, as is his wont, pressed on the pedal from the start and Sharma too was keen to flay.

Amidst several gems from Rahul stood a couple of upper cuts to the third man boundary. To call them upper cuts would be wrong actually; they were fiery slashes to balls on off-stump. He wasn't helping them up and over like Tendulkar used to do, arching his back. He threw his wrists, arms, back – everything into the shots. There was no room to manoeuvre really but Rahul just arched back and the bat came down at furious speed, the arms continued to fly out as he slashed it over third man for a six that would stay in the mind for a while.

Sharma caressed a straight drive and played a delightful late cut before deciding to slug the ball around. Soon, the bowling quality started to dip – full tosses, short balls, down the leg-side tripe followed as the Windies got the yips and the Indians continued to loot. Enter Virat Kohl in the 13th over, after Rishabh Pant, in at No. 3, had holed out to long-off. He had his own battle going on with Kesrick Williams, even when he wasn't bowling. He would hit a four or six and would search for Williams on the field. When he reached 50, his eyes picked up Williams on the field and only then did he celebrate, raising his bat to him.

On the field, he repeatedly urged the crowd to cheer out his bowlers' name – be it Mohammed Shami or Deepak Chhaar. Now and then, he would point out the text 'India' on his jersey and ask the crowd to cheer. The Pied Piper of Indian cricket had the Mumbai crowd on a string.

What about his batting? One thing that never ceases to amaze about the insane swat-flick from Kohli, the one shot he repeatedly used to destroy West Indies in Mumbai, is that it isn't a natural shot for him. In fact, he doesn't even know when it seeped into his game. He reckons it came in when he was playing T20s. A signature shot that he uses so destructively in limited-overs cricket is part of his evolution.

"I don't even know when it came in. Just recently I think, playing in T20s)," Kohli had said a decade ago, during the 2009 Indian Premier League in South Africa. The most destructive deployment of it came in 2012 when he smashed Lasith Malinga in an ODI in Hobart and from then on, it has become a staple shot for him.

Kohli has continued to hone that shot. In the past, it was a stroke he used to send the ball squarer. These days, he seems to get it a lot through midwicket as well. As many as 50 of his 71 runs on Wednesday came in the arc from square-leg to wide long-on as he gorged himself on that shot. Some batsmen flex their muscles, Kohli does it with his wrists. His fans would be satiated, but more importantly, if he and his team continue to show such intent at the top, all Indian T20 fans would be thrilled.

Pleased with our initial approach: Kohli

New Delhi: Someone who is more of a boundary-hitter, Kohli had seven sixes in his 29-ball-70 as India beat West Indies by 67 runs to win the three-match T20 series 2-1. The best part was about putting up a big score while batting first and the skipper was pleased as punch.

"We had spoken a lot. It was about going out on the field and executing. I had the opportunity to do something different, which I don't usually do. I told KL to stay on till the end, and said I'll try and smash a few," he said.

One could have been surprised by his modesty when the skipper said that he feels he can contribute across formats. "I know that I can contribute in all formats, it's about putting your mind to it. My role becomes crucial, because I have to play two roles. I'm trying to be able to play like this as well," he added.

He praised KL Rahul for his 91 off 56 balls and Rohit Sharma for his 71 off 34. The duo added 135 for the opening stand. "You have to do it out there in the middle to gain confidence from it. I think two guys in the middle with clarity, the way Rahul and Rohit played today, that is key. Batting first [earlier], we've been too tight and hesitant, should we go for it, should we not."

Rahul, meanwhile, credited his partners for his knock. "Both of them were in a destructive mood today, they were hitting the ball so sweetly from ball one. It's pretty obvious that our reocrd hasn't been great batting first, and we're looking to see what we can do to put up better totals. It was a great opportunity to bat first in a series decider, and it came off, and it'll give us a lot of confidence going into the other T20 series going forward."

REUTERS

"Batting first [earlier], we've been too tight and hesitant (in the past), should we go for it, should we not? Today, we batted with a lot of clarity, and we have to do it in the middle to gain confidence."

VIRAT KOHLI, ON INDIA'S APPROACH IN THE EARLY OVERS

SCORECARD »

India vs West Indies

3rd T20I | Mumbai | Toss: WI

INDIA 240/3 IN 20 OVERS

R Sharma b Walsh b Williams	71	(34b, 6x4, 5x6)
KL Rahul c Pooran b Cottrell	91	(56b, 9x4, 4x6)
R Pant c Holder b Pollard	0	(2b)
V Kohli not out	70	(29b, 4x4, 7x6)
S Iyer not out	0	(0b)
Extras: (b 1, lb 2, nb 1, w 4)	8	

Fall of wickets: 1-135 (Rohit Sharma, 11.4 ov), 2-138 (Rishabh Pant, 12.2 ov), 3-233 (KL Rahul, 19.4 ov)

Bowling:

S Cottrell	4-0-**40-1**
J Holder	4-0-**54-0**
K Pierre	2-0-**35-0**
K Williams	4-0-**37-1**
H Walsh	4-0-**38-0**
K Pollard	2-0-**33-0**

WEST INDIES 173/8 IN 18.3 OV

L Simmons c Iyer b Shami	7	(11b, 1x4)
B King c Rahul b Kumar	5	(4b, 1x4)
S Hetmyer c Rahul b Kuldeep	41	(24b, 1x4, 5x6)
N Pooran c Dube b Chahar	0	(1b)
K Pollard c sub (Jadeja) b Kumar	68	(39b, 5x4, 6x6)
J Holder c (sub)Pandey b Yadav	8	(5b, 1x4)
H Walsh b Shami	11	(13b, 1x4)
K Pierre not out	13	(7b, 1x4, 1x6)
K Williams not out	4	(4b, 1x4)
Extras: (b 5, w 5)	10	

Fall of wickets: 1-12 (King, 1.5 ov), 2-17 (Simmons, 2.6 ov), 3-17 (Pooran, 3.1 ov), 4-91 (Hetmyer, 9.3 ov), 5-103 (Holder, 11.1 ov), 6-141 (Pollard, 14.6 ov), 7-152 (Walsh, 16.5 ov), 8-169 (Khary Pierre, 19.2 ov)

Bowling:

D Chahar	4-0-**20-2**
B Kumar	4-0-**41-2**
M Shami	4-0-**25-2**
S Dube	3-0-**32-0**
K Yadav	4-0-**45-2**
W Sundar	1-0-**5-0**

India won by 67 runs

MAXIMUM CITY

240 India's total was the highest score in a T20I match at Wankhede, and the third highest in the country.

Even stevens on the field, victory for Pak cricket

RIZWAN ALI
RAWALPINDI, DECEMBER 11

CRICKET-STARVED fans in Pakistan had to wait in long lines for stringent security checks before entering the stadium for the first Test match in the country in more than a decade. The 17,000-seat Pindi Cricket Stadium was heavily guarded by police and army personnel on Day 1 of the match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka on Wednesday. By stumps, the stadium was half-full and containing mostly youngsters as Sri Lanka reached 202 for 5.

"I didn't mind that I waited for around four hours (to get in) when I compare it with Pakistan's 10 years of isolation from hosting a Test match,"' said Dayan Mehdi Butt, a 20-year-old student. "I will definitely come tomorrow, too, no matter how long I have to wait in queue."

Sri Lanka was the last team to play a Test match in Pakistan, in a series in 2009 when terrorists attacked the touring team's bus in Lahore. The ambush killed eight people and left several Sri Lankan players and officials injured. Pakistan has since played its home Test matches in neutral territory, mostly in the United Arab Emirates, because international teams didn't want to visit Pakistan for security reasons. It was symbolic that Sri Lanka was the first team to play a Test back in Pakistan after a 10-year absence, with the stadium in Rawalpindi hosting its first major international match since India played a Test match in the city in 2004, which Pakistan lost by an innings.

Pakistan seamer Mohammad Abbas exults after dismissing Dinesh Chandimal on the first day of the first Test in Rawalpindi. *AP*

"I came straight from the school because I have been waiting for so long to see Pakistan batsman Babar Azam live in action," said Usama Bhatti, a college student who came with his friend. "But it's not just Babar. We also want to support both teams, no matter who wins or loses."

After a wicket-less opening session, witnessed by only a few spectators, when Sri Lanka cruised to 89-0 against the new ball, Pakistan had its most productive period between lunch and tea as the visitors lost four wickets for 31 runs and slumped to 137 for 4. Sri Lanka captain Dimuth Karunaratne (59), who scored his 24th Test half century, and Oshada Fernando (40) saw off the threat of the new ball with a 96-run opening stand. Karunaratne, who opted to bat first after winning the toss, hit nine boundaries before he was undone by Shaheen Afridi's yorker and was out lbw.

Fernando took an hour to register a run, scoring off his 20th ball, before edging 16-year-old paceman Naseem Shah, who was the most impressive bowler with 2 for 51. Pakistan surprisingly left out veteran leg-spinner Yasir Shah and instead handed left-arm paceman Usman Shinwari a Test debut. Shinwari bowled to a better line and length after lunch and was rewarded with his first Test wicket when Kusal Mendis edged to wicketkeeper Mohammad Rizwan for 10.

Pakistan's most experienced bowler, Mohammad Abbas, finally got a first wicket in his 14th over by having Dinesh Chandimal (2) clean-bowled with a delivery that just moved enough to knock back the off-stump. Former Sri Lanka captain Angelo Mathews (31) added 62 runs with Dhananjaya de Silva before Shah returned after tea and got the breakthrough.

Mathews, who was in the middle for 2 hours, 20 minutes, played a reckless drive and was neatly caught by Asad Shafiq. Dhananjaya was unbeaten on 38 while Nirsoshan Dickwella was not out on 11 when play was called off early because of bad light. **AP**

BRIEF SCORES: Sri Lanka 202 for 5 in 68.1 ovs (D Karunaratne 59, O Fernando 40, Dhananjaya de Silva 38 batting; Naseem Shah 2/51) vs Pakistan

Kiwis' quest to make history faces hurdles

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PERTH, DECEMBER 11

THE VALIDITY and durability of New Zealand's ranking and run of success in Test cricket will be tested in the sport's most hostile environment when it meets Australia on Thursday to open a three-match series.

New Zealand has risen to No.2 in the world Test rankings after an unbeaten string of seven consecutive series, most recently at home over England. Those performances and the individual form of players such as captain Kane Williamson, batsmen Ross Taylor and Tom Latham and bowler Neil Wagner, have some observers describing this as the best New Zealand team of all time.

But none of the current squad has played a Test match in Perth, Melbourne or Sydney — venues for the series — and until they do so, and succeed, it is unlikely they will be able to wear that laurel. New Zealand has won only one Test series in Australia — in 1985 when Richard Hadlee and Martin Crowe helped secure that historic achievement. It has won only one of 22 Tests in Australia in the intervening 32 years and overall has won just three of 31 Tests on Australian soil.

Australia won the last Test series between the teams in Australia 2-0 in 2015 and the last series in New Zealand 2-0 in 2016. In one of its most important summers, New Zealand will follow the series in Australia with a home series against No.1-ranked India. If it wins both series it will pass India to claim the No.1 ranking for the first time.

But that is tough, perhaps even unthinkable. Australia is in superb form after sweeping Pakistan 2-0, led by the record-breaking batting performances of David Warner and Marnus Labuschagne and the bowling of Mitchell Starc, Pat Cummins and Josh Hazlewood.

New Zealand's inexperience in Australian conditions is perhaps its greatest handicap. It has had no warm-up in those conditions ahead of the first Test which will likely be played on a fast and bouncy pitch at the new Perth Stadium, and it has little recent experience of day-night cricket ahead of the pink ball series opener. On paper the New Zealand and Australia batting lineups look closely matched with Williamson for New Zealand and Steve Smith for Australia occupying pivotal roles. For the first time six of New Zealand's top seven batsmen average better than 40 in Tests while Australia has five batsmen averaging 40 or more. Australia appears to have a substantial advantage in bowling. Cummins hasn't played a test against New Zealand but has 51 wickets in tests this year; Hazlewood has 32 wickets in tests against New Zealand at 32.63 and Starc 17 at 29.52.

MATCH LIVE ON SONY NETWORK FROM AT 10.30 am

A champion show by European champions

Salah scores an inch-perfect goal to help Klopp's men beat Salzburg 2-0; Ajax ousted after home defeat to Valencia

STEVE DOUGLAS
DECEMBER 11

THE ENGLISH are on the march again in the Champions League.

Liverpool and Chelsea completed a sweep of Premier League clubs into the knockout stage of the Champions League on Tuesday, a season after England had two of its representatives in the final.

Liverpool, who beat Tottenham in the title match in June to become European champions for the sixth time, toughed out a 2-0 victory at Salzburg to advance as the winners of Group E and stay on course in their defence of the trophy.

It's shaping up to be a huge second half of the season for the Reds, who are also eight points clear in the Premier League in their pursuit of a first English championship in 30 years.

Chelsea was one of the teams to qualify from Group H after a 2-1 home victory over Lille under Frank Lampard, a Champions League winner with the London team in 2012 and in his first season as its manager.

Manchester City and Tottenham, the other English clubs competing in the Champions League, advanced last month with a game to spare.

It is the third straight season where England has provided four of the 16 representatives in the knockout stage, as teams in the lucrative Premier League start to show the benefit of having the biggest broadcasting revenues in football and some of the world's most highly rated coaches.

Napoli was one of four other teams to advance on Tuesday - but it wasn't enough to keep Carlo Ancelotti in a job. He was fired by the Italian team a few hours after its 4-0 win over Genk which sealed second place in the group containing Liverpool.

Borussia Dortmund, Valencia and Lyon also reached the last 16.

Ancelotti's final stand

Arkadiusz Milik did his best to save Ancelotti, scoring a first-half hat-trick for Napoli before Dries Mertens added the fourth against a Genk team which fielded Maarten Vandevoordt - the youngest goalkeeper ever in the competition at 17 years, nine months and 10 days.

That secured the team second place behind Liverpool, who denied Napoli a place in the last 16 in the final group game of last season's competition. But it wasn't enough for Ancelotti, who had previously failed to lead Napoli to victory in any of its last nine games in his second season as its coach.

Like Napoli, Liverpool knew a win would see them progress but found things much tougher against Salzburg. Jurgen Klopp's team survived some early scares before scoring two goals in as many minutes from the 57th, through Naby Keita - who played for Salzburg from 2014-16 - and Mohamed Salah.

Salah's goal was exquisite, the Egypt forward breaking the offside trap to round the goalkeeper and score from an acute angle on the right with his weaker right foot.

Mohamed Salah's goal was his 11th for Liverpool this season and took him to 20 Champions League goals for the club. *Reuters*

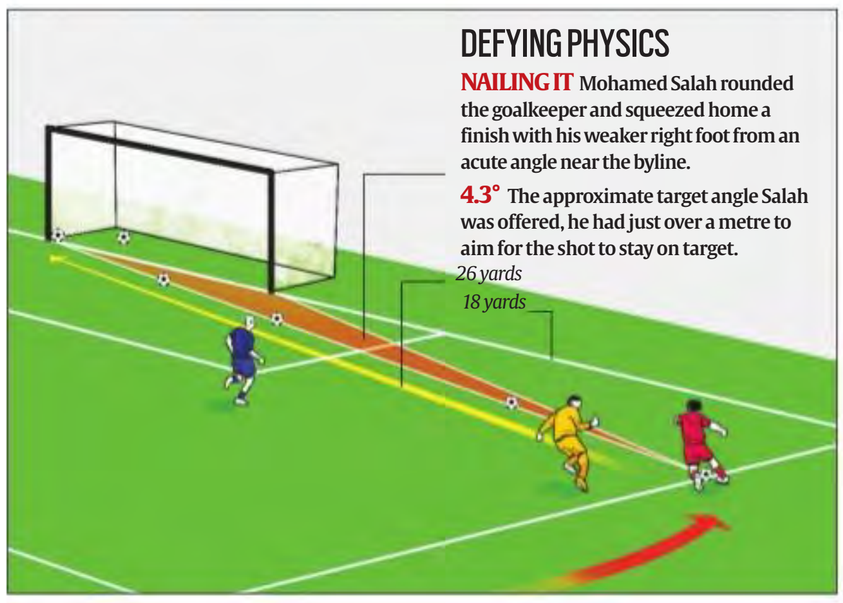

Illustration: Suvajit Dey

Like Napoli, Liverpool knew a win would see them progress but found things much tougher against Salzburg. Jurgen Klopp's team survived some early scares before scoring two goals in as many minutes from the 57th, through Naby Keita.

Ajax's regression

Ajax came within a last-gasp Tottenham goal of reaching the final last season. It won't even be playing in the knockout stage this time around. The Dutch club lost 1-0 at home to Valencia to drop from first place to third in Group H and fall into the Europa League.

Rodrigo scored the 24th-minute winner for Valencia, who are through to the last 16 for the first time since 2012-13.

Tammy Abraham, with a deft back-heeled flick, and Cesar Azpilicueta scored Chelsea's first-half goals against already-eliminated Lille, who pulled one back late on through Loic Remy - a former Chelsea player.

Inter heartbreak

For the second straight season, Inter Milan was eliminated after failing to pick up a home win in the final round of the group stage. A year after only drawing 1-1 to PSV Eindhoven to exit the competition, Inter lost 2-1 to an already-qualified Barcelona - who were without Lionel Messi and a number of other rested players. Ansu Fati scored Barca's winner and became, at 17, the youngest scorer in Champions League history.

Borussia Dortmund capitalised, eking out a 2-1 win over Slavia Prague to qualify ahead of Inter. Jadon Sancho scored one goal and set up another for Dortmund, who had Julian Weigl sent off in the 77th minute and were thankful to goalkeeper Roman Burki for a string of saves. Meanwhile, Lyon came from two goals down at home to Leipzig to draw 2-2 and win a three-way fight with Zenit St. Petersburg and Benfica to advance from Group G.

Memphis Depay's equaliser saw Lyon climb above Zenit, who lost 3-0 at Benfica and slipped to fourth - not even getting the consolation prize of a Europa League berth. Leipzig had already qualified. **AP**

Arsenal chart safe passage for Europa League

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
PARIS, DECEMBER 11

LAST SEASON'S runners-up Arsenal and Steven Gerrard's Rangers have their sights fixed on the Europa League knockout phase on Thursday with 19 clubs competing for the final 11 places.

Interim Arsenal boss Freddie Ljungberg will look to lead the Gunners into the last 32 after Unai Emery was sacked following last month's 2-1 home loss to Eintracht Frankfurt.

Monday's 3-1 victory at West Ham ended the club's worst winless run since 1977 and Arsenal just require a point at Standard Liege in Belgium to progress from Group F.

Rangers missed out on their first major silverware in almost a decade at the weekend following an agonising 1-0 defeat by Celtic in the Scottish League Cup final.

Gerrard's side dominated large parts of the game but were unable to find a way past an inspired Fraser Forster, who saved a second-half penalty from Alfredo Morelos.

Rangers are top of Group G and will advance if they avoid a second defeat of the competition to Swiss champions Young Boys.

"We've got a huge game on Thursday and there's no better game to bounce back," Gerrard said.

"We have to soak it up, remember it and be ready to go and give ourselves another opportunity. That type of performance will get us where we want to get to.

"It's raw right now but this is football at the top. We'll suffer and then we'll bounce back." Unbeaten Celtic have wrapped up top spot in Group E ahead of their trip to Romania's CFR Cluj, who are second in the section. Manchester United boss Ole Gunnar Solskjaer could well stick with a similar side to the one that lost 2-1 in Astana with qualification already assured.

The Norwegian fielded a starting team in Kazakhstan with an average age of 22 years and 26 days - United's youngest ever in major European competition.

They lead AZ Alkmaar, who host leaders Ajax in the Dutch league this weekend, by a point in Group L going into their showdown at Old Trafford.

Woods picks himself to lead off Presidents Cup defence

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
MELBOURNE, DECEMBER 11

CAPTAIN TIGER Woods will lead from the front when the United States begin their Presidents Cup defence after Wednesday picking himself and Justin Thomas for the opening fourball match at Royal Melbourne.

The 43-year-old Woods and world number four Thomas will tee off first on Thursday against Australian Marc Leishman and Chilean rookie Joaquin Niemann for Ernie Els' International team.

"I think from our side, we had a game plan, who we wanted to start out, and we were committed to putting Justin and myself out there, and that's who we're rolling with," said Woods.

"I got a chance to play all of yesterday. Played a little bit today. Just to try to get a feel for this golf course. It is quick and it has dried out and hopefully the forecast will hold for each and every day. The preparation is very simple."

Vice-captain Fred Couples said ahead of the draw that he expected Woods would play at least three matches over the four days of the biennial matchplay showdown.

Woods has a record of 24 wins, 15 losses and one half in matches at the Presidents Cup, second only to Phil Mickelson's record of 26 wins.

Steve Stricker will be captain while he is on the course.

Woods resisted any temptation to leave Patrick Reed on the sidelines for the first day's pairings after a row sparked by the two-stroke penalty for moving sand and improving his lie in the Bahamas last week.

But International captain Els did omit Australian Cameron Smith who became embroiled in the squabble by calling Reed a cheat. China's Li Haotong and Americans Rickie Fowler and Matt Kuchar are the other player to miss out on Thursday's action.

Reed will partner Webb Simpson against Japan's Hideki Matsuyama and Taiwan's debutant CT Pan in match four on a course that has a reputation for having some of the fastest greens in the world.

Aussie sits out

Canada's Adam Hadwin and South Korea's PGA Tour Rookie of the Year Im Sung-jae tee off second against Xander Schauffele and Patrick Cantlay.

They will be followed by veteran Australian Adam Scott, like Woods in his ninth Presidents Cup, joining South Korea's debutant An Byeong-hun against Bryson DeChambeau and Tony Finau.

The final match pits another newcomer in Mexico's Abraham Ancer and experienced partner Louis Oosthuizen of South Africa against the big-hitting duo of US Open champion Gary Woodland and former world number one Dustin Johnson, who is playing his first event since knee surgery in September.

I think from our side, we had a game plan, who we wanted to start out, and we were committed to putting Justin and myself out there, and that's who we're rolling with."

TIGER WOODS

Els has a young team with five of his seven rookies employed on the opening day and said leaving out Smith in front of his home fans was part of the bigger picture.

"I'll tell you Sunday night what exactly has been transpiring, but we have a system we are following, and I can't let anything out of the bag more than that," he said.

"But there's enough Australians out there tomorrow to rally a lot of guys."

The International team have only won the title once, but that was in 1998 at Royal Melbourne, and both captains have good memories of the famous sandbelt layout.

Els holds the course record of 60 set in 2004 while Woods sank the winning putt for the United States at the venue in 2011.

The Americans, who won the 2017 event on home soil 19-11, hold a proud record of 10 wins, one draw and just one defeat.

Friday's second day will see five foursomes, or alternate shot, matches.

Saturday is a crunch day with four fourballs and four foursomes matches before 12 singles clashes on Sunday.

With one point awarded for a win in each match the first team to 15-1/2 points will secure the cup.

FIFA panel wants to recover cash from Platini

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON, DECEMBER 11

THE FIFA governance committee has told the football body's leadership to pursue legal action against Michel Platini to recover the 2 million Swiss francs ($2 million) that led to the former UEFA president being banned from the sport. The payment was exposed in 2015 as having been approved by Sepp Blatter, which led to the Swiss official being ousted as FIFA president. FIFA governance committee chairman Mukul Mudgal wrote to FIFA deputy secretary general Alasdair Bell saying the body had passed a resolution over the wrongful payment.

"The FIFA administration (should) take the necessary steps before the relevant authorities in Switzerland against both Mr. Blatter and Mr. Platini with a view to ensuring that the CHF 2 million unduly paid by Mr. Blatter to Mr. Platini is returned to FIFA (together with interest, at the appropriate rate) and the disciplinary fines and costs imposed are recovered," Mudgal wrote in a November 25 letter.

Platini can work again in football because his four-year ban expired in October. But any comeback into a senior role would likely force him to first pay FIFA a fine of 60,000 Swiss francs ($60,300) that is three years overdue. Legal action would also seek that fine to be paid up.

Platini was the heir apparent to Blatter as FIFA president in 2015 until they were both toppled from power.

Blatter is still serving a six-year ban, upheld by the Court of Arbitration for Sport after being imposed in 2015, for authorising the payment to Platini in 2011 as backdated salary for work as his adviser a decade earlier. Blatter also approved extending his former protege's FIFA pension plan. Last month, a lawyer for Platini said the former France great was going to court to receive payments allegedly due in his UEFA employment contract worth 3 million Swiss francs ($3 million) in annual salary and bonus.

Lawyer Vincent Solari said UEFA paid Platini for only one year after he was suspended - in October 2015 - and began challenging a ban by the FIFA ethics committee. Platini's contract called for two years of pay "in case of incapacity to perform his tasks," Solari said.

Platini can work again in football because his four-year ban expired in October. But any comeback into a senior role would likely force him to first pay FIFA a fine of $60,300)that is three years overdue. Legal action would also seek that fine to be paid up.

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