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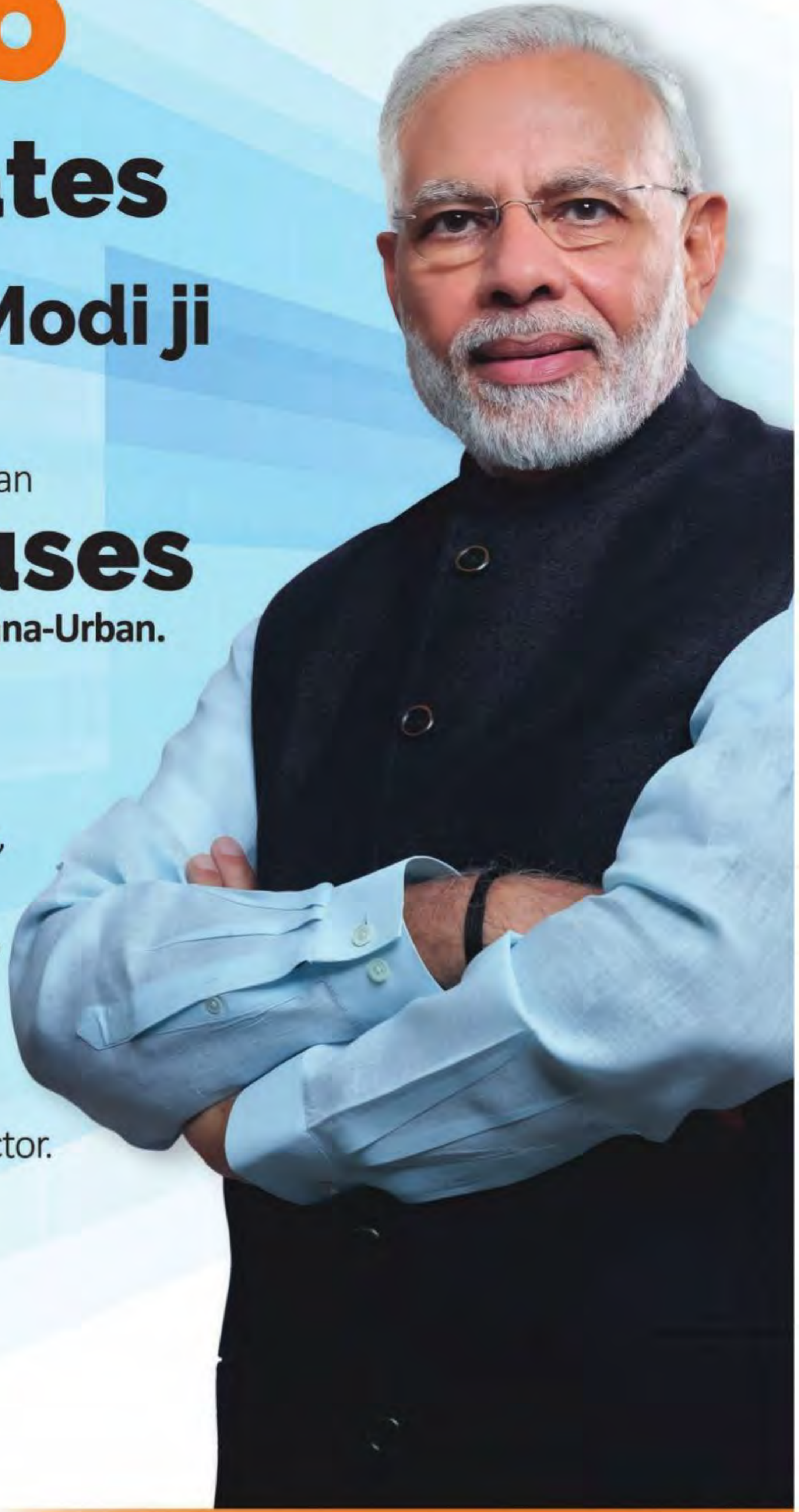
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**PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS**  
**HIGH COURT OF DELHI : NEW DELHI**  
(website : [www.delhihighcourt.nic.in](http://www.delhihighcourt.nic.in))

**DELHI HIGHER JUDICIAL SERVICE EXAMINATION – 2019**  
(AS PER THE DELHI HIGHER JUDICIAL SERVICE RULES, 1970  
AS AMENDED UP TO 26.12.2019)

For Delhi Higher Judicial Service Rules, 1970 as amended up to 26.12.2019, please click here  
HIGH COURT OF DELHI invites online applications from eligible candidates for filling up 19 vacancies (16 existing vacancies & 3 anticipated vacancies) by way of direct recruitment in Delhi Higher Judicial Service by holding Delhi Higher Judicial Service Examination in three successive stages:-

- Delhi Higher Judicial Service Preliminary Examination (Objective type with 25% negative marking) for selection for the main examination; and
- Delhi Higher Judicial Service Main Examination (Written) for selection of candidates for calling for viva voce.
- Viva voce

The Delhi Higher Judicial Service Preliminary Examination (Objective Type) referred to above, will be held on **Sunday, the 2nd February, 2020 (11 AM to 1 PM)**.

The scale of the pay of members of Delhi Higher Judicial Service is **Rs.131100-216600 in level 13A of matrix of 7th CPC Revised Corresponding Pay Matrix and Pay Level**. A candidate shall be eligible to appear in the examination if he/she is (a) a citizen of India; (b) a person who has practised as an Advocate for not less than 7 years; and (c) a person who has not attained the age of 45 years as on the 1st day of January of the year in which the applications for appointment are invited i.e. 1st January, 2019. The cut-off date for determining the period of practice shall be the Last Date of Filling Online Applications, i.e., 21.01.2020.

The candidates shall submit their applications online only in the prescribed format through the official website of High Court of Delhi i.e. [www.delhihighcourt.nic.in](http://www.delhihighcourt.nic.in) as per schedule of dates, given below:

Date and Time of Commencement for creation of New Log In and filling Online Application Form	28.12.2019 (10:00 AM)
Last Date and Time for filling Online Application Form and/or making payment through Debit Card/Internet Banking	21.01.2020 (10:00 PM)

The fees (non-refundable) in the sum of Rs.1000/- for General Category candidates and Rs.200/- for reserved categories, i.e. Scheduled Caste / Scheduled Tribe / Persons with Disability candidates should be paid through Debit Card/Internet Banking.

The candidates can take printout of Application and keep it for future reference. **They should not send the print out of the online application to the High Court.**

**Before filling up the form, the candidates are advised to read carefully the Notification/Advertisement, Instructions for Delhi Higher Judicial Service Examination – 2019 and Delhi Higher Judicial Service Rules, 1970 as amended up to 26.12.2019.**

The category wise break up of vacancies to be filled is as under:-

Category	Break up of vacancies		Total No. of Vacancies
	Fresh	Anticipated	
General	12	03	15
SC	03	00	03
ST	01	00	01
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>19</b>

**Note 1:** Out of the aforesaid 19 vacancies, 01 vacancy is reserved for PwD (deaf and hard of hearing).

**Note 2:** Attention of candidates belonging to Persons with Disabilities Category is invited to Proviso to Rule 22 of Delhi Higher Judicial Service Rules, 1970, referred to in the Application Form, which reads as follows:



"Provided that the Persons with Disability candidates should be capable of efficiently discharging their duties as Judicial Officer as per the satisfaction of the Medical Board that may be constituted before or after their names are recommended for appointment."

The candidates applying for the examination should ensure that they fulfill all the eligibility conditions for admission to the examination. Their admission at all the stages of examination for which they are admitted by this Court viz. Preliminary (Objective) Examination, Main (Written) Examination and the viva voce shall be purely provisional, subject to their satisfying the prescribed eligibility conditions. If on verification at any time before or after the Preliminary (Objective) Examination, Main (Written) Examination and the viva voce, it is found that they do not fulfill any of the eligibility conditions, their candidature for the examination shall stand cancelled without any notice or further reference.

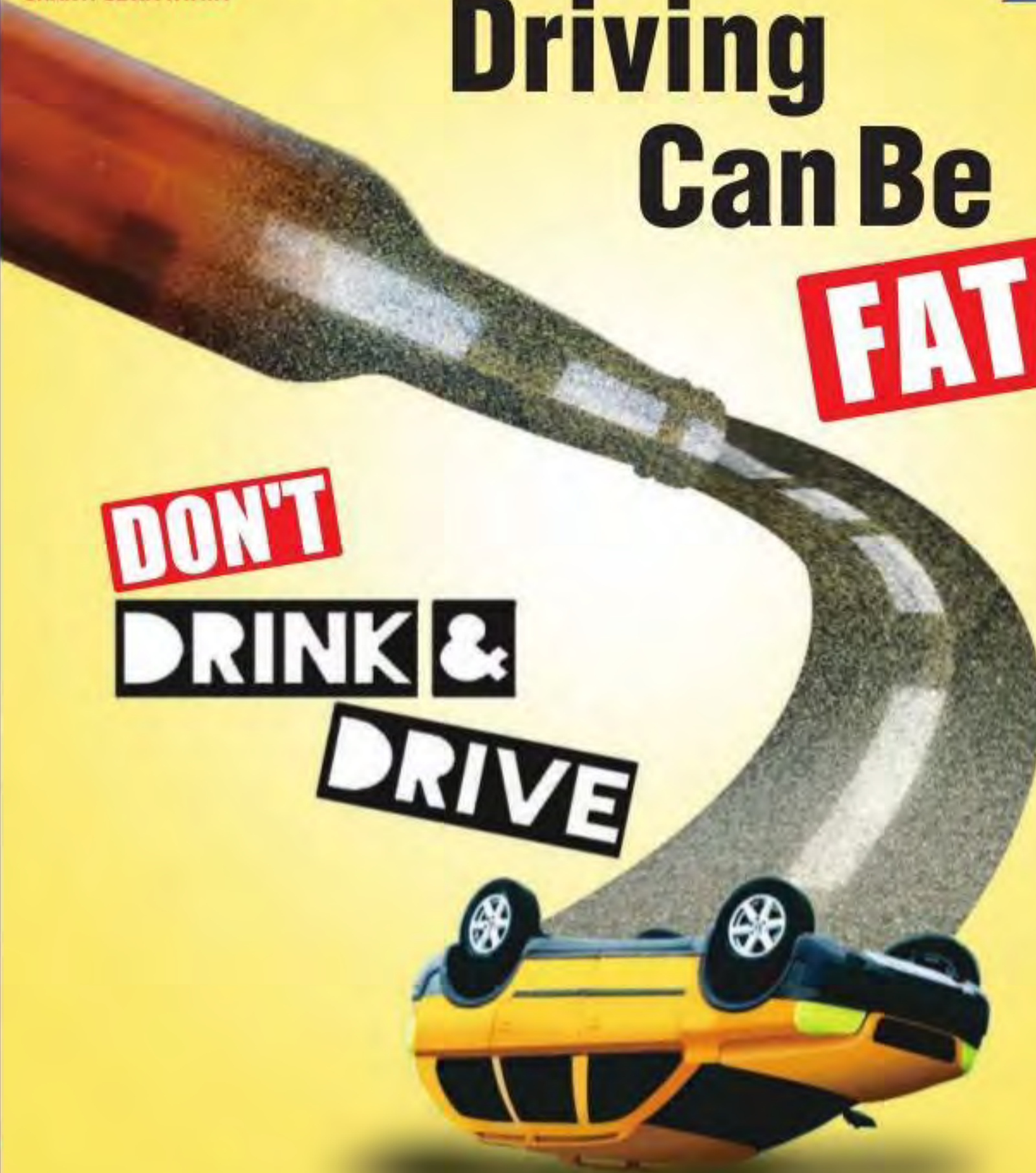
Details regarding Preliminary Examination, Main Examination, viva voce, eligibility, relaxation in marks and other general terms and conditions applicable to the candidates are given in the Instructions available on the online portal, link for which would be available on the website of Delhi High Court i.e. [www.delhihighcourt.nic.in](http://www.delhihighcourt.nic.in). Candidates are advised to go through the Instructions as well as the Delhi Higher Judicial Service Rules, 1970 as amended up to 26.12.2019 before filling up the Application Form.

Sd/-

(DINESH KUMAR SHARMA)  
REGISTRAR GENERAL  
26.12.2019

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**WHEN YOU LEARNT TO WALK, THEY HELD HAND  
KEEP THEM ALWAYS CLOSE TO YOUR HEART**



## INAUGURATION OF MAHATMA JYOTIBA PHULE MEMORIAL OLD AGE HOME FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Saturday, 28th December, 2019 at 12 noon  
Wazirpur, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi

**Chief Guest**

**Arvind Kejriwal**  
Chief Minister, Delhi

**Guest of Honour**

**Rajendra Pal Gautam**  
Social Welfare Minister, Delhi

**Rajesh Gupta**  
MLA, Wazirpur A.C.



ACQUIRED TO TRACK MISSING CHILDREN, SOFTWARE USED AT PM'S RAMLILA MAIDAN RALLY

## Police film protests, run its images through face recognition software to screen crowd

Best industry standard checks, balances against potential misuse of data in place: Delhi Police



A policeman videotapes an anti-CAA protest at Jorbagh in New Delhi on Friday. Tashi Tobgyal

JAY MAZOOMDAAR  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi's Ramlila Maidan rally on December 22 — where he said there was no talk of NRC — was the first political rally where Delhi Police used a facial recognition software to screen the crowd. This was also the first time Delhi Police used a set of facial images collected from footage filmed at the city's various protest events to filter "law and order suspects" at the Prime Minister's rally. Following a Delhi High Court order in a case related to missing children, the Delhi Police had acquired Automated Facial Recognition System (AFRS) software in March 2018 as a tool to identify lost and found boys and girls by matching photos. Before December 22, AFRS was used only thrice — twice at the Independence Day parade

and once at the Republic Day parade. Sources said Delhi Police has so far created a photo dataset of over 1.5 lakh "history-sheets" for routine crime investigation. Another dataset meant for monitoring sensitive public events has over 2000 images of terror suspects and — the latest addition — alleged "rabble-rousers and miscreants". The use of AFRS by police assumes significance given ongoing protests across the city against the new citizenship law and the National Register of Citizens — events where police were seen videotaping proceedings. For long, Delhi Police has been filming major protest events in the city. This footage is now being fed to AFRS which extracts "identifiable faces" of the protesters to its dataset. Once extracted, say sources, the lot is manually screened to identify and retain "habitual protesters" **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



After days of disruption, markets open in Muzaffarnagar Friday evening. Anil Sharma

## Drones to bandobast to peace meetings: UP has a quiet Friday

MANISH SAHU,  
ASAD REHMAN,  
AVANEESH MISHRA,  
KRISHN KAUSHIK  
LUCKNOW, KANPUR, MAU,  
MEERUT, DECEMBER 27

WITH SECURITY drones flying overhead and police and paramilitary personnel keeping tight vigil on the ground to snuff out any fresh protest against the new citizenship law, Uttar Pradesh remained peaceful Friday with people offering prayers at

mosques across the state and dispersing quietly. Internet services remained suspended in 14 districts since Thursday night and were to resume late Friday. Director General of Police O P Singh said the law and order situation was totally under control and no incident had been reported from any part of the state. Since morning, Singh and senior police officers were in regular touch with district police chiefs, and there was special focus on the districts of Lucknow, Bijnor, Sambhal, Muzaffarnagar,

Firozabad, Kanpur, Mau and Varanasi where protests turned violent last week. At least 19 people were killed during the protests in the state. Security drones kept watch on groups of people moving on roads and senior officers led police patrols. In Lucknow, roads were deserted looks with heavy police bandobast in areas of the old city which was rocked by violence on December 19. People were not allowed to assemble at any place for long after the Friday prayers. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

28-MEMBER COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS

## Facing fire on quality of data, Govt gets critics on board reform panel

New panel, led by ex-Chief Statistician Pronab Sen, includes three academics who red-flagged 'political interference'

AANCHAL MAGAZINE  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

FACED WITH increasing questions about the credibility of official economic data and the abrupt shelving of official reports, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has made a move to overhaul the system for reviewing statistics related to economic activity. It has constituted a broad-based 28-member "Standing Committee on Economic Statistics" (SCES) headed by India's first Chief Statistician, Pronab Sen, which includes three academicians who had, earlier in March this year, signed a joint statement of 108 economists and social scientists that flagged concerns over "political interference" in influencing statistical data in the country. Incidentally, Sen, too, has been critical of the way the government has handled data and reports. The new, broad-based panel, which has a sweeping mandate to review key data sets that track economic activity and labour force participation trends, will have representatives from the United Nations, Reserve Bank of India, Finance Ministry, NITI



Sen has been critical of Govt

EXPLAINED  
**E.**

### A key step forward

THE MOVE to include vocal critics of the NDA signals that the government has taken serious note of objections related to the way it measures and handles key economic indicators. A single committee with an overarching mandate aims to counter the negative perception and reaffirm the government's commitment to maintaining the sanctity of India's official statistics.

Aayog, two industry chambers, Tata Trust, and economists and statisticians from several educational institutions. CP Chandrasekhar, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Hema Swaminathan, Professor, IIM Bangalore, and Jeemol Unni, Professor, Ahmedabad University are the three members of the new panel who were signatories to the March joint statement against the alleged "suppression of statistics". The new Standing Committee on Economic Statistics, with 10 non-official members and 16 official members, has been mandated to review the framework for economic indicators pertaining to the industrial sector, the services sector and the labour force statistics, an order dated December 6 said. This new panel, which is slated to meet for the first time on January 7 next year, will effectively subsume four existing committees — the Standing Committee on Labour Force Statistics (SCLFS), Standing Committee on Services Sector (SCSS), Standing Committee on Industrial Statistics (SCIS) and the Standing Committee on Services Sector and Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (SCSSUSE). **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

## Meerut SP tells protesters go to Pak if you don't want to live here; his defence: they raised pro-Pak slogans

AMIL BHATNAGAR  
MUZAFFARNAGAR, DEC 27

A TOP police officer in Meerut has been caught on camera asking local residents to tell protesters to "go to Pakistan" during clashes on December 20, when four persons died during protests against the new citizenship law. The video clip, shot in Lisari Gate, shows SP City Akhilesh N Singh saying: "Kahan jaoge, is gali ko theek kar doonga (Where will you go, I will sort out this lane)", referring to four protesters po-



An image grab from the video in which SP Akhilesh N Singh is heard saying: "Khaoge yahan ka, gaoge kahin aur ka"

lice were chasing. The officer then turns to three persons and says: "Yeh jo

kaali aur peeli patti baande huye hain inse keh do Pakistan chale jao...khaoge yahan ka, gaoge kahin

aur ka... Yeh gali mujhe yaad ho gayi hai. Aur jab mujhe yaad ho jaata hai toh mein naani tak pahunch jaata hun (The ones tying black and yellow bands, tell them to go to Pakistan. You eat here but sing praises of another place... This lane is now familiar to me. And once I remember, I can even reach your grandmother). In the video, the officer, surrounded by other personnel, can also be seen warning the three men standing at the junction of two lanes. "Agar kuch ho gaya toh tum log keemat chukooge... Har ek-ek aadmi ko jail mein bandh

karunga (If something happens, you guys will pay the price. Every man from each house will be arrested)," the official can be heard saying. When contacted by *The Indian Express*, Singh said "the context is that anti-social elements were making pro-Pakistan statements". "We had come to the area to see who all were making pro-Pakistan statements. When we arrived with force, they had run away. We found out that there were 3-4 such people who wanted to create an issue. We had discussions with locals," the SP said.

ANDHRA PRADESH

## Andhra govt panel indicts Naidu, son, TDP leaders for land 'insider trading'

Map and rules tweaked to favour plots bought by leaders: probe report

REENIVAS JANYALA  
HYDERABAD, DECEMBER 27

ACABINET sub-committee in the YSRCP government in Andhra Pradesh has accused former Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, his son N Lokesh and six other TDP leaders of insider trading and either purchasing or helping purchase land in an area in Guntur district which was declared as capital city Amaravati six months later. A report submitted by the cabinet sub-committee Friday states that "persons privy to the likely location of capital purchased lands in the capital city/region area just prior to a formal official declaration". The report was submitted to Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy by the sub-committee headed by Finance Minister B Rajendranath and including Panchayati Raj Minister P Ramachandra Reddy, Industries Minister M Goutham Reddy and Irrigation Minister P Anil Kumar. "Certain highly placed indi-



Vendetta by YSRCP Govt, says Naidu's son Lokesh

viduals procured land through benami transactions; defined the boundary of the capital area to benefit certain connected people, holding lands on the fringes; fraudulent surrender of some lands towards land pooling scheme to receive returnable plots; irregularities in land allotment; Violation of provisions of AP Assigned Lands (Prohibition of Transfer) Act of 1977; and violation of provisions of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989" have been observed, the report states. "Certain individuals, having the white ration cards meant for

## Day after his removal, deputy mayor of Srinagar held for fraud

ADIL AKHZER  
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 27

SRINAGAR'S FORMER Deputy Mayor Sheikh Imran has been arrested for "illegal appropriation of subsidy," the Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) said on Friday. "Case FIR 3/2019 was registered by ACB against Sheikh Imran Director M/S Kehwa Square Pvt. Ltd. Bohri Kadal Srinagar, officers of J&K Bank and other Govt officials, for illegal appropriation of subsidy with inflated project cost for establishment of CA storage at Lassipora, Pulwama," the ACB said in a statement. Earlier this year, the ACB had registered a case against Imran and other officials. Imran was removed as deputy mayor of Srinagar Municipal Corporation after a no-confidence motion against him was carried in the corporation on Thursday. Imran, who is also the director of Kehwa Group of Companies, had set up a cold storage unit under M/S Kehwa Square Private Limited at Lassipora. The ACB said that Kehwa Group had got its loan of Rs 138 crore with J&K Bank "restructured for merely an amount of Rs

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

AHIMSA 2.0: SAVING THE CONSTITUTION  
BY CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT  
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THE IDEAS PAGE

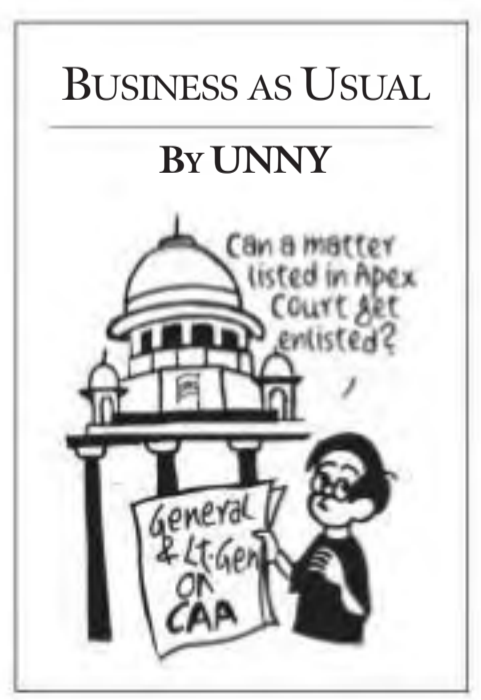
THE DIFFICULTY OF BEING HONEST  
BY ASHOK LAVASA  
PAGE 13

## Expert had told House panel on CAB: Don't name religions, just say persecuted minorities

LIZ MATHEW  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

PROMINENT CONSTITUTIONAL expert and former secretary general of the Lok Sabha, Subhash Kashyap, had warned the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill two years ago that the legislation should omit any "reference to religions like Hindus, Sikhs, Parsis, etc." — and use only "persecuted minorities". Tending evidence before the JPC on CAB 2016, Kashyap

suggested that "persecuted minorities" would include all those whom the legislation aimed to cover. "My view was that it would have meant the same thing. I had said it to the Joint Parliamentary Committee. It was not necessary for them to specify Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, etc. They could have achieved the purpose without that, too," Kashyap told *The Indian Express*. Kashyap, who was secretary general of the seventh, eighth and ninth Lok Sabha, said that with both Houses of Parliament having passed the CAB, and the



President giving assent, the only way to "correct it" is through the "court of law" or by Parliament amending the Act. Criticising the violent protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act as "lawlessness", he said the protesters should remember that "the same Constitution of this democratic country holds Parliament as supreme". "As believers of the Constitution, we should accept that there are ways to correct it, not by protesting violently or

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

## MiG-27 is now a memory: He flew it first, watched its last flight

SUSHANT KULKARNI  
PUNE, DECEMBER 27

"I would put it in just one word: intoxicating." THAT WAS Wing Commander (retired) Vijay Joshi recalling his time inside a MiG-27. In 1984, he was the first test pilot to fly the Russian-origin aircraft at the handing-over ceremony that December. On Friday, Joshi was at the IAF station in Jodhpur to mark the end of the aircraft's journey. The 76-year-old was among the several serving and retired officers who watched the

"swing-wing" aircraft they had once flown get decommissioned from service. "It is the end of an era... The shift from MiG-21 to MiG-27 was a huge move forward and now, it is time to move on. I felt sad seeing the MiG-27 get retired but that was the only way," says Joshi. Commissioned in 1963 as a fighter pilot, Joshi has flown the Sukhoi-7 and Mig-21, too, among other jets. And after retirement, he flew civilian and corporate aircraft. But there's something about the MiG-27 that continues to tug at his heart.

"The technology of swing-wing was really something," he says, referring to the additional capability that allowed the aircraft to change the sweep of its wings according to operational requirements. But subsequent developments in aerodynamics meant that the MiG-27 was the last swing-wing aircraft in the IAF. Among the other memories of the aircraft that Joshi treasures is a watercolour painting by Russian pilot "Major Maximenkov, who had come to Ojhar in Maharashtra's Nashik to help prepare Indian pilots". In just under two hours, says



(Left) The MiG-27 bids farewell in Jodhpur on Friday. Joshi with his wife. IAF/Express

Joshi, Maximenkov painted a MiG-27 taking off — a detailed work including the hills in the background. "My interaction with the Russian pilot was very friendly as I was fluent in Russian and could follow his instructions," says Joshi. Speaking about his experience as a fighter pilot, Joshi says modern jet fighters are "not just some high-speed toys as some people think". "Like any state-of-art equipment, they have to be handled with great skill. And this, I think, is what I enjoyed most as a pilot. The bond between plane and pilot is very deep and difficult to fathom

unless you are in the cockpit," he says. Friday's event at the Air Force Station in Jodhpur was marked by a final farewell flight of "Scorpions" from the Number 29 squadron — the only IAF unit that operated the upgraded MiG-27s — in a five-jet arrowhead formation flanked by Sukhoi-30 MKI aircraft. According to a defence spokesperson, the MiG-27 has been the mainstay of the air force's ground attack capability since 1985, while the upgraded variant "has been the pride of the strike fleet since 2006". **(WITH ENDS IN JAIPUR)**



0-50 Good

ASHOK VIHAR

Very Poor



51-100 Satisfactory

SIRIFORT

Very Poor



101-200 Moderate

SHADIPUR

Very Poor



201-300 Poor

DWARKA-SECTOR 8

Very Poor



301-400 Very poor

401-500 Severe

## AT SECOND TOWN HALL

# To show tap water safe, CM has a gulp

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

IN AN effort to convince people that Delhi's tap water is safe, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Thursday drank a glass of tap water during the second Town Hall meeting called by the AAP in Pitampura.

The quality of supplied water in Delhi has been a matter of debate for over a month. In August, the Bureau of Indian Standards tested tap water samples from 21 cities, including Delhi. As per its report, Delhi fared the worst in all cities and all 11 samples that were picked up failed tests. The Delhi government said the report was politically motivated and painted a wrong picture.

The Delhi Jal Board then picked up over 4,000 samples for testing and its report said 98% samples passed tests. Recently, PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah brought up the issue again and said the Delhi government failed to provide safe drinking water to people.

At Thursday's public meeting, Kejriwal said the number of colonies receiving dirty water had decreased drastically during his tenure. "When our govern-



Kejriwal during Friday's event

ment was formed five years ago, around 2,300 areas in Delhi received contaminated water. We created a list of such locations as well as causes of the contamination, and deployed various resources for the resolution of the issue in each of those areas. Now, only 115 areas in Delhi receive contaminated water, and we are working on providing clean water to these areas as well," he said, adding that all areas of Delhi will receive clean tap water in the next two-and-a-half years.

Union Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan, who had released the BIS report, tweeted Friday that Kejriwal was duping people. He said he has directed BIS to pick five samples from every ward and present a

fresh report in 15 days. For the previous report, 11 samples were picked up.

Kejriwal also said among AAP's priorities will be to reduce traffic congestion. Asked by an audience member how this will be achieved, Kejriwal said: "Wide roads in Delhi turn into narrow three- or four-lane roads after a few kilometres, creating a bottleneck and heavy traffic jams. Roads at various locations need to be redesigned. We have designated a consultant to create a list of locations where there are daily traffic jams. The consultant will provide us with a roadmap within 9-10 months on how to solve the problem." He also said AAP's manifesto will be made after consultations with the public.

## Girl found dead, cops suspect rape

**Gurgaon:** The body of an eight-year-old girl, who went missing from her home in Nuh Thursday evening, was found on a nearby hilltop Friday morning, with police suspecting she was raped and then beaten to death with a stone.

Police said the child lived with her parents, both cattle rearers, in Nuh, and had taken the family's goats to a hill near their home for grazing Thursday morning.

"She had gone with a group of other children to take the animals for grazing. It seems at some point, she got separated from the group," said Sangeeta Kalia, Superintendent of Police, Nuh. When the girl did not return home until 6 pm, her parents searched for her in the area and later approached police.

Police said the girl's body was found 12 hours later on the hill where she had taken the animals for grazing. The area where she was found was deserted and difficult to access, with no concrete road leading to it.

"The body was found on the ground without clothes. A medical board has been set up at Nalhar Medical College for the post-mortem. We suspect she has been raped, but the facts will become clear only after the post-mortem is done," said the SP. An FIR has been registered under IPC and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act. "The accused is yet to be identified," said Kalia. **ENS**

## Burari home that saw suicide by 11 of family gets new tenants

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

"I DON'T believe in superstitions and ghosts. All I know is I am getting a house that fits my budget," said Dr Mohan Kashyap (45), a pathologist, who is set to move into the house in North East Delhi's Burari, where 11 people allegedly committed suicide on July 1 last year. Mohan lives with his wife and two children in Bhajanpura and will move into the Burari house on December 30.

Last year, 11 members of the Chundawat family allegedly committed suicide in the two-storey house and left notes in diaries, saying they took the step to "attain moksha". In one room, Narayani Devi (75) was found on the floor. Her sons, Bhavmesh (50) and Lalit (45), their wives Savita (48) and Teena (42) and their children Nidhi (25), Maneka (23), Dhruv (15) and Shivam (15) were found hanging from a railing in another room. Devi's daughter Pratibha (57), was found hanging from a window. Her daughter Priyanka (33) was found in the same room as the rest.

Dinesh Singh Chundawat, Lalit's brother, who lives in Chittorgarh, now owns the house. He said, "I wanted to sell the house due to the bad memories. Nobody wished to pay the price I



11 members of the Chundawat family were found dead in July last year

wanted. In February, I started looking for tenants. But many in the neighbourhood already spread rumours about ghosts."

Dinesh said he had found tenants before Mohan, but they left in a week. "I was in talks with two shopkeepers. One had even paid the security amount, but later backed out as everyone said the house was haunted," he said.

Virender Tyagi, a resident of the area, said, "Dinesh and I tried to persuade people to look at the house. Later, Dr Mohan, whose lab is in our lane, approached us." Dinesh said, "Mohan's family visited the house in November. I thought we'd have to tell them there are no ghosts in the house, but they were only concerned about its cleanliness."

Mohan said, "The rent is Rs 25,000 — a good price for a big house. I will shift once the rent agreement is made."

## 'Thorough gentleman, he pushed people to be better'

Colleagues recall Hindi novelist Ganga Prasad Vimal, who died in a road accident in Sri Lanka earlier this week

PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

"AN OUT-and-out Hindi man, someone who was Ajatshatru" is how Prabhat Ranjan, Hindi novelist and assistant professor at Zakir Husain Delhi College, describes well-known Hindi writer Ganga Prasad Vimal, who died in a road accident in Sri Lanka earlier this week. Vimal (80), his daughter Kanupriya and grandson were travelling to Colombo from Galle when their van met with an accident on Sri Lanka's Southern Expressway in Kurundugahathapma area on December 23.

Vimal, who was born in 1939 in Uttarakhand's Uttarkashi, was the author of more than a dozen poetry collections, including *Vijay* (1967), *Bodhi Vriksh* (1983), *Itma Kuchh* (1990) and *Pachas Kavitaayen* (2015); five novels, in-



Ganga Prasad Vimal

cluding *Mrigaantak* (1978) and *Manushkhor* (2013) and several short story collections. His last short story collection, *Lokapriya Kahaniya* (Prabhat Prakashan), was published in 2018.

"This was our only book with him, so our association with him wasn't for long, but he was a thorough gentleman, always polite and courteous," says Piyush Kumar of Prabhat Prakashan.

An academic who taught at Zakir Husain Delhi College for 25 years between 1964 to 1989,

Vimal had also held teaching positions at Panjab University and at Jawaharlal Nehru College (1999-2004). He had also held the position of the director of Central Hindi Directorate and was part of the National Council for the Promotion of the Sindhi language during his career.

His writing apart, says Ranjan, what stands out in his long and illustrious career is his dedication to promoting the Hindi language and its writers. "His literary career is out there for people to enjoy, but he was also an excellent teacher and mentor. During his long academic career, he would identify talented young writers and promote them tirelessly. I was fortunate enough to be one of them. He would always make us meet people and send work our way. He pushed people to be better," says Ranjan, who had last corresponded with him three years ago.

## Found 'smuggling drugs', jail warden now on the run

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
GURGAON, DECEMBER 27

A JAIL WARDEN, allegedly involved in smuggling drugs into Gurgaon's Bhondsi Jail, managed to flee on Thursday, moments after he was allegedly caught ac-

cepting the drugs from two men by police personnel.

The two men, identified as Gurgaon residents Mohit (21) and Babloo (26), were arrested from Nayagaon's Vatika Kunj area, police said, adding that 78 grams of "salfa" was recovered from their possession.

"During questioning, the accused revealed they had been sent with the drugs by a third person, who had asked them to hand them over to Phool Mohammad, a warden working at Bhondsi Jail. It was during the transaction that police personnel caught them," said Gurgaon Police PRO Subhash

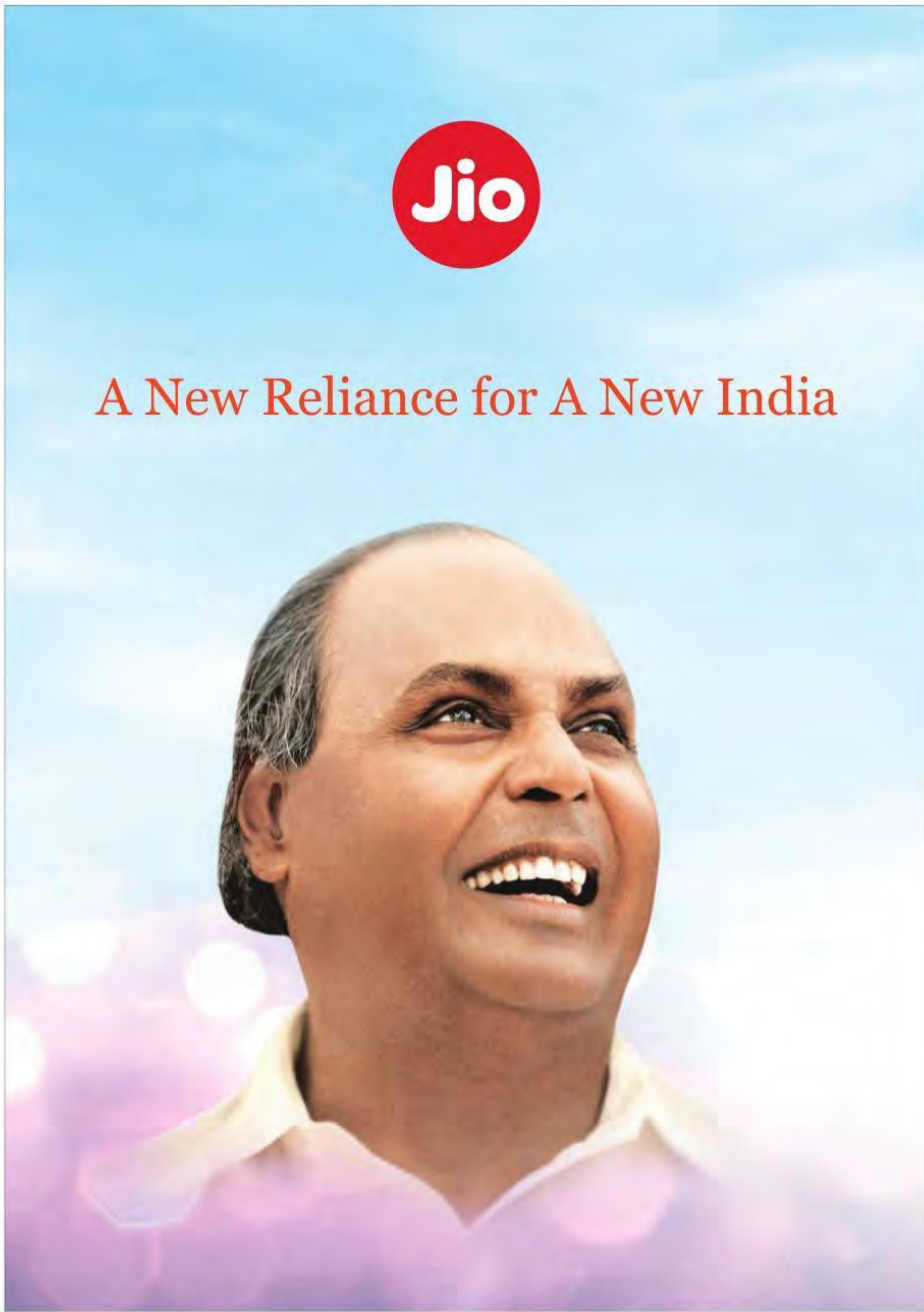
Boken.

"The warden spotted the police team and managed to evade arrest. He is absconding. However, his motorcycle and a mobile phone have been seized," he added.

Police said a Santro car, in which the two arrested accused

were travelling, has also been seized.

"The accused were produced in court on Friday and remanded in judicial custody. Further investigations will be conducted in order to nab their other accomplices and the jail warden," Boken said.



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Retired IAF officer, wife dead in Dwarka hit-and-run, 1 held



Amardeep and Rajani Gill

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

A 69-YEAR-OLD retired group captain of the Indian Air Force and his 47-year-old wife died after a Volkswagen Polo allegedly rammed into them late Wednesday night in Dwarka. The couple, identified as Amardeep Singh Gill and Rajani Gill, were returning home to Air Force and Naval Officers Enclave in Dwarka Sector 7 and were just across the road when the car, which was allegedly speeding, hit them a little before midnight.

Police said the driver of the red Polo, allegedly a 20-year-old BBA student, fled after hitting the

couple. "Yatin, a resident of Vikaspuri, was arrested Thursday, and the car too has been recovered. He has been booked under IPC sections 279 (rash driving) and 304A (causing death by negligence) at the Dwarka South police station," said DCP (Dwarka) Anto Alphonse.

A police officer said, "Amardeep was declared dead on arrival at the hospital while Rajani succumbed during treatment on Friday morning."

Amardeep has two sons settled in Canada and they have been informed about the deaths.

"The couple were returning home from a function and were in a cab. They stopped the vehicle on the road outside the enclave and were crossing it when the car hit them," said police.

It was a passerby's presence of mind to note down the number of the red Polo that helped police identify the driver. A police officer said, "When the registration number was checked, it was traced to an address in Netaji

Subhash Place. When the police reached there, they found out that the owner had moved to Pitampura. At the next location, they were told that the car had been sold to a broker in 2014."

Police then tracked down the broker, who informed police that he had sold the car to another person in Vikaspuri. Police arrested Yatin at this address and recovered the car.

"During questioning, he told police that he was dropping off a friend to Dwarka Sector 4, and that there were three people in the car. As they were busy talking, Yatin allegedly didn't notice the couple crossing the road and hit them. He then panicked and sped away," said a police officer.

Delhi witnesses longest Dec cold spell in 22 yrs, conditions to prevail till Sunday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

A COLD spell has prevailed over the city for 14 consecutive days this December — the highest in 22 years — as per the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The last time such a condition was witnessed in the city was in December 1997, when there were 13 such days.

The IMD has forecast that cold to severe cold day conditions would continue over the city till Sunday, after which its severity is expected to reduce.

The maximum temperature recorded in the city Friday was 14.4 degrees Celsius and minimum was 4.2 degrees Celsius.

An IMD official said, "There



1997 saw a cold spell lasting 13 days. Amit Mehra

has been heavy snowfall in the Himalayas and cold, northwesterly winds from there are influencing the temperature here."

Another factor is a layer of cloud cover over the city that is preventing the sunlight from

breaking through, as a result of which day temperatures have not risen, the official said.

"This layer stretches from Pakistan to Bihar. It's quite thick in the morning hours and reduces after 12 pm, but it would go away

only when wind direction changes," the IMD official added. Light rain is expected over Delhi-NCR from late evening on December 31 to January 2. A hail-storm is also expected over parts on January 1 and 2.

The average maximum temperature recorded this month as of Friday is 19.4 degrees Celsius. If it falls, as per the IMD's estimation, to 19.15 degrees, then this December would become the second coldest in over a century since 1901. The average maximum temperature has previously been below or equal to 20 degrees in 1919 (19.8 degrees), 1929 (19.8 degrees), 1961 (20 degrees) and 1997 (17.3 degrees).

Delhi's air quality on Friday was in the 'very poor' category with a reading of 373, as per CPCB.

Bihar State Milk Co-operative Federation Ltd. Notice Inviting Tender. Dairy Development Complex, P.O. - BIHAR VETERINARY COLLEGE, PATNA-800014 (BIHAR). Phone No. 0612-2224083, 2228953, 2228347, 2226387. Fax: 0612-2228306. E-Mail: comfed.patna@gmail.com. Website: www.bsmls.coop

Industrial Training & Employment Office of the Commissioner, Kaushalya Bhawan, Dairy Circle, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru - 560 029. Phone No. 080 - 25189100, 105, 125. E-mail: ddpurchase2016@gmail.com Website: www.emptrg.kar.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH Water Resources Department e-procurement Notice Dt. 21.12.2019. Name of work : Minor Irrigation-Construction of District Data Centre for Surface Water & Ground Water Audit Department at Chittoor under National Hydrology Project. Estimate Value : Rs. 187.70 Lakhs.

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED (Government of Karnataka undertaking). "MESCOM BHAVANA", Kavoor Cross Road, Bejai, Mangaluru - 575 004 Ph. : 0824-2885795, e-mail : sepmescom@rediffmail.com

BRIEFLY Firm booked for duping customers. New Delhi: The EOW of Delhi Police has registered a case against a company for allegedly cheating people by offering them land under a non-existent "Land Pooling Policy of DDA".

Man shot dead by friend. New Delhi: A 22-year-old man was shot dead allegedly by a friend, who accidentally pulled the gun's trigger, in Rohini's Kanjhawala on Tuesday, said police. The accused was arrested from Bahadurgarh Thursday.

GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN Superintendent, Umaid Hospital, Jodhpur Dr. S. N. Medical College, Jodhpur. E-TENDER NOTICE NO 04/2019-20 (NIB:- SMC1920A0161)

कार्यालय प्रचार्य जवाहर नवोदय विद्यालय कलौड़ी, झुजपुर (हरियाणा). निविदा सूचना

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority Main Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar, (U.P.) Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY OPEN TENDER NOTICE ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT. DRM / Electrical, North Western Railway, Jodhpur for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tender for the following work.

VARANASI SMART CITY LTD. (VSCL) O/o. Municipal Corporation, Varanasi NOTICE INVITING TENDER (e-tender) NIT No.: 10/VSCL/Tender/2019-20 Date : 27.12.2019

निविदा सूचना 01 Sports equipments Basketball pole movable - 2 set 02 Football pole movable - 2 set 03 Hand Ball Pole movable - 2 set 04 Volleyball Pole Adjustable - 3 set 05 Kho-Kho Pole fixable - 3 set 06 Badminton Pole movable - 2 set 07 Ground Fencing - 3000' feet length 08 Cricket ground pitch roller - 01 Nos

DIRECTORATE OF STATE TRANSPORT, HARYANA 2nd Floor, 30 Bays Building, Sector-17, Chandigarh AUCTION NOTICE NO. 3 Public Auction will be held on "As is where is basis" for condemned buses/vehicles/Motor parts/tyres/tubes/batteries, used oil, empty drums, aluminium and iron scrap etc.

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NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY Expression of Interest for On Board Shopping in Various Trains

Sr. No. Name of the Depots 1st Auction 2st Auction 1. Sirsa 01.01.2020 06.02.2020 2. Sonapat 03.01.2020 07.02.2020 3. Hisar 06.01.2020 at 11.00 AM 10.02.2020 at 11.00 AM

DELHI URBAN SHELTER IMPROVEMENT BOARD Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C-9) 1, Klokari, Ring Road, opp. Maharani Bagh, New Delhi- 110014

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY OPEN TENDER NOTICE ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT. DRM / Electrical, North Western Railway, Jodhpur for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tender for the following work.

Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi Office of the Executive Engineer, C-11 Rana Pratap Bagh, Delhi-110007

## After HC intervention, JNUSU asks V-C to start a dialogue

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

AFTER THE Delhi High Court urged the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Vice-Chancellor to "engage with students" in order to "break the logjam" around the boycott of examinations as part of students' protest against hostel fee hike, the JNU Students' Union (JNUSU) Friday wrote to the V-C asking him to "initiate dialogue".

Justice Rajiv Shakder, in an order dated December 23 with regard to a petition filed by a student, asking that JNU be asked to conduct examinations, had said, "The Vice-Chancellor of JNU will, thus, take requisite steps to engage with the students and attempt to break the logjam."

"The solution to the logjam, to my mind, has to be found by the Vice-Chancellor. This court cannot run and manage the institution concerned and certainly not through court dictats," he had said.

The JNUSU Friday wrote to the Vice-Chancellor saying it was in the "best interest of the university that the crisis be resolved through dialogue within the university, rather than through the dictats of an external body".

"A similar directive was issued by the Hon'ble High Court in the order dated December 11... Therefore, with regard to the court directives and the preceding discussions initiated by the MHRD, we request you to personally initiate formal dialogue with us at the earliest in order to resolve the current logjam in the university," they said.

The JNUSU said Friday's letter was in "pursuance to previous attempts to communicate with your (V-C) office regarding the concerns and grievances of the student community with regard to the revised hostel manual and fee structure".

JNU V-C did not respond to calls and texts by *The Indian Express*.



People were taken to Mandir Marg and Connaught Place police stations and later released. PTI

## Over 350 detained from outside UP Bhawan, some say weren't protesting

ARANYA SHANKAR  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

OVER 350 people were Friday detained from outside Uttar Pradesh Bhawan before they could assemble to protest against the "violence unleashed" by police in the state during an agitation over the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

The call for 'gherao' was given by the Jamia Coordination Committee (JCC) — an umbrella group of student organisations active on campus.

"As the protest was carried out in violation of the order under CrPc section 144, and the protesters didn't have any permis-

ion, they were asked not to carry out their protest. When the protesters didn't follow directions of police, 357 protesters (282 men and 75 women) were detained and taken to Mandir Marg and Connaught Place police stations. They were subsequently released," said DCP (New Delhi) Eish Singhal.

He said the "leader of the protesters", Badre Alam, was Thursday asked to "take proper permission and hold protest at a designated place such as Jantar Mantar", but "he didn't pay any heed to the advice of police".

Friday saw heavy police presence outside UP Bhawan and towards Assam Bhawan — two locations from where a majority of

people were detained. Police wore anti-riot gear and carried teargas, and a water cannon was stationed outside. Lok Kalyan Marg, the nearest Metro station, was shut for some time during the day.

Many of those detained had come alone or in pairs, but were still detained and put into police jeeps or buses. "Police could not show any papers to prove CrPc section 144 was imposed, when students demanded it outside Mandir Marg police station. The students continued their protest outside the station... The JCC condemns the actions of Delhi Police, and the state's absolute fear towards all kinds of dissent," the JCC said in a statement.

Sonia Kidwai (62), who came to the protest with her daughter, was standing at a distance with a walking stick in her hand. She was among the few not detained. "Police came and asked us to leave, but we told them there are only two of us and asked them to show papers that Section 144 had been imposed, which they didn't have," she said.

Some who were detained claimed they had nothing to do with the protest, and were just passing by when they were picked up. Arshan, a resident of Darya Ganj, said he was going to meet his friend at Northern Railway Colony. "I was just crossing the road and they detained me," he said.

## AMAN COMMITTEES WORK OVERTIME

# With 1,200 personnel, lockdown in Seelampur

JIGNASA SINHA  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

AROUND 7 am on Friday, over 1,200 policemen were deployed in Delhi's North East district to keep a check on law and order in the area, days after protests against the new citizenship law had taken a violent turn in Seelampur.

Police said they have been deploying personnel at "sensitive spots" in the area since the December 17 incident, when a protest by over 2,000 people had ended in stone-pelting by some people, and lathi-charge and tear-gas shelling by police. Nineteen people, including 12 policemen, were injured.

Police has since been promoting "community policing", speaking to local residents and religious leaders to ensure calm is maintained. Delhi Police used seven-eighth drones to carry surveillance in the district. Three Vajra vehicles, capable of firing teargas shells, were also stationed in the area.

DCP (North East) Ved Prakash Surya said, "We are meeting with imams, Aman committees and locals everyday. We listen to their issues and explain to them the consequences of a violent protest." Police said Friday saw increased security deployment, as there was a possibility of people gathering for protests after prayers at local mosques.

"We reached out to people outside the mosques and appealed to them not to indulge in



Around eight drones were used for surveillance. The Rapid Action Force also patrolled the area. Prem Nath Pandey

violence. They listened to us and soon dispersed from the area," Surya said. Along with the 1,200 Delhi Police personnel, 15 extra companies, including the Rapid Action Force, patrolled the area. Till earlier this month, officers said the area's residents were being "influenced by rumours and social media". On December 20, violent clashes between police and protesters broke out in Old Delhi's Darya Ganj, with police saying "outsiders" from North East Delhi were to blame.

Dr Parveen Shah, a member of the Aman committee, said, "There are over 36 mosques in the area and a lot of people go there on Friday. We put speakers outside these places and requested people not to indulge in violence. I am against the new Act and any law that questions our citizenship. But violence is not the option. I promote peaceful protests

and want the government to change the law."

On Friday, police patrolled Seelampur Chowk, Wazirabad Road, Brijpuri, Jaffrabad and Shastri Park. Personnel from neighbouring districts of Rohini and East district were also deployed near Yamuna Khadar to stop protesters from moving to North East Delhi.

Senior officers were also out on the field to keep tempers in check. Saurabh Chandra, ACP at Seelampur, said, "Since 7 am, we have been patrolling the area. Sensitive spots like Seelampur Chowk and Jaffrabad were identified. Last time, people had gathered here and started pelting stones. This time, we have deployed over two teams at each spot and kept things under control. Imams were cooperating and helped us in reaching out to people to maintain peace."

## Shield that emits shock new part of force's anti-riot gear

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

PERSONNEL OF the Rapid Action Force (RAF) have a new addition to their safety gear — anti-riot shield, which can generate a current of 10-12 ampere, giving mild shock to anyone coming in contact with it.

In Seelampur Friday, extra RAF personnel were deployed to look into the law and order situation to avoid any violent protest in the area. A few of them could be seen sporting the electric safety shield.

According to sources, the new electric shield is a "pilot project" for the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). The main purpose of the shield is to protect police personnel from mobs.

A senior officer said, "A lot of times, mob overpowers the police, pushing them out of a protesting site. With normal shields, the police can only save themselves by pushing the mob.



The shield will help disperse mobs, said police

But with the electric shield, mild shock can disrupt the mob and help disperse people."

Santosh, an RAF personnel, said, "This is the first time we will be using this. We have been instructed to push a button to activate the charge. A buzzing sound is emitted once it's switched on. We have a plastic layer to our clothing to save us from the shock."

The gear looks like a regular shield. It is made of polycarbonate material and has a wire on its cover which carries the charge. On the other side of the shield is a handle, which is used to hold it.

## Police allowed to conduct bone test

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

A DELHI court Friday allowed police to carry out a bone ossification test to ascertain the age of one of the accused, who was arrested for his role in the violence in North East Delhi's Seemapuri, during protests against the new citizenship law.

Metropolitan Magistrate Gita issued the direction after Delhi Police submitted that the accused did not have any valid age proof. The boy, through his counsel Zakir Raza and Monis Rais, has claimed he is a juvenile. He had produced certificates from the madrasa he was studying at.

The court asked police to submit its report by December 30. Police said as no other identity proof was available with them, a bone ossification was necessary to ascertain the accused's age.

This was opposed by the accused's counsel, who contended that as per Centre's notification, certificates from a madrasa are valid documents to prove one's age.

## Protesters just ordinary people: Cong at Jama Masjid

ABHINAV RAJPUT  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

SOON AFTER concluding the afternoon prayers Friday, hundreds of people gathered outside Jama Masjid in Old Delhi demanding repeal of the Citizenship Amendment Act and scrapping of the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC). The protesters also sought to do away with the National Population Register (NPR) in its current form. But unlike on December 20, when Old Delhi saw violence in the evening, the day went off peacefully, albeit under heavy police presence.

The protest was led by Congress MLA Alka Lamba, former MLA Shoaib Iqbal and councillor from Delhi Gate Aaley Muhammad Iqbal.

Addressing the crowd, Lamba hit out at PM Narendra Modi. "When PM came to Ramlila Maidan, we were expecting he will cool tempers, but he lost the opportunity. He said that all those opposing (CAA and NRC) are either from Congress or 'urban naxals'," she said, adding that the PM must acknowledge that protesters are just ordinary people of the country.

"You (Modi) should now call a special session and repeal the



Every Indian like me has started changing how they dress: Congress MLA Alka Lamba. Amit Mehra

citizenship amendment act; then tempers will come down," she said.

Wearing a hijab, Lamba took

ajibe at the PM: "He says 'identify them by their clothes'. I want to say that, like me, every Indian has started changing how they dress.

Now try identifying who is Muslim, who is Hindu and who is Sikh in this crowd."

Hitting out at the NPR exercise, Shoaib Iqbal said: "They say NPR is from the Congress era, but what they are not telling us is that they have added many new questions and they are linking it with Aadhaar to know every information."

"They earlier said Pakistan jao, Pakistan jao... we want to say hum Pakistan nahin jayenge, kabristan zarur chale jayenge," he said. "Those who create violence do not belong to us. This is a movement and it will go on. We would not tolerate any violence," he added.

**GURU GHASIDAS VISHWAVIDYALAYA**  
(A Central University established by the Central Universities Act, 2009, No.25 of 2009)  
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Tel: +91-7752-260017 260435, 260209 Fax: +91-7752-260154, 260148 Website: www.ggu.ac.in  
Ref. No: 1846/Rcc/Admin/19 WALK-IN-INTERVIEW Bilaspur, Date: 26-12-2019

Eligible and interested candidates are invited for Walk-in-Interview at the Administrative Building of the University for Appointment as Assistant Professor on Purely Temporary Basis (initially for six months or till regular appointment whichever is earlier) for the remaining period of Academic Session 2019-20 with an application on plain paper giving their bio-data and attested copies of Mark-sheets/Certificates/Degrees of academic qualifications and experiences along with originals for verification on the dates mentioned on the University website. The University reserves the right not to fill any post and also to alter the nature and number of vacancies/appointments if the circumstances so warrant.

Selected candidates shall be entitled to a consolidated salary 25000/- per month. For more details and regular updates of eligibility criteria, number of positions (which may vary according to need) interview schedule and general instructions please log on to [www.ggu.ac.in](http://www.ggu.ac.in). Registrar

Corrigendum in Bid Document for Supply, Installation, Testing, Demonstration, Commissioning & Training of Laboratory Instruments under "Namami Gange Programme" and Board strengthening as specified in the bid document. dated-24.10.2019  
NIT No. CL/765/2019/404, **CORRIGENDUM by BSPCB**

Ref. no. CL/765/2019/ Patna, Dated-27.12.2019

Due to recurrence of problems in network & e-Procurement application (platform), the system was under up-gradation and hence in light of information to this effect received from BELTRON vide letter no. 7264/19, dated-17.12.2019, the dates for submission/uploading of tender were earlier sought to be extended to 26.12.2019 and then till 29.12.2019. Above changes however could not be affected as BELTRON, did not accordingly make changes in its system. Hence following corrigendum is being issued.

Sl. No.	Technical issue	Corrigendum
1.	Date/time for submission/ uploading of offer/bid: <b>18.12.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.</b> ( <a href="https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in">https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in</a> )	Date/time for submission/ uploading of offer/bid: <b>03.01.2020 up to 15:00 hrs.</b> ( <a href="https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in">https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in</a> )
2.	Date and time for opening of technical bid: <b>19.12.2019 at 16:00 hrs</b> ( <a href="https://ww.eproc.bihar.gov.in">https://ww.eproc.bihar.gov.in</a> )	Date and time for opening of technical bid: <b>06.01.2020 at 15:00 hrs</b> ( <a href="https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in">https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in</a> )

**Member Secretary**  
**BIHAR STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
E.Mail & [bspcb@yahoo.com](mailto:bspcb@yahoo.com), Website & <http://bspcb.bih.nic.in>

**EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME (ECHS)**

1. Application are invited to engage the following on contractual basis for ECHS Bongaigaon & Dhubri:-

(a) Officer-in-Charge	- 01, Pay Rs 75,000/- PM, less than 65 yrs of age (Bongaigaon)
(b) Medical Officer	- 01, Pay Rs 75,000/- PM, less than 68 yrs of age (Bongaigaon)
(c) Dental Hygienist	- 01, Pay Rs 28,100/-PM, less than 58 yrs of age (Bongaigaon)
(d) Nursing Assistant	- 01, Pay Rs 28,100/-PM, less than 58 yrs of age (Dhubri)

2. For application, terms & conditions refer our website [www.echs.gov.in](http://www.echs.gov.in) Contact Station Cell ECHS Rangiya at 9910422331 email ID [shrangiya@echs.gov.in](mailto:shrangiya@echs.gov.in), [stationhqrangiya@gmail.com](mailto:stationhqrangiya@gmail.com) and ECHS Polyclinic Bongaigaon and Dhubri.

3. Candidates to be well versed with **computer knowledge** and should be available for employment for minimum one year.

4. Last date of receipt of application is **18 Jan 2020**. Date for interview will be intimated separately on mobile/telephone/email. On behalf of Station Commander, Stn HQ Rangia. PIN-900426, C/O 99 APO.

**Securitisation Notice under S. 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002.**

Citibank N.A., having one of its offices at 27, Central Market, (3rd floor), Western Avenue Road, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi - 110026 (hereinafter "the Bank") hereby serves this subject notice as hereunder. Citibank had advanced the Home Loan facility on request and representation made by the following customers for an amount more particularly mentioned hereunder and as per the terms of the agreement, the property against which the loan was availed was secured by way of equitable mortgage.

Name of Borrower, Loan Amount and Loan Account No.	Description of the Property Mortgaged	NPA Date & Amount O/s
1. Mr. Gurbux Singh Chawla, (Deceased) Represented through his legal heirs, R-2/9-Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad-201001. <b>... Borrower</b> Also at: Mr. Gurbux Singh Chawla, (Deceased) Represented through his legal heirs, Sector 21 & 22, 2nd Floor, Select City Walk, Saket, New Delhi - 110017.	All that piece and parcel of property bearing No. R-2/9-Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad - 201001.	NPA Date: 31-01-2019 Total amount of Rs. 2,37,97,893.12/- as on 25.01.2019
2. Mr. Davindra Singh Chawla, R-2/9-Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad-201001. <b>... Guarantor/Co-Borrower</b> Also at: Mr. Davindra Singh Chawla, Sector 21 & 22, 2nd Floor, Select City Walk, Saket, New Delhi - 110017.		
3. Precious Hospitality & Leisure Pvt Ltd., Sector 21 & 22, 2nd Floor, Select City Walk, Saket, New Delhi - 110017 <b>... Co-Borrower</b> Loan Amount: Rs. 2,98,94,687/- Loan Account No. 130035.		

As per the terms and conditions of the agreement, you the above mentioned Borrowers were required to keep the loan account regularised by payment of the equated monthly instalments as and when the same became due. However, the operation and the conduct of the accounts in respect of the above mentioned loan facility have become irregular and thus Citibank NA was constrained to classify your account as NPA as per RBI procedure. Now Bank calls upon you under the powers conferred in terms of Sec 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 to repay the total amount outstanding/s within a period of 60 days from the date hereof together with interest thereon and other costs involved in the transactions.

On your failure, bank shall be constrained to take recourse under relevant provisions of the said Act, against the secured asset, entirely at your risk as to costs and consequences thereof.

In terms of the provisions of S. 13 (13) of the said act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in this notice without prior consent our client.

The copy of the Notice has been affixed to his house and the same is published in the paper

Place: Delhi Date: 28-12-2019.

For Citibank N.A. Authorised Officer.

Experience the Flavours of India at  
**The National Street Food Festival**  
along with  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Eat Right Mela**

25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi, Gate No. 2

December 25, 2019 04 pm-10 pm	December 26-29, 2019 12 pm-10 pm
----------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Main Attractions:  
Street Food From All Across India, Poster Competition, Street Theatre, Live Performances, Food Quiz, Dietary Advice, FSSAI Pavilion, Win Attractive Prizes & More

[www.fssai.gov.in/EatRightMela](http://www.fssai.gov.in/EatRightMela)

Tickets available at Book My Show and Gate No. 2, JLN Stadium  
Parking at Gate No. 6

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# 8 GOVT & POLITICS



**DELHI CONFIDENTIAL**



## SHOW OF STRENGTH

UNLIKE THE swearing-in ceremony of Uddhav Thackeray in Maharashtra, the oath-taking of Hemant Soren as Jharkhand Chief Minister on Sunday is set to be an Opposition show of strength. From Congress's Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, P Chidambaram and Ahmed Patel to NCP's Sharad Pawar, SP's Akhilesh Yadav, BSP's Mayawati, TMC's Mamata Banerjee, DMK's M K Stalin, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav, AAP's Arvind Kejriwal, JD(S)'s H D Kumaraswamy and CPI leader Kanhaiya Kumar, top leaders of the Opposition are expected to be present at the swearing-in as they are all said to have accepted Soren's invitation. Chief Ministers including Rajasthan's Ashok Gehlot, Madhya Pradesh's Kamal Nath, Chhattisgarh's Bhupesh Baghel and Maharashtra's Thackeray are also likely to attend. Soren has invited former President Pranab Mukherjee too, and he is said to have accepted the invitation.

## PROTEST ADVICE

THE RAILWAY administration appears to be conscious of protests against the merger of services leading into the public domain and gathering traction on social media. Messages, both formal and informal, have gone to zonal units to "advise" officers to desist and use only "official channels". Soon after the Railway Board Chairman's video-conference with CPROs ended on Thursday, messages went out in some zones from CPROs to officers to "advise" those working under their control to avoid posting views on social media criticising the government's policy decisions.

## DIFFERENT FACE

AT A time when the BJP is planning programmes to reach out to the Muslim community to "clear the confusion spread by the Opposition" over the new citizenship law, party leader Shah Nawaz Hussain recalled an old incident in which senior BJP leader and Union minister Prakash Javadekar was mistaken for a Kashmiri Muslim leader. In the story Hussain narrated at the BJP headquarters, Javadekar and Hussain were part of a committee to visit Jammu. While referring to their visit, newspapers in Jammu had referred to Javadekar as Javed Kar and described him as the new Muslim face of the BJP. After that Hussain started referring to Javadekar as Javed Bhai. After hearing the story, some in the BJP suggested that Javadekar could be a face to reach out to the minorities now.

# CAA has no provision of revoking citizenship: Shah

Lashes out at Congress, says it is spreading rumours; skips mention of NRC

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
SHIMLA, DECEMBER 27

ACCUSING THE Congress of spreading misinformation, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said that the Citizenship (Amendment) Act had no provision of taking away anyone's citizenship.

Addressing a large gathering in Shimla on the occasion of the party completing two years in power in Himachal Pradesh, Shah said, "This Act has no provision of snatching the citizenship of anyone, including minorities. It only has the provision of granting citizenship to minorities who came here from Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan."

There was no mention of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in his speech.

Accusing "Congress and company" of spreading rumours that "the citizenship of Muslim brothers is set to go away", the BJP chief said, "Main challenge deta hun yahan se Rahul Baba ko. Ye poore ki bhi nagrikta lene ka agar pravadhan hai to krupaya bata dijiye (I challenge



(From left) Union Minister Anurag Thakur, BJP working president JP Nadda, Himachal Pradesh CM Jai Ram Thakur and Home Minister Amit Shah with other leaders at a rally in Shimla on Friday. Pradeep Kumar

Rahul Gandhi, tell me if there is any provision of taking away citizenship in the entire Act.)"

Shah said that after Partition, the Nehru-Liaquat pact was signed in which both India and Pakistan had declared they would protect their minorities. "India protected its minorities... while this did not happen in Bangladesh and Pakistan, he said.

"From 30 per cent and 23 per

cent, the population there declined to three and seven per cent... lakhs came here following religious persecution. They asked us to grant them citizenship as promised by Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajendra Babu and the Constitution. We are living a life of hell, they said. They neither had homes nor citizenship. Neither jobs nor health and educational facilities. Nobody was

listening to them. Prime Minister Narendra Modi took an initiative and brought forth the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill," he added.

He further said, "I want to tell the public, especially my brothers and sisters from the minorities, this Act is now on the Government of India's website. This Congress and company, they are spreading rumours... that the citizenship of Muslims is set to go away... Please do not spread misinformation and disturb the peace of the country. If you have information, bring it before the public."

The Union minister said that the mindset of the world towards India had changed after the country carried out surgical strikes in Pakistan to end terrorism.

"Earlier, it was a challenge to hoist the national flag in Kashmir but now after the abrogation of Article 370, the fluttering of the Tricolour in the Valley is giving a message to the world," he said, according to a PTI report.

Claiming that the Narendra Modi-led NDA government at the Centre was working to end corruption, he said no opposition party could accuse the Union government of corruption.

# What PM said on NRC is the last word: Goyal

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
PANAJI, DECEMBER 27

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi's words on the National Register of Citizens (NRC) should be considered the last word on the subject, Railways Minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday.

"I think once the Prime Minister of the country says something, that is the last word. The Prime Minister has categorically clarified. There is no question of NRC, no discussion in the cabinet, no provision for that, no law for that," Goyal told the media when asked about the differing statements of the PM and Home Minister Amit Shah on NRC.

Goyal, who was in Goa to speak on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the National Population Register (NPR), described the new citizenship law as a "new hope" for refugees from three bordering nations. "For us, giving citizenship to people who were persecuted on religious grounds is not about political gain, it is about humanity, and you never calculate humanitarian issues on the scale of politics," he said.

Goyal added that there was a general "misunderstanding" about CAA, and that "propaganda" fuelled by the Congress was being spread. "Our children are being misled," he added.

"No one will lose their nationality. Only those who are persecuted on account of their religion have sought refuge in India. Those who came till December 13, 2014, they have been assured citizenship by this amendment," the minister reiterated. "Five hundred Muslims have been given citizenship by Narendra Modi in the last five years because they could make their case for persecution. It includes famous names like Adnan Sami."

About the NPR, Goyal said, "There is also some misunderstanding about the National Population Register. It doesn't take into account any citizenship criteria. It was started under PM Manmohan Singh... It is only to map the population and because the population needs to be mapped to give benefits to the poor and marginalised sections of society (and for proper planning)," he said.

"I think the anger was misguided by political considerations, particularly by the Congress. People have now understood that the anger is baseless."

Goyal also appealed to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to take action against those who set trains on fire. "Burning and destroying railway property shows the mindset of people," he added.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at the National Tribal Dance Festival in Raipur on Friday. ANI

## BJP says Rahul liar, Cong terms remark cheap

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

THE BJP on Friday slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his claim that the National Population Register (NPR) is a "tax" on the poor and said he is the "liar of the year".

The ruling party fielded Union minister Prakash Javadekar to target the Congress leader. "When Rahul Gandhi was Congress president, he would speak lies all the time. Now, he is no longer president, but continues to speak lies. If there was a category of the liar of the year, he would be in it. His comments used to embarrass his family. His lies now embarrass his party and the country," he said.

Javadekar accused Congress of trying to fan instability, but asserted that people are with the government on the new citizenship law and NPR. The minister asserted that NPR does not involve monetary transactions and its data is used to identify the poor so that government welfare schemes can reach targeted people.

The Congress hit back saying Javadekar's remarks were cheap.

"People have been asking questions and the government has been shying away from giving answers... Rahul Gandhi has been asking three questions... And these three questions are in the minds of the people too. Why did you destroy the economy?... Why unemployment is at a 45-year high?... and Why is there an increasing concern for safety of women?... We expected their learned spokesperson Prakash Javadekar will throw some light... but it pains us when... says such cheap things," Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera told reporters.

# As protests continue, BJP and Cong set to step up campaigns

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

AS PROTESTS against the new citizenship law continue, the ruling BJP and main opposition Congress are gearing up to step up their campaigns.

While the Congress wants to keep the protest pot boiling, the BJP is set to organise a national-level programme in January to reach out to Muslims, counter the Opposition's narrative and allay anxieties regarding NRC.

This is the first time the BJP will be reaching out to Muslims in such a big way on the new citizenship law. Addressing a rally at the Ram Lila ground last Sunday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had asserted that the government had not held any discussions on a pan-India NRC yet. He had also claimed claims regarding opening of detention centres are false.

BJP leader and Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has held a meeting that was attended by National Commission for Minorities chairman Ghayoorul Hasan Rizvi and the party's minority morcha president Abdul Rasheed Ansari, among others, to chalk out a strategy. Party leaders said they are expected to come out with plans to demolish the "misinformation campaign" against the party and the government over the new law.

The Congress, meanwhile, will take out flag marches across the country on its 134th foundation day on Saturday. Leader Rahul Gandhi will address a rally in Guwahati where he will take on the government over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and other issues.

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will address party workers at Lucknow at a meeting of the Uttar Pradesh Pradesh Congress Committee.

"In addition to the customary flag hoisting in state capitals, presidents of Pradesh Congress Committees will undertake flag marches carrying the message of 'Save Constitution-Save India'," AICC general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal said.

They will also read the preamble in their respective languages at public meetings organised for this purpose, he said.

Referring to the widespread protests, he said, "Faced by this massive backlash, the PM and Home Minister have indulged in characteristic double-speak and are now attempting to covertly undertake the exercise through NPR," he said in the statement.

"The protesters were attacked by police indiscriminately... The government has put itself in a bind with the PM, HM and Defence Minister making contradictory statements on different occasions."

# Economy can't be run without taking everyone along: Rahul

**DIPANKAR GHOSE**  
RAIPUR, DECEMBER 27

CONGRESS LEADER Rahul Gandhi on Friday said the country's economy cannot be run "without taking everyone along".

Speaking at the inauguration of a three day National Tribal Dance Festival organised by the Chhattisgarh government, he also said the country could never benefit "if brothers are made to fight brothers."

Later, as he was leaving Raipur, Gandhi also attacked the NRC and NPR, saying they were an attack on the poor.

Speaking at the festival, Gandhi said, "The condition of the country, you are aware of. What is happening in other states, you know. The state of farmers, the state of the economy, unemployment... Without taking everyone along — every religion, every

caste, Adivasi, Dalit, the backward classes — India's economy cannot be run. Do whatever you want. But till the time you don't bring people together, till the people's voices are not heard in the Lok Sabha or the Vidhan Sabha, nothing can be done about unemployment, or the economy."

"I say in every speech, the economy is run by farmers, labourers, the poor, Adivasi. If you put all the money in the hands of 10-15 people, do notebandi (Demonetisation), implement the wrong GST, then it is not possible to generate employment; the economy cannot run. And I am quite happy that in Chhattisgarh... we are taking everyone along and pushing the state forward. And the difference can be seen. Violence has lessened..."

"Nothing can be made by breaking things. The country cannot benefit if a brother is made to fight a brother. It will never hap-

pen," Gandhi said.

When questioned about the NRC and NPR later in the day at the airport, Gandhi said, "Whether it is NRC or NPR, it is a tax on the poor. Understand notebandi (demonetisation). A poor man goes to the bank, and deposits his money. You can't withdraw it and all the money goes to the same 15-20 people. This is the same. A poor man will go to an official. If there is a mistake, he will have to pay a bribe. And crores will go to the same people. I am saying it is an attack on poor people."

"A poor person is asking how do I get employment? The economy would earlier grow at 9 per cent, but now has come to 4 per cent. Even that is by their new measure. By the old one, it would be 2.5. The poor are saying 'you have taken all our money, destroyed things, what did we get?' Chhattisgarh is showing the way," Gandhi said.

# Council of Ministers to discuss draft vision for sectors on Jan 4

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

IN A bid to finalise the five-year vision of some sectors, the Union Council of Ministers, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will meet again on January 4 to deliberate on the draft vision prepared by a Group of Secretaries.

According to sources, the day-long meeting is expected to deliberate on the draft vision of social sectors including health and education. Proposals related to the welfare of social groups like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes (OBC) may also be discussed.

Apart from ministers, all secretaries have been asked to be present, sources added.

This will be the third meeting of the Council since the NDA government returned to power in May 2019, and the second within a fortnight.

On December 21, the Council had a marathon meeting and discussed draft visions of two key sectors — rural, agriculture and allied sectors; and infrastructure. The progress of these sectors in the last six months — particularly the implementation of flagship schemes like PM-KISAN — was reviewed. It was also learnt that suggestions regarding the Union budget 2020-21, to be presented on February 1, were discussed. However, that meeting was inconclusive.

The next meeting has been scheduled even as the country is witnessing widespread protests against the new citizenship law and NRC.

# My govt created detention centres on Gauhati HC orders: Ex-CM Gogoi

**ABHISHEK SAHA**  
GUWAHATI, DECEMBER 27

FORMER ASSAM Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi on Friday said that he did not know why Prime Minister Narendra Modi has denied the existence of detention centres in India as they are needed to hold foreigners before deportation.

He also accepted that his government started detention centres in Assam, but added that they were created following a Gauhati High Court order.

Speaking to the media, the veteran Congress leader said, "I don't know why the PM said there are no detention camps. Did he want to give the impression that we do not detain foreigners? Then where will you keep them? We have to keep them somewhere



Former Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi

(before deportation) — he can't be so ignorant. On the one hand, you want to give the impression that you are so liberal that you do not want to detain 'illegal foreigners' and on the other hand, expand the detention camps."

Gogoi was referring to a December 22 speech by Modi in Delhi, in which the Prime Minister had said, "...No one is sending Muslims of this country to detention centres, nor is there any detention centre in India. This is a clear lie, it is a game with wrong intentions..."

Assam currently has six detention centres to hold 'illegal foreigners', but these are all located inside jails. Together, they house 1,000-odd detainees. A new detention centre — solely for detaining 'illegal foreigners' — is under construction in Goalpara district.

On Friday, Gogoi said, "According to the PM there are no detention centres. But there are detention centres in Assam. We started (them) during our tenure as per the direction of the Gauhati HC in 2008. But now, this BJP government has also sanctioned around Rs 40 crore for the camp in Matia and the PM is saying there is no detention camp."

He added that apart from the HC order, "detention camps were started because of a suggestion by then Vajpayee government in 1998. They had issued directions

to all the state governments".

The former CM defended the idea of detention camps. "Detention camps are necessary. After their (the foreigners') completion of terms of imprisonment in jails, where will they be kept? Till they can be deported to the country from where they came, you have to keep them in a detention camp. Now, in Assam, I don't see there is the need of detention camps since the Bangladesh government has agreed to accept the illegal immigrants... then why is there a detention camp?" Gogoi said.

Government sources said illegal Bangladeshi migrants convicted by Indian courts are a separate category from persons "declared" as 'illegal foreigners' by the 100 Foreigners Tribunals (FTs) of the state.

# All measures to build detention centres on hold, says Kerala govt

**VISHNU VARMA**  
KOCHI, DECEMBER 27

THE KERALA government on Friday rejected reports that it was planning to build detention centres for people who illegally entered the country, convicted foreigners awaiting deportation and those whose visas have expired.

A statement from the office of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan clarified that it had put on hold all measures for the same taken by the previous government.

The decision comes in the wake of protests against the CAA and NRC. Vijayan has already stated that he will not allow the NRC process to be implemented in Kerala.

According to the Chief Minister's Office, a letter directing



Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan

home secretaries of states to build detention centres was first sent by the Union government in August 2012. The instruction was that such centres would be used to hold those who entered the country illegally, foreigners overstaying in India despite their visas expiring, and convicted foreigners awaiting legal issues to be resolved before their deportation. The Congress-led UPA was in power at that time.

On November 4, 2015, the home ministry convened a meeting for the same, which the then

state DGP, ADGP (intelligence) and IG (Jail) attended. It was decided at the meeting that the state's social justice department would oversee the construction of such detention centres and appropriate land would be allocated for the purpose. Staff would be appointed by the police department and the centres would be outside the purview of the police-jail departments.

The CMO statement goes on to state that on February 29, 2016, the social justice department director was asked to submit a recommendation for setting up the detention centres. A managing committee comprising district officers of the social justice department and district police superintendent was also set up. Following this, the social justice department in the secretariat asked the direc-

tor of the department to furnish details of the number of people who would be held in such centres. The state crime records bureau was asked to furnish the details. No such data has been received till now and regular reminders continue to come from the Union home ministry, the CMO statement said.

The CPM-led LDF government was elected to power in May 2016. The government made it clear that no minister in the current dispensation has seen the file on the detention centres and therefore no decision was taken.

Minister for Social Justice K K Shailaja told reporters, "As part of clearance of files, we had this file. Since we didn't know the details, we sent back the file asking to furnish them. So far, no decision has been made on it."

# 9 EXPRESS NETWORK

## Protest against new law in Ajmer, effigies of Dargah Diwan burnt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JAIPUR, DECEMBER 27

A SILENT protest rally against the new citizenship law and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) was taken out in Ajmer on Friday.

Some people also burnt the effigy of the spiritual head of Ajmer Dargah, Dargah Diwan Syed Zainul Abedin Ali Khan, who recently said Muslims living in India don't need to fear the new law and had appealed to the government to not implement it till discussions with agitating parties are held.

Ajmer SP Kunwar Rashtra-deep said the march was peaceful. "No untoward incident took place during the silent march. There was no sloganeering. Some people burned effigies of the Dargah Diwan and chairman of the Dargah Committee," he said.

"People were angry over the fact that he (Dargah Diwan) gave a statement saying that the new law has nothing to do with Muslims living in India and the community needn't fear it. His statement is a betrayal of his community. His and Dargah committee chairman Amin Pathan's effigies were burnt before the rally," said a protester.

The rally, which took place after Friday prayers, passed through areas such as Ander court, Dargah Bazaar and Bhimrao Ambedkar Circle before reaching the district collector's office, where a memorandum addressed to the President was submitted.

"We have appealed that this law be taken back as it is against Article 14 of the Constitution. As long as this law is not withdrawn, we will continue to protest peacefully," said Tauseef Ahmad Siddique, the city qazi who was among those leading the march.

Syed Nasiruddin Chishty, eldest son of Dargah Diwan Khan, said, "The effigy has been burnt by only 10-15 (protesters) who are always against the Diwan and also give anti-national statements... The rally was separate and is not related to burning of the effigy. The Diwan has already written a letter to the Prime Minister, requesting him to withdraw the new citizenship law."



A drone camera keeps vigil a day before Friday prayers, at Meenakshi Chowk in Muzaffarnagar on Thursday. Praveen Khanna

## In violence-hit areas, UP police have eye in the sky—drones

MANISH SAHU LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 27

UTTAR PRADESH Police have used drone cameras for aerial surveillance of sensitive areas since violence erupted last week during protests against the new citizenship law.

The cameras were used to record the movement and activities of alleged anti-social elements and capture images of houses where bricks and stones were stored on terraces or on the road outside. On the basis of such data, notices have been issued to the house owners to remove the bricks and stones, police said.

"There were instructions to the police in districts to use drone cameras to record activities and movement," said ADG, Law and Order, P V Ramasastry. Drone cameras were mostly used this week in districts like Firozabad, Meerut,

Muzaffarnagar, Agra, Sambhal and Bijnor, where violence was reported. Each district saw the deployment of five to seven drone cameras, mostly focusing on sensitive areas, police said.

Muzaffarnagar police deployed drone cameras to monitor the situation during Friday prayers. "They help us observe the situation and keep track of gatherings — on the roof of a house for example. During a law and order situation, drones can identify if weapons are being kept on terraces. Accordingly we can deploy forces and maintain peace," said Satpal Antil, SP City.

Police said the data provided by drones can be used as evidence under the Indian Evidence Act. In the wake of violence, drones were closely monitoring Khala Par area since clashes took place there, they added.

A senior police officer said that some districts have their own drone cameras while oth-

ers hire them from private agencies. "We charge Rs 8,000-10,000 a day for each drone, depending on the resolution of cameras. We also provide operators to run the drones," a businessman who provides drone cameras to the police told *The Indian Express* on Friday.

He said that drones being used by the police for surveillance are 'Netra', 'Phantom' and 'Mavic'. Drone cameras with night vision are also being used.

An officer said that a police official is deployed with each drone operator who guides him about particular lanes or areas to focus on, and the official writes down the details. The data recorded in the cameras through the day is collected and scanned by the local SHO and circle officer and forwarded to the SP or higher-ups if required, said the officer.

"We are keeping watch through drone cameras in areas

largely affected by the violence last week. In some districts, policemen are trained to operate drones," said a senior police officer.

Mathura and Firozabad police had issued notices to around 50 people each after drone cameras revealed bricks stored on their terraces and outside their houses. They were asked to remove the material immediately.

Mathura SSP Shalabh Mathur said, "We had two drone cameras and hired five more for surveillance. People who were issued notices have removed the materials from their houses."

When contacted, District Magistrate Chandra Vijay Singh said that some persons removed the stones on their own, while policemen went to remove them in other cases.

—WITH INPUTS FROM AMIL BHATNAGAR

## CAA won't be implemented in Bengal as long as I am alive, says Mamata

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, DECEMBER 27

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday said as long as she is alive, the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) will not be implemented in the state.

Addressing a public meeting at Naihati in North 24 Parganas district, Banerjee said, "As long as I am alive, CAA will not be implemented in Bengal. No one has to leave the country or the state. No one can snatch away the rights of the people of the country, like citizenship."

This was Banerjee's sixth public meeting to protest the new law since the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill was passed by Parliament earlier this month.

The West Bengal Chief Minister also said she won't let the BJP set up detention centres in the state. "They (BJP) are saying they will set up detention camps here. Who is in power here? We are. I am ready to give my life. I won't allow the BJP to set up detention camps even if I die," she said.

She said detention camps were set up in Assam because the BJP is in power there. "It is the work of the state government. They could do it in Assam because there is a BJP government. If they are an elected government, we are also an elected government," said Banerjee.

The TMC supremo said the new law would turn Indians into foreigners. "Do you know what the new Act says? It says you were an Indian, and now you are a foreigner and would have to apply to get your rights. Then they would decide whether to give you rights," she said.

Banerjee also expressed her support to student protests across the country against the new law.

"Why can't students protest against a draconian law? The Centre is taking action against protesting students and is rustiating them from universities. This is very unfortunate. They have all the right to protest. Attempts must not be made to stop their movement," she said.



Janne-Mette Johansson in Kochi, Friday. Reuters

## Norwegian tourist asked to leave India for taking part in Kochi anti-CAA protest

VISHNU VARMA KOCHI, DECEMBER 27

A NORWEGIAN tourist was ordered to leave the country Friday by the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) in Kochi with officials saying that she "violated visa rules" by participating in a protest march in the city against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

Janne-Mette Johansson, 74, a former nurse from Norway who reached India on a tourist visa in October, was questioned at the FRRO centre near the Cochin International Airport about her participation in a "people's long march" against CAA Monday.

She had also posted pictures from the protest on her Facebook account along with a note that the protesters were "singing and chanting with their fists up". "No riots, just people determined, lifting up their voices, saying what has to be said," she wrote.

The latest action comes days after a German student at IIT-Madras was asked to leave India for attending a protest against the new citizenship law.

On Friday morning, Kochi FRRO Anoop Krishnan confirmed Johansson's deportation. "She has been intimidated in person to leave the country. She will be leaving tonight," he said.

In a Facebook post that has since been deleted, Johansson wrote that officials from the Bureau of Immigration turned up

at the hotel in Fort Kochi where she was staying early morning Friday and informed her about her immediate deportation.

"I was told to leave the country at once, or legal actions would be taken. I asked for an explanation and also something in writing. I was told that I would not get anything in writing. The officer from the Bureau is not leaving me before he can see that I have a flight ticket," the post read.

One of Johansson's friends is said to have arranged a flight out of Kochi late Friday night to Dubai, from where she would continue her trip to Sweden, where she is based.

When contacted on phone, Johansson did not respond to questions but got emotional and started sobbing. Throughout Friday, police officers were stationed outside the hotel where she was staying.

According to an immigration officer, Johansson has made at least five trips to India since 2014 and has visited Kerala twice. This time, she decided to spend Christmas in Kochi and attend the popular Cochin Carnival after her plans to visit Assam were cancelled as a result of the protests.

During her current trip, she has been documenting her travel on Facebook. On December 16, she quoted Gregory Stanton, an expert on genocide studies: "Nationalism taken to its extreme is fascism and Nazism. Now every Muslim, privileged or poor, worried."

## IN MUMBAI, TWO SIDES OF CITIZENSHIP DEBATE



FOR



AGAINST

A gathering in support of the new citizenship law at August Kranti Maidan; (right) a protest against the new law at Azad Maidan on Friday. The gathering in support of the law was led by BJP leader and former CM Devendra Fadnavis. Addressing the gathering, Fadnavis said the Shiv Sena, which earlier spoke of throwing Bangladeshi infiltrators out, had now sealed their lips for power. The Azad Maidan gathering was attended by students and activists in large numbers. Several artistes and musicians, too, were present at the protest and argued that the new law was discriminatory.

## FIR says ammunition burnt by protesters in Muzaffarnagar

AMIL BHATNAGAR MUZAFFARNAGAR, DECEMBER 27

AN FIR filed by Muzaffarnagar police says that AK-47 ammunition was "burnt" by protesters during violence at Khalapur following protests over the new citizenship law on December 20.

The allegation comes even as several residents in the region have alleged that the police opened fire at the protesters.

The FIR, accessed by *The Indian Express*, states that a Circle Officer's vehicle was moving through the crowd when around a thousand people torched a Tata Sumo and along with it several weapons. "The crowd became agitated and set

fire to the car despite us asking them to stay non violent. The following items were burnt along with it — 50 AK 47 bullets along with three magazines, tear gas shells, 24 rubber bullets, 30.303 mm bullets among others. Several bulletproof jackets were also burnt," the FIR says.

The police maintained that no rounds of bullets were fired at the protesters.

"The violent protesters destroyed a lot of property, both public and private. A lot of stuff belonging to the police was deliberately destroyed despite our calls to maintain peace. All such criminal actions are under investigation. Through CCTV footage and other evidence we are trying to identify such people," said Satpal Antil, SP City, Muzaffarnagar.

Following the violent clashes between protesters and police officials, local residents alleged a police crackdown whereby property was damaged in the garb of detaining people. They alleged that windows of several houses were broken, homes vandalised and CCTV cameras destroyed. A mosque was also stormed by the police and items broken, they said.

Lawyers said they were told that more people would be released soon. "The police told us that those who had nothing to do with the protests will be released, which is to be seen. The administration and police are trying to reach out to the public to build confidence. No FIR has been filed against police officials," said Asad Zama, a lawyer.

## Sonowal says Cong, Left disrupted peace, cites development projects by Modi govt

ABHISHEK SAHA GUWAHATI, DECEMBER 27



Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal

ASSAM CHIEF Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Friday said the Congress and Leftist groups were responsible for the violence in Assam earlier this month.

Sonowal said those behind the violence and arson were the "primary enemy" of the people. "If someone has disrupted peace in Assam today, they are Congress and Left parties and those who believe in Leftist ideology," Sonowal said while addressing a 'peace march' in Jagroah.

Friday's march was the third by the BJP since last week, after one each in Nalbari and Barpeta districts. Leaders of the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP), an ally of the BJP in the state government which

has moved the apex court against the new citizenship law, also participated in the march. Sonowal assured that action would be taken as per law against every perpetrator of violence. He counted the development projects the Narendra Modi government has undertaken for Assam and the North-East. The Chief Minister also took a dig at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who is scheduled to visit Guwahati on Saturday. "Rahul Gandhi should first answer on how lakhs and lakhs of foreigners were allowed to come into Assam

for the Congress's greed of votes. They have never learned to respect the indigenous sons of soil of Assam," he said.

Assam Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the cut-off year in the new citizenship law was 2014 because after Modi became the Prime Minister, "no person has come from Bangladesh". He also claimed that "no new person" will come from Bangladesh due to the law.

"Hindus who came in 1972 or 1976, how can we send them back? Should we send them back so that they are forcibly converted there? So that they cannot even celebrate Durga Puja there? God has given us that much humanitarian love in our hearts to take responsibility for 3-4 lakh such Hindu people. Someone wants *chacha mama* (a reference to

Muslim migrants), we do not want them," Sarma said.

FIR against BJP MLA

BJP MLA Mrinal Saikia has been booked for allegedly delivering a provocative speech in Dibrugarh's Chabua on Thursday.

In a video which went viral, Khumtai MLA Saikia is heard purportedly saying, "If someone comes to burn down your house, you burn their house too. If they put their hand on one of you, put your hands on ten of them. Because people are with us, we have more people with us."

Sivasagar SP Amitav Sinha said, "An FIR has been registered for an inflammatory speech. It was filed by a local organisation."

Saikia could not be reached for a comment over the phone. ENS

## In show of solidarity, Kerala church choir performs wearing skull caps, headscarves

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DECEMBER 27



The choir performs at St Thomas Mar Thoma Church.

AS PROTESTS continue across the country against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, a church in Kerala decided to show its solidarity this Christmas season by having Christmas carollers wear skull caps and headscarves during their performance.

On December 23, in front of the altar at the St Thomas Mar Thoma Church in Kozhenchery in Pathanamthitta district, the male carollers donned skull caps and the women wore headscarves and performed Mappila — traditional songs sung by the Muslim community — renditions of traditional carols. Mar Thoma Church is a non-

Catholic Christian community and the St Thomas Church at Kozhenchery is a prominent parish. Daniel T Philip, the church's assistant parish priest, "We

wanted to pledge solidarity with all communities, including Muslims, who are worried about the new citizenship law. As we are celebrating Christmas, there is a grave concern among mi-

norities, particularly among Muslims, whether they would become refugees in this country. We wanted to share their concern and express solidarity with them."

He said the youth outfit of the Church, Mar Thomas Yuvajana Sakhya, sang the carols which were adapted to the Mappila-style. "I mooted the idea against the backdrop of the current situation. It was accepted by the choir members and has gone down well with parishioners," he said.

"Jesus Christ was made a refugee a day after his birth. Hence, the church wanted to send the message that it shares the anxiety of people who are made refugees or are fearing they would be dubbed refugees," Fr Daniel said.



# In SC, Babri action committee to seek mosque debris

ABANTIKA GHOSH  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

THE BABRI Masjid Action Committee has decided to file a petition in the Supreme Court, asking for the debris of the mosque demolished in December 1992 to be handed over to Muslims so that no dishonour is done to the sacred pieces. However, a decision is yet to be taken on whether a curative petition will be filed in the top court seeking a relook at last month's verdict on the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute.

Sources in the All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) and other Muslim organisations at the forefront of the issue say the chances of a curative petition being filed are 'slim'.

"The November 9 order of the Supreme Court does not specify what is to be done with the debris of the Babri Masjid. So in a meeting on Wednesday, the Babri Masjid Action Committee has decided to file a petition in the SC seeking that the debris be handed over to Muslims so that its sanctity is maintained. It is yet to be decided when it will be filed and the matter is also to be discussed in the All India Muslim Personal Law Board. No decision has been taken so far on a curative petition," said advocate Zafaryab Jilani, who is also the secretary of AIMPLB and has been at the forefront of the legal fight for nearly three decades.

The SC delivered its verdict on

## Sources in the AIMPLB and other Muslim organisations at the forefront of the issue say the chances of a curative petition being filed are 'slim'

the decades-old dispute on November 9 when it handed over the disputed 2.77 acres to the deity Ram Lalla while holding that the act of placing idols in the site in 1949 was "desecration", that there is no evidence of Babri Masjid having been built after demolishing a temple and that the 1992 demolition of the mosque was against the rule of law. The apex court directed that a five-acre plot within Ayodhya be given to the Sunni Waqf Board for construction of a mosque.

Subsequently, nine review petitions were filed in the court, seeking a relook at the judgement. All of them were dismissed on December 13 by a bench of Chief Justice S A Bobde and Justices DY Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan, S Abdul Nazeer and Sanjiv Khanna.

Muslim religious leaders such as Deoband teacher and Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind president Maulana Arshad Madani had, ahead of the verdict, asserted that once there is a mosque in a given place, it remains a mosque "till the end of time" regardless of what courts decide. The petition for Babri debris stems from that belief.

## MOVE TO MERGE CADRES

# With postcards, petitions to PM, Rly officers intensify stir

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

FROM NEXT week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will start receiving thousands of postcards from serving Railway officers demanding a rollback of his Cabinet's decision to unify all railway cadres into one.

Thousands of postcards are being readied to be sent to Modi and Railway Minister Piyush Goyal, signed by civil servants and others from Railways, demanding two unified services — one technical and one non-technical — instead of one for civil servants. A separate petition addressed to the PM and Goyal, signed by aggrieved officers from all 68 divisions of Indian Railways, is being mobilised, too, rebutting the justification for one unified cadre.

"Merger of services will hurt the development of Railways and safety of passengers. #NoToIRMS #yestotwo services #SaveIndianRailways," say the postcards, addressed to Prime Minister of India, Raisina Hill, New Delhi. Some postcards simply say "No To IRMS" and "Yes to two services".

Within days of the Cabinet approving the merger of eight organised Railway services into one Indian Railway Management Service (IRMS), the voices of apprehension have grown louder. Railway unions will organise a stir between January 2 and 7.

Questions are being raised on the way the Cabinet note was ap-



Postcards are being readied to be sent to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Railways Minister Piyush Goyal. Express

parently "finalised a few hours before the cabinet meeting early Tuesday without wider internal consultation". It is being said that one Railway Board member had verbally mentioned in internal deliberations that in every government system, the Accounts service is kept separate for better accountability and bipartisan scrutiny. But officially, the decision has approval of all Railway Board members.

The protesting officers are from Indian Railway Traffic Service Association (IRTS), Indian Railway Personnel Service (IRPS) and Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS).

Officers have highlighted in a petition that "Parivartan Sangoshthi", the two-day brainstorming session that apparently brought the merger idea on the table, "misrepresented" civil ser-

vants. "The civil services, which were grossly misrepresented at the decision-making level in the Parivartan Sangoshthi, were left without being heard," the petition says. "It had participants divided into little groups headed by GMS, most of whom are from Engineering services. Who would say anything against the wishes of a GM?" asked an officer.

The petition being readied for the PM and Goyal will maintain that the unification will not solve the problem of departmentalism. Since specialisation will continue to exist in the Railways, thanks to the various functions, departmentalism will continue. It will maintain that unification will affect safe running of trains due to competing interests among various specialisations, those in the know told *The Indian Express*.

All 68 divisions of Indian

## PROBE OVER QUESTION PAPER IN MP VARSITY

# MA students asked difference between extremists, terrorists

MILIND GHATWAI  
BHOPAL, DECEMBER 27

A QUESTION asking post-graduate political science students to explain the difference between "extremists" and "revolutionary terrorists" has invited the wrath of the BJP, forcing the Congress government in Madhya Pradesh to order a probe.

On December 20, MA (third semester) students of Jiwaji University, Gwalior, in a theory paper (Political Philosophy-III: Modern Indian Political Thought), were asked, "Describe the activities of (a) Revolutionary Terrorist. What is the difference between extremists and revolutionary terrorists?"

Days later, some student leaders of Government PG College, Guna, approached principal B K Tiwari, objecting to the term. Tiwari said the college had no role to play because the question paper is set by the university. He apprised the university administra-

tion of the protest. "Are revolutionaries being taught or understood as terrorists in MP? If you can't respect them, don't at least insult them," senior BJP leader Shrivraj Singh Chouhan said.

University PRO Dr K S Gurjar told *The Indian Express* a show-cause notice has been served on the Morena-based paper setter and he has been asked to give his explanation within 24 hours. The university will decide on the action after getting the reply.

Meanwhile, Higher Education Minister Jeetu Patwari said he has ordered a probe and strict action would be taken against the guilty. He said since he took over as the minister, he has ensured that mistakes like this are not repeated.

He also said the BJP has no moral right to question the Congress because revolutionaries were born out of Congress philosophy. "Congress has always accorded highest respect to the revolutionaries and showed the terrorists their place," he said.

## Nath orders inquiry after video of police torturing a minor goes viral

Bhopal: Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Friday ordered an inquiry after a video of alleged police brutality against a boy surfaced on the social media.

The video clip shows two constables taking turns to torture a minor in Damoh. Damoh SP Vivek Singh said the two con-

stable has been suspended. He said the video appears to have been shot early November. He said the identity of the minor is yet to be established.

The CM said such inhuman behaviour can't be tolerated and strict action will be taken against the guilty. ENS

# As number of girl dropouts rises, Bihar plans forum to motivate students to stay in school

SANTOSH SINGH  
PATNA, DECEMBER 27

ALARMED AT the increasing numbers of dropouts of girls in the state's senior secondary schools, the Bihar government is setting up a 'kishori manch'—a forum for adolescent girls—from January to motivate girls to continue their studies with inspiring stories of successful women and counselling on

vocational and professional courses available after they pass their Class XII.

The education department has detected that dropouts among girls over last three academic sessions range between 30-40 per cent. The state has about 6,000 senior secondary schools. Despite bicycle and uniform schemes in place for over a decade now, Bihar education department found that 1,662 senior secondary schools across the state have reported high dropouts

of girl students studying in Classes IX to XII. The kishori manch, which will have an educational and psychological trainer each, will motivate girls.

Bihar Education Project Council state programme officer Sachindra Kumar said: "...The idea is to motivate them. All districts have been allocated funds for the purpose." Another official added the trainers would also counsel girls to start small businesses by taking up vocational courses.

# MHA relaxes travel rules for OCI card holders till June 30

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

FOLLOWING COMPLAINTS from Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) that they are facing harassment at immigration for failure to get their OCI cards reissued with the renewal of passport, the government has relaxed the travel rules for them until June 30 next year.

According to the rules, OCI cards reissued with renewal of passport if they are below the age of 20 years and once after they attain the age of 50.

However, sources said, these rules were not being strictly followed earlier, leading to a trend where OCI were not getting their cards reissued.

However, after the rules were strictly enforced, OCI complained of harassment by immigration authorities.

"This Ministry has been informed that immigration authorities / airlines in some countries are not allowing OCI card holders to travel to India... In this regard it is informed that instruction regarding re-issuance of OCI card on renewal of passport or on attaining the specified age is a requirement expected to be timely complied with by the OCI Cardholders. In view of the problems being faced by OCI cardholders regarding reissuance of OCI cards, MEA is requested to advise Indian Missions of the following temporary relaxation till June 30, 2020," an MHA order issued on December 17

has said.

The notification said that in case an OCI card holder below the age of 20 has not got the OCI card re-issued on change of passport, he/she may travel on the strength of his/her existing OCI card bearing the old passport number until June 30, 2020, subject to the condition that along with the new passport, the OCI card holder carries the old passport mentioned in the OCI card.

"In case an OCI card holder who has attained the age of 50 years and got his/her passport renewed subsequently but has not got his/her OCI card re-issued on renewal of passport, he/she may travel till June 30, 2020 on the strength of the OCI card along with the new and old passports," the order said.

**SHRI MATA VAISHNO DEVI SHRINE BOARD, KATRA**  
Abridged Notice Inviting Tender

For and on behalf of the Chairman, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board sealed tenders are invited on the prescribed format, duly affixed with revenue stamps worth Rupees Six only for supply of Pouch Prasad, Fullian Prasad and Makhana Prasad F.O.R. at Non-Engineering Store, Banganga, Katra by or before **06.01.2020 upto 3.00 P.M. IST.** The Tender documents containing detailed terms and conditions and Tender Format can be had from the Central Office of the Shrine Board Katra against cash payment of Rs 500/- (Non-transferable and Non-refundable) on any working day and same can be downloaded from our website [www.maavishnodevi.org](http://www.maavishnodevi.org).

Sd/- (Amit Vermani) KAS,  
Dy. Chief Executive Officer,  
Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, Katra.

No. CO/ Pur/ NE/ 307/ 10486  
Dated: 27.12.2019

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Namely: Surrender, S/o Unknown R/o Unknown Age: 40 years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Navy Blue colour Jersey & Grey colour pant and bare footed** has been found at Nepali Park, Yamuna Bazar, Kashmere Gate, Delhi on 22.12.2019. In this regard a case vide DD No. 11-A dated 22.12.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this found dead person may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO :  
P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi  
North Distt., Delhi  
Tel. No. 011-23968730, 23967889

DP/812N/19

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General Public is hereby informed that dead body of a male **Namely Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: 50 years, Religion: Muslim Height: 5'5", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Hair: Black, I.D. Mark: Moles under both eyes, Wearing: Red checkered shirt & grey pant** was found dead on 21.12.2019 opposite 3717, N.S. Marg, Daryaganj, Delhi. His dead body has been preserved in the Maulana Azad Medical College Mortuary for 72 hrs. In this regard a **GD No. 76-A dated 21.12.2019** has been lodged at P.S. Daryaganj, Delhi.

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

SHO :  
P.S. Daryaganj, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23279331  
011-23274683

DP/6848/CD/19

**भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण**  
**AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
E-Tender ID- 2019\_AAI\_39025\_1

Airports Authority of India invites item Rate tenders through the e-tendering portal by Asst. General Manager (Engg-E), Jaipur Airport, Jaipur on behalf of Chairman, AAI from OEM of Advance Visual Docking Guidance System (AVDGS) for the work "Construction of Apron to accommodate 07 Nos. of Code E aircraft or 13 Nos. of Code C aircraft with superimpose marking pattern and 03 link taxiways on Eastern side of main Apron, 19 Nos. Parking bay's on both side of taxiway tango for Code-'C' type of aircraft and a link taxiway including electrical works (taxiway edge, center line and CAT-III lighting up to new proposed bays) and other associated works at Jaipur International Airport, Jaipur. SH: Provision of Advance Visual Docking Guidance Systems (AVDGS) for parking bays at Jaipur International Airport (Recall)" for an estimated cost of INR 6,79,46,455.00 (equivalent USD 9,47,972.00 OR GBP 7,34,350.00 OR EUR 8,56,132.00 OR JPY 10,28,71,241.00) with a period of completion 06 Months. Last date and time of submission of bid document is **03.02.2020 upto 18:00 hours.**

For detailed information log on to CPP e-Procurement Portal reference <https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app> or [www.aai.aero](http://www.aai.aero)

Further clarification/corrigendum if any will be notified only through e-procurement portal at <https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>

**स्वशास्त्री राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय**  
किरोजीबाद, उत्तर प्रदेश-283203

संख्या- एकजेडडी/2019/1331 दिनांक- 23 दिसम्बर, 2019

**तिथि विस्तारण सूचना**

स्वशास्त्री राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, किरोजीबाद के आचार्य, सह-आचार्य एवं सहायक आचार्य के रिक्त पद हेतु इस कार्यालय के विज्ञापित संख्या- एकजेडडी/2019/1331 दिनांक 02 दिसम्बर, 2019 के द्वारा प्रकाशित प्रश्न में आदेन पर दिनांक 26 दिसम्बर, 2019 तक आमंत्रित किये गये, जिनकी तिथि दिनांक 07 जनवरी, 2020 तक विस्तारित की जाती है। शेष विवरण सूचित रहेगा। इसकी सूचना स्वयंकी वेब साइट [www.gmcfrizabad.in](http://www.gmcfrizabad.in) पर उपलब्ध है। अधिक विधि एवं सूचना के पत्रकात तथा अपूर्ण आवेदन प्रश्न सौकर नही किये जायेंगे।

U/PID-14783 DATE: 26/12/2019

[www.upgovt.in](http://www.upgovt.in)

**MAHARASHTRA ANIMAL & FISHERY SCIENCES UNIVERSITY**  
Futala Lake Road, Nagpur -440 001 (M.S.)

**TENDER NOTICE**

Online e-Tenders in 'B-1' Tender are invited by the University Engineer, Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Science University, Nagpur.

1) **Construction Of Administrative College Building For Fishery Science At Mouza Telankhedhi, CTS No.10, Plot No. 31, Nagpur. Id- 2019\_MAFSU\_526072\_1 (1st Call) Rs.4,22,88,258/-**

2) **Upgradation And Repairs Of Street Lights Poles, With Installing LED Lights At Approach Road Of Grils Hostel In The Campus Of Goregaon MVC, Mumbai. Id- 2019\_MAFSU\_526103\_1 (2nd Call) Rs. 7,14,258/-**

Note : - 1) Please note that further changes regarding this work will not be published through corrigendum by Press Notice. The Changes will be available only on electronic tendering system of Government of Maharashtra which is available Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Sciences University on the portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> only.

Sd/-  
University Engineer  
MAFSU Nagpur

**JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LTD**  
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)  
Electric Supply Area, Medininagar  
Regd. Office: By Pass Road, Sudra, Medininagar, 822102 email: [gen\\_mdnjbs@vjahou.in](mailto:gen_mdnjbs@vjahou.in)  
Telephone: -0662-235076 & Fax: 0662-235078

**e-Tender Notice**

e-tenders are invited from reputed, experienced, technically & financially capable firms/for Appointment of Service Agency for Engaging and Managing Urja Mitras (Meter Readers) for Operationalization of android Based Smart Dedicated Handheld Device ( With in -Built printer) Photo Spot Energy Billing & Collection System" under Electric Supply Area, Medininagar.

e-NIT No	Name of Particulars	Cost of BOQ (In Rs.)	EMD (In Rs.)
207/PR/ JBVNL/ 19-20	"Service Agency for Engaging and Managing Urja Mitras (Meter Readers) for Operationalization of android Based Smart Dedicated Handheld Device ( With in -Built printer) Photo Spot Energy Billing & Collection System" under Electric Supply Circle , Daltonganj.	20,000.00-18 % GST- 23600	1450000.00
208/PR/ JBVNL/ 19-20	Service Agency for Engaging and Managing Urja Mitras (Meter Readers) for Operationalization of android Based Smart Dedicated Handheld Device ( With in -Built primer) Photo Spot Energy Billing & Collection System" under Electric Supply Circle , Garhwa	20,000.00-18 % GST- 23600	600000.00

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

1. Guidelines for online submission of bids can be downloaded from the website <http://jarkhandtenders.gov.in>

2. Bidders have to produce the original Demand Draft towards tender fee & EMD as mentioned in NIT to the Manager (E&A), Electric Supply Area, Medininagar payable at Daltonganj alongwith one set of uploaded documents in hard copy and collect the money receipt before the cutoff date & time as mentioned in the NIT failing which bid will not be accepted. The details of cost of documents, EMD specified in the tender documents should be the same as submitted online (scanned copies) otherwise tender will summarily be rejected.

1. Tender Notice is also available on our website : [www.jbvnf.co.in](http://www.jbvnf.co.in)  
For any clarification please contact : 06562-235078/9709075868

**IMPORTANT SCHEDULE OF DATES FOR ABOVE NIT's**

S. No.	Particulars	Details / Date and Time
1.	Bid availability and Last Date for Receipt of Bid	From 28.12.2019 to 28.01.2020 upto 05:00 PM
2.	Last date of Submission of Cost of BOQ and EMD (Original) and Other related documents	29.01.2020 at 05:00 PM
3.	Date of Opening of Bid	Techno-Commercial part will be opened at 03:30 Hrs of 30.01.2020 and Price Part on a date to be notified later.
4.	Date of Pre-bid Meeting	15.01.2020 @ 11:30 AM
5.	Last date of Receipt of Queries	15.01.2020

स्वच्छि एव राष्ट्रमिति मे जगो भवाने । कृपाय अपनो  
शिकायती को टोल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज करायो।

Sd/-  
GM-cum-CE  
ESA, Medininagar

PR 222803 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd) 19-20 (D)

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General public is here by informed that an unidentified person (depicted in the photo) name: **unknown** residence and family is **unknown** about 50 years of age was found dead as Hanging on a Tree at Tikona Park in front of Geeta Ghat, Outer Ring Road, Civil Lines, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 16-B dated 22.12.2019 has been registered at Police Station Civil Lines, Delhi.

His physical description is as under:-  
**Sex:** Male, **Age:** 50 years, **Height:** 5'7" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **ID Mark:** An Old wound in left Leg, **Wearing:** Grey Colour Lower, Moongiya Colour Sweater, Light Purple Colour Shirt, Red Colour Baniyan & Black Colour Nike Shoes in feet.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or Telephone Numbers.

SHO  
P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23815444  
Mob. No.: 8750870127

DP/811N/19

**College of Vety. Sci. & A.H., Rewa, (M.P.) NDVSU, Jabalpur**  
No. 6131 /Pur/Store/vety/Rewa/2019 Dated : 26-12-2019

**TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed Tenders are invited from the reputed firms, for supply of food items for financial year 2019-20.

The detailed information is available on website [www.ndvsu.org](http://www.ndvsu.org)

Sd/-  
DEAN

**MAHARASHTRA METRO RAIL CORPORATION LIMITED**  
(A joint venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Maharashtra)

**MAHARASHTRA METRO RAIL CORPORATION LIMITED**  
Metro - Bhawan, Opposite Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar College, Deeksha Bhoomi, Vasant Nagar, Ramdaspeth, Nagpur - 440 010. Telefax: 0712-2554217. Website: [www.mahametro.org](http://www.mahametro.org)

**ADVT NO: MAHA-Metro/HR/08/2019 Date: 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2019**

Requirement of experienced employees from Metro Rail / Railway / Railway PSU's / Govt. Organization on Contract / Deputation basis for the period of Five Years for Civil Department of Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Limited for Nagpur & Pune Metro Rail Project.

Sr. No.	Post Name (Post Code)	No. of Vacancy	Pay-Scale (IDA) (in ₹)
1.	Chief Project Manager (Civil) - E7 (For Nagpur Metro Rail Project)	01 (One) (UR-01)	1,20,000-2,80,000/-
2.	Joint Chief Project Manager (Civil-Depot) - E5 (For Pune Metro Rail Project)	01 (One) (UR-01)	90,000-2,40,000/-

**Important:** (1) Eligible qualification/experience, maximum age limit, details of how to apply etc. for the above advertised posts are available on MAHA-Metro website- [www.mahametro.org/career](http://www.mahametro.org/career). (2) The completed filled application form should reach General Manager(HR) at this office latest by 17.01.2020

General Manager (HR), MAHA-METRO

## Over 'pro-Hindu' outfits' objections, Rajnath cancels visit to university in Chennai

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
CHENNAI, DECEMBER 27

DEFENCE MINISTER Rajnath Singh has cancelled his participation in a convocation ceremony at a private university here on Saturday, after 'pro-Hindu' outfits objected to the university's decision to confer a honorary doctorate on noted Tamil lyricist Vairamuthu.

According to BJP spokesperson S G Suryah, Singh cancelled his visit, "honouring the sentiments of Tamils & Tamil Nadu."

"Honouring the sentiments of Tamils & Tamil Nadu, we are hearing that the Hon. Defence Minister @rajnathsinghji has cancelled his visit to confer Doctorate to #Vairamuthu," he tweeted.

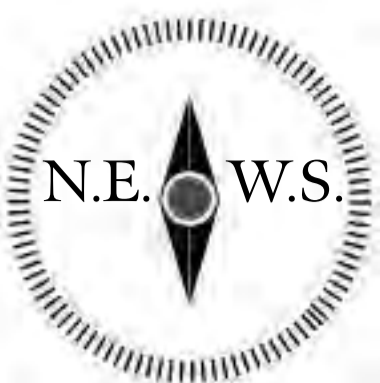
He thanked Singh and the BJP for honouring the sentiments of Tamil people and the BJP cadre.

The private university, however, could not be reached for a comment.

On Thursday, a controversy erupted over the varsity's decision to confer an honorary doctorate on Vairamuthu at the convocation ceremony on Saturday, which was scheduled to be attended by Singh.

Two Hindu outfits opposed the move and announced black flag protests outside the University at suburban Kattankulathur.

Hindu Makkal Katchi and the Hindu Munnani announced the protest, with the latter saying it would stage the demonstration against Singh also.



# Political faultlines at Ground Zero of coal block in Birbhum

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA  
DEUCHA (BIRBHUM),  
DECEMBER 27

THERE IS no signboard or landmark in the Mohammed Bazar area of Birbhum, about 200 km from Kolkata, to indicate that it is perched on what is estimated to be the second largest coal block in the world. What is obvious, though, is a palpable sense of apprehension, hope and caution about the future - once work starts on the block.

Around a fortnight ago, at a business conclave in Digha, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said her government will "start work within seven days" in certain areas on the Deocha Pachami Dewangunj-Harisingha coal block project. She acknowledged that "there is some eviction problem" in other sections. The local administration is now trying to sit together with all stakeholders and sort out issues.

However, with 784 families in over 90 villages in the tribal-dominated area identified for a displacement in the coming years, the project has already led to political battlelines being drawn.

The state government made the first tentative steps on the project this year with a series of announcements, and an initial survey. And with a wary eye on the Singur land agitation that helped it topple the Left government eight years ago, the ruling TMC assured residents that due process would be followed, including resettlement and environmental clearances.

But with the state polls coming up next year, the Opposition BJP has warned of protests if "proper rehabilitation and jobs" are not given.



A stone quarry in Bharkata gram panchayat, which falls in the Deucha Pachami coal block zone in Birbhum. Partha Paul

On the ground, which is a hub of stone-quarry units, local groups are divided: one section, including quarry owners, wants its land to be spared, and the other hopes the project will be scrapped.

In 2010, the area saw clashes between tribals and stone quarry owners over rising pollution. With the conflict leaving three dead and the quarry industry shut for seven months, a compromise was reached after the intervention of then CM Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee.

This time, the administration and tribal groups are cautious. "The state government has made a preliminary survey of the area. That is all I can tell you," said Birbhum DM Moumita Godara. Sources said the survey was conducted by WBPDC on households, families and land - the government will have to acquire 9,000 acres in an area where the population is 40 per cent tribal.

Outfits like Birbhum Adivasi Unnayan Gaonta and Adivasi Gaonta have already started holding "small meetings" in some of the villages that The Indian Express visited in areas

such as Chanda, Dewangunj, Hatgacha, Harisingha and Nischintopur.

"We are not against the coal block or any kind of industry. But the government must consider our plight. We will demand an open cast mine since an underground mine would lead to a water crisis. The stone industry should also be not disturbed because it employs thousands. Many people do not have proper land deeds, either. Everyone must be provided proper rehabilitation, not just small houses," said Sukumar Saha, a non-tribal member of the Adivasi Unnayan Gaonta, in Habrapahari village.

However, other tribal leaders are planning to launch an agitation called 'Jal Jangal and Jamin'. "We will not allow the project here. Past experience has shown that the tribals end up losing their land and livelihood but also their identity. Even when the stone industry came up, tribals did not get any benefit. There was no development, only pollution," said Sunil Soren, secretary, Adivasi Gaonta.

There are over 1,000 stone crushing units and 500 stone

## EXPLAINED Why project is important for Bengal

THE BLOCK has an estimated 2,102 million tonnes of coal and is spread across 9.7 km. West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee has said that the project requires investment of Rs 12,000-15,000 crore and would supply coal for the next 100 years. The state has also set up a committee under the Chief Secretary to monitor the project.

quarries or mines, whose owners hold sway in the area, say residents and officials.

"The government should not touch our quarries or crushing units. We employ thousands of local youths, and they will all lose their jobs. We have seen what has happened in Nandigram and Singur. The government should talk to us first," said Sartaj Mollah from Bharkata village, who owns three mines and a number of crushing units.

But quarry workers in the area say all that they want is for the government to communicate. Says Saheb Murmu, who earns Rs 300-400 per day from breaking stones at Kendrapara village: "There is fear about what will happen. If the stone crushing unit where I work is shut down, will I get work at the mine with the same pay? The government should come forward and tell us what they will do for us. We are not against development or the coal block."

FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

# In new holiday list, Ladakh drops Martyr's Day, Sheikh Abdullah birthday

ADIL AKHZER  
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 27

TWO HOLIDAYS observed by the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir do not figure in the holiday list for year 2020 for the Union Territory of Ladakh.

Earlier, July 13 was observed as Martyr's Day, commemorating the deaths of 22 people killed when the forces of Maharaja Hari Singh opened fire on them on this day in 1931. Meanwhile, December 5 is the birth anniversary of former J&K prime minister and chief minister Sheikh Abdullah, who was also the founder of the National Conference.

However, neither finds place in the new holiday list prepared

for the newly formed Union Territory of Ladakh. An order dated December 26, which was issued by the General Administration Department of the UT of Ladakh, states that the list has been prepared with the order of Lt Governor of Ladakh.

When contacted, Rigzin Samphel, Commissioner Secretary, Ladakh, who signed the order, refused comment.

The erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into two Union Territories (Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh) on August 5, when government also revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

The UT of Jammu and Kashmir is yet to make the list of public holidays for the year 2020.

## Mobile Internet restored in Kargil

Srinagar: Authorities in the Union Territory of Ladakh on Friday restored mobile internet to the Kargil district. This is the second time mobile internet has been restored in Kargil since August 5, when the Centre scrapped the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and the erstwhile state was bifurcated into two Union territories. Leh,

however, has remained connected throughout.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Kargil Deputy Commissioner Baseer-ul-Haq Choudhary said, "We have restored full mobile internet services in Kargil. Earlier too, we had restored it in the first week of October, but we had to shut it down again as a precautionary measure." ENS

## NORTH GREF equipment damaged in Pak shelling: Residents

Jammu: A barrack and a roller belonging to the GREF were damaged on Friday as Pakistani troops resorted to mortar shelling and small arms fire at various places along the LoC in Rajouri district of the J&K. Defence ministry spokesperson Lt Colonel Devender Anand said the firing and shelling began around 1.15 pm in the Sunderbani sector. Later, around 6.30 pm, Pakistan again initiated mortar shelling and small arms firing in Nowshera. While there was no official word on damage to any property, residents said a number of shells fell within the premises of the GREF at Deeng village. ENS



Tourists at Jaipur's Jantar Mantar observatory on Friday. Rohit Jain Paras

## EAST Octogenarian mowed down by bus in Kolkata

Kolkata: An octogenarian woman died after being run over by a speeding bus in the city on Friday, police said. The incident took place at Ranikuthi area when the victim, Chinu Kundu, was trying to cross a road at around 8 am. The driver of the bus has been detained, police said. "The woman was already in the middle of the road and trying to cross to the other side. She did not realise that the bus was rushing in such a speed and failed to walk fast by the bus. It was terrible," an eyewitness said. The woman was taken to a nearby hospital, where she was declared brought dead, police said. A probe was on into the accident. PTI

## WEST 2 collapse outside Sunburn Festival venue in Goa

Panaji: Two youths from Andhra Pradesh were declared dead after they "collapsed" outside the main gate at the venue of Sunburn Klassique here, police said on Friday. The festival is a dance music festival held in the beach village of Vagator in North Goa every year. According to SP North Goa, Utkrish Prason, the de-

ceased were identified as Sai Prasad and Venkat. "The two collapsed before the entry began outside the venue. They were rushed to hospital but were declared dead on arrival. The post-mortem report will confirm the exact cause of death," added Prason. Police have registered the case of unnatural deaths for now. ENS

## SOUTH Row over Jesus Christ statue sponsored by Shivakumar

Bengaluru: A row broke out in Karnataka on Friday over senior Congress leader D K Shivakumar sponsoring the construction of a 114-foot statue of Jesus Christ, with the ruling BJP terming it as an appeasement policy and the state government seeking a report on the status of the land earmarked for the project. According to state Revenue Minister R Ashoka, the land purchased is not owned by Shivakumar and it is a government 'gomala' land (pasture land for community use). The proposed 101-foot statue atop a 13-foot pedestal is coming up at Kapalibetta in Harobele village, a predominantly Christian locality in Kanakapura, Shivakumar's constituency. PTI

# Armed forces have utmost respect for human rights laws, says Army chief

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

ARMY CHIEF General Bipin Rawat on Friday said the armed forces have utmost respect for laws related to human rights and they not only ensure protection of human rights of people of the country, but also of its adversaries.

He was addressing interns and senior officers of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on "Preserving Human Rights in Times of War and Prisoners of

War" at the Manav Adhikar Bhawan here, officials said.

"The Indian armed forces are much disciplined and have the utmost respect for human rights laws and international human rights laws.

"The Indian armed forces not only ensure protection of human rights of our own people but also of adversaries and deal with Prisoners of War as per the Geneva Conventions," General Rawat was quoted as saying.

The army chief's comments came a day after he found himself in the midst of a massive row

after he publicly criticised people leading protests against the amended citizenship law, saying leadership is not about guiding masses to carry out arson and violence across the country.

Rawat in his address at the NHRC event asserted that the driving ethos of the armed forces are "insaniyat" and 'sharafat' (humanity and decency)" and added that "they are extremely secular".

"The challenge is the changing warfare tactics with the advent of technology. Unlike the attack by any armed forces, the terror attacks remain unaccount-

able in international law. Hence, counter-terrorism and anti-insurgency operations have to be dealt in a manner of winning the hearts of the people by identifying and alienating the insurgents among them without collateral damage, which becomes very challenging and difficult," he said.

Referring to the Armed Force Special Powers Act (AFSPA), the Army chief said the Act gives "almost the same powers to the Army, which are also exercised by police and the CRPF" in connection with search and inquiry operations.

# 2 held for 'posing as CBI chief, threatening Income Tax officials'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

THE CBI has arrested two people for allegedly posing as the agency director and threatening income-tax officials on behalf of companies that are being probed by tax authorities.

According to the FIR, the accused allegedly used simple techniques to pose as CBI Director R K Shukla. They saved a mobile number as that of Shukla and used phone software to fake a landline number of the agency.

The imposters were staying at a four-star hotel in central Delhi from where they were arrested, officials said. "In a swift operation, CBI arrested two common posing as senior officers of the agency. Searches were conducted in this regard. Further investigating is on," CBI spokesperson Nitin Wakankar said.

This is the second such case in two months. Another group of imposters posing as CBI officers threatened a Mumbai-based businesswoman in October about an ongoing inquiry against her using a faked email address of the CBI.

In the latest case, the CBI booked Haridwar resident Daksh Aggarwal and Puneet Pareek, a resident of Silver Arch apartments on Feroze Shah Road here, for allegedly threatening senior customs officials with a CBI probe against them, the officials said. Pareek allegedly roped in Aggarwal for the con job to get I-T case details on the companies under probe, sources said.

## The accused allegedly saved a mobile number as that of CBI Director R K Shukla and used phone software to fake a landline number of the agency

According to the FIR, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (Mumbai) is carrying out an inquiry against three companies, Nemani Steel Pvt Ltd, Sunita Developers Pvt Ltd and Great Town Trading Pvt Ltd. On December 18, the investigating officer of the case, GST Superintendent Hareesh Parecha, received a call from a number which popped up on a spam filter screen as that of CBI Director Shukla, it said. The caller allegedly threatened Parecha that the CBI had received a complaint that he is blackmailing these companies and demanded case documents, it said. Parecha sent a couple of Panchnama and other documents through WhatsApp.

The suspect called the next day from a landline number which is a number of the CBI, the FIR said. The CBI received information from sources that the landline number was faked by an imposter and a call was made to Rajesh Sanan, Commissioner, CGST.

The CBI received information that Pareek, on behalf of these three companies, engaged Aggarwal to threaten Parecha for which he promised to pay him Rs 30 lakh. Rs 2 lakh has already been paid, it said.

**राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय**  
(संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अंतर्गत एक स्वायत्त संस्थान)  
बहावलपुर हाकस, भगवान दास रोड, नई दिल्ली - 110001

**निविदा हेतु सूचना**  
(लकड़ी प्लाई, एम.डी.एफ. हार्डबोर्ड, पेंट, पॉलिश, मारकिंग टेप, कपड़ा एवं कारपेट के सामान की निविदाएं मंगाने हेतु)

राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय, संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अंतर्गत स्वायत्त संस्थान है जो कि इमेप्टिक आर्ट्स में छात्रों को तीन वर्ष का स्नातकोत्तर डिप्लोमा प्रदान करता है। राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय में समय-समय पर होने वाले समारोहों के दौरान नाटकों के सेट आदि कार्यों हेतु उपरोक्त सामान की आवश्यकता समय-समय पर पड़ती रहती है। अतः उपरोक्त सामान के क्रय हेतु इच्छुक विक्रेताओं से निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

निविदा का पत्र एवं क्रय किये जाने वाले सामान की सूची राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय की वेब साईट [www.nsd.gov.in](http://www.nsd.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है। निविदा जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 10.01.2020 (सायं 4.00 बजे) है।

रजिस्ट्रार

**पुलिस विभाग**  
**राज्य अपराध शाखा मधुबन**  
**इशतिहार**

मुकदमा नं. 213 दिनांक 21.04.2017 धारा 420, 406, 506, 365 भा.द.स. थाना घरौडा जिला करनाल।

गुमशुदा  
गोल्डी पुत्र कृष्ण वासी  
गांव पीर बडौली थाना  
घरौडा जिला करनाल

सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि कृष्ण कुमार पुत्र तेलू राम वासी गांव पीर बडौली थाना घरौडा जिला करनाल कि दरखास्त पर अभियोग उपरोक्त दर्ज रजिस्टर हुआ है। गोल्डी पुत्र कृष्ण वासी गांव पीर बडौली, थाना घरौडा, जिला करनाल उम्र करीब 23 वर्ष एस. एस. आर्मी सेंटर बैंगलोर में राकेश पुत्र जिले सिंह वासी कैमला वा रघुवीर सिंह पुत्र छज्जू राम वासी शिव कॉलोनी करनाल के साथ नौकरी हेतु गया था। जो घर वापिस नहीं आया।

हुलिया गोल्डी- रंग गेहुआ, लंबुतरा चेहरा, पतला मजबूत शरीर, नीली कमीज व नीली जींस पैरो में स्टोर्टस सुज पहने हुए है वा उम्र 23 साल, कद 5 फुट 8 इंच। जिस व्यक्ति को मिले उसे नीचे दिए गए नम्बरों पर सूचित करें। सूचना देने वाले का नाम गुप्त रखा जाएगा।

प्रदीप कुमार मो. नं.-96713-20916      DSP, SCB/MADHUBAN  
94660-47096, 94163-15892,      0184-2380497, 94163-15892  
0184-2380497      नि. सोनु-98139-53348  
आत्मा राम (ह.पु.से.)  
उप पुलिस अधीक्षक,  
राज्य अपराध शाखा मधुबन।  
दिनांक: 24.12.2019

79744/HRV

to consider the Scheme of Arrangement amongst Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited and certain classes of its creditors ("Scheme").

In pursuance of the said order and as directed therein further notice is hereby given that the creditors forming part of the respective classes of creditors, as mentioned above, of the Applicant Company are requested to attend their respective meeting.

Copies of the said Scheme and the Statement under Section 230 read with Section 232 and applicable Rules of the Companies Act, 2013 can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Applicant Company situated at Office - 101, Saffron, Nr. Centre Point, Panchwati 5 Rasta, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad, Gujarat 380006 or at the office of its authorized representative viz. Thakkar and Pahwa, Advocates at 71, New York Tower-A, Opp. Muktidham Derasar, Thaltej, Ahmedabad - 380059 between 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on all working days (i.e. except Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays).

Persons entitled to attend and vote at the respective meetings, may vote in person or by proxy, provided that all proxies in the prescribed form are deposited at the registered office of the Company not later than 48 hours before the respective meetings.

Forms of proxy can be had at the registered office of the Company.

The Tribunal has appointed Shri Dileep Chinubhai Choksi, Chartered Accountant and in his absence Shri Rajendra Dwarkadas Hingwala, Chartered Accountant, as Chairperson of the said meetings.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019

Sd/-  
Dileep Chinubhai Choksi  
Chairperson appointed for the meetings



## The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

### THOU SHALT

Shifting burden of proof on citizens, telling them that rights are bounded but duties are not — this isn't sabka vishwas

THE GOVERNMENT ASKS the people to believe it when it says that the new Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) is not discriminatory, that the unsettling National Register of Citizens (NRC) process has nothing to do with the CAA and the National Population Register is not a precursor to the NRC. But even as the government asks for the trust of its citizens, it simultaneously makes clear that it does not trust them. And that the onus of proving trustworthiness is, primarily, not on government, but on the people. This shifting of the burden of proof lies behind many of the statements and assertions emanating from the top echelons of government in recent days. In Lucknow this week, for instance, in a state which has seen the maximum number of incidents of brutal police action and the heaviest death toll during the anti-CAA mobilisations, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke only of the alleged damage to public property by protesters. He exhorted those responsible for it to "ask themselves if their path was right". And described citizens as bearers not of rights, but duties — "kartavya" and "dayitva" over "adhikar". Rights are bounded and constrained, "Haq ki ek maryada hai, ek dayra hai, sama hai", he said, but duties are not, "lekin dayitva, kartavya ki bhavna bahut vyapak hai".

This change of emphasis, this inversion, is significant and consequential. With the burden of accountability placed squarely on the shoulders of the citizen, it lets the government off the hook. While the citizen squirms in the spotlight, the government, quite literally, gets away with it. For, it is the citizen who must be always on test, who must prove herself constantly. If in the current moment, she is being asked not about her anxieties and apprehensions about the government's new law, but to account for the purported damage to public property instead, she has been similarly challenged to prove good citizenship and patriotism in earlier times — by demonstrating she is not a hoarder of black money (demonetisation), by despite-it-all compliance with tangled tax laws (GST), or by showy solidarity with the Indian army, no questions asked (Balakot). The National Register of Citizens process, which demands proof of belonging from citizens, is a culmination of this larger paradigm shift.

As citizens scramble to make the cut, present documents, do their duty, the government evades the questions on a deepening economic slowdown, on the dwindling of jobs, on the rise of anxiety and waning of optimism, or on a law that violates the letter and spirit of the Constitution by introducing religion as a criterion for citizenship. It was another country and a different time, but the last regime that sought to talk up fundamental duties over and above fundamental rights, was the one that inserted the former in the Constitution as an attempt to subdue citizens and distract attention from its own attempts to curb their rights and freedoms — the government of Indira Gandhi, during the Emergency.

### UNCERTAIN STILL

Recently declared results of Afghan elections are not the last word. There is more to come

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA Modi tweeted congratulations to President Ashraf Ghani of Afghanistan for his election victory, but the Ministry of External Affairs has rightly been more cautious. The recently declared results of the September 28 Afghan elections are only preliminary, and there is a long way yet to go for the final results. Ghani has polled over 50 per cent of the 1.86 votes counted, but has crossed the half-way mark by an extremely thin margin of some 11,600 votes. The results have been contested by his nearest rival Abdullah Abdullah, who polled 39.5 per cent of the votes and has questioned the validity of the counting. He wants 3,00,000 votes invalidated for various irregularities, including that at least a third of them seem to have been cast after voting hours. Protests by his supporters stalled the counting for days, one of the reasons for the delay in announcing this tentative result. The Independent Election Complaints Commission will look into all the complaints, and it could be another month by the time final results are declared. If it takes on board Abdullah's demand for invalidating a substantial number of votes, a second round run-off between the two top candidates is not ruled out.

With the votes divided on ethnic lines — the Pashtun south seems to have voted with Ghani and the non-Pashtun north with Abdullah — the stability of any new government will need the co-operation of all political actors, especially as they all have to deal eventually with a force that has been inimical to the election process and the idea of a democratic Afghanistan. Even as it engaged in talks with the US for the withdrawal of American troops, the Taliban carried out violent attacks in the run-up to the election. The fear of bombings and violence on election day had an impact on the turn-out, the lowest for any election, post 9/11, and in many areas under Taliban control, polling stations could not open. The recently resumed US peace talks with the Taliban, after they were called off abruptly by President Donald Trump just ahead of the election, bring more uncertainty into the mix.

But with weeks to go, if not months, before the tortuously slow election process comes up with the final results, it would be no surprise either if the US announces that it has reached an agreement with the Taliban — the two sides were close at the time of Trump's cancellation — even before a government has taken office in Kabul. At this point, it is difficult to be optimistic about Afghanistan.

### UP AND AWAY

The Mig-27 flies into the sunset, bringing a bitter-sweet career to an end

CHAPTER IN the history of the Indian Air Force (IAF) came to an end with the last of the Mig-27 fighter aircraft flying into the sunset at Jodhpur on Friday, 35 years after they were first inducted. Not only will it be the last of the Mig-27s, it will also be one of the last aircraft from the Mig family of fighter jets with the IAF. The first Mig, which stands for the tongue twisting Mikoyan-Gurevich, came from the erstwhile Soviet Union, in the aftermath of the 1962 Chinese debacle — selected over competing aircraft offered by the United States — and soon to be made in India.

The Migs went on to be the major warhorse of the IAF, serving with aplomb in the 1965 and 1971 wars against Pakistan, and the Mig-27 particularly rendered yeoman service during the Kargil conflict, where it flew under strict operating limitations imposed by the political leadership. Its performance surprised the Pakistanis, but it perhaps equally surprised the IAF which had worried about the moniker of "flying coffins" attached to Mig aircraft after multiple crashes. The Migs again proved their mettle in the short aerial combat after the Balakot strike, where the IAF claimed that Wing Commander Abhinandan had shot down a Pakistani F-16 even though he was himself shot down and taken captive in the bargain.

The Mig-27 will go but no obituaries will be written for it, as it leaves the IAF with a severe shortage of fighter jets in its fleet. Authorised 42 squadrons, it has two-thirds that number in its kitty. If India faces a military crisis in the near future, along with "God and the soldier we adore", the much maligned Mig-27 aircraft will be remembered as well.



CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT

## Ahimsa 2.0

Subcontinent is witnessing revival of non-violent movements, to protect constitutional values

WE DON'T KNOW if India invented non-violent civil disobedience — sometimes, mistakenly referred to as passive resistance. But India is certainly the first country where this form of protest was practised on a large scale under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, who ascribed it to the Hindu/Jain notion of *ahimsa*. Exactly a hundred years ago, the Non-Cooperation Movement to protest the Jallianwala Bagh massacre set the tone for the satyagrahas that marked the freedom movement. This method of protest became the hallmark of several movements against oppression in post-independent India. The JP Movement, which precipitated the declaration of Emergency in 1975, is a case in point.

Today, the Subcontinent is returning to this peaceful mode of popular protest. In Pakistan, the Pashtuns have reactivated the legacy of Abdul Ghaflar Khan, also called Bacha Khan and Frontier Gandhi because his stronghold was located in the North West Frontier Province. The Pashtun Tahafuz Movement (Pashtun Protection Movement or PTM), formed after Naeqebullah Mehsud — originally from Waziristan — was killed in a police encounter in Karachi on January 13, 2018, draws inspiration from Frontier Gandhi's movement. The extra-judicial killing has led to rallies in support of the human rights of Pashtuns. But these spontaneous protests have also been precipitated by other problems that the Pashtuns in the former Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) are facing. The merger of FATA with the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province hasn't mitigated the area's problems, including that of the landmines left behind by the Taliban. The peaceful protests by PTM followers have been met by repression. The army and paramilitary forces have allegedly forced dissenting voices to "disappear" (hence the "missing persons syndrome"); they have also killed dozens of peaceful demonstrators. Even then, the PTM has been steadfast about protesting in a non-violent manner.

This is also the attitude of most of the Indian demonstrators who have marched against the Citizenship Amendment Act and the National Register of Citizens which they

consider as unconstitutional. This non-violent movement has been subjected to intense repression. More than 24 people have been killed so far, most of them in BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh. The violence by police in the BJP-ruled states against students on university campuses or against peaceful demonstrators has been recorded on videos made on mobile phones — so has the alleged destruction of private properties, including cars, by the custodians of law. This is the era of Ahimsa 2.0, where social media makes it impossible for the state to escape testimonies of committed eyewitnesses, even when there is an internet shutdown. Something similar is happening in the case of the protests by the Pashtuns — those who want to know what is happening do remain informed, irrespective of how the mainstream media engages with the protests.

In Pakistan, PTM leaders have been presented as traitors working for foreign powers. And, in India, several TV channels have characterised non-violent demonstrators as hooligans by repeatedly screening a select number of incidents.

The first challenge that a non-violent protest faces, always, is to remain non-violent in the face of repression and activities of agents provocateurs. Mahatma Gandhi suspended the Non Cooperation Movement in 1922 after Chauri Chaura for that reason. The second challenge pertains to the sustainability of such a movement. As Gandhi used to say, non-violence is not for the coward. It demands a lot of physical courage — a resolve that may weaken gradually in the face of incessant repression. If ahimsa took India to freedom and helped Nelson Mandela defeat apartheid, it failed in China where the Dalai Lama could not stop Beijing from repressing Tibetans and annihilating their culture. Non-violence can work only when states and societies are amenable to moral pressure and likely to develop feelings of guilt. It is bound to fail when the rulers and/or the majorities that support them dehumanise the protestors — whether they are ethnic groups, religious communities or political movements. If moral pressures are a key factor, exter-

As Gandhi used to say, non-violence is not for the coward. It demands a lot of physical courage — a resolve that may weaken gradually in the face of incessant repression. If ahimsa took India to freedom and helped Nelson Mandela defeat apartheid, it failed in China where the Dalai Lama could not stop Beijing from repressing Tibetans and annihilating their culture.

## WARS AND PEACE

Imran Khan makes distinction between 'our' wars and 'theirs'. All have taken high toll



KHALED AHMED

ON NOVEMBER 14, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan talked about the unwisdom of "fighting others' wars" — instead of, presumably, Pakistan's own wars. He said that "Pakistan would no more join any alliance for any other country's war" but "rather play the role of a bridge-builder". PM Khan referred to the Afghan jihad of the 1980s and the American "war on terror" following the 9/11 crisis. He regretted that the "foreign funding" that flowed into Pakistan's coffers in return for fighting these wars was nothing compared to the cost paid by the country.

Khan is right in saying that no state that is serious about its developmental targets should ever think of war — this requires limitless realism and rejection of nationalism and its adjuncts of pride and conquest. But the truth is that Pakistan has fought certain wars as an "aligned" state when it was in dire need of financial help. It has also fought wars that its allies in the West didn't like. Yet, it failed to avoid the kind of fallout that Khan wishes to avoid. The question is which wars were more damaging for Pakistan.

The practical truth is that when Pakistan fought "others' wars, it got some money for the material and spiritual damages it suffered but when it fought its own wars it didn't get any money. Moreover, it never really recovered from the damage suffered during these wars. Khan opposes Pakistan's decision to take part in the post-9/11 war in Afghanistan in 2011 which took place under a Chapter 7 resolution of the UN Security

Council on which India, like the rest of the world, had consented to become an ally.

An "international army" of "terrorists" was prepared with American and Saudi funds, and Pakistan, in Khan's words, "trained" this army in terrorism. The irony is that when Pakistan finally turned on its own terrorist outfit called Taliban, Khan and his party sided with this outfit. Khan was "chosen" by this group as its "vakil" (legal representative). At that time, Pakistan was getting out of a "war of others" by getting rid of the Taliban, but that wasn't palatable to Khan.

Then there were wars fought by Pakistan as "Pakistan's own wars" with disastrous results and no international support. It fought the 1965 war against India based on its "moral" stance on Kashmir. It used the weapons it had got from the Western allies for fighting the Soviet Union and thus lost international support. There is no evidence that this "national" war against India gave Pakistan any advantage in its internal development. There is, however, evidence that the 1965 war actually sowed the seeds of disagreement between its two wings leading, in 1971, to the fall of East Pakistan and the creation of Bangladesh.

The ironies springing from Pakistan's "own wars" are hard to stomach as we blame "other states" for what happened even in this case. The common denominator in the military defeats suffered by Pakistan is dominance of the country's army and a succession of martial laws. This dominance continues and PM Khan will have to rethink his wisdom about wars in 2019.

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The last war which Pakistan fought as its own war, and not "for American money", was the Kargil war of 1999. It suffered a defeat more humiliating than the 1971 war. But instead of stock-taking, this "national war" strengthened the very elements who had undertaken this stupid misadventure. Its planner-executioner, then Army chief General Pervez Musharraf, staged a coup against the democratically elected government of Nawaz Sharif, grabbing the reins of power for nearly a decade. An already crippled economy, struggling under the weight of sanctions imposed by the US after the previous year's nuclear tests, had to cough up \$2 billion for the botched war. And, in the eyes of the world, Pakistan was now a dangerously unstable state led by military officers with little or no accountability.

In conclusion, fighting any war in this day and age is disastrous for the state but fighting others' wars still comes out better than fighting the "patriotic" ones. PM Khan has, though, turned a new leaf by calling out to India to start cross-border trade and embark on a "normalisation" of relations. This means eschewing all kinds of wars — even though fighting "others' wars" still looks a bit more attractive than Pakistan's "own wars".

The writer is consulting editor, Newsweek Pakistan

## DECEMBER 21, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

COUP IN KABUL  
AFGHANISTAN PRESIDENT HAFIZULLAH Amin was overthrown in a coup by Babrek Karmel, a former prime minister, Kabul Radio reported. The coup came as Soviet troops and equipment poured into the country to aid in an offensive against anti-communist rebels by the government, now reportedly overthrown. There was no word on Karmel's position on Soviet-Afghanistan relations. The Iranian news agency, Pars, said Karmel announced he had taken power in a broadcast. In his message, Karmel promised "democratic freedoms for all the masses, the release of all political prisoners, and the creation of jobs for the unemployed." A curfew until



dawn was ordered and people urged to stay indoors. BBC, quoting sources in Washington, said street fighting was underway in Kabul between government forces and insurgents. US officials said reports from Kabul indicated "some involvement of Soviet military personnel" in street fighting in the capital. These officials said they did not yet have "solid information" but Soviet military personnel were reported to be moving about the city.

SOVIET-IRAN TIES  
THE SOVIET UNION has assured the Iranian ambassador in Moscow, Mohammed Mokri, that it "will not remain idle" if the US attempts "armed aggression" against Iran. This

statement has been accompanied according to intelligence reports by Soviet troop movement in the area.

RIOTS IN HYDERABAD  
OVER 15 BUSINESS and residential premises and a place of worship were set on fire in a fresh outbreak of communal violence in the old city area of Hyderabad. At least 20 persons were injured. The trouble was sparked off by a clash between workers of the Majlis Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen and the Janata Party. Police lobbed teargas shells to disperse a stone-throwing mob of about 1,000 persons. Thirty persons have so far been arrested and 29 cases of arson and looting registered.

# 13 THE IDEAS PAGE

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

Devilry has always made for better box office than doing the right thing. Rebellion, especially against divine goodness, requires an unusual and compelling level of intellectual vigour and vim. — THE GUARDIAN

# The difficulty of being honest

The honest go on, driven by an inner force that borders on recklessness. A society that creates hurdles to exhaust the honest or wound them, paves the path for its own perdition



ASHOK LAVASA

"HONESTY IS THE best policy" was a favourite topic of debates in school. It is another matter that both sides — for and against — ended up supporting the motion; the only point of difference being whether honesty was its own reward or it came with an avoidable cost.

One could wonder at the wisdom in this dictum. A policy by definition is something that is adopted after weighing the pros and cons of various alternatives. It is defined as "a way of behaving that you think is best in a particular situation", or as "prudent or expedient conduct or action". In either case, it is a well-considered approach, not merely the ingrained response of an individual based on inherent values.

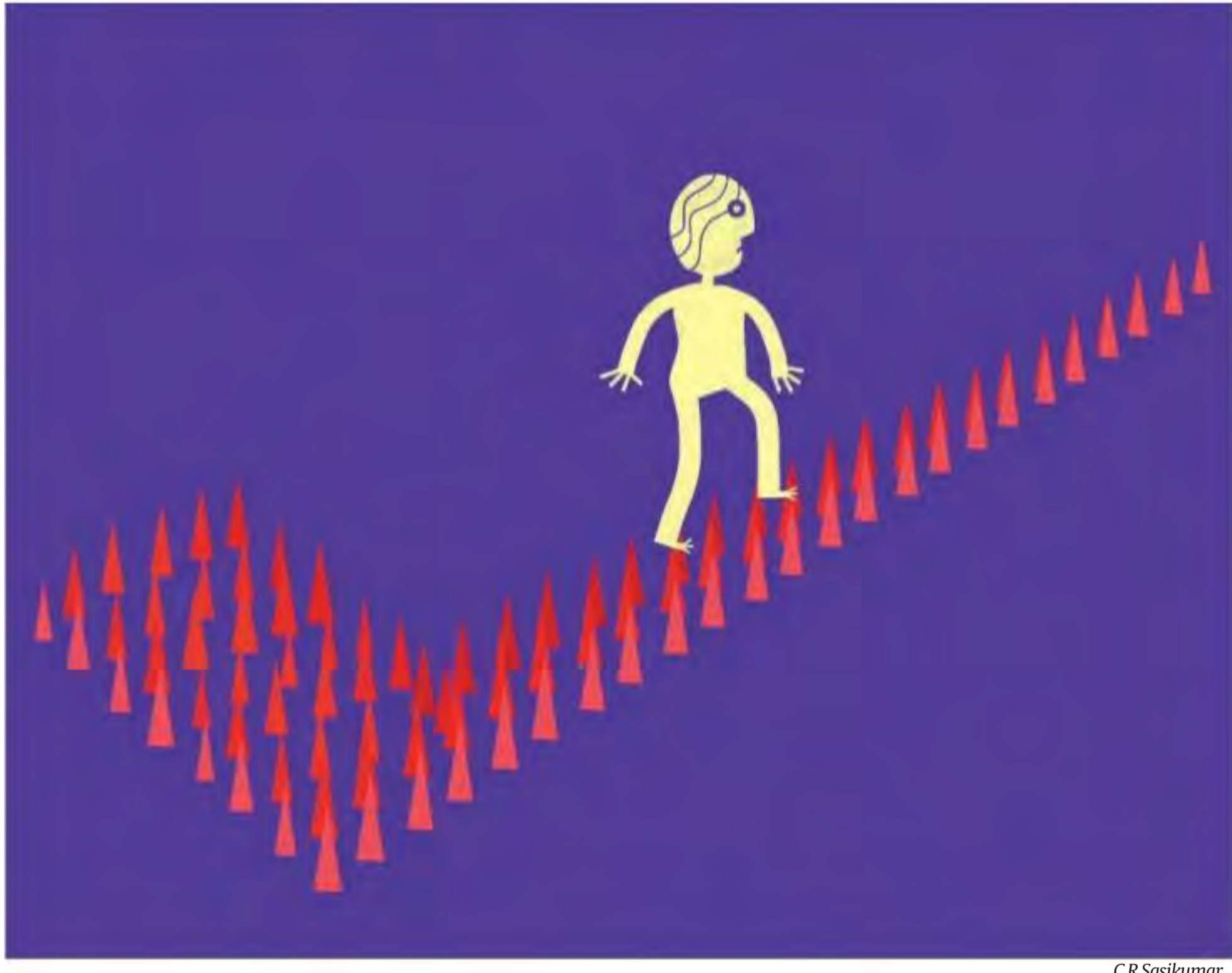
Is honesty to be understood as a pragmatic way of dealing with situations or is it simply an ethical response to any given situation influenced by an individual's character? When an individual is faced with a dilemma of making a choice, he either responds instinctively or makes a well-reasoned decision. For instance, an auto driver finding a passenger's purse in his vehicle, may decide to look for the passenger, deposit the purse in a police station, or report the matter to his owner. As long as he doesn't keep the money with him, he may have acted honestly. His honest act may or may not be rewarded, but he has chosen to exchange the pleasure of pocketing the money with the comfort of his conscience.

That, however, is a simplistic example. Honesty as a policy always comes with a price. It demands a premium like an insurance policy, although it might appear not to command a premium or provide any insurance. The path of honesty, like dharma, is straight yet seldom simple. It often turns out to be tortuous, consumes more energy, sometimes even damaging the vehicle because of unfavourable road conditions. The honest, however, go on regardless, perhaps driven by an inner force that borders on recklessness. A society that creates hurdles which exhaust the honest or wound them paves the path for its own perdition.

At the same time, should honesty be an obsession? Should it drive itself so hard that nothing survives save itself? No system would benefit by such a compulsive pursuit of a sacrosanct principle that believes in preserving itself regardless of the outcome of the task at hand. No system can be productive if it is obsessed with defining the idea of honesty narrowly and subjecting everyone to a hidebound, arbitrary ideal. The outcome of such a narrow approach would be a society of persons with their chastity belts seemingly intact but with little else to show.

Honesty is not a fetish to be preserved and worshipped without being practised. It is like keeping a toilet clean without using it. Toilets are meant to be used; if kept clean they will be used more.

The honest, one could say, are those who are honest to their job and achieve the desired result by adopting honest means, being neither unduly swayed by the pressure to perform at all costs nor weighed down by passive principles that shackle performance. For example, in the case of a civil servant, accommodating popular expectations is not necessarily an act of dishonesty; suc-



C R Sasikumar

cumbing to the pressure of the present is.

If a public servant decides to accommodate the genuine concerns of an individual without compromising public interest, it cannot be termed a dishonest act. Interventions to resolve such individual difficulties cannot be treated as favours to individuals. Discretion at senior level becomes necessary because sometimes people find it impossible to wade through the mire of regulations and deal with the cussedness of the system that disregards the peculiarities of an individual situation. Obsession with the appearance of non-discretionary application of rules would create an army of inert bureaucrats who would delight more in the preservation of rules than finding solutions to problems.

The Prevention of Corruption Act is meant to be a deterrent against exercising judgement with malafide intent; if it throttles individual initiative taken in right earnest, bureaucrats would be more servants and less civil. Civil servants have to solve problems without being shackled by the fear that their discretion in resolving a difficulty could be regarded as acts of undue benevolence. If their ability to resolve problems is curbed by such a shining armour around them, civil servants may end up as an unscathed army of defeated warriors.

The essential characteristic of an honest person is that he or she is truthful. His action is based on an inner voice that guides him to make a distinction between what is right and what is wrong, generally influenced by the prevailing law, his moorings and morality. There is seldom a conscious risk analysis of consequences. Therein lies the difficulty of being good. Some would call it foolhardiness, bravado or tactlessness; tact being the "kavach" of successful civil servants.

There is a price for honesty as for everything else in life. Being prepared to pay that price, directly or by way of collateral damage, is part of the honest act. The price depends on who bears the brunt of honest ac-

tion. The sermon is that honesty is its own reward and it is recognised in the long run. In the real world, "the long run" could be unpredictably long. A quiet and prolonged grind could follow the fleeting drone of feeble praise. It is naïve to expect those that have been opposed by the honest to meekly accept the ascendancy of the meek. They strike back and the price for the honest could be in the form of lonely suffering, even noticeable isolation. The honest could be shunned by friends and foe alike. It is an interesting interplay between those who dread the fearlessness of the honest and those that fear the generally dreaded.

It would be mawkish to think that those who do not stand by the honest are dishonest. People are generally good; they are also generally timid. Fear cannot always be associated with evil, just as fearlessness cannot be always associated with good. The absence of fear gives courage. Without courage honesty is a pathetic virtue.

The honest may not be physically strong or powerful; they have courage and that courage is their strength. Those that do not stand by them in that hour of grief, need or isolation, might not be courageous. They are like spectators who rise to applaud after the drama. Even if they empathise with the actor, they don't take part in the play. They may watch the protagonist suffer, even shed a tear at his plight, offer a silent prayer in his favour and wait for the denouement before they laud his part. They are either happy at the outcome or rue the tragedy. After all, what is drama if there are no silent spectators? They face the dilemma of "to be or not to be". As far as the protagonist is concerned, however lowly or mighty he might be, he is convinced that his honest deed, whether instinctive or a conditioned response of his character, is the best policy after all.

The writer is a member of the Election Commission of India

# Legality is not enough

Even if a law passes the legal test, it may still be repressive, can instil fear in communities



KAPIL SIBAL

I AM BOTH saddened and concerned about the public discourse that we witness on television channels over the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019.

Bhaktis contend that since Parliament has cleared the legislation, those opposing it should await the outcome of the challenge in the court or come to power in 2024 to undo it, as if peaceful protests are not part of our constitutional vocabulary. History has witnessed, often enough, the tyranny of the majority. The minority is seldom oppressive. Majoritarian diktats can never be legitimised by the passage of bills in Parliament. These thoughtless denizens should know that courts have often delegitimised legislation by striking them down. Also, courts have on occasion erred in upholding laws that are unconstitutional. Remember, the right to protest peacefully is a fundamental right. No argument, no court, no majority can diminish it.

Bhaktis then contend that this was part of the BJP's manifesto, and having won by a bigger margin in 2019, the legislation is no more than honouring its commitment to the people. Again, the argument is a non-starter. A commitment cannot be clothed with legality merely because a majoritarian government got it passed in Parliament. Even if the law passes the test of legality, it may still be repressive, can instil fear and target communities. Remember, Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code was good law, and yet targeted communities. Even though it has been struck down, the community is still targeted. Legality on most occasions is divorced from reality. Discrimination is an ugly word. The Constitution abhors it, yet people both embrace and encourage it.

A political party which has a discriminatory, divisive agenda cannot occupy the high moral ground because it won an election by including a divisive agenda in its manifesto.

The most ill-conceived argument is that both the law and its makers are being unduly vilified. They only seek to clear the way for members of certain persecuted communities, including Hindus, to be conferred the status of citizens, even if they have illegally entered India from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. The assumption is that they illegally entered India because they were persecuted in these Islamic countries whereas Muslims who entered India without papers were mere illegal migrants.

There are serious fallacies in this argument. First, one wonders how the government knows of the individual intentions of all non-Muslim illegal immigrants. Two, none of them have claimed at the time that they entered India illegally that they were being persecuted. Nor have they made any such claim thereafter to any authority in

India. They certainly are not refugees, since a refugee is one who seeks refuge and thus claims protection. One wonders how the BJP, and that too in 2019, came to the conclusion that all non-Muslims namely Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jains and Parsis were all persecuted when they illegally entered India. For Amit Shah to say that this was a part of the BJP's commitment in the 2014 manifesto is a lie. Apart from a fleeting reference to welcoming Hindus, persecuted around the world, to seek refuge in India, being their natural home, the manifesto nowhere refers to persecuted non-Muslims as claimed. It only referred to the demands of refugees from Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK). The word "refugee" is not mentioned anywhere else.

With reference to the Northeast, the manifesto refers to illegal immigrants (not "refugees") impacting local people's livelihood and employment. In the 2019 election manifesto, the BJP mentioned the problem of illegal immigration (not "refugees") in the Northeast and committed to address that problem by initiating a National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam, to be expanded in phases to the rest of India. In it, the BJP also committed to enact a Citizenship Amendment Bill for the protection of individuals of religious minority communities from neighbouring countries escaping persecution and to also clear the apprehensions of those living in Assam who had agitated against all (whether "Hindu or Muslim") illegal migrants' entry into the state which threatened to destabilise their socio-cultural identity. There was no mention of limiting this exercise to Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. In 2014, and prior thereto, the BJP never mentioned "persecution" of other religious minorities in the neighbourhood, with reference to the Northeast or to the rest of India, except for refugees from POK. How then did the BJP suddenly wake up to this problem only in 2019?

The answer perhaps lies in the fact that lakhs of Hindus were excluded from the NRC in Assam. An attempt was made, first in the Supreme Court, to reject the exercise and carry out a review. That did not work. For the BJP, to allow such exclusion of Hindus to continue, would have been politically suicidal. The only way out was to initiate the CAB to declare all illegal immigrants, other than Muslims, as having been persecuted in the three named Islamic countries through a legislative presumption. If this is allowed, the next step is an NRC exercise in the rest of the country designed to deny all Muslims with no documents the status of citizens. Others who also have no papers will be presumed to have been persecuted, and will therefore be granted the status of citizens.

This demonic political agenda must not succeed. If it does, our body politic will have been amputated and our Republic scarred. Those rejected will lose their homeland, and we, our brothers and sisters. A partition of exclusion is in the offing. If it happens, the outcome is anybody's guess.

The writer, a senior Congress leader, is a former Union minister

# The intolerance of liberals

CAA, NRC need to be debated objectively



PRIYANKA DEO

READ IN ITS entirety, the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) answers each and every false narrative that is currently sparking violence across the country. In simple terms, the CAA will help thousands of religiously persecuted immigrants, hailing from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, who are currently seeking refuge in India. To the question of why Muslims are not included — they are not a religious minority in any of these three countries. Those eligible will now become citizens of India with rights and will lead a better quality of life. The CAA clearly articulates that no Indian citizen, irrespective of his religion, needs to worry. In fact, it is against the law to exclude a person for being a follower of any religion.

That being said, let's talk about the National Register of Citizens (NRC). It is not about religion at all. Further, the NRC does not exclude transgender, atheist, Adivasis, Dalits, women and those without land with and/or without documents. The rules for a countrywide NRC have not yet been made. But in all probability, going by PIB FAQs, a person will only need show the date and place of birth as per any official document. And, there are a plethora of ways to do this,

including, passport, Aadhaar card, driving license, insurance papers, birth certificate, land or house papers, documents issued by public authorities and even the school leaving certificate. Additionally, if a person is illiterate and does not have documents, they can bring witnesses, or any proof that would help. This would then be considered under due process. To add to that, one does not have to prove one's ancestry dating to or before 1971. This was only for the Assam NRC, mandated by the Assam Accord. The NRC procedure for the rest of the country is entirely different and can be read under The Citizen Rules, 2003.

Why am I writing this? I recently interviewed an entrepreneur from Assam who expressed her support for the CAA. I shared this on my Facebook account and was bashed for it by my fellow Harvard alumnus. What shocked me was that the attacks were neither objective nor based on the content of the interview. The attacks were nasty and personal. Keep in mind that these are people I have shared laughs with, spent time with, and respected. I was taken completely off-guard. I was called "a disgrace" by one of them. Another threatened to "take (me) down from

all Harvard networks and groups". For what? For interviewing a person who did not share their opinion? For expressing a viewpoint that did not match theirs?

I tried to explain the text of the Act, and answered their subjective claims objectively. I also repeatedly implored them to argue objectively, rather than personally — to read the text of the Act and factually point out why they disagreed. What was the reply? Well, let's just say that it started out with language that is unsuitable for a public forum. As these are private citizens, and peers of mine, I will not expose their identity. While I could have responded back, I refused to do so. Despite their insults, I still regard them as respected alumnus of my alma mater. When I do meet them at school gatherings, I will be cordial and will simply agree to disagree.

However, the problem with liberals is that this basic courtesy of conduct is not reciprocated. My Harvard experience taught me to present factually, listen and consider the other side, even though I may not agree with them. If I cannot have an objective debate with my peers, then how can I expect it from any other liberal?

This is precisely why liberals are losing

ground in India. They fail to listen to the other side and do not even consider a viewpoint other than their own. The liberal stance is "my way or the highway". And, this to me, is detrimental to democratic India. Intelligent people who are bound to have different viewpoints. But, one can never innovate, build, develop, discuss and arrive at the best solution without considering all viewpoints.

The liberals do not do adopt such an attitude. And, it is sad that this very attitude has resulted in misinformation and fake narratives on CAA and NRC which are currently causing physical injury, death, damage and ill feelings across the country. I find it ironic that the people responsible for this unnecessary violence identify themselves as "liberals", when actually, it is the open-minded, so called non-liberals, who tolerate their drivel, and focus on putting factual content out there to stop the violence.

Let us debate objectively. Let the facts prevail. Let us not pit rhetoric against facts and expect rhetoric to win. The people of India, I am sure, will be on the side of facts.

The writer is an executive producer and anchor at New India Junction

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### EXAMPLE SPURNED

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A more progressive act' (IE, December 27). The now-lapsed RTI law of Jammu and Kashmir should have been an example for the rest of the country. Providing information under RTI should be seen as part of the Right to Know under Article 19. Instead, the RTI has been systematically chipped away by successive governments.

Akash Mishra via e-mail

### ARMY AND POLITICS

THIS REFERS TO the editorials, 'Towards justice' (IE, December 26) and 'Crossing a line' (IE, December 27). The army chief has issued a political statement and the army is not immune to political influences. Will an head of the combined services stop this? Today, a former Army chief is a Union minister. There must be a five-year cooling period before a high-ranked armed forces personnel can join politics.

Suchak D Patel, Ahmedabad

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Crossing a line' (IE, December 27). It criticises the army chief for advising the leaders of protesters, particularly university and college students, against indulging in violence. But the army chief did not question their right to protest, he did not cast aspersions on their cause. As the head of an organisation in which discipline is supreme he was well within his right to counsel restraint. Violent protests cross the limits of democracy and at times, the army is required to step in. General Bipin Rawat's words should be seen from a broader

### LETTER OF THE WEEK

#### TIGER DOES WELL

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The right count' (IE, December 26). It's heartening that India's wild tiger population has increased by more than 30 per cent in four years. But there are worrying signs of tigers not able to disperse outside the protected areas. Tigers are extremely territorial and its range could sometimes be as large as 200 sq km, so they need quite a bit of space. If we want the country's tiger numbers to be stable, the tigers would need to disperse. Habitats are increasingly being encroached upon by developmental projects

Vandana, Chandigarh

perspective of democracy.

Y G Chouksey, Pune

#### CLEAR THE AIR

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The perils of misinformation' (IE, December 27). Union minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has criticised the opposition parties spreading misinformation about the NRC. However, home minister, Amit Shah, has stated several times, both inside and outside Parliament, that there will be a nationwide NRC. Who is right?

Sanwar Nath Siddh, Churu

## FACT CHECK, GROUND REALITY

### 20 YEARS OF PUTIN IN RUSSIA: KEY MILESTONES DURING HIS RULE



Putin has been PM or President since 1999. Sputnik, Kremlin Pool Photo via AP

VLADIMIR PUTIN has been in office as either President or Prime Minister of Russia for two decades now. He was named acting President on December 31, 1999, after having been appointed acting Prime Minister earlier that year. Some of the highlights of Putin's 20 years in power:

**2007:** Putin gives a speech in Munich in which he lashes out at the United States, accusing Washington of the "almost uncontained hyper use of force in international relations".

#### 2008-12: PM & President

**May 2008:** Because of constitutional limits on serving more than two consecutive presidential terms, Putin becomes Prime Minister instead. His ally, Dmitry Medvedev, becomes President.

**August 2008:** Russia fights and wins a short war with Georgia.

**2012:** Putin returns to the presidency, winning re-election with over 60% of the vote after a decision to extend presidential terms to six from four years. Large anti-Putin protests take place before and after the vote, with critics alleging voter fraud.

#### 2012-18: Crimea & Syria

**February 27, 2014:** Russian forces start annexing Ukraine's Crimea region after Ukrainian protesters oust their country's President Viktor Yanukovich, who was sympathetic to Moscow. Russia incorporates Crimea in March after a referendum condemned by the West. The US and EU impose sanctions on Moscow.

**April 2014:** Pro-Russian separatist revolt in eastern Ukraine; conflict is still ongoing with more than 13,000 dead. Rebels take control of a vast swathe of territory. Western nations accuse Russia of backing the revolt; Moscow denies direct involvement.

**September 30:** Russia launches airstrikes in Syria, turning the tide of the conflict in President Bashar al-Assad's favour.

**November 2016:** Donald Trump is elected President of the United States after promising to improve battered ties with Moscow. US authorities determine that Russia tried to interfere in the election in Trump's favour; Moscow denies it.

**March 4, 2018:** A former Russian spy, Sergei Skripal, and his daughter are poisoned in England with a nerve agent. They survive but a woman who lives nearby dies after her partner brings home the poison found in a discarded perfume bottle. Britain accuses Russia, which denies involvement.

#### 2018: Until 2024

**March 19, 2018:** Putin wins a landslide re-election victory and a mandate to stay in office until 2024.

**July 2019:** Protests break out in Moscow over a municipal election which the opposition says is unfair.

**December 2019:** President Putin boasts of his country's lead in hypersonic weapons and says other countries are trying to catch up.

Source: Reuters

## SIMPLY PUT

# Why this winter is extra cold

December is always cold in northern India but has been much more so this year. A look at temperature trends, records broken or on the way to being broken, and the possible causes leading to the extreme chill

ANJALI MARAR & AMITABH SINHA  
PUNE, DECEMBER 27

EXTREME COLD temperatures, rainfall and intense fog in the months of December and January are not something new for north and northwest India. And yet, this December, north India is feeling the cold much more than earlier. How low have the temperatures been, and why?

#### What is usual, what is different

Every year, in the second half of December and the first half of January, temperatures routinely drop to 2-4°C at some point of the day in many places in north and northwest India. In December, the maximum daily temperature does not rise beyond 16-18°C in most of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and western Uttar Pradesh. In Delhi and northern Rajasthan, daily maximum temperatures are usually not over 20-22°C for most of December.

This winter, in many parts of the region, maximum temperatures on some days have been nearly 10°C below normal.

In Delhi, the average maximum temperature for December has been less than 20°C until December 27. This has happened only four times in the last 118 years, and the IMD has said this month would most likely become the second coldest December for Delhi since 1901. The maximum temperatures had averaged 17.3°C in December 1901.

Delhi has clocked 14 consecutive "cold days" at a stretch between December 14 and 27. This is already the longest such spell for December since 1997. That December, consecutive "cold days" lasted for 13 days, out of a total of 17 such days during the month.

#### How cold is cold

A cold-day condition is said to prevail when the maximum temperature during the day is at least 4.5°C below normal. If the maximum temperature is at least 6.5°C below normal, it is classified as a severe cold day.

Cold-day conditions prevailed in the north since December 15, and intensified after December 21. The most intense cold day — when maximum temperatures fell 7°C to over 12°C below normal — was on December 25 over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, north Rajasthan and some isolated areas in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

#### Conditions 'not unusual'

While the extreme cold in north India could point to some special causes, scientists say there is nothing unusual in the climatic conditions that influence temperatures in this region at this time of the year. The cold wave usually arrives from the west, through the Western Disturbance wind system. This system is also responsible for causing rains in northern and northwestern parts, after having picked up moisture on its way from the Mediterranean Sea. The intensity of the cold also depends on the amount of snowfall that happens in Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and nearby areas.

"All these factors have their annual variabilities. They combine in different ways to produce different kinds of winter conditions. If you look at the climatic conditions this year, no special set of circumstances is visible at the macro level that can be held responsible for causing extreme cold. That can imply that the extreme cold being witnessed is just one of the outlying cases of natural variability that we see from year to year," said a former India Meteorological Department (IMD) scientist.



In Delhi, all days from December 14 to 27 fall into 'cold day' classification. Amit Mehra

#### DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES (°C)

Date	Delhi	Ambala	Amritsar	Chandigarh	Bareilly	Varanasi
Dec 27 (Deviation)	11.8 (-9.7)	9.1 (-11.4)	9.4 (-11.6)	8.8 (-12.2)	10.6 (-11.6)	11.0 (-12.0)
Dec 26	12.7	9.5	9.8	10.1	12.1	17.6
Dec 25	17.2	13.0	11.0	—	17.0	14.0
Dec 24	14.3	11.5	10.4	—	12.1	19.4
Dec 23	14.6	13.3	12.1	16.8	17.7	22.0
Dec 22	18.0	14.3	16.2	—	19.0	20.0
Dec 21	17.5	16.6	13.2	18.8	15.8	17.0
Dec 20	18.0	13.8	11.5	12.5	13.0	15.0

Source: IMD

A cold-wave condition now prevails in areas north of Jammu and Kashmir, in northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and parts of northern Iran. In all these areas, average temperatures have been 1°C to 5°C below normal for the last few days. This could add to the chill brought about by the Western Disturbances. North-central China and Mongolia are also experiencing similar conditions.

#### Looking for causes

**CLIMATE CHANGE:** The unusually cold December this year could just be another instance of extreme climates becoming more and more frequent, a result of climate change. Across the world, the frequency and intensity of both heatwaves and cold waves have increased in the last few years, and are predicted to increase further. The same is the case with extreme rainfall and drought. Just this year, India experienced an unusually wet August and September. The amount of rainfall that September produced was a once-in-a-century event. Scientists also agree that climate change was bringing in greater uncertainty in weather patterns, making them more difficult to predict.

**WESTERN DISTURBANCES:** Frequent western disturbances varying from moderate to intense have mainly contributed to the severe cold over all of north India this year. In addition, the flow of northwesterly winds over northwest India, that too over much

lower levels, further fuelled the chill factor, making the days much colder than normal during December. This December also witnessed haze, fog and rainfall after the passing of each western disturbance, triggering cold weather conditions over north India.

**LOW CLOUDS:** This extended cold spell has been triggered due to low stratus clouds that are blanketed over a large geographical area — between Pakistan, cutting across India and running up to Bangladesh. Similarly, it is prevailing over a stretch of 500 km to 800 km north-south, affecting the entire north India. R K Jenamani, senior scientist at IMD's National Weather Forecasting Centre (NWFC), New Delhi, said that formation of such clouds are unique over the Indo-Gangetic Plains (IGP) and that these clouds have been observed only since 1997. "As these clouds are formed at a height of 300 metres to 400 metres from the surface, they largely block the day's sunlight, resulting in cold days," he said.

"The average maximum temperatures for the month stands around 19.8 degrees (in Delhi, until December 27) and with cold days forecast till month end, December 2019 could be the second coldest after 1997. But, the impact could be higher than that experienced in 1997," Jenamani said.

In fact, cold conditions during the daytime can be more dangerous, said Anupam Kashyapi, head of the weather department at IMD, Pune.

## THIS WORD MEANS

### SNOWEX

How much water does snow contain?

AROUND 1.2 billion people, or nearly one-sixth of the world, depend on seasonal snow and glaciers for their water supply. For a better understanding of how much water is contained in each winter's snowfall and how much will be available when it melts in the spring, NASA has launched a seasonal campaign — part of a five-year programme called SnowEx, initiated in 2016-17.

While the geographical focus of SnowEx is North America, NASA's overall target is optimal strategies for mapping global snow water equivalent (SWE) with remote sensing and models leading to a Decadal Survey "Earth System Explorer" mission. NASA currently has no global satellite mission to track and study SWE. On its website, NASA acknowledges any future snow satellite mission will require observations from an international collection of satellites.

Within its geographic range, SnowEx assesses where snow has fallen, how much there is and how its characteristics change as it melts. It uses airborne measurements, ground measurements and computer modelling. The airborne campaign will fly radar and lidar (light detection and ranging) to measure snow depth, microwave radar and radiometers to measure SWE, optical cameras to photograph the surface, infrared radiometers to measure surface temperature, and hyperspectral imagers for snow cover and composition. Ground teams will measure snow depth, density, accumulation layers, temperature, wetness and snow grain size — the size of a typical particle. This year, real-time computer modelling will be integrated into the campaign as well.

Source: NASA

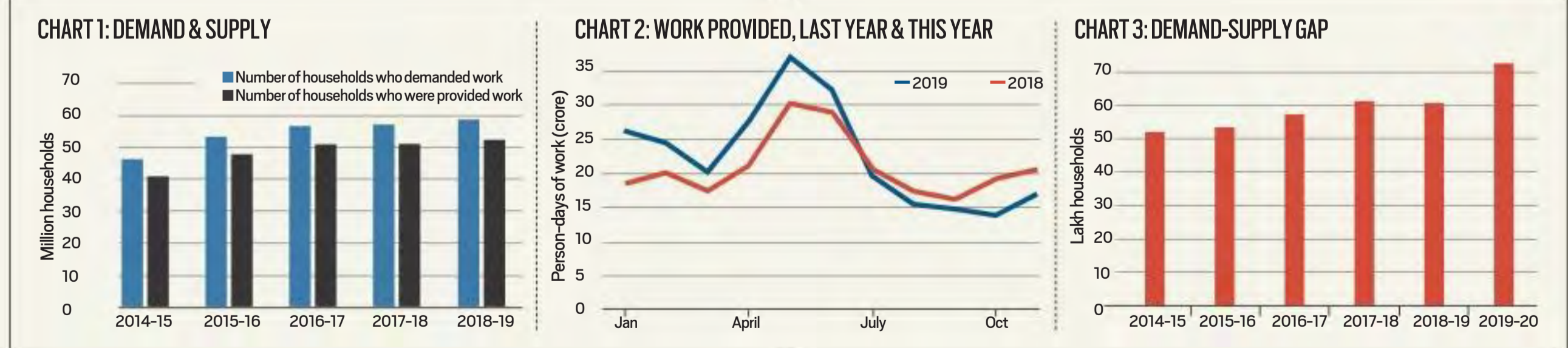
# MGNREGA trends: fewer jobs since July, wider demand-supply gap

NUSHAIBA IQBAL  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

JOBS GENERATED under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) have shown a dip compared to last year after July. This comes even as 2018-19, the year that preceded the Lok Sabha elections, saw a record number of households demanding as well as being provided employment under the flagship rural public works programme.

#### Reading the numbers

Chart 1 shows the total number of households whose demand for work was registered by the gram panchayat authorities concerned and also the number that were actually provided work (MGNREGA is supposed to guarantee 100 days of total employment to adult members of any rural household that "demands" such employment). In 2018-19, demand was registered from 5.88 crore households, and 5.27 crore of them were provided work. These numbers were the highest, at least during the last five years of the present government. Even in terms of person-days of work generated, the numbers rose from a mere 165.64 crore in 2014-15 (the first year of the Narendra Modi government) to 267.99 crore in 2018-19.



The current year, however, has witnessed a clear dip in the person-days of employment under MGNREGA, which is visible after July. Significantly, in all the months before, including those leading up to the elections of April-May, the work provided exceeded the corresponding levels for 2018 (Chart 2). According to government officials, the fall in MGNREGA employment after July has been largely due to the onset of the southwest monsoon. Rainfall during the monsoon season (June-September) this year was 10% above the historical long-term average — the highest since 1994 — whereas it was 9.4% below average in 2018. An above-normal monsoon meant there was

lower demand for MGNREGA work.

However, from Chart 3, it can be seen that the gap between the number of households demanding MGNREGA work and the number who were provided work has been the highest in 2019-20. This indicates that even if demand fell, supply of work fell even more.

#### Lack of funds

The trends raise the question whether all this is linked to lack of funds. For 2019-20, the Modi government has allocated Rs 60,000 crore towards MGNREGA. But out of this budgeted sum, Rs 9,493.80 crore would be required for clearing the liabilities of wages, material and administrative costs for previous

years. Nikhil Dey of the advocacy group Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan claimed that in 2018-19, the Centre had asked some state governments to pay wages to workers for February and March in advance and treat this as "loan" that the Centre would repay the states in the new financial year.

The cost of providing a day's work to a single person has been taken at an average of Rs 249.86 for 2019-20. For 270.21 crore person-days of work that was approved, the MGNREGA labour budget alone for this fiscal worked out to roughly Rs 67,514.67 crore. But the total budgetary allocation, which also includes provision towards material and administrative expenses, has

been only Rs 60,000 crore, out of which Rs 55,829.62 crore was already spent as on December 24. Meanwhile, the Centre has revised upwards its original plan of providing 260 crore person-days of work for 2019-20 to 316.73 crore person-days, following a decision to augment the number of days of employment per household under MGNREGA from 100 to 150 in flood-affected districts of states such as Karnataka.

#### Other support schemes

It is not MGNREGA alone that is witnessing a deceleration of activity this fiscal. The same goes for the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), the Modi gov-

ernment's farm income support scheme that was launched in December 2018, ahead of the Lok Sabha elections. In the first instalment released for December 2018 to March 2019, as many as 8.05 crore farmers were covered, with each of them receiving Rs 2,000. Those numbers fell to 7.43 crore in the second instalment (April-July 2019) and further to 5.91 crore in the third (August-November). In all, the total amount disbursed under the income support scheme in the year 2019-20 is Rs 32,320.86 crore, which is significantly short of the Rs 75,000 crore budgeted for it. Further, of the total Rs 95,000 allocated for the scheme since its inception, Rs 48,421.65 crore has been spent up to December 2019, which is roughly half the allocated sum.

Even the number of rural houses built under PM Awas Yojana-Gramin — which had recorded a sharp rise from 11.96 lakh in 2014-15 and 18.22 lakh in 2015-16 to 32.13 lakh, 44.55 lakh and 47.33 lakh during the following three fiscals — has seen a drop to just 7.2 lakh so far in 2019-20. A senior government official clarified, however, that the process of registration, geo-tagging, etc has already started, and more houses will be built later in the year. The official also cited a target of building 60 lakh houses under the PM-AY Gramin by June 2020. Up to 55 lakh new homes are under construction, and 7 lakh have been completed.

TOP OF THE WORLD



Civilians flee a Syrian military offensive in Idlib province. AP

**SYRIAN CONFLICT**  
**Over 235,000 flee flare-up in Syria, says UN**

**Beirut:** More than 235,000 people have fled the Idlib region over the past two weeks, the UN said Friday, amid heightened regime and Russian attacks on Syria's last major opposition bastion. The mass displacement between 12 and 25 December has left the Idlib's Maaret al-Numan region "almost empty", according to the UN humanitarian agency OCHA. The main highway connecting southern Idlib to the province's north has been bustling with pick-up trucks ferrying civilians out of the region. Since mid-December, regime forces have pressed with an assault on jihadists in Idlib, despite a ceasefire deal and calls for a de-escalation.

**IRAN**  
**Quake strikes near nuclear power plant**

**Tehran:** An earthquake struck Iran on Friday less than 50 kilometres from the country's only nuclear power plant, monitors said. There were no immediate reports of any casualties or damage. The US Geological Survey said the 5.1 magnitude quake struck 44 kilometres from the southwestern city of Borazjan and at a depth of 38 kilometres. Its reported epicentre is 45 kilometres east of the Bushehr nuclear power plant, on the southwest Gulf coast. The Iranian Seismological Center said in a preliminary report on its website that the strength of the quake was 4.9 magnitude and that its depth was 10 km.

**PERU**  
**McDonald's fined \$250,000 after worker deaths**

**Lima:** Peruvian authorities on Thursday fined the local owner of a McDonald's franchise \$250,000 for serious safety violations after two employees were electrocuted to death. Two workers, an 18-year-old man and a woman, died on December 15 while cleaning the kitchen of a McDonald's in Pueblo Libre, in the Lima province. Police said the woman suffered an electric shock while handling one of the soda machines. Her coworker tried to help her but was also electrocuted in the process.



At the site of the plane crash near Almaty International Airport in Kazakhstan on Friday. AP

## 12 die after airliner crashes in Kazakhstan

Bek Air plane, carrying nearly 100 people on board, crashes soon after takeoff

**PAVEL MIKHEYEV**  
ALMATY, DECEMBER 27

A PASSENGER plane carrying nearly 100 people crashed soon after take-off near the city of Almaty in Kazakhstan on Friday, slamming into a house in an accident that killed 12 people and injured dozens.

The Fokker 100 aircraft, operated by Bek Air, got into trouble shortly after departing from Almaty, the Central Asian coun-

try's commercial centre, on a pre-dawn flight to the capital Nur-Sultan.

It lost altitude during take-off and broke through a concrete fence before hitting the two-storey building, Kazakhstan's Civil Aviation Committee said. It was not immediately clear what caused the crash.

"The plane tilted to the left, then to the right, then it started shaking while still trying to gain altitude," businessman Aslan Nazarliyev, who survived the

crash, told Reuters.

Investigators found scratch marks on the runway.

"Before crashing, the aircraft touched the runway with its tail twice, the gear was retracted," Deputy Prime Minister Roman Sklyar told reporters.

"A commission... will establish whether this was pilot error or technical issues. The runway was in an ideal condition."

A Reuters reporter saw the battered remains of the front of the plane and other separate parts of

the fuselage scattered around what was left of the house.

A survivor told news website Tengrinews she heard a "terrifying sound" before the plane started losing altitude. "The plane was flying at a tilt. Everything was like in a movie: screaming, shouting, people crying," she said.

Almaty authorities initially put the death toll at 15 or more but later revised the figure down to 12. They said 49 people were in hospitals, some of them in serious condition. **REUTERS**

## Pak arrests 5 al-Qaeda operatives in night raid

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
MULTAN, DECEMBER 27

FIVE AL-QAEDA operatives were arrested in a raid overnight in eastern Pakistan, an official with the country's counterterrorism department said Friday.

According to the official, Muhammad Imran, the raid in Punjab province was carried out in collaboration with the country's top intelligence agency, the Inter Services Intelligence.

The suspects arrested late Thursday belong to the al-Qaeda branch active in the region and known as Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent, he said, adding that the men ran a media cell for

the terror network and coordinated its militant operations in the region.

One of the arrested men was an expert in forged documents, while another specialised in digital media and publications, the official also said.

Imran said electronic equipment, weapons and explosive vests were seized in the raid. He said the suspects, who were initially based in the southern port city of Karachi but recently moved to Gujranwala, were also involved in raising funds for al-Qaeda.

Al-Qaeda founder Osama Bin Laden was killed in a US Navy SEALs operation in May 2011 in his hiding place in the garrison city of Abbottabad, not far from the capital of Islamabad.

## Musharraf challenges special court's verdict in treason case: report

**SAJJAD HUSSAIN**  
ISLAMABAD, DECEMBER 27

PAKISTAN'S FORMER military ruler Gen (ret'd) Pervez Musharraf on Friday filed a petition in a court against the special court's verdict convicting him of high treason and sentencing him to death, according to media reports.

Last week, the special court in Islamabad sentenced 76-year-old Musharraf to death in absentia for high treason following a six-year legal case.

The 86 page-long petition, filed by Advocate Azhar Siddique in the Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday on Musharraf's behalf,



The former military ruler was sentenced to death

named the federal government and others as respondents, Dawn News reported.

The petition highlighted that the "judgment contained a mix of anomalies and contradictory statements". It added that the special court "rapidly and hurriedly wrapped up the trial which was far from conclusion", the report said. **PTI**



Rajitha Senarathne

## Former Sri Lankan health minister held

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
COLOMBO, DECEMBER 27

SRI LANKA'S former health minister Rajitha Senarathne was arrested at a private hospital here on Friday for addressing a news conference on the infamous "white van" abductions, the second opposition lawmaker to be apprehended since President Gotabaya Rajapaksa took office last month.

The United National Party (UNP) lawmaker was arrested by Sri Lankan police's Criminal Investigations Department at the Lanka Hospital where he was admitted Thursday, his lawyers said. Colombo's additional magistrate visited Senarathne at the hospital on Friday and approved his detention until December 30 for investigation.

At a press conference on Nov 10 in the lead up to the Nov 16 election which Gotabaya won by a huge margin, two men, along with Senarathne, spoke about "white van" squads that abducted government critics during former president Mahinda Rajapaksa's regime between 2005 and 2015.

The other two men who spoke at the conference were arrested earlier. One man had claimed to be the driver and the other as a victim of the dreaded white vans.

## Russia deploys hypersonic nuclear missile

**ANDREW OSBORN**  
MOSCOW, DECEMBER 27

RUSSIA DEPLOYED its first regiment of hypersonic nuclear-capable missiles on Friday, the Defence Ministry said, a move which President Vladimir Putin has boasted puts his country in a class of its own.

Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu has informed Putin of the deployment, his ministry said in a statement, which did not say where the missiles were located.

The new system, called Avangard, comprises a hypersonic glide vehicle which is designed to sit atop an intercontinental ballistic missile, one of several new types of weapons touted by Putin as being ahead of their time.



An intercontinental ballistic missile lifts off from a truck-mounted launcher. AP

Putin has said Russia's new generation of nuclear weapons can hit almost any point in the world and evade a US-built missile shield, though some experts

EXPLAINED

### As Russia, China take lead in hypersonic weapons, US ponders counter measures

WITH RUSSIA making its hypersonic intercontinental weapon operational, and China also having tested its own such missile, the US has been forced to consider how to respond. A missile mounted with Russia's hypersonic glider can manoeuvre sharply while in flight. It also follows a flatter, lower trajectory than conventional ballistic missiles. This means it will be more difficult to detect. According to reports, the US has considered putting sensors and missile interceptors in space to more quickly respond to such missiles. The US Defence Secretary has also said in August that in "a couple of years", the US will have its own hypersonic weapon.

have questioned how advanced some of the weapons programmes are. "Today, we have a unique situation in our new and recent history. They (other coun-

tries) are trying to catch up with us. Not a single country possesses hypersonic weapons, let alone continental-range hypersonic weapons," said Putin. **REUTERS**

## Another Brexit delay could be necessary, EU chief warns

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
BRUSSELS, DECEMBER 27

THE EUROPEAN Union and Britain will struggle to seal an agreement on trade and other aspects of their future ties after Brexit next year and should consider extending the negotiations beyond 2020, a top EU official said in an interview published Friday.

The UK is scheduled to leave the EU on January 31. If it does, it will be the first time a country leaves the world's biggest trading bloc. Negotiations between the remaining members and the British government on future trade, fisheries, education and transport relations can only begin after that date and must con-



URSULA VON DER LEYEN  
European Commission President

clude by the end of 2020.

"I am very concerned about how little time we have," European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen told the French business newspaper *Les Echos*.

"It seems to me that, on both sides, we should seriously con-

sider whether the negotiations are feasible in such a short time." "I think it would be reasonable to take stock in the middle of the year and if necessary, agree on an extension to the transition period," von der Leyen said.

As the leader of the executive commission, von der Leyen heads the EU institution responsible for Brexit talks and negotiating trade deals on behalf of member countries.

Such trade pacts routinely take years to complete, and businesses fear that the UK could face a new "no-deal" Brexit scenario at the start of 2021 if questions about whether tariff-free trade with the country's biggest trading partner remain unanswered.

## Philippines bans US senators, considers visa restrictions for Americans

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
MANILA, DECEMBER 27

THE PHILIPPINES banned two US senators and threatened to introduce visa restrictions for Americans entering the country, the President's spokesperson said Friday, if Washington pushes ahead with sanctions against Filipino officials involved in jailing a leading opposition leader.

Senators Richard Durbin and Patrick Leahy were banned from entering the country after introducing a provision in the 2020 US budget that would prevent officials involved in the incarceration of Senator Leila de Lima from entering the US, presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo said.

De Lima, one of the highest-profile critics of Duterte's controversial war on drugs, has been imprisoned since February 2017 over a drug charge — but has claimed innocence, and accused him of persecuting political opponents.

"If they will enforce this provision in the US budget, then we will be compelled to require all Americans entering into this country to secure a visa before they can be allowed entry," Panelo said on Friday.

American tourists — who can enter visa-free for up to 30 days — account for more than a tenth of arrivals, according to the Philippines tourism department.

The senators' provision allows the US to deny entry to Philippine officials if the state department finds "credible information" on those involved in the "wrongful imprisonment" of De Lima.

## IN A FIRST FOR NEPAL, A MAN WAS HELD FOR FORCING HIS SISTER-IN-LAW TO STAY IN A COLD HUT DURING HER PERIOD

# An old menstruation taboo killed her; this time, a man went to jail

**BHADRA SHARMA & JEFFREY GETTLEMAN**  
KATHMANDU, DECEMBER 27

EVERY WINTER, in Nepal's snow-covered hills, young women keep dying because of a deadly superstition.

The tradition here says that any woman who has her period must be banished outside, to a cowshed or makeshift bunker, no matter how cold or dangerous. This has been a ritual, believed to protect the purity of the village, for as long as anyone can remember. But this winter, someone was

finally arrested in such a death — a first in Nepal, according to law enforcement officials. The case has set off a national debate about women's rights, tradition, law and punishment.

Nepali authorities have jailed the brother-in-law of a young woman who died in a shed this month in the remote Achham district, in the far west. Many Nepalis have been disturbed by her death, and one newspaper called the taboo — called *chhaupadi* — a "national shame."

Human rights activists have been pressing authorities to enforce a law that went into effect last



A woman in chhaupadi hut. Reuters file

year that punishes family members who exile menstruating women from their own homes. Still, villagers continue to do it and

many residents in Achham are upset that someone was sent to jail. "The police are just adding pain over pain," said Krishna

Budha, chief of the village where the young woman died. "She had gone to the hut on her own, taking part of our culture."

But Nepal's highest authorities intervened, leading police officers to make the arrest.

In the past few weeks, villagers have been ordered to destroy dozens of *chhaupadi* huts and Nepal's home ministry has threatened to cut off government aid to families that do not comply with a law that bans the *chhaupadi* ritual.

In Nepali language, *chhaupadi* means someone who bears an impurity. An oppressive tradition has evolved around this

taboo, including the construction of a separate hut for menstruating women to retreat to at night and then sleep in. Each year, at least one woman, usually more, and often young, dies in such a tiny space from smoke inhalation, a snake bite or exposure to the cold.

On Dec. 2, it happened again. Shortly after sunrise, according to police officials, relatives of Parbati Budha, 21, sensed something was wrong. Budha, who lived in a mountain village about a two-day drive from the capital, Kathmandu, was usually an early riser. She was known in the village as a determined worker

who was quite bright.

But on this morning, she did not emerge from her *chhaupadi* hut. When her sister-in-law and brother-in-law went to check on her, they found her on the shed's floor, face down. She had built a fire inside the hut to keep warm during the freezing night and died from inhaling too much smoke.

Budha had married about a year ago and moved in with her husband's family. Her husband worked in a sari showroom in India, and police say it was her husband's brother, Chhatra Raut, 25, who pressured Budha to move out to the shed. **NYT**





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JOKER  
★★★★  
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**GOOD NEWWZ ★★★**

**Director:** Raj Mehta **Cast:** Akshay Kumar, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Dilljit Dosanjh, Kiara Advani, Adil Hussain, Tisca Chopra, Anjana Sukhani

# The Big Switch



**SHUBHRA GUPTA**

TWO COUPLES with the same names, sperm samples, in-vitro fertilisation, and a switcheroo which has far-reaching, haha, consequences: is this really a Bollywood film?

Just going by the fairly novel premise, I have to hand it to *Good Newwz*: so refreshing to have something so out-of-the-box (another word for 'risky') come out of an industry whose default option is to play safe by churning out tired, jaded sequels of tired, jaded super-starry vehicles.

Here are your regular people, even if they wear no-make-up make-up in bed, and are beautifully styled out of it (the first set of Batras), and are a walking-talking cliched representation of the loud, well-off Punjabi (the second set), united with the rest of us in their desire to produce their own offspring. Adoption? *Haye nahin, apna khoon toh apna hota hai*.

So here's your foursome, Varun (Kumar) and Deepu aka Deepthi (Kapoor Khan) and Honey (Dosanjh) and Monika (Advani) getting up close and very, very personal over a

lab technician's mistake. The result, for both the Batra sets who have been trying very hard to become parents, is both gratifying and problematic: who has more rights over the bun in the oven?

The question comes right at the half way mark, leaving us intrigued. How will *Good Newwz* solve this problem? When sperms and eggs need fertility specialists — a smiling unctuous doctor couple played by Adil Hussain and Tisca Chopra — to reach their conclusion, does it disturb the natural order of things? Or is this scientific intervention one of the best ways out for a desperate couple? Going by the spirit of the film, it junks seriousness, choosing cheesiness, and we are set up for laughter.

I thoroughly enjoyed the first half, with its easy, spiky banter between Varun and Deepu, as they (she more than he) stare at the right date on the ovulating calendar, and get down to the job, her pushing, him pulling: sex strictly for procreation can be a chore. Haha. Good to see Akshay Kumar a) not being a flag-waving-nationalist-patriot b) owning up to grey-stubble-on-chin, and c) reminding us just how funny he can be.

Kapoor Khan has not a single hair out of place even when she needs to appear ruffled, filling out the role perfectly. Dosanjh's consummate turn manages to overcome the top-toe velvety bling he's toggled out in; I only wish Advani had a little more to do, even if her dutiful *mata rani* worshipping, pinni-eating Punjabi wife look is spot on. Chopra offers able support, and Hussain's straight-faced, praying-to-the-almighty doc is an absolute hoot.

If the film had stayed true to its broad comedic bone, it would have been the perfect antidote to these grim times. But no, it dives into melodrama with the full complement of violins wailing in the background, giving the macho male stars a teary scene. Why not be confident, even of the elitist lines leading to cheap laughs mouthed by a character? Kareena Kapoor Khan has the money monologue, in which she speaks frankly and openly about the impact of pregnancy on a female body: when did you hear of an A-lister talk of how bouts of involuntary and embarrassing peeing become part of this *aurat-sirf-maa-banane-ke-liye-paida-hoti-hai* schtick Bollywood has been

doused with?

Also, for a film that comes from the Dharma stable, which is usually so careful about aesthetics, it's surprising how some of the sets look so patently like sets: I was particularly struck by a gol-guppa-eating sequence which comes off more contrived than touching because even the sudden shower that comes down on the characters feels like it's been manufactured by a rain machine just beyond our vision.

The film works best when it is being its bawdy, silly, raucous self. It dips when it veers towards bring-out-the-hankies emotion, bowing to the dictum of 'how can a Bollywood film not make you laugh and cry at the same time'. When will filmmakers get past this hoary belief?

That being said, you can see that this is a film that's been written, not assembled on the fly. And that's really the best news. The characters are distinct, there's a flow, and at the film's core, an idea. It dips here and there, sure, but never abandons its cheery gallop to the finish line. Net net, *Good Newwz* is not half bad.

shubhra.gupta@expressindia.com

# Love Above All

**SPIES IN DISGUISE**

★★★

**Directors:** Nick Bruno, Troy Quane  
**Voices of:** Will Smith, Tom Holland, Rashida Jones, Ben Mendelsohn, Reba McEntire

**SHALINI LANGER**

ONE OF the oldest spies known to the world; and one of the world's coolest. We are referring here, respectively, to pigeons and Will Smith, who in *Spies In Disguise* are one and the same person. It's a clever premise — and one of several — in this animation from Blue Sky Studios, the *Ice Age* maker now acquired by Disney. The film itself is more run-of-the-mill than unique, though ideas like above and the chemistry between the characters voiced by Smith and Holland (also an inspired choice to play a science-geek and gadgets boy) means it all goes down better than it should.

Smith is Lance Sterling, "the greatest spy in the world", used to defying orders and saving the world, all on his own. Then comes a big villain, a big conspiracy and Sterling finds himself out in the cold. The only person he can turn to is Holland's Walter, who believes in non-violent weapons, such as Kitty Glitter (more on that later) and inflatable hugs, and has promised Sterling the power to "become invisible". What Sterling ends up turning into, is a pigeon.

Even as you despair that the film will end up being yet another clash between the forces of good and evil — do we really need them in animation too? — and the power of teamwork and friendship, writer Brad Copeland and directors Nick Bruno and Troy Quane subvert the genre. Smith poking fun at the mega-hit chest-puffed characters he has played throughout his career is not even the half of it, as his sidekick Walter rolls out his superpower, it being science. In the process, he scores a big one for all the "weird" boys out there mocked for wearing aprons and dreaming that, for every James Bond, there can be a hero called 'Hydrogen Bond'.



If science needs each such thumbs-up in the Trump administration, there is also a message on the US's constant meddling in world affairs. The villain this time bears a grudge over a bombing carried out by America in Kyrgyzstan — in Sterling's words, they were just after "a bunch of bad people out to kill a lot of innocent people".

Walter's way is that a lot more can be accomplished with love than hate, and letting

people live than killing them. Greater people than him have said this, but none with Kitty Glitter to back them up. A glimpse, and the best of villains is reduced to the worst of mush. Walter's explanation is that it has been scientifically proven that seeing such kitten visuals can cause the release of serotonin. That is an actual scientific fact.

shalini.langer@expressindia.com

# On the Brink

**BINNU KA SAPNA (STREAMING ON MUBI)**

★★★

**Director:** Kanu Behl  
**Cast:** Chetan Sharma, Anamika Kadamb, Suman Jain

WITH TITLI, Kanu Behl proved that he had sharp insights into the curdled world of those who live on the cusp of modernity but are steeped in archaic value systems governed by soul-killing patriarchy, and deep misogyny. It was a striking, disturbing portrait of a people and the situations that make them so.

*Binnu Ka Sapna* is a 32-minute short from the same director, and feels like an extension of his exploration of stunted masculinity. Binnu has grown up in a loveless home with a father who gets his jollies from slapping his mother around. The latter is clearly a more educated, accomplished individual, but is enmeshed in her life, and has found a corrosive connection with her abusive husband in a cup of *meethi, kadak* chai.

What does this do to the insides of a young boy? Can he ever break out of the cy-

cle of suspicion and putative violence when it comes to women? Chetan Sharma does a good job of portraying an in-search-of-himself Binnu as he jousts with an apparently accommodating boss and dispiriting sexual escapades, and his inevitable descent on to the dark side.

Behl's use of a shortened screen size and experimental format matches his protagonist's progression, and it adds to the feeling of unsettlement that the film is aiming for. But sometimes the jagged edges threaten to take over the slim run time of film, and once in a while you wish for less opacity.

But there's no doubt that the film is a powerful testament to the build-up of messed-up testosterone when confronted with constant violence, of both the physical and mental kind. It is dark, disturbing and visceral: will Binnu be given a feature-length extension? I'd be very interested in where he goes from here.

MUBI's streaming platform has just begun an India component, and if this is the way it means to go on, it will be a solid addition to the OTT services available to us.

SG

# Screen Queen

**WHAT SHE SAID: THE ART OF PAULINE KAEI (DOCUMENTARY)**

**Director:** Rob Garver **Cast:** Woody Allen, Lili Anolik, Alec Baldwin, Carol Baum, Thomas Baum

**JEANNETTE CATSOULIS**

UNLIKE ITS subject, the documentary *What She Said: The Art of Pauline Kael* merely feints toward criticism. A numbing torrent of largely unidentified film clips and poorly labeled commentary, Rob Garver's overstaffed tribute to the life and work of America's best-known — and most written about — film critic is at times barely coherent.

Forced to compete with a near-constant barrage of movie fragments, Kael's distinctively passionate voice is disastrously muffled. As are those of her admirers and detractors, the colleagues and filmmakers whose insights, however sharp or spicy, are so smushed together that I was constantly hitting "Rewind". Theater audiences won't have that luxury.

Through the smog of distractions, a portrait emerges of a uniquely gifted, complicated, arrogant and combative writer, one whose abhorrence of sentimentality caused her to savage *The Sound of Music* and the "inhumanly happy" performance of its star, Julie Andrews. Her tenure at *The New Yorker*, from 1968-91, happily coincided with a seismic eruption in American independent filmmaking, when young directors like Martin Scorsese, Robert Altman and Brian De Palma were developing their personal styles. So was she: an anti-academic, chattily entertaining prose that read as both hard-bitten and strangely needy. She desperately wanted movies to make her feel things, and was ruthless when they didn't.

Hers was a profoundly sensual approach (which she flaunted in book titles like *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*) that caused her to celebrate pictures that many viewed as pulp. She responded viscerally to the erotic energy of Bernardo



Bertolucci's *Last Tango in Paris* and the violent pathos of Arthur Penn's *Bonnie and Clyde*, a movie she single-handedly rescued from a critical mauling. The flip side was a disdain for the cool anomie of foreign art-house darlings like *Hiroshima Mon Amour* and *La Notte*, works that committed the unforgivable sin of boring her. Her infamous 1985 pan of the nine-hour Holocaust documentary, *Shoah*, which she found "exhausting", continues to reverberate. Hitting all these bullet points and more, Garver sacrifices depth for breadth, squeezing in some of the hurt feelings and lingering grievances that Kael left behind. The director David Lean even confesses he stopped working for a time after Kael and others lambasted him in person for *Ryan's Daughter*. Commenters allow that she could be cruel; yet you don't have to agree with Renata Adler's brutal 1980 take-down of Kael to wish that Garver had paid more attention to her alleged plagiarism and the questionable ethics of her interactions with filmmakers and fledgling writers whose work she sought to influence.

"She made Scorsese with her review of *Mean Streets*," one contributor claims, but it's at least equally true that the movies made her. Yet this nostalgia for a possibly misremembered past in which critics wielded life-or-death clout hovers insistently over *What She Said*. And it's clear that Kael herself bought into that belief and felt justified in bullying artists who rejected her advice: she considered it her job to guide them.

"In the end of the game, what Pauline Kael promoted wasn't film," the filmmaker Paul Schrader says, wryly. "It was her."

NYT

## BREAKING DOWN NEWS



BY PRATIK KANJILAL

SOME THINGS never change. While protests raged all over the country, Times Now's *India Upfront* programme tried to trend #LutyensSabotageNPRPlot, with the argument: "Are those backing Arundhati Roy's subversion of NPR talk hurting the poor the most? Can they explain how without the NPR will the State target welfare schemes for the poorest?" Perhaps horrible grammar disbars Times Now editors from print journalism, but that's a minor point. The issue is that yet again, the channel is supporting a dodgy move by the government, using the poor as a persuasive excuse.

This has happened repeatedly, the most memorable case being that of Aadhaar.

Critics uneasy about privacy and data security issues were pilloried as "limousine liberals" who had no stake in the matter, because they did not need the direct delivery benefits flowing through Aadhaar. It happened again following demonetisation, which is now recognised as a major factor in the economic slowdown in progress. At the time, though, TV channels were happy to talk up the rash act as necessary for destroying black money. Again, the poor were trotted out to justify the move, as victims of the cash economy. The present debate is actually limited to the question of whether predicating citizenship on religion violates the Constitution. The rest is noise. Since the question has an obvious answer, harassed studio executives have to rustle up fraudulent issues to keep the noise going.

While the usual channels are covering themselves in glory, Mirror Now has chosen to stay doggedly with the story of police excesses and vandalism of private property in Yogi Adityanath's Uttar Pradesh. This is old school journalism, from before the trade became a quest for novelty, when reporting the story, and carrying on reporting it, mattered the most.

# The Rest is Noise

**Distractions by ministers and influencers may be meaningless but very entertaining**

What *netas* and opinionators of various persuasions are saying about the story, which is mostly what TV provides, is actually a distraction. The news itself offers other distractions, like the opinion of an army chief on leadership qualities in civilian life. Sadly, no one prescribed the universal specific: just give him an election ticket, and go back to the real news.

Uttar Pradesh is the story that matters, because the rarest of rare atrocities has been committed there: children have been

tortured by the police. NDTV asked UP power minister Shrikant Sharma if the arrest of protesters who insist they were peaceful is the "revenge" that his chief minister had promised. The good minister took recourse to the tired old ploy of claiming that Adityanath's words had been twisted by "some people".

Some people will twist anything. Boris Johnson mangled Homer at a public function, and the video is being inhaled by millions. Johnson, the dear old fruit, declaims

**Amidst the din of protests, a story which appeared in *The New York Times* this week has slipped under the radar... It finds that long before the Ganga flows through any large urban or industrial centre, it is dirty and brimming with drug-resistant superbugs**

classical Greek with a perfectly awful public school accent, and viewers who are not native speakers of modern Greek or conversant with the Homeric flavour can only make out the words "Atrides" and "Achilles". Scholars of the Iliad complain that he elides lines at will, indicating that he has a lousy memory. Native speakers say it's plain gibberish. All agree that the performance is pure Boris, meaningless but very entertaining, and that he should try and memorise the Ikea catalogue next, to give it new life.

Amidst the din of protests, a story which appeared in *The New York Times* this week has slipped under the radar. At any other time, there would have been scattered allegations of disrespect and sacrilege, blown out of proportion at prime time. Because it finds that long before the Ganga flows through any large urban or industrial centre, it is dirty and brimming with drug-resistant superbugs. The watershed between clean and unhealthy water appears to be Rishikesh, and the source of the problem could be the guts of bathing pilgrims and tourists, who visit the upper reaches in the season

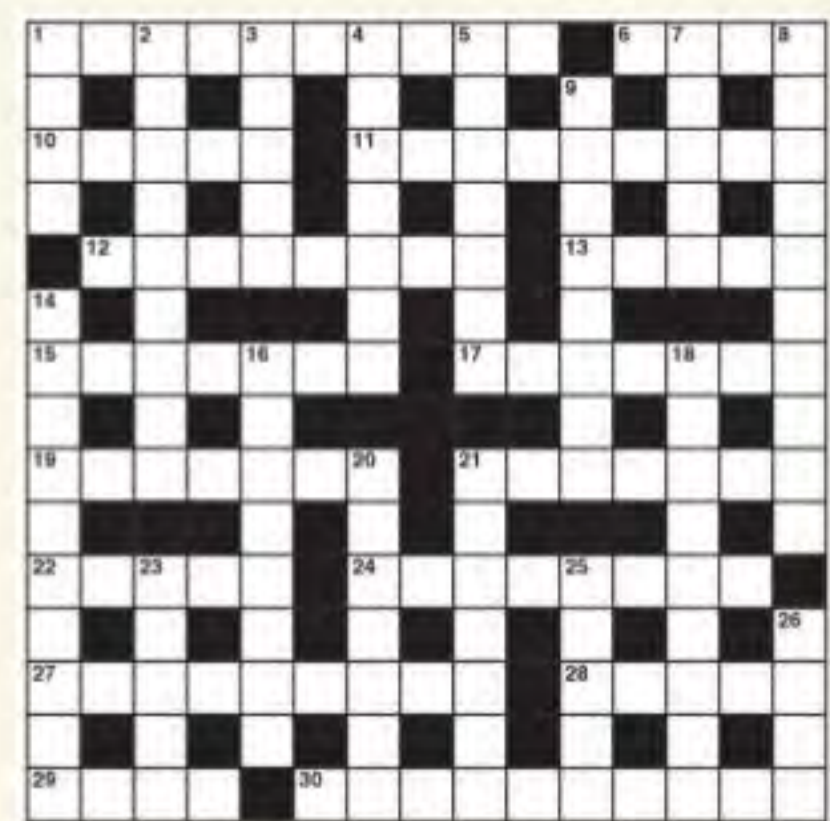
every year. In other words, any plan to clean the Ganga must not focus on Varanasi or Prayag, but right up there in the headwaters near Gangotri.

After congratulating former Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian for "leaving at the right time" after a quiet term, and then returning at the right time, actuated by his conscience, *Swaraj Express* turned to a much more spirited story: the six-month course in Bhoon Vidya (Spook Science), which will be offered to doctors by Banaras Hindu University's Ayurveda Department from next month. The issue is not the course, which aims to augment analysis and medication with traditional regimens in cases of alleged possession (which are not uncommon), but with its name. Since it is a scientific course, wondered Vinod Dua, isn't a taxonomy of spooks required first? How does one distinguish between secular spooks, liberal spooks, fundamentalist spooks, Dalit spooks and marginalised spooks? The question that would have boggled the minds of Darwin and Linnaeus, both.

pratik.kanjilal@expressindia.com



## CROSSWORD 4000



- ACROSS**
- Pull leg about being in bed that's untidy (10)
  - Utterly rude and cross (4)
  - Set sail on Eastern passage (5)
  - Pays liars to make a complaint (9)
  - Encouraging applause? (8)
  - German city shows unusual sense (5)
  - Their accounts may be all at sea (7)
  - A number agreed to be corrected, being humble (7)
  - Went into liquidation when working hard? (7)
  - Small things that cause a lot of ill-feeling (7)
  - Flier appears to steal in (5)
  - Useful people showing diplomacy in studies (8)
  - Questions are asked when such a group activity is broadcast (5,4)
  - Not here again after the start (5)
  - Formerly in older style (4)
  - Our respect will be misplaced for such an oppressor (10)
- DOWN**
- Be a socially-acceptable lover (4)
  - Put out fire (9)
  - Put oil on some crane levers (5)
  - They have no settled occupation (7)
  - Angered - or could be angered (7)
  - Deserted place of refreshment? (5)
  - Don't allow to succeed? (10)
  - Being so one may react rashly with unusual ill-grace (8)
  - Sign for a missing letter (10)
  - Snare ten squirming fish (8)
  - A share in the plot (9)
  - Possibly cleared to authorise dividend payment (7)
  - They prohibit flags (7)
  - It's good in France and America to get extra money (5)
  - Athenian garret (5)
  - Decapitated their son may be (4)

Solutions Crossword 3999: Across: 1 Weather, 5 Scrum, 8 Samarkand, 9 Men, 10 Etch, 12 Learning, 14 Ronald, 15 Wander, 17 Idolater, 18 Kris, 21 Era, 22 Underhand, 24 Title, 25 Pelican. Down: 1 Waste, 2 Aim, 3 Herb, 4 Reamer, 5 Side road, 6 Remainder, 7 Manager, 11 Consonant, 13 Pleasure, 14 Raint, 16 Held up, 19 Sudan, 20 Oral, 23 Arc.

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



## CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



## DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

**ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**  
For once your chart favours speculation, so if you're in the mood for a flutter I can see you coming out on top. It may be an emotional risk that's on your mind, in which case you may proceed with confidence. However, the pre-condition is that you always try to see the world through partners' eyes.

**LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**  
You're in control today. The only drawback may be a tendency to be rather too emotional. Creative pleasures and social enjoyment both have their place, but deep inside you're looking for something else, something more meaningful. Hang on to your sense of humour.

**TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**  
It would be the easiest thing in the world for you to blame other people for current worries. Yet you may be partly responsible yourself, largely on account of your failure to say what you're really feeling. If somebody is to be honest with you, it is because you need to play fair with them.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**  
The general planetary set-up may not be perfect, but it is very fortunate. Be sure to spend as much time as you need by yourself, for your spiritual batteries need recharging. Set your sights on solid long-term improvements at home, and don't let negative attitudes put you off.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**  
It is time once again to don your commander's hat in readiness for the battles to come. You may be very confident, for future conflicts have already been rehearsed. You'll therefore know exactly what's going on before it happens. At least, that's the theory.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**  
Throughout the coming months you will have to reform and clarify your opinions and attitudes. Friendly contacts over the next two days will give you an idea of how other people think, so look, listen and learn. You might discover something to your advantage.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**  
We come round to the time of month when home and family affairs must take the highest priority. Rather than squander a celestial opportunity, you should look around and see what improvements are necessary to maintain harmonious relationships.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**  
It would be wiser to avoid situations which make you tense or uneasy. On the other hand, it is true that the stars are on your side, bringing an air of worthwhile achievement and a feeling of goodwill whenever you take the right steps. Your conscience will be your guide.

**LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**  
It's a time for travel and communication. Pick up that phone, write those letters, take that trip and get in touch. Financial discussions and decisions seem to be crucial. Wherever you are, whatever you're doing, you'll get nowhere unless you've got the facts straight.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**  
You may find it possible to forget about emotional traumas. If so, you're lucky, for it will be easier to relax and enjoy today's positive romantic and social trends. Settle your spending plans over the next few days, and make your intentions abundantly clear.

**VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**  
You've done well, but it may be some time yet before you are able to pursue your most personal goals. If you're the type to plan ahead, set yourself a nine-month schedule. As for now, just get on and enjoy current relationships for all they're worth.

**PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**  
Thoughts and dreams will merge in your bountiful imagination. You may know what you think, but what do you feel? Today's stars are splendid for all poets and painters but, if you're pursuing practical measures, think before you act, otherwise you'll probably pick up the wrong end of the stick.

## 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. The pen is the \_\_\_ of the \_\_\_ - Horace (6...4)

MVEIO                      EIMMDU  
AENNT                      AAENGM

SOLUTION: MOVIE, ANENT, MEDIUM, MANAGE  
Answer: The pen is the tongue of the mind - Horace

## SUDOKU 4073

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



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

## SOLUTION SUDOKU 4072



**DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CENTRAL)-I**  
**NEAR UGR & BPS RAMLILA GROUND**  
**JLN MARG, NEW DELHI-110002.**  
**PRESS NIT NO. 63 (2019-20)**

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost in Rs.	Date of release of tender on e-procurement solution	Last Date/Time for receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
01	Improvement of old and damaged 600mm dia Peripheral sewer line from MCD School, Turkman Gate to gali Sapru under EE (Central)-I, AC-21.	₹ 33,15,803.00	27/12/2019 06:00 PM onwards Tender ID : 2019_DJB_186579_2	06/01/2020 upto 03:00 PM

Further detail in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>  
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)  
Advt. No. J.S.V. 728/2019-20

**झारखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग, सर्कुलर रोड, रांची-834001**  
**शुद्धि पत्र**  
**झारखण्ड राज्य के चार विश्वविद्यालयों में पदाधिकारियों (गैर शैक्षणिक) के नियमित नियुक्ति हेतु आवश्यक सूचना।**  
झारखण्ड राज्य के चार विश्वविद्यालयों में पदाधिकारियों (गैर शैक्षणिक) के नियमित नियुक्ति हेतु प्रकाशित विज्ञापन संख्या-09/2019 की कंडिका 11 में भूलवश क्रम संख्या (iv),(v),(vi) एवं (vii) अंकित हो गया है। इसे कंडिका 11 क्रम संख्या (i),(ii),(iii) एवं (iv) पढ़ा जाये।  
2. विज्ञापन संख्या-09/2019 की शेष कंडिकाएँ यथावत रहेगी।  
3. यह संक्षिप्त प्रेस विज्ञापित आयोग के वेबसाइट पर भी उपलब्ध है।  
ह0/- सचिव,  
PR 222906 (Jharkhand Public Service Commission)19-20#D झारखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग, रांची

**कोटा विश्वविद्यालय, कोटा**  
महाराज भीमसिंह मार्ग, कबीर सर्किल के पास, कोटा-324005  
कर्मक-एफ-4( )/सा.प्र./निविदा/कोटिको/2019/8855 दिनांक 21.12.2019  
निविदा सूचना संख्या- 24/2019-20  
कोटा विश्वविद्यालय, कोटा द्वारा विश्वविद्यालय के विभिन्न विभागों में Supplying of Unskilled, Semiskilled, Skilled and Highly Skilled manpower on job basis through service provider (contractor) हेतु एक वर्ष के लिए अनुभवी एवं प्रशिक्षित निविदादाताओं से निर्धारित निविदा प्रपत्र में द्वि-प्रक्रम पद्धति से ऑनलाईन ई-निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र एवं शर्तों आदि का विवरण [sppp.rajabhawan.gov.in](http://sppp.rajabhawan.gov.in), <http://eprco.rajabhawan.gov.in> और University website [www.uok.ac.in](http://www.uok.ac.in) पर उपलब्ध है। कुलसचिव

# NOTICE BOARD

**ANNIVERSARY-SSB**  
The grand campus of 25th Battalion, Ghitorni, New Delhi, was jubilant as Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs, inspected the 56th Anniversary day parade of SSB along with KR Chandra, IPS, DG, SSB.

**MoS-CWC**  
CWC signed the MoS with FCWCEUs for revision of wages of Group C & D employees w.e.f. 01.01.2017, in presence of AK Shrivastava, MD/CWC; S Charles, Dir. (Fin.)/CWC, RK Sinha, Dir. (Personnel)/CWC & other office bearers of the Union.

**MUSEUM-PUNJABI ACADEMY**  
Deputy CM Manish Sisodia laid the Foundation of a multimedia Museum and Library at Dilli Haat, Janakpuri, with Jarnail Singh, VC, Punjabi Academy, Delhi, in presence of hundreds of citizens from Sikh community.

**SEMINAR-SCOPE**  
SCOPE organized a national seminar on Challenges & Management of Arbitration, inaugurated by MoS for HI & PE & MoS, Parliamentary Affairs, AR Meghwal. He also released Special Issue of SCOPE's KALEIDOSCOPE magazine on Arbitration.

**MoU-SAIL**  
SAIL has signed a MoU with NHA, GOI, for empanelment of SAIL Hospitals under PM-JAY, at its headquarters in New Delhi recently. The MoU was signed between CGM, SAIL & GM (Hospital Networking & Quality Assurance), NHA, PMJAY.

**AWARD-OBC**  
OBChas received the runner-up award among all PSBs in India. Award was received from AM Khan, Hon'ble Governor of Kerala, by ED Balakrishna Aise S and Circle-head CV Rao.

**FELICITATION-NHPC**  
NK Jain, Dir. (Personnel) NHPC, felicitated members of the NHPC Badminton Team for their sterling performance in 24th Inter CPSU Badminton Tournament held at Thyagraj Stadium, New Delhi.

**MoU-NBCC**  
NBCC has recently signed a MoU with OTPCL, Bhubaneswar, to carry out civil construction & various developmental works of Thermal Power Plant of OTPCL. It was signed by NK Shah, Dir. (Projects), NBCC, & Bhavani Panda, CEO, OTPCL.

**AWARD- MOIL**  
MOIL's Gurgaon Mine and Ukwa Mine bagged winner's trophy at National Safety Awards for "Longest Accident Free Period" Category for 2016. The Award was presented by M Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble VP, GOI.

**NEW PLANT-PRPC**  
Recently, SMVaidya, Dir. (Refineries), IndianOil, laid the foundation stone for eco-friendly 2-G Ethanol Plant in presence of Sanjaya Bhatnagar, ED (PRPC), GC Sikder, CGM (In-charge), and senior officials & PRPC Collectives.

**CONVENTION-BHEL**  
A large-scale customers' meet was inaugurated by Chief Guest Tej Veer Singh, Dir. (NSPCL), ED (HEEP) Sanjay Gulati & ED (SSBG) P Nagamanickam by lighting the ceremonial lamp at BHEL Haridwar complex.

**CSR-STATE BANK OF INDIA**  
State Bank of India, Local Head Office, New Delhi, organized a programme under CSR at EDMC Primary School, Hasanpur, Delhi. Vijay Ronjan, CGM, Delhi Circle, planted a sapling and distributed prizes.

**PERFORMANCE-AAI**  
AAI-AFS has shown its strong performance in 2nd AIFSG held recently at Lucknow, competing against 800 athletes of 24 different fire service organizations which included State Fire Services, Private Airports & PSUs.

**BHEL** has successfully commissioned the first Lignite-based 500 MW thermal unit of the 2x500 MW Neyveli New Thermal Power Project in Tamil Nadu. Significantly, this is country's first lignite-fired 500 MW power plant. Located in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu, the project is owned by NLCIL. The second unit of the project is also in an advanced stage of commissioning. The key equipment for the project has been manufactured by BHEL at its Haridwar, Trichy, Hyderabad, Ranipet, Bhopal & Bengaluru works, while the construction of the plant was undertaken by the company's Power Sector - Southern Region, Chennai.

**BSF** The 49th DG Level Border Co-ordination Conference between BSF (India) and BGB (Bangladesh) is being organized by BSF at New Delhi w.e.f. 25th to 30th Dec 2019. During this conference, 10-member delegation of India headed by Vivek Johri, DG, BSF, along with senior officials of the Ministry of External Affairs and other Law Enforcement Agencies will meet 11 members of BGB headed by Gen Md Shafeenul Islam, BGBM (Bar) ndc, psc, DG, Border Guard Bangladesh. The Bangladesh delegation reached New Delhi on 25th Dec 2019. The delegation will be in India for four days from 26th to 30th Dec 2019.

# 21 BODY & MIND

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2019

## Watch out for the 'study abroad' industry that is luring our kids

When we do something because everybody else is doing it, then it is problematic. It is like getting on a treadmill which is not going to get us anywhere



**IMAGINE**  
BY SHELJA SEN

OVER THE past decade, we have been observing an alarming trend in cities – the growing obsession of sending our children abroad after school. As soon as they enter the middle school, pressure builds on the parents to start “planning their children’s future”.

Agencies are mushrooming all over the country that promise “a brighter and successful future” for your child. All that you have to do is enrol them into these mightily expensive factories with neat assembly lines of PSATs, SATs, ACTs, APs that will churn them out, stamped with top university labels. What is there not to like?

I think the whole concept is highly problematic if you think about the fortune that gets spent by the vulnerable and anxious parents who are willing to do anything to ensure their children’s future. And the stress on the students who have to keep up with these classes along with their regular school, home-

work, exams and tuitions. Not to mention the unethical practices that infest most of these “future building factories.” It is an unspoken fact that many of them will write the students’ statement of purpose (SOP), common application essay, prepare their portfolios – ensured admission to top colleges abroad for a price.

One thing which is highly disturbing, if not a little amusing, is the way students are being pushed to take part in social initiatives and service so that they can get admission in a good college which looks for students who are socially aware. There is a rush for meaningless internships, shady project work and even NGOs being floated and abandoned after admission. There is something problematic with that as social initiatives cannot become a means to an end – they need to be at the core of all meaningful education and not just a tick mark.

Then, of course, we have so many students, especially from smaller towns who get caught in the racket of fake universities, diploma mills and the subsequent loss of huge amounts of money and deportation.

As part of the research for this article, I asked a group of high school students what they thought universities abroad were looking for in students? “Money,” was their quick answer in a chorus! Jokes aside, studying abroad has become a money churning industry. I also have to state that taking a unilateral perspective on such a complex issue is not fair. The ridiculously high cut-offs for Indian



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

colleges, archaic academic structures and rigidity of their curriculum pushes a lot of young people and parents to consider colleges abroad.

Let’s try to take a balanced view and consider different perspectives. I would suggest that read it along with your children and then do some brainstorming:

**On the one hand**

- Education system – our Indian pedagogical system focuses primarily on rote learning and mindless cramming of knowledge. There is not much scope for thinking, questioning, reflecting and exploring education in a dynamic way. Some new colleges in India are doing this too, but they are few and far between.
- Choices – most universities, especially in

the US, let students take unusual combinations, for example, biology and music, medicine and film studies, computer application and media. It makes so much more sense rather than putting students in iron-clad science, humanities and commerce streams.

- International exposure – they get to meet students from across the world, learn about other cultures, languages and open their minds to so many different world-views and global perspectives.
- Facilities – most well-known international universities have brilliant libraries, tutorials, clubs, societies, and learning support for students with learning disabilities.
- Growth potential – in our culture, we tend to de-skill our children in terms of independent living skills. Leaving home, fending for themselves and learning to manage every-

thing from their finances, studies to washing, cleaning, cooking has a huge potential for growth.

**On the other hand**

- Preparedness – there are some young people who are ready to take this step and there are some who are not. They do not have the necessary “executive skills” (persistence, time management, organisational skills, goal persistence, etc) or the bandwidth to manage the level of responsibilities. Till school, we might provide them with a heavy scaffolding, but in college, they will be expected to manage on their own. I have seen many students who were suspended from college or had to leave as they could not cope. I have also met many students who were emotionally not ready for such a drastic move. Sense of isolation, social and emotional difficulties led to severe depression and anxiety problems, due to which they had to leave college midway.
- The illusion of “western education” – many times, students and parents get lured by fancy brochures and websites, where the acceptance rate is high and the fees relatively low. It’s only after some time, when they have paid up, that they start seeing the cracks in the shiny surface. So, make sure you do sound research before paying up.
- Location – one of the students studying abroad explained to me that it was very important for her to choose a university which was in a big city as she could not think of being in a place which was far removed from the hub of life. Very few people like to be in secluded places in a strange country as these places also might end up being more provincial and racist.
- Money – for parents who have enough resources, sending their children to universi-

ties abroad is a non-issue. And then there might be many who get scholarship or opt to take a student loan as they are getting a rare opportunity to study in a brilliant college that would open up possibilities. But do think through if this option will only lead to draining of your savings and burden of loans.

- Herd mentality – when we do something because everybody else is doing it, then it is problematic. It is like getting on a treadmill which is not going to get us anywhere. Most students are just exploring their areas of interest in college and might not pursue it for the rest of their life. Students in science might go into design, or the ones doing law might switch to film making. Elizabeth Gilbert, the famous writer, described how some people are like jackhammers.

They focus intensely on one thing, diving in deep and tuning out any other pursuit. But others are like hummingbirds, flitting from flower to flower – letting curiosity lead them from one interest to another – and making the world a better place by cross-pollinating various interests with their unique contribution. We need more of hummingbirds and not just jackhammers.

Young people who are curious, who are willing to experiment, play around, question and not decide too early who they are, what they want to be and how they want to live their life. College is not going to determine their future and it is not their final destination but just one step in the multiple, criss-crossing paths they will navigate through their lives.

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

### DIET DIARY

## 15 diet mantras for the New Year

Some tips on how to stick to a healthy diet and make it a way of life in the coming year



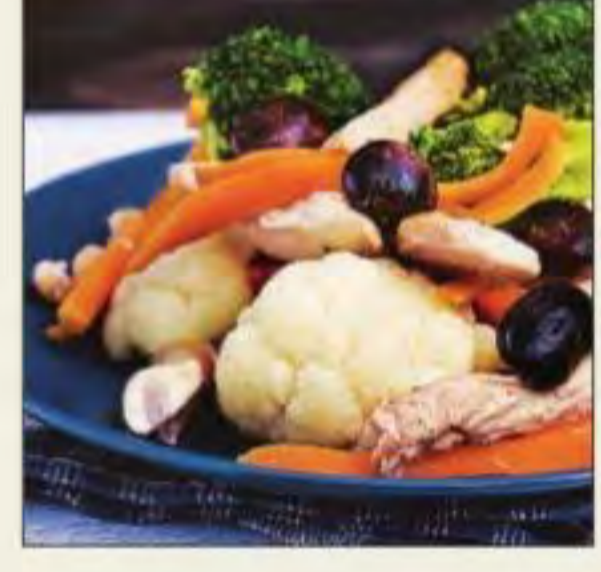
BY ISHI KHOSLA

THE ‘YEAR end’ is here, along with new year vows, waiting to be broken sooner than later! Is it possible to make your diet resolutions in the new year actually work for you? The answer is surprisingly a ‘yes’.

With the right approach to diet, it is possible to make it a permanent part of your life. If you adopt the following tips, there is a good chance that you can make your diet a partner for life.

The word ‘diet’ actually comes from an ancient Greek word that means ‘a mode of living’. It refers to the overall sum of the food consumed by a person. Even though the term has been used by the weight-loss industry, it has nothing to do with weight loss/gain. It means quite literally a way of life. If one goes “on” and “off” diets, there is no long-term benefit from it.

The first and most important way of keeping to a diet is to redefine it. It must be something you can do and live with. Only then can it be sustained. Of course, one needs to establish both short-term and long-term goals.



6. Minimise refined flours, choose unpolished rice and millets.

7. Address adverse reactions to food and food sensitivities to items such as wheat, dairy etc.
8. Chew well and eat slowly.
9. Hydrate well: It helps to get rid of toxins from the body and calms the nervous system.
10. Regular physical activity helps balance hormones and keeps energy levels high.
11. Yoga and meditation relaxes the mind, which helps in controlling eating behaviour.
12. Fasting also helps rid the body of toxic waste and energises the body.
13. It rebalances the body and restores functionality.
14. Mindful eating: Eating with awareness and focus on what you choose helps make better food choices. A food diary helps immensely to track your eating patterns.
15. Seek professional help if needed and be regular with routine checkups.

These tips individually and collectively help to not only keep to your diet, but also bring adequate nutrition and promote good health and wellbeing. It helps reduce cravings, appetite and changes your palette. Once this happens, there is no need for fighting with your will-power. Your diet becomes easy to sustain over time.

Author is a clinical nutritionist and founder of [www.theweightmonitor.com](http://www.theweightmonitor.com) and Whole Foods India

- #### 15 DIET MANTRAS FOR THE NEW YEAR:
1. Remove or restrict addictive foods (sugar, wheat protein, milk protein, caffeine and chemical additives). Avoid sugars, sweets, sweetened beverages and fruit juices. These are barriers in your journey
  2. Introduce enzyme-rich live foods, and raw foods like vegetables and fruits.
  3. Address nutritional deficiencies (magnesium, calcium, vitamin D, Vitamin B-12, Iron, folic acid, chromium etc).
  4. Ensure adequate protein and good fats (desi ghee, butter, virgin coconut oil, olive oil, nuts, seeds and avocado).
  5. Ensure fibre-rich foods: vegetables, fruits, seeds, whole pulses, lentils and cereals.



Getty Images

## A decade of fitness: What we know & what we need to find out

### GRETCHEN REYNOLDS

FOR THE past 10 years (and change), I have been covering exercise science in this column. During that time, I have seen interest in high-intensity exercise soar and enthusiasm for barefoot running fizzle. We have learned contracting muscles talk to baby neurons, creativity blooms from walking, a minute of exertion can be ample, aging is elastic and a chubby dog may be our best exercise motivator. With 2019 ending, I thought it worthwhile to look back at some of the persistent themes, revelations and surprises from the past decade in fitness.

Perhaps most obviously, this has been a decade of greatest HITTs, with multiple studies and subsequent columns reiterating that super-short, strenuous workouts – known as high-intensity interval training – improve fitness and health to about the same extent as much longer, more moderate exercise. Since 2010, I have covered seven-minute, four-minute, one-minute, 20-second and 10-second interval routines, with each workout’s declining length increasing its allure. For many of us, the exercise of choice may be the briefest. At the same time, though, a wealth of other studies this decade underscored that gentle

exercise is also meaningful, even if it barely qualifies as exercise. In one of my favorite studies from this year, researchers found that older women who regularly strolled about two miles a day, or a little more than 4,000 steps, lived longer than women who covered only about 2,000 steps, or a mile.

In fact, a recurring concern of exercise science this decade has been whether and how exercise reshapes ageing, and the results generally suggest that it does – and pervasively. In various recent studies, active older people’s muscles, immune systems, blood cells and even skin appeared biologically younger than those of sedentary people.

Their brains also tended to look and work differently. In what may be, for me, the most inspiring area of fitness research from the past decade, scientists have found and reaffirmed the extent to which movement, of almost any kind and amount, may remake how we think and feel. In one study after another, physical activity beneficially remodeled the brains of children and the middle-aged; lowered people’s risks for dementia or, if dementia had already begun, slowed memory loss; and increased brain volume, tissue health and the quality of connections between neurons and different portions of the brain.

Exercise also seems able to buoy moods far more than most of us, including scientists, might have expected 10 years ago. In observational studies, physically active people proved to be much less likely to develop depression or anxiety than sedentary people, no matter what types of activities they chose.

Walking, jogging, gardening, weight training, swimming, biking, hiking or even rising from an office or living room chair often and strolling across the room seemed to make people happier and less prone to mood problems than remaining still.

And in mice, exercise changed the inner workings of some of their neurons in ways that then made them less excitable and less prone to patterns of biochemical activity associated with anxiety. Exercise made their cells and brains calmer. One of the other big themes of exercise science in the 2010s is that bodies in motion seem to develop interior ecosystems that differ, in fundamental ways, from those of the sedentary. People who exercise harbour different types and amounts of proteins in their bloodstreams, for instance, even if they have not been working out recently, and these patterns of proteins may play a role in reducing risks for metabolic problems such as diabetes or heart disease.

But many questions remain unanswered about the cellular effects of exercise throughout the body. It’s also unknown whether changes at the cellular level differ depending on factors like how much and in what fashion we exercise, our age, our health history and whether we happen to be a man, a woman or a mouse.

I also look forward to researchers refining more precisely just how much – or little – exercise we need, and whether those needs differ as we age or if wish to deploy exercise to fend off or treat specific conditions, such as high blood pressure, diabetes or a family history of weight problems.

I hope, too, that scientists might eventually help us to better understand why, with everything we know about the benefits of exercise, so few of us manage to get up and work out regularly. But there could be hope in redirecting our focus. In what may be the most charming fitness study of the 2010s, sedentary dog owners who had been reluctant to exercise but were told by their veterinarians that their pets were too heavy and in danger of health problems increased both their own and their pets’ walking times.

Happy, healthy 2020 to you, your family and any furry workout partners. **NYT**

### SHORT COURSE

#### [0-10 YEARS] Apps may help children learn ABCs and 123s

INTERACTIVE EDUCATIONAL apps may be able to help young children master early academic skills like math and reading, a research review suggests. The analysis of results from previous studies found that normally-developing kids who use interactive educational apps may be better at recognising and writing numbers and letters. But this didn’t appear to hold true for passive screen time, and it also doesn’t suggest kids should have unlimited access to smartphones and tablets, the study team notes. “There is somewhat consistent ev-

idence across studies that game-based educational apps targeting early academic skills, like early math skills, have the potential to support learning children,” said researchers. Researchers examined results from 35 earlier studies, with a total of 4,639 participants, that looked at developmental outcomes associated with interactive apps. Researchers did find some evidence that interactive apps helped with math and reading skills, particularly with early building blocks like counting and sounding out simple words. **REUTERS**



#### [10-20 YEARS] Injuries in early adulthood may hasten arthritis

YOUNG ADULTS who have had knee injuries are much more likely than uninjured peers to develop arthritis in the knee by middle age, especially if they have broken bones or torn connective tissue, a recent study suggests. Researchers followed almost 150,000 adults ages 25 to 34, including about 5,200 with a history of knee injuries, for almost two decades. Compared to people who never had knee injuries, those who did were nearly six times as likely to develop knee osteoarthritis during the first 11 years of follow-

up, with more than triple the risk over the next eight years. “Injuries that occur inside the knee joint, for example in the meniscus or cruciate ligament, may alter the biomechanical loading patterns in the knee,” said a researcher. “Such injuries may lead to an ‘imbalance’ in force transmissions inside the knee joint, consequently overloading the joint cartilage and leading to increased risk of developing osteoarthritis, compared to injuries that mainly affect the outside of the knee joint, such as contusions”. **REUTERS**



#### [20-50 YEARS] People with restricted diets likely to feel lonely

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS often revolve around eating, but people with restricted diets are more likely to feel lonely when they can’t share in what others are eating, according to a study. Across seven studies and controlled experiments, the researchers at Cornell University in the US found that food restrictions – due to allergies, health issues or religious or cultural norms – predicted loneliness among both children and adults. “Despite being physically present with others, having a food restriction leaves people feeling left out

because they are not able to take part in bonding over the meal,” said a researcher. The study offers the first evidence that having a food restriction causes increased loneliness. When restricted from sharing in a meal, people suffer “food worries.” Those worries generated a degree of loneliness comparable to that reported by unmarried or low-income adults, and stronger than that experienced by schoolchildren who were not native English speakers, according to the research. **PTI**



## BOXING DAY TESTS

5am: Australia vs New Zealand,  
1.30pm: South Africa vs England  
Live on Sony Six

# Captain Agarwal digs in, Hyderabad fight to take match to fourth day

**SANDIP G**  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

HYDERABAD'S COMEBACK on Friday was as magnificent as it was futile. Futile because they still require a miracle to defend the paltry target of 84 runs, and Delhi have already chalked off 24 runs without losing a wicket. But it was magnificent because the visitors bounced back from 97 for 6 in the morning when an innings defeat was looking a mere eventuality. They would add 201 more runs to fight another day.

At the heart of their revival was the skipper and opening batsman Tanmay Agarwal, who scored a sterling century, dispelling several doubts regarding both his batsmanship and leadership that had surfaced at the start of the season. Several former players were indignant that Agarwal was preferred over a more experienced B Sandeep, after Akshath Reddy had relinquished the captaincy to focus on his batting at the end of last season. Besides, they feared it would hamper his batting — juggling opening duties and managing men could be burdensome (though some of the most successful skippers in Test cricket have been openers, the likes of Mark Taylor, Graeme Smith and Andrew Strauss to name

a few). Maybe, it was the leadership letdown on the first two days that spurred Agarwal to register his most trenchant first-class hundred yet, his eighth in 67 innings.

Late on the second day, Ishant Sharma had him ruffled him with a short-ball barrage, besides repeatedly beating him. But batting for close to four hours for his 154-ball 103, the 25-year-old left-hander illustrated a rare ability to reset his batting approach. On Friday morning, he dutifully dug in, playing each ball on its merits, displaying the patience, sound judgment and precise footwork that is associated with that role. Later, he would show his daring side with a raft of feisty pull shots and flicks, spreading 15 fours evenly around Kotla and smearing a six over long-on.

His self-assurance in handling Ishant was staggering. There was a feisty little duel after lunch. Realising that Ishant doesn't swerve the ball too much into the left-handers, he took a middle stump guard and shuffled across to cover the line of his off-stump. The shuffle dispirited Ishant, who began fluffing his lines, before getting wider and then shorter. The short-pitched deliveries were not only dealt adeptly but punished emphatically. At one point, Ishant stationed a deep fine-leg and deep square-leg, both not far from each other, but Agarwal still pierced the gap. Ishant

over-compensated with fuller deliveries, which were crisply driven down the ground. The Indian pacer seemed to have exhausted his resources.

With Ishant defanged and his colleagues deflated on a dry surface, Delhi panicked. They had their foot on the Hyderabad throat after an hour's play, but they could not keep it there for long. They shuffled the bowlers, even resorting to part-time offie Lalit Yadav, who was duly plundered for plenty. Fielders moved around, finally settling for five men prowling the ropes at one stage. Agarwal stole easy singles and doubles. It was perhaps then that they missed the services of the injured left-arm seamer Pawan Suyal, especially as he moves the ball naturally into the left-handers. In the Hyderabad dugout, there was finally something to cheer, and the rippling applause whenever he scored a boundary or reached a landmark grew only louder as the sun began to retreat.

Even more enthusiastically during the entertaining 60-run stand with Mehdi Hassan, the left-arm spinner. Hassan's 62-ball 71 wasn't strewn by heaves and slogs, as you'd expect from a No 9, but by undiluted enthusiasm, flair, and some classical cover-driving and stoic defending.

But then came a cruel blow. A clumsy

mix-up ended Agarwal's vigil. Even after Agarwal's exit, Hyderabad piled on the runs. With Ravi Kiran, who perhaps stroked the most delightful of cover-drives in this match, Hassan added 34 in no time.

Such was the contagious effect of their comeback that pacers Mohammad Siraj and Ravi Kiran bowled robust spells to Kunal Chandel and Shikhar Dhawan, only that their efforts didn't yield a breakthrough or two that might have intrigued the match. Siraj twice had Dhawan pinged on the pads, and he did appeal imploringly, only for the umpire to remain unmoved. Kiran cranked up the speeds and drew Chandela to stiffling prodding. An edge, though, eluded. They cursed their luck.

But their perilous position in the game was self-inflicted—pinned down to their shoddy batting in the first innings. No amount of resistance would have reversed their fortunes once they were shot out for 69. Hence, even as Agarwal and Hassan were sparking hopes of an unlikely heist, there was a magnificent futility about their labours.

**BRIEF SCORE (DAY 3):** Delhi 284 & 24 for 0 vs Hyderabad 69 & 298 (T Agarwal 103, K Sumanth 32, T Thyagarajan 34, M Hassan 71; Ishant Sharma 4 for 89, Simarjeet Singh 3 for 80). Delhi require 60 runs more to win.

## Delhi U-23 players 'harass' women at X-mas party in Kolkata, sent home

**SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY**  
KOLKATA, DECEMBER 27

TWO DELHI Under-23 cricketers have been sent back home for alleged misconduct during a Christmas party at a Kolkata hotel, ahead of the team's CK Nayudu Trophy match against Bengal. According to a Delhi & Districts Cricket Association (DDCA) official, further disciplinary action against the cricketers will be taken after receiving the team manager's report.

The incident happened at a Kolkata hotel where the Delhi team are staying. According to DDCA sources, the cricketers went to a Christmas party there and chased a couple of women, they followed them to their rooms and they were constantly "harassing" them knocking their doors. The women complained to the hotel reception and on the same evening,

## 'Following alleged harassment against the cricketers, they have been removed from the team.'

the cricketers were sent to a different hotel followed by their ejection from the team, as they were directed to return home while their replacements arrived.

"Following alleged harassment against the cricketers, they have been removed from the team. The DDCA will confirm it after getting the manager's report," the DDCA official told *The Indian Express*.

The four-day game between Delhi and Bengal commenced at the JU Campus Ground at Salt Lake on Friday. Batting first, Delhi scored 110/4 at stumps on Day One.

# Ticket collector snares Mumbai stars

Posted at the New Delhi station, Railways pacer Himanshu Sangwan scalps five to help team record 10-wicket win

**DEVENDRA PANDEY**  
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 27

MUMBAI RAN out of steam and Railways registered their first-ever outright win over the 41-times Ranji Trophy champions. The day's hero was pacer Himanshu Sangwan, a 24-year-old ticket collector presently posted at the New Delhi Railway Station. It was his decisive second innings spell of 5/60 that went a long way in embarrassing the star-studded Mumbai team in their own backyard, the storied Wankhede Stadium.

After Mumbai were all out for 198, Railways raced passed the winning target of 47 runs without losing a wicket. A 10-wicket win against Mumbai wasn't expected of a team that had lost by an innings to Saurashtra in the last round.

As for Sangwan, he wouldn't be forgetting this game in a hurry. After getting the wickets of India's bright young batsmen Prithvi Shaw and Siddhesh Lad on Thursday, he added three more to this tally today. Among his Day 3 scalps was the prized wicket of India's frontline Test batsman Ajinkya Rahane.

The day had started with Mumbai resuming at 64/3. With skipper Suryakumar Yadav and Rahane walking out to bat, the home team were very much in the game. But in the second over of the day, Railways nosed ahead. Rahane nicked a Sangwan delivery behind the stumps and Railways had a whiff of victory.

Suryakumar and Aditya Tare would add 64 runs for the fifth wicket before the Railway seamers T Pradeep struck. He had Tare caught behind for 14. This was followed by another crucial blow by the visitors — this time by Railways skipper Karn Sharma. The one-time India leggie had Yadav bowled. Mumbai never recovered from the loss of Rahane and Yadav and the team couldn't cross 200.

## Attacking the stumps

Sangwan later revealed his team's game plan was to bowl stump-to-stump. They banked on the Mumbai batsmen to play their stroke and make mistakes. The Wankhede green top helped the pacers all day long and this made things difficult for the Mumbai batsmen.

Talking about his early days, Sangwan said that he started pursuing serious cricket after watching the Virat Kohli side win the under-19 World Cup in 2008. What caught the young boy's eye was the pacer with him he shared a second name — Pradeep Sangwan. Like the Delhi left-arm pacer, he too wanted to run in fast and bowl pace.

He was so driven that he shifted base to Najafgarh, a Delhi suburb made famous by India great Virendra Sehwag. It was also the place that Pradeep Sangwan called home.

"I had this reassuring thought that if Pradeep Sangwan can make it to the Indian team why can't Himanshu Sangwan. Somehow I felt that I needed to be in Najafgarh to make it big. I rented a house there and till date I stayed there. The house owner is like my family now. I met Sangwan and he told me that I had it in me to play top grade cricket," says Sangwan, whose family is from Rajasthan.

Hours after the game, Sangwan couldn't stop talking about the Rahane wicket. "I bowled an off-stump line, hoping he will drive. The morning condition helps pacer at Wankhede and I was lucky that I got his wicket," he recalled.

Railways was Sangwan's first-choice team. After playing for Delhi Under-19 team, Sangwan didn't get the big break to play first class cricket. So he switched to Railways. After creditable showing for Railways U-23 team — he was the highest wicket-taker — he was picked for the Ranji team.

Before he hangs up, Sangwan shares another man who has been an inspiration for him. "I have seen that MS Dhoni movie. That shows that even a Railways TC can



Railways captain Karn Sharma, who scored a hundred in the first innings, took two wickets on Friday. *PTI*



Among Himanshu Sangwan's scalps were Test batsmen Ajinkya Rahane and Prithvi Shaw.

make it big in cricket. If he can, why can't I?" he says.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Mumbai 114 & 198 (Suryakumar Yadav 65, Akash Parkar 35 not out; H Sangwan 5 for 60) lost to Railways 266 & 47 (Mrunal Devdhar 27 not out).

**Result:** Railways 7 points, Mumbai 0.

## Porel takes four on a truncated day

**SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY**  
KOLKATA, DECEMBER 27

IN FAVOURABLE conditions, Ishan Porel was superb. The young Bengal fast-medium bowler opened the game for his team and he kept the bonus points hope alive, even though only 46 overs had been possible on the third day. Andhra lost seven wickets for 110 runs and if they fail to avoid the follow-on on the final day, they will bat to save the game.

Overnight rain forced a delayed start of the day. There was nip in the air, the sun played peek-a-boo and the green Eden Gardens pitch was a little damp to start with. In such difficult batting conditions, Hanuma Vihari was Andhra's best bet. Porel, however, removed him with the ball of the day. It moved away off the good length, squared up Vihari a little, took the outside edge and went to Manoj Tiwary at second slip.

Ricky Bhui, the man in form after his back-to-back hundreds in the first two matches departed for a golden duck. The ball cut back sharply off the seam and caught him plumb in front. Bhui was beaten for pace. On a hat-trick, KS Bharat narrowly survived. But Porel removed him a couple of overs later, once again extracting seam movement that beat the batsman's defence and trapped him leg-before.

Porel is in the India A squad for the up-

coming tour of New Zealand. The Eden offered him New Zealand-like conditions and he was right on the money in his first two spells. Today, his first spell read: 12-4-24-3. It broke the back of Andhra's batting. Porel's final spell was a little wayward, which he admitted after the day's play. In search of some extra yards of pace, he erred in line and length.

Porel has a natural outswinger. His in-swing is a work in progress, but he has the ability to make the ball straighten, bowling from an angle. Conditions made his job a little easier, for he and his fast-bowling partners just had to hit the right line and length. "The challenge was to not get carried away. Discipline was the key here. We bowled well as a unit," Porel said.

On a previous occasion, in a Deodhar Trophy match, he had accounted for Vihari with a bouncer. This time a full ball did the trick. "If you want to reach the next level, you have to pick big wickets. Vihari is a current India player and he could have taken the game away from us. As far as big wickets are concerned, he is (now) added to the list after Parthiv Patel, Shubman Gill and Prithvi Shaw," Porel said.

Bengal unleashed Akash Deep and the youngster worked up good pace. But he is still very raw and bowled on both sides of the wicket. Andhra batsmen were too tentative to take the advantage. In fact, some of them didn't look comfortable playing the fast bowler on the front foot. Akash got his

maiden first-class wicket, when he had Karan Shinde caught behind.

CR Gnaneshwar was a reason why Andhra kept follow-on at arm's length. Against Bengal's first innings total of 289, the visitors needed 140 to avoid it and they finished the day still 30 runs adrift, with three wickets remaining. The Andhra opener remained unbeaten on 45, facing 148 balls and hitting only four boundaries.

After the day's play, Porel spoke about the rub of the green that the batsman had — playing and missing several times. But on this pitch and on such a tough batting day, any batsman would have needed a bit of luck to survive. Some of his leaves were top-class. Even Porel admitted that.

## Batting sub

B Ayyappa played as a 'batting sub' for the injured G Manish, who sustained right shoulder dislocation on the first day. Concussion subs are now legal in cricket, but a substitute for a player who didn't suffer a head injury offered a novelty. Andhra manager Srinivas Raju told this paper that he requested match referee to allow them a substitute for the injured Manish. Match referee V Narayan Kutty agreed after getting the approval from Bengal captain Abhimanyu Easwaran.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Bengal 289 vs Andhra 110/7 (CR Gnaneshwar 45 not out; Ishan Porel 3/35)

## ROUND-UP

### Shubman unbeaten on 70

**Nagpur:** Talented top-order batsman Shubman Gill stroked an unbeaten 70 and spearheaded Punjab's confident response to defending champions Vidarbha's first-innings total of 338. Shubman struck eight fours and a six in an unbeaten partnership with Sanvir Singh, who moved onto 56. With an outright result all but improbable, both teams would tussle for first-innings lead.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Vidarbha 338 (G Satish 145 not out; Baltej Singh 3/59, Arshdeep Singh 3/65) lead Punjab 132 for 0 in 40.1 overs.

### Sanju sparkles, but Kerala lose

**Surat:** Sanju Samson continued showing his rich vein of form with a belligerent 78 off 82 balls, but Kerala fell 81 runs short of the target (177) that Gujarat had set. Sanju was waging a lone battle as no one else crossed 30, as Kerala stumbled to their second successive defeat on the bounce. Left-arm spinner Axar Patel nailed four while medium-pacer Chintan Gaja nabbed three.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Gujarat 127 and 210 beat Kerala 70 and 177 in 50.3 overs (Sanju Samson 78; Axar Patel 4/50, Chintan Gaja 3/41) by 80 runs

**Points:** Gujarat 6, Kerala 0

### Dhawan takes 3 wkts after making 93

**Mysore:** Rishi Dhawan has revived his all-round form, first by striking 93 at No 7, enabling Himachal Pradesh to secure a crucial 114-run lead over Karnataka. With Himachal reeling at 122, he stabilised the innings and then struck quick runs to keep the visitors at bay. Then he returned to pick three wickets for 56 runs in Karnataka's second innings before Karnataka fought back with the help of Devdutt Padikkal's unbeaten 69 and Karun Nair's 62.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Karnataka 166 & 191/3 in 67 overs (Devdutt Padikkal 69\*, Karun Nair 62\*); Rishi Dhawan 3/56) lead Himachal Pradesh 280 (Rishi Dhawan 93, V Koushik 4/59, P Jain 3/54) by seven runs.

### MP on top despite Natarajan fifer

**Indore:** Tamil Nadu left-arm medium-pacer T Natarajan picked five wickets to restrict Madhya Pradesh to 333 in the first innings. However, his efforts couldn't redress the inadequacies of their batsmen as they were bundled out for 149 in the first innings. The produced a better effort in the second innings, racing to 177/4 at stumps, but still trailing by seven wickets. A third defeat on the trot lurks for the depleted two-time champions.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Tamil Nadu 149 & 177/4 in 67 overs (KM Gandhi 66\*, Narayan Jagadeeshan 54) trail Madhya Pradesh 333 (Venkatesh Iyer 88, Rameez Khan 87, Mihir Hirwani 71; T Natarajan 5/105) in 97 overs by seven runs.

### Saif scores 165, UP take lead

**Rajkot:** Mohd Saif, the 23-year-old left-hander, scored 165 to help UP gain a massive 192-run lead over Saurashtra.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Saurashtra 331 trail UP 523 (Mohd Saif 165, Akshdeep Nath 95, Rinku Singh 71; Kamlesh Makvana 3/98) in 167.2 overs

## England fight back after relentless South African bowling display

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
CENTURION, DECEMBER 27

VERNON PHILANDER led a relentless South African bowling performance before England fought back on the second day of the first Test at Centurion's SuperSport Park on Friday. Philander took four for 16 in 14.2 overs as South Africa appeared to have taken control by bowling out England for 181, a first innings lead of 103.

But England struck hard at the start of the second innings. South Africa were 72 for four at the close, an overall lead of 175 on a pitch which has proved difficult for batsmen throughout. Philander, 34, who has announced he will retire from international cricket at the end of the four-Test series, produced a master class of control to complement the strike power of fast bowlers Kagiso Rabada (three for 68) and Anrich Nortje (two for 47).

Wicketkeeper Quinton de Kock equalled the South African Test record by holding six catches, a feat which had been accomplished six times before - on four occasions by new head coach Mark Boucher. Joe Denly hit a half-century for England after a shaky start. He shared in partnerships of 55 for the third wicket with captain Joe Root (29) and 72 for the fourth wicket with Ben Stokes (35).

Denly was dropped on nought and took 28 balls to score his first run as Philander had an opening spell of one wicket for no runs in five overs. But Denly survived the initial fast bowling storm and gradually asserted himself to make 50 off 111 balls with nine fours.

England collapsed, however, after Denly was caught behind off an inside edge to give all-rounder Dwayne Pretorius his first Test wicket. Fast bowler Anrich Nortje bowled Jonny Bairstow for one in the next over and then claimed the key wicket of Stokes when he switched to bowling around the wicket and induced a loose drive which presented wicketkeeper Quinton de Kock with his fifth catch of the innings.

### Fired up

Nortje bowled at high pace, with a top speed of 149kmh. From a promising position at 142 for three, England lost their last seven wickets for 39 runs.

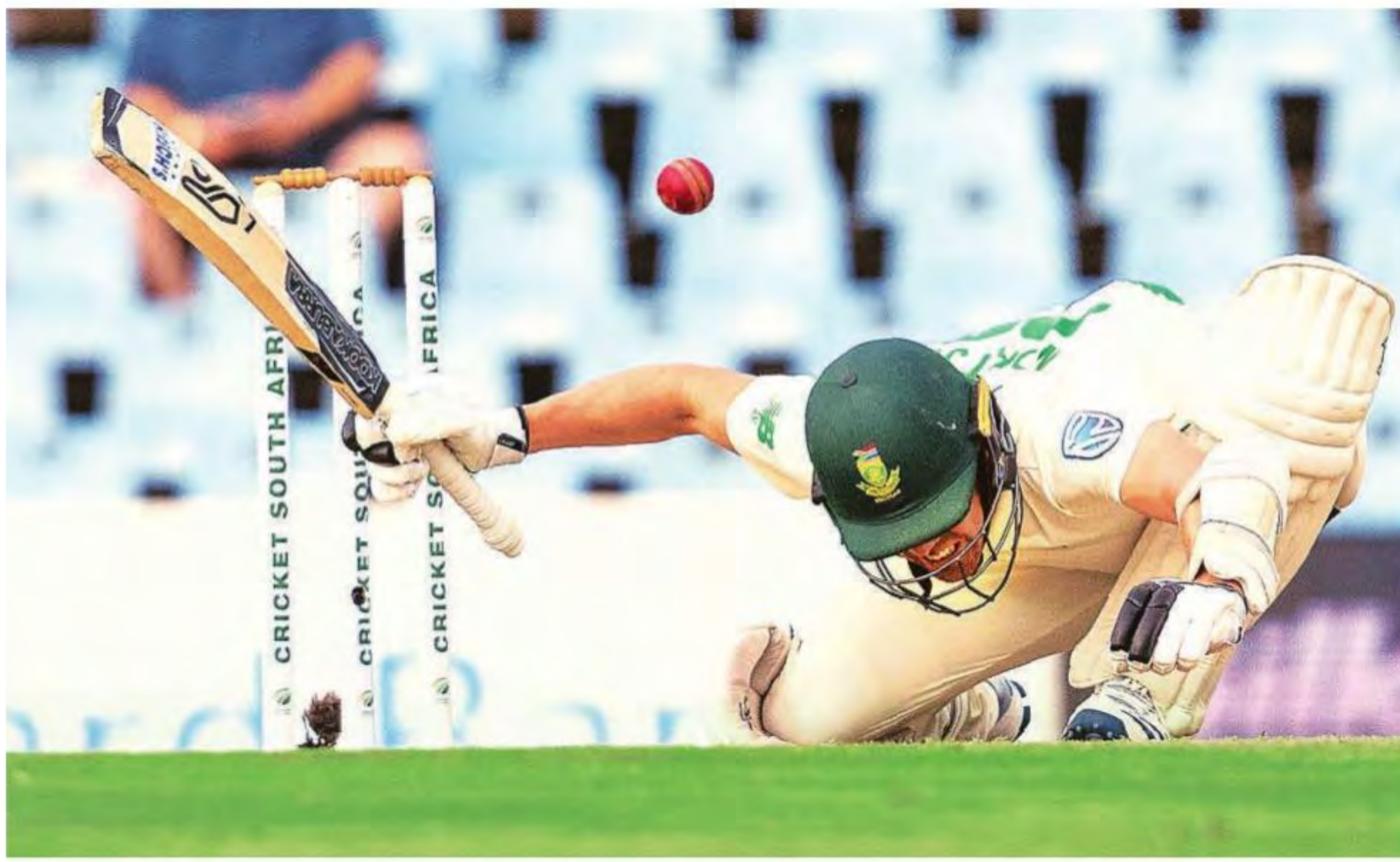
But wickets continued to fall when South Africa batted again. James Anderson, who dismissed Dean Elgar with the first ball of the match on Thursday, again claimed a wicket in his first over when Aiden Markram played around his pads and was leg before wicket.

Zubayr Hamza was caught by wicketkeeper Jos Buttler down the leg side before Elgar was caught behind for 22 off Jofra Archer's second ball to reduce South Africa to 29 for three.

Rassie van der Dussen appeared to have been caught by Ben Stokes at second slip off Sam Curran when he had five but an umpire's review showed the ball had bounced just before it reached a diving Stokes. Van der Dussen helped captain Faf du Plessis add 33 for the fourth wicket before Du Plessis, who had hooked a fired-up Archer for six, was caught at long leg when he played another hook shot.

Van der Dussen survived to the close on 17 not out, with nightwatchman Anrich Nortje. Archer was spoken to by the umpires in the penultimate over of the day after bowling two high full tosses while attempting to bowl slower deliveries. The first was no-balled.

**BRIEF SCORES:** South Africa 72 for 4 (Archer 2-37) and 284 lead England 181 (Denly 50, Philander 4-16) by 175 runs



## PITCH INSPECTION

South Africa all-rounder Anrich Nortje ducks under a delivery from England's Jofra Archer on Day Two of the first Test at Centurion Park, Pretoria, on Friday. AP

# Headline act

Aussie pacers put NZ on backfoot after Travis Head's century, Paine's fifty help the home team score 467

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
MELBOURNE, DECEMBER 27

TRAVIS HEAD signaled his coming of age as a test batsman by scoring a crucial century in Australia's first innings of 467 before New Zealand lost two wickets late on the second day of the second test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Head made 114 and shared a vital 150-run partnership with skipper Tim Paine to tilt the game firmly in Australia's favor and then its quick bowlers ousted opener Tom Blundell (15) and World No.3-ranked batsman Kane Williamson for nine to leave the tourists in a shaky position at 44-2 off 18 overs at stumps on Friday.

After scoring seven previous half-centuries, Head was able to shrug off the tag of being wasteful by converting a good start into a century, but not before Neil Wagner (4-83) had again bounced out Steve Smith (85) before lunch and trapped Paine lbw for 79 just after tea. It was Paine's highest score in his 18 tests as captain.

Mitchell Starc fell for one in the following over, with Head on 99, still seeking the second test century of his 16-match career. The stylish left-hander settled his nerves as he calmly reached the milestone two balls later with a boundary to backward point. Head took off his helmet and raised both arms in triumph to the large appreciative crowd, likely putting to an end recent speculation over his place in the side.

"I had a good sense that I was playing (this match) so I didn't read too much into it," said Head, who scored 56 and 5 in the first test against New Zealand in Perth earlier this month, but made the most of his opportunity in Melbourne. "Over time you get a little bit more mature," he said. "(Today) was about making sure that I go on. Going on with it was nice."

The batsman gave credit to Paine for his



Head completed his second Test ton after tea and celebrated with emotion on a sun-bathed afternoon at the MCG. AP

positive stroke-play in their 150-run partnership for the sixth wicket which swayed the momentum strongly towards the hosts. "It helped that Tim came out and struck the ball as well as he did," Head said. "Tim plays the hook shot and pull shot extremely well. "It took a lot of pressure off me and the partnership was fantastic."

Head, who had many uncomfortable moments against New Zealand's short-pitched bowling tactics, was caught at cover off Wagner's bowling for 114 off 234 deliveries, including 12 boundaries, as Australia lost 5-33 chasing quick runs.

Australia had resumed Friday well-set at

257-4, but for the third consecutive innings this series, Smith couldn't manage a Wagner short ball and was out for 85, denying the star batsman the chance to become the first player to score a fifth consecutive test century at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

After bowling 60 overs in the Perth test, claiming 4-92 and 3-59, Wagner again underscored his burgeoning reputation for persistence and athleticism with another four wicket haul from 38 overs in Melbourne. "One of my strengths is to run in and bowl long spells," Wagner said after play on Friday. "We might not be the quickest on the radar but we are definitely some of the fittest

bowlers going around and can back up, over after over, keep running in and really try our hardest. I'm pretty proud of our group that we just kept fighting."

### Paine blasts DRS technology

Australia captain Tim Paine blasted cricket's Decision Review System Friday, saying it left him "disappointed and angry" after he was dismissed controversially in the second Test against New Zealand.

Paine played one of his best innings and was on track to score a maiden Test century when he was removed lbw by Neil Wagner for 79 after New Zealand reviewed the umpire's original not out decision.

He was asked about the DRS by broadcaster ABC afterwards and replied: "Don't start." "I thought from the length that it pitched, and the bloke bowling around the wicket, it's pretty difficult to hit you in line, and hit the stumps," he said of the delivery.

Some commentators agreed that it was hard to see how Wagner's ball could have cut back into Paine so much, struck him in line and gone on to hit middle stump. Paine's disappointment was compounded by New Zealand's Ross Taylor surviving a review late in the day after initially being given out lbw. The ball looked to be hitting the stumps but the tracking technology showed it going over.

"And then you get one late tonight which, the guy's stuck on the crease, he's hit really full and it's going over, so it's disappointing and it makes me angry," said Paine. "I've got a few doubts, no doubt about that," he added of the technology's accuracy. "I won't go into it too far because I'll get in trouble but I'm just seeing time and time again, what I see to the naked eye, or watching it on television in real time, and then what it comes up is sometimes a little bit off the mark."

**BRIEF SCORES:** Australia 467 (Head 114, Smith 85, Paine 79, Labuschagne 63, Wagner 4-83, South 3-103) lead New Zealand 44/2 (Cummins 1/8, Pattinson 1/9) by 423 runs

## Was targeted but never felt need or pressure to convert: Kaneria

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KARACHI, DECEMBER 27

PAKISTAN'S BANNED Test leg-spinner Danish Kaneria on Friday said there were a "few players" who targeted him for being a Hindu during his time with the national team but he never felt the urge or the pressure to change his religion. The spinner, who is serving a life ban for spot-fixing, has been brought into focus after former pacer Shoaib Akhtar alleged that some Pakistani players refused to even share food with him due to his faith.

Speaking to 'Samaa' channel on Friday, Kaneria said a few players made remarks about him behind his back. "(But) I never made an issue of it. I just ignored them because I wanted to focus on my cricket and bring victories for Pakistan," he said. "Look I am a proud Hindu and Pakistani. I would like to make it clear here don't try to portray our cricket fraternity in Pakistan in negative manner because there are a lot of people who have supported me and backed me regardless of my religion," he added.

When asked about former batsman Yousuf Youhana, a Christian who converted to Islam, Kaneria said he would not comment on an individual choice. "What Muhammad Yousuf did was his personal decision but I never felt the need to change my religion because I believe in it and no one forced me either to do it," he said.

When pressed on Akhtar's comments, Kaneria chose to side-step a day after acknowledging the discrimination and threatening to come out with names. "Shoaib bhai has said what he must have heard or someone must have told him but I have represented Pakistan at the highest level and I feel proud of it. When I came into cricket I always wanted to represent Pakistan at the highest level and I did that," he said. The leg-spinner, who played 61 Tests for Pakistan, made it clear that former captain Inzamam-ul-Haq always supported him. "Inzamam called me a match-winner. I can say lot of institutions supported me in my career. I always did my best on the ground to prove Inzamam right. The fact is I am proud to be a Pakistani," he said.

Pressed to name those few players who he felt targeted him, Kaneria said he would reveal their names later on his YouTube channel. "The time is not right and I will use my channel to talk about it." Asked to recall any incident where players refused to eat with him, Kaneria said, "Pakistan is my janam bhumi (birth place) and I don't think anyone should politicise this issue or our cricket fraternity because of a few players' behaviour. I request everyone don't give it a wrong angle."

Javed Miandad, meanwhile, said Kaneria couldn't have played for Pakistan if the country had bias towards its minority Hindu community. "Pakistan has given him so much recognition and he played for 10-years in Test cricket. Would this have been possible if there was any issue over his religion," Miandad said.

Miandad noted that even when Kaneria was playing, Pakistan had the option of going for leg-spinners like Imran Tahir (who later played for South Africa), Ali Hussain Rizvi and even Mansoor Amjad but he was selected. "So how is this possible if he ever faced any bias over his being a Hindu," Miandad said.

**Look I am a proud Hindu and Pakistani. Inzamam called me a match-winner. I can say lot of institutions supported me in my career. I always did my best on the ground to prove Inzamam right. The fact is I am proud to be a Pakistani.**

DANISH KANERIA  
FORMER PAKISTAN BOWLER

## Mary vs Nikhat: Finally, the gloves to do the talking

GAURAV BHATT  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

THE TIME for talking is over. After months of put-downs, complaints, outbursts and tweets, Mary Kom and Nikhat Zareen will fight in the ring, in a year-ending headliner at the IG Stadium on Saturday. At stake is a berth in February's Olympic qualifiers, and a lot more.

On Saturday, it's on Mary to underline the sense of superiority that has prompted the six-time World Champion to discredit a younger rival. For Nikhat, it's the fair fight she has clamoured for, and the chance to put in a defining performance against a legend.

On the first day of selection trials, Nikhat and Mary — nation's two best women flyweights — defeated Jyoti Gulia and Ritu Grewal — on paper, the nation's best women flyweights. Jyoti and Ritu were the 51kg finalists at the senior nationals in Kannur earlier this month, while Nikhat and Mary featured in the first edition of the boxing league.

Nikhat began the day's proceedings against national champion Jyoti, buoyed by her family's presence in the audience. With the stonefaced gaze of Mary fixed on the action in the ring, Nikhat stayed in range and countered her way to a unanimous win. But it was a bout won in a largely unremarkable manner. Against the Olympic bronze-medalist Mary, the 23-year-old's conservative approach might not be enough to get the nod of the ten judges presiding over the contests.

Going all out against the veteran however isn't without perils, as Ritu found out later. The 24-year-old from Haryana is tough and likes to dirty it up a bit. On Friday, she took the contest to Mary, trying to bully her with



Mary Kom celebrates after defeating Ritu Grewal. PTI

relentless attacks, clinching and grappling; twice the boxers went to the ground. Mary was visibly frustrated, eyeballing the boxer after the second-round bell.

"She is very experienced, and I knew I would have to be a little more attacking. Throw more punches. But I should have focused on countering as well," Ritu said.

It was a grind, but Mary survived. The two exchanged shots, but the 37-year-old's were cleaner. "Height difference played a part. Mary is shorter, so my right wasn't connecting properly downward with full force. Her experience comes into play because people are able to see her punches clearly. It was a

tough fight. I can beat everyone in 51kg," Ritu said, and with a pause added: "Except Mary."

Mary has made her name taking down taller, bigger opponents. On Friday though, she looked particularly smaller, and slower. Mary has slowed down, even compared to last year's Worlds gold-winning run at the same venue. In the early goings and against passive opponents, she is able to mask it by hanging back and being evasive. But forced to trade and throw rapid counters, Mary's punches lacked the usual crispness. On several occasions, her leading right finished inches away from her side-stepping opponent. The ring generalship however was

enough to get her an unanimous win. Ritu might have failed, but Nikhat's best bet remains to swarm Mary. In their previous meeting in the India Open final this May, a respectful Nikhat often let Mary rush in, connect and disengage. On Saturday, a clinical, measured performance wouldn't be enough to sway the scorers. Getting to this moment has been a battle in itself, and Nikhat would have to bite down and seize it.

"I am just waiting for tomorrow's bout. There is no pressure on me right on because I wanted the fight to happen for a long time and I am excited," Nikhat said. "I just want to give my best. At last I got an opportunity to face (Mary) and I will make sure that it turns out to be a memorable bout. I will make sure that it's a clean bout tomorrow without any clinching and wrestling. I will play fairly and clean and beautiful boxing." Mary didn't have much to add. "No talking from me. I'll only talk tomorrow after the bout."

**RESULTS:** 51 kg: Nikhat bt Jyoti 10-0, Mary bt Ritu 10-0; 57 kg: Sakshi bt Manisha 7-3, Sonia Lather bt Sonia Chahal 7-3; 60 kg: Simranjit bt Pavitra 10-0, Sarita Devi bt Shashi Chopra 9-1; 69 kg: Lalita bt Meena Rani 9-1, Lovlina bt Anjali 10-0; 75 kg: Pooja Rani bt Indrajia 10-0, Nupur bt Saweeta 9-1

## India U-19 beats SA by 9 wickets in first 'ODI'

East London: India under-19 team produced an impressive all-round performance to begin its tour of South Africa with a comfortable nine-wicket win in the first Youth ODI at the Buffalo Park here. Batting first, South Africa Under-19 team folded for 187 in 48.3 overs. In reply, India dished out a solid batting display to overhaul the target, scoring 190 for 1 in 42.3 overs on Thursday to take 1-0 lead in the series.

South Africa batsmen failed to convert the starts with Luke Beaufort top-scoring with a 91-ball 64. For India U-19, Ravi Bishnoi scalped three wickets, while Kartik Tyagi, Shubhang Hegde and Atharva Ankolekar picked up two wickets each.

**BRIEF SCORES:** India U-19: 190/1 (Divyansh Saxena 86, N Tilak Varma 59; Achille Cloete 1/42) beat South Africa U-19: 187 all out (Luke Beaufort 64, Jack Lees 27; Ravi Bishnoi 3/36) by nine wickets

## Santana double strike seals it for Odisha FC

Bhubaneswar: Adrienne Santana's twin strike ensured a 2-1 victory for Odisha FC over Jamshedpur FC in their first home match of the Indian Super League on Friday. Santana's (28', 45') first-half brace got Odisha full points even as Aitor Monroy's (38') spot-kick conversion went in vain for the visitors, who are now winless in their last five games. The three points allowed Odisha to climb to the sixth spot on the

## Churchill Bros look to continue winning run

Margao: Churchill Brothers would look to continue their winning run when they take on Indian Arrows in their second home I-League match here on Saturday. Churchill, who played their last match on December 12 against Mohun Bagan in Kolkata, are coming in to Saturday's match on the back of a 16-day break due to the postponement of their game against Real Kashmir FC scheduled for December 15 on account of inclement weather conditions in Srinagar. They have been on an unbeaten streak, defeating Punjab FC and Mohun Bagan with comfortable scorelines of 3-0 and 4-2. Star striker Willis Plaza has been in tremendous form and he has already scored three goals from two matches, including a brace against Mohun Bagan.

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**

BRIEFLY

Russia challenges WADA doping ban

Russia on Friday formally contested a four-year ban from major sporting events over doping violations that President Vladimir Putin has condemned as "unjust," the head of its RUSADA anti-doping agency said. "In accordance with established procedure, today we have sent a package of documents to the World Anti-Doping Agency. The package contains a notice about disagreement with WADA sanctions," RUSADA director general Yury Ganus told reporters in Moscow. Ganus, who has long argued for a major crackdown by Russia against doping cheats, warned that the legal challenge could backfire, however. The formal statement of disagreement with WADA will trigger an appeal process against the ban at the Lausanne-based Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

Ibrahimovic set for AC Milan return

Sweden star Zlatan Ibrahimovic has reached agreement to join AC Milan on an initial six-month contract, according to multiple reports in Italy on Thursday. Ibrahimovic has accepted Milan's proposal and is ready to sign a deal to return to the former European giants within the next two days, Gazzetta Dello Sport and Sky Sports Italia reported. Ibrahimovic will reportedly sign a six-month contract worth about three million euros (\$3.3 million) with a renewal option for another year, linked to certain conditions such as goals and appearances. The 38-year-old striker confirmed his departure from Los Angeles Galaxy last month following the club's elimination from the Major League Soccer playoffs. The Swede should be available to coach Stefano Pioli as early as December 30, the date of the resumption of training at Milan. AC Milan are reeling after a 5-0 thrashing against Atalanta last weekend, their worst defeat in 21 years, and are struggling 11th in the Serie A table. The team's first game after the winter break will be at home against Sampdoria on January 6.

Shin to take over struggling Indonesia

Former South Korea coach Shin Tae-yong has been tapped to take over Indonesia's struggling national team, the country's football association said on Friday. Shin, who led South Korea at last year's World Cup in Russia -- where they famously ousted defending champions Germany -- is expected to be formally unveiled on Saturday. "We have invited Shin to finalise the contract. After that he will be introduced later on Saturday," Mochamad Iriawan, chairman of the Football Association of Indonesia (PSSI), said in a statement Friday. "Hopefully all the process will run well." The expected appointment of Shin, 50, comes after the PSSI sacked Scotsman Simon McMenemy in November with Indonesia bottom of their 2022 World Cup qualifying group on zero points from five games. Indonesia also floundered in last year's Southeast Asian championship, the Suzuki Cup, where they finished fourth out of five teams in their group. Indonesia has had significant problems off the pitch, with the two former chairmen leaving the PSSI this year amid match-fixing allegations.

# A winning Trent

Liverpool playmaker architects three and scores one in their 4-0 win over second-placed Leicester as Klopp's men take a 13-point lead

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
DECEMBER 27

WHEN LIVERPOOL lifts the English Premier League trophy in May, barring a monumental collapse, the end of a three-decade title drought will owe so much to Trent Alexander-Arnold. No game more so than the complete all-round performance from the right back that tore apart the closest challenger on Thursday night. After a key role in the first three goals, Alexander-Arnold netted himself to add the final flourish in a 4-0 victory over Leicester that sent Liverpool 13 points clear.

And that's with a game in hand, and half of the season remaining. Victory in the chill of central England to complete a packed Boxing Day program came five days after the European champion added the Club World Cup to its trophy haul.

"We played really good football, especially after all the traveling we've done and the intense period we've had," Alexander-Arnold said. "It probably is our best performance of the season." Roberto Firmino netted the winner against Flamengo in Qatar and the forward completed two crosses from Alexander-Arnold at King Power Stadium.

The goal that suppressed any hope of a Leicester comeback came when James Milner grabbed the second of the night from the penalty spot in the 71st minute.

The move that led to the penalty being awarded inevitably came from another of Alexander-Arnold's crosses which was handled by Leicester defender Caglar Soyuncu.

If Leicester had any hope of repeating its remarkable 5,000-1 title triumph from 2016, it surely ended with this first home loss of the season. "The big thing that Liverpool have is confidence, having won competitions," Leicester manager Brendan Rodgers said. "They have got that feeling there now, the squad is very strong, and they will be hard to shift in the second part of the season."

And unlike when Rodgers was Liverpool manager in 2013-14, this is surely a title that can't get away from the club trying for so long to land a 19th English championship -- and the first in the post-1992 Premier League era.

"I can write the story myself: 'Never before in the history of British football has a team had a bigger lead and lost the lead,'" Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp said. "That sounds in my ear negative so why should we think about that?" There was no doubting the significance of the occasion to Leicester, which turbo-charged a 10-minute prematch buildup.

From cannons exploding fire to a light show, Leicester raised the tension. It just couldn't manage a shot in the first half in a meek surrender when the defensive high line was exposed and Liverpool relished launching counterattacks. If you are looking for a breakthrough, you look to Alexander-Arnold.

A cross was delivered with such precision in the 31st that either Mohamed Salah or Firmino could have got on the end of it. It was the Brazilian who soared highest to power in the header. Sadio Mane spurned a chance to extend the lead before halftime, striking too casually at Kasper Schmeichel, whose double save frustrated Liverpool.

The frustration wouldn't last long, once the only spell when Leicester's attack came to life had been suppressed.

Milner had been on the pitch barely a minute when Liverpool earned the penalty that the captain converted in the 71st.

It started a dizzying seven-minute spell when Leicester was blown apart. Another deliver from Alexander-Arnold, low this time -- controlled by Firmino before he lifted the shot in and raced over to hug Klopp.

Then Alexander-Arnold got to savor the acclaim himself. The Englishman surged the length of the pitch to receive the ball from Mane and then slip the ball through Ben Chilwell's legs for only his second goal of 2019. "I don't get on the scoresheet too often," Alexander-Arnold said.



Liverpool's Trent Alexander-Arnold with teammates after scoring their fourth goal against Leicester on Thursday. Reuters

NUMBER PLATE

**20** Number of assists Alexander-Arnold has provided in the Premier League so far this season -- more than any other player. His overall EPL tally stands at 55.

**105** Number of touches Alexander-Arnold made during the match against Leicester -- the most by any player. He also had 100 percent shot accuracy.

**34** Liverpool have extended their unbeaten run to 34 games in the league. There is talk of Liverpool going through the league entire season unbeaten -- matching the 'The Invincibles' of Arsenal in 2003/04 and Preston North End in 1888/89.

**I can write the stories myself. The first story is that never before in the history of football, British football at least, has a team had a bigger lead and lost the lead. So that sounds in my ear negative, so why should we think about something like that? We are just focused on the next (games).**

**JUERGEN KLOPP**  
ON HIS TEAM'S 13-POINT LEAD

## Man United bounce back in top-four race

REUTERS  
DECEMBER 27

AFTER A 2-0 loss at Watford last weekend, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer had demanded a response from his players but a yellow card for Scott McTominay after 24 seconds and going behind to Matty Longstaff's 17th-minute goal was not what he had in mind.

It was all smiles later though as Newcastle folded and Martial, Mason Greenwood and Marcus Rashford all struck before halftime before Martial scored again early in the second half as United moved back to seventh, four points off the top four.

United have now won 21 Premier League games on Boxing Day for a win percentage of 81% -- more than any other club.

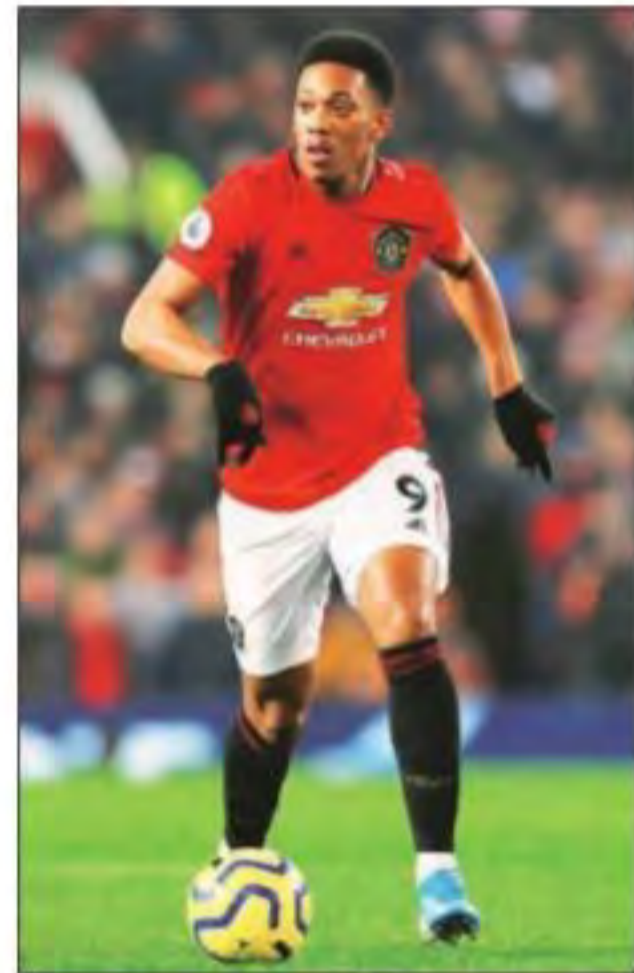
With midfielder Paul Pogba also coming on after halftime, only his second appearance since September because of injury, United will hope to end an up-and-down year with a flourish with a trip to Burnley looming on the horizon on Saturday.

"Against Watford we were not good enough for our standard but the boys showed a great intensity today and we thoroughly deserved the three points," defender Harry Maguire said.

"We have now got a big game in two days and our story so far has been a good performance and then a not so good one."

Moving up the ladder

Newcastle have made steady progress up the table under former United defender Steve Bruce and could have gone above United with a win on Thursday. So when 19-



Martial scored a brace in United's 4-1 win over Newcastle. Reuters

year-old Longstaff tucked his shot past David de Gea after linking well with Joelinton the away fans went wild.

It was Longstaff who scored the winner in the reverse fixture at St James' Park this season, but any sense of dread for the Old Trafford faithful soon diminished as United sparked into life to play some flowing football.

Six minutes after Longstaff's goal, United were level with Martial's shot squeezing in at

**United have now won 21 Premier League games on Boxing Day for a win percentage of 81% -- more than any other club.**

the near post when Newcastle keeper Martin Dubravka could really have kept it out.

Newcastle offered United another gift as they tried to play out from the back but merely gave the ball to 18-year-old Greenwood who thumped a left-footed cracker in off the crossbar.

Young Greenwood on fire

It was Greenwood's ninth goal of the season in all competitions and his emergence as a genuine goal threat has lifted the weight of expectation off the shoulders of Rashford who made it 15 for the season when he rose to head home Aaron Wan-Bissaka's inviting cross before halftime.

Newcastle's slipshod defending reached its nadir in the 51st minute when Sean Longstaff's careless back pass was pounced upon by Martial who Dubravka with ease.

"We had a horrible 20 minutes before halftime," Newcastle boss Steve Bruce said. "For the last two or three months we have been hard to beat. I know it's Christmas but I don't think Man Utd can believe it, we've made too many mistakes."

Newcastle, who have now lost more Boxing Day games in the Premier League than any other side (14) remain in 10th spot.

REMINISCING ABOUT THE GOLDEN AGE

# Modest Maradona museum pays tribute to the 'patron saint of Naples'

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
NAPLES, DECEMBER 27

FOR SOME, Diego Maradona is the greatest footballer of the 20th century, for others -- mainly English -- he is the cheating possessor of the hand of God. In Italy, however, he is and always will be the patron saint of Naples.

And just as saints have their altars so Maradona has his museum, an extraordinary treasure trove of artefacts that includes the left boot with which the Argentine scored twice against Belgium in the semi-finals of the 1986 World Cup. You can also find his first contract with Napoli and even the sofa from his Naples apartment where singer Julio Iglesias once sat. It's all here in the cellar museum.

Maradona arrived at Napoli as a world record \$10.48 million signing from Barcelona in July 1984. His time in Catalonia had been difficult and Naples was a bolt-hole. He was to stay seven years, captaining the team to their first-ever Serie A title in 1986-7. They did it again three years later and during Maradona's stay the Neapolitans also won the Coppa Italia, UEFA Cup and Italian Super Cup.

It was a golden age which Napoli have never come close to repeating, so it is no sur-



Entry to Massimo Vignati's museum, built in his basement, is free.

prise to find a museum that commemorates such a rich epoch. Massimo Vignati's museum, though, is one of a kind.

It does not appear on any map of Naples, nor is it in travel guides, and entry is free. And yet, this basement of a typical building in Secondigliano, a tough neighbourhood in the north of the city, breathes all things Diego.

It is a delightful melange of Maradona mania with photos, pennants, balls, armbands and shirts, some washed or signed, others not.

Some items equate almost to holy relics -- the bench on which Maradona changed at the San Paolo stadium and the K-Way jacket which features in the memorable footage of him ball-juggling to the sound of Opus "Live is Life" during an incredible warm-up before facing Bayern Munich in 1989.

Family guy

This astonishing hoard also testifies to the unique bond between the Argentine genius and a family which was at the heart of his seven-year stay in Naples.

"I was fortunate that for 37 years my dad was the caretaker of the San Paolo stadium and the Napoli changing rooms. And my mother was Maradona's housekeeper and cook," Vignati told AFP. His sister babysat Diego's

daughters Dalma and Giannina while Massimo, as a child and then adolescent, rubbed shoulders with the city's idol on a daily basis. "We were with Diego from Monday to Sunday," says Vignati, looking at the photos of a time when the Argentine's apartment on the heights of Posillipo, an upscale district of the city, was like his second home.

"He and his wife gave us all these things because they knew we were a lot of children, five boys and six girls. "I was a ballboy during Maradona's seven seasons. On Mondays, I went to play five-a-side, I did not go to school.

"And on Tuesdays, sometimes he took me to the Napoli training session ... 'Diego, let's go in the Ferrari!'"

For a long time, the wonders now on display in the Vignati cellar were locked away at the San Paolo. "My father had two rooms," says Vignati, whose second son is called Diego. "One for all these memories and one for drinking a good Neapolitan coffee."

"After his death, I brought everything here. But the club knows that this place exists. If they make a museum, I will always be ready. I hope everything can go back to the stadium, it was my father's dream."

During his last visit to Naples in 2017, Maradona fell into the arms of Lucia, Vignati's

mother, whom he calls his "Neapolitan mamma". "These are just beautiful memories," she says. "He was kind, someone good, very passionate. When he left, it was as if I had lost a son."

For the time being, the collection will remain in the family, whether it is at the San Paolo or down in the cellar.

"I could live on my annuities if I had accepted all the offers that were made to me," says Vignati. "But these are memories of my father and my family, nothing is for sale."

"It is a place dedicated to someone we love as a brother. For us, Diego is the twelfth brother." This season, Napoli have battled through to the last 16 of the Champions League but they are struggling in Serie A. The fans can only dream of a return to the golden age. "With everything that is going on, there would have to be a Maradona, who takes everything on himself," says Massimo.

"He is a child of Naples, he is of the people. We are found in him."

"If he comes, there will be 90,000 people at the stadium. Maradona... even if you talk to kids today, they know. He's in the DNA of the Neapolitans."

"Maradona is San Gennaro, the patron saint of Naples. He is immortal."