

# Love, betrayal and caste oppression in an Unnao village

Rape victim was promised marriage and attacked when she pursued case

OMAR RASHID  
UNNAO

Overshadowing the emotional farewell to the Unnao rape victim, who was laid to rest beside the graves of her grandparents on Sunday, is a tale of love, betrayal and caste oppression in a tiny village in Uttar Pradesh.

As in most cases of rape, the victim and the main accused had known each other since they were in school. In an FIR lodged in March, the woman accused Shivam Trivedi, 24, and Shubham Trivedi, 25, of raping her at gunpoint in a field in Rae Bareilly last December. The FIR was registered only after a protracted struggle by the family and the intervention of a local court.

In the sequence of events described in the FIR, the victim said Shivam had first "lured her in a love trap" and raped her. He allegedly vide-

ographed the act. In her complaint, the woman alleged that after the initial incident of rape, Shivam continued to rape her by giving false promises of marriage and threatened to make the video public.

According to the complaint, Shivam even lived with her in a rented room in Rae Bareilly for a short while, and allegedly prepared false marriage papers to mislead her.

## Different versions

However, the victim's family and villagers give different versions of the events. Her sister said the victim never pressured Shivam to marry her and her father said the boy's family had agreed for marriage, but the village *pradhan* did not allow it because of caste differences — the victim's family belong to a backward caste and her



Sad, familiar end: Family members and relatives carrying the body of the rape victim for burial at Unnao on Sunday. •PTI

father is a blacksmith.

"For this reason, the matter got entangled. The talks [of a compromise] were almost final. But the *pradhan* said this marriage won't happen. This clash continued due to that," the father said.

Inspector-General of Police, Lucknow, S.K. Bhagat told presspersons on Thursday, after the woman was set ablaze that *prima facie* it appeared that the woman knew Shivam, who "physically exploited" her on the promise

of marriage.

Even as the victim was buried amid a large contingent of police as a crowd including leaders of the Samajwadi Party and Congress looked on, an eerie quiet enveloped the other end of the village

where the dominant Brahmin families live.

The families of Shivam and Shubham, the rape accused, their fathers Ramkishor Trivedi and Harishankar Trivedi (the *pradhan's* husband) and a fifth associate

Umesh Bajpai, said they were being falsely implicated, and demanded a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Shivam's mother, Saroj Trivedi, insisted that her son was innocent and falsely charged in the rape case and the murder.

On December 5, when the woman was set ablaze around 4.15 a.m., Ms. Trivedi said her son and husband were asleep at home.

"At 5.13 a.m., Shivam's friend called him for a run. He was preparing for a police job. At 5.30 a.m., he put on his clothes and left home. The police came at 6 a.m. and asked about him. After that, the police went to the location near our borewell in search of him along with my nephew," she said.

## Seeking justice

But outside their thatched hut, the victim's grief-stricken sister, her face covered in a dupatta, was determined to ensure justice.

"First and foremost, I want those who burned my sister to be shot dead in an 'encounter'. If they [government] don't do it and show laxity in getting me justice, I will commit suicide in Yogi's [Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's] durbar," she told *The Hindu*.

Family members say the victim was walking to the railway station to catch a train to Rae Bareilly to inquire from the court how Shivam was granted bail in just two-and-a-half months.

While Shubham, the *pradhan's* son, was not arrested for the rape, Shivam was put behind bars on September 19. However, he was granted bail by the Allahabad High Court on November 25 and released five days later.

Over the past one year and more recently after his release on bail, Shivam and his associates had threatened the victim with dire consequences if she did not withdraw the rape case, her sister alleged.

## Come after you get raped: Unnao police

Woman's complaint dismissed

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE  
UNNAO

Despite the outrage over the death of the Unnao rape victim who was set ablaze by the accused, the police in the Uttar Pradesh district have allegedly refused to register a woman's complaint of attempted rape.

The woman from Hindu-pur village, where the rape victim was set on fire on Thursday, alleged on Saturday that the police had dismissed her complaint.

The police allegedly asked the woman to come after the rape had taken place.

"Rape *toh hua nahi; jab*

*hoga tab aana* (Rape has not happened; come when it happens)," a policeman at the station told her.

The woman said three men from the village had attempted to rape her some months ago when she was on her way to buy medicines. "I was going to buy my medicines. These three men stopped me and started pulling my clothes. They also attempted to rape me," she said.

She has also identified the accused, who have been allegedly threatening her.

The woman said she had been visiting the police station for over three months.

## Anger on the streets



Activists in Patna on Sunday demanding strong deterrent punishment to rapists to check the rising incidents of sexual violence. •PTI

## Minister wants faster trial of rape cases

'Will write to CMs, HC Chief Justices'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
PATNA

Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Sunday said he would write to the Chief Ministers and the Chief Justices of the High Courts to complete investigation into cases of rape and those registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act in two months.

## 'Trial in six months'

Trial of such cases should be completed within six months, the Minister told presspersons.

"I am going to write letters to all the Chief Ministers urging them to complete the

investigation within two months in rape and POCSO cases," Prasad told reporters.

## Highly condemnable

Incidents of rape and crimes against women are unfortunate and highly condemnable, he said.

"I will write to the Chief Justices to dispose of expeditiously all cases relating to rape and POCSO pending in the fast-track courts," he said.

Mr. Prasad's comment came in the backdrop of nation-wide outrage over the alleged rape and murder cases at Hyderabad and Unnao.

## IN BRIEF



### Modi meets Shourie in Pune hospital

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met former Minister Arun Shourie in a hospital in Pune on Sunday evening and spent nearly 15 minutes with the former BJP leader. Senior doctors of Ruby Hall Clinic in the Bund Garden area of the city said the Prime Minister arrived at 6 p.m. Chief cardiologist Parvez Grant and neurosurgeon Sachin Gandhi took Mr. Modi to Mr. Shourie's room. •PTI

### Sonia not to celebrate birthday today

Congress president Sonia Gandhi will not celebrate her birthday on Monday in the wake of the recent rapes and concern over women's security, sources said. Ms. Gandhi turns 73 on Monday. The Congress president is saddened by the rising incidents of rape and assault on women in various parts of the country, sources said. •PTI

### 'Redeploy police for women's security'

Delhi Commission For Women (DCW) chief Swati Maliwal on Sunday wrote to Union Home Minister Amit Shah asking him to withdraw security personnel from VIP security duties owing to the scarcity of police resources, in the wake of the recent rapes across the country. •PTI

### Delhi gurdwaras to open '1984 stores'

The Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee will open shops to rehabilitate families affected by the anti-Sikh riots. The '1984 Stores' will be opened at 10 historic gurdwaras and employ the family members of the riot victims, committee president Manjinder Singh Sirsa said. "These stores will be operated on the co-operative model." •PTI

## PM asks police to connect with public

Use social media to promote good work done by the force, Modi tells DGPs, IGs

VIJAYTA SINGH  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked the top police officers of the country to use social media effectively and promote the good work done by the force.

The Prime Minister and Home Minister Amit Shah addressed the annual all-India conference of Directors-General and Inspectors-General of Police organised by the Intelligence Bureau in Pune on December 6 and 7.

Maharashtra DGP S.K. Jaiswal gave a detailed presentation on steps taken to improve the image of the police by using social media.

## Direct interaction

"The Prime Minister stressed using Twitter, Facebook and YouTube to regularly inform the public about the good work done by the police and focus on improving its image. The message was to directly interact with the public," said a senior go-



High-level meet: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah at the conference of DGPs in Pune. •PTI

vernment official who attended the meet.

At the meeting held on the premises of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune, the officers brainstormed on several policing issues.

According to a government press release, "The conference deliberated on a gamut of policing and security issues, including border protection, the linkage of narcotics and terrorism, upgradation of forensic capa-

bility, threat from radicalisation in the digital era, and evidence-based policing."

There was no exclusive session on women security or safety, an official said.

A detailed discussion was also held on the threat posed by the Islamic State (IS) in India.

The IB and the Telangana police apprised the delegates of the arrests of IS-inspired modules in the past few years. So far, 155 IS members have been arrested

across the country by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and the State police forces. The bulk of such arrests, 127, were made by the NIA in 28 cases.

Punjab DGP Dinkar Gupta gave a presentation on radicalisation to propagate Khalistani activities.

The NIA and the Punjab police have registered nearly 10 cases in the past three years for alleged attempts to create "communal disharmony" in Punjab on directions from Pakistan.

## New universities

The Home Minister announced the government's plans to set up an All India Police University and All India Forensic Science University, and underscored the government's resolve to initiate changes in the Indian Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) to make them more conducive to today's democratic set-up, the press release said.

## Terror poses a challenge in South Asia: PM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Countries in South Asia should take steps to resist terrorism that poses a challenge to prosperity and peace in the region, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said in a letter to the Secretariat of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) in Kathmandu.

"SAARC has made progress, but more needs to be done. Our efforts at greater collaboration have repeatedly been challenged with threats and acts of terrorism. Such an environment impedes our shared objective of realising the full potential of SAARC. It is critical that all countries in the region take effective steps to defeat terrorism and the forces that support it," he said in the letter written on the occasion of the 35th Charter Day.

SAARC was set up on December 8, 1985, in Dhaka. Ever since its beginning, the organisation has faced difficulties, mainly because of India-Pakistan hostilities. The regional body, which is headed by the Secretariat, has failed to hold its annual summit after the November 2016 summit in Islamabad was cancelled following the terror attacks on the Pathankot airbase and the military hub in Uri.

The latest meeting of the SAARC Foreign Ministers took place in New York on September 26, on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, when Indian and Pakistan Ministers S. Jaishankar and Shah Mahmood Qureshi delivered speeches separately.

The problems were most recently highlighted by Dr. Jaishankar, who pointed at the lack of optimism about Pakistan and argued that India's 'neighbourhood first' policy was not meant for Pakistan.

## States may put Centre on mat on GST

Move cut-off date for ending compensation from 2021-22 to 2026-27: Baghel

NISTULA HEBBAR  
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the crucial Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council meeting on December 18, where States are likely to put the Centre on the mat on not being paid their dues, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi asking that the cut-off date for ending compensation to the States be moved from 2021-22 to 2026-27.

Sources in Raipur said Mr. Baghel had said the same at a recent meeting with the NITI Aayog in New Delhi, and added that Chhattisgarh, as a producer State, was suffer-



Bhupesh Baghel

ing owing to the delay and inadequate compensation. "The government is saying that since rates kept changing, the GST collection has not been what was projected. In that situation, the Centre needs to re-look at at least the cut-off date for end-

ing compensation, extending it from 2021-22 to 2026-27," said a source.

## States apprehensive

Many States expressed apprehensions about not getting their compensation on time or at all, with some alleging that they had to incur debts to meet the expenses predicated on GST compensation monies. "The Centre needs to respond to us, otherwise we will have no option but to pass resolutions in our Assemblies demanding that compensation be extended," said a senior official in Raipur.

Earlier in the week, the Centre had written to all the

States voicing concerns that due to the lower GST collections, the compensation cess might not be enough to pay for losses arising out of the tax system.

## Shortfall in collection

The government had budgeted for ₹6,66,343 crore in GST collections for the financial year 2019-20, of which only about 50% has been collected so far, with just three months to go for the financial year to end. The Centre had targeted ₹1,09,343 crore compensation cess collections, of which it has so far collected ₹64,528 crore. The December 18 meeting is set to be an explosive affair.







ASK US



N. SREEKANTH

Interest on home loan

**Q. My wife and I are the joint owners of our self-occupied house property. But I have taken the home loan on my own. Can I claim the entire interest of up to ₹2 lakh on the home loan as deduction in my IT return?**

BINDOY P.P.

**A.** In order to claim deduction of interest under Section 24 of the Act, you must be an/owner of the house property and the housing loan is to be availed in the name of the owner/s. In your case, though the ownership is held in a joint manner, loan has been availed only in your name. Therefore, interest wholly paid by you towards the housing loan during the assessment year can be claimed as a deduction under Section 24 up to ₹2 lakh. It is also necessary that the interest and principal repaid by you in the said assessment year is confirmed by the lender in the form of an interest certificate in order to claim deduction under Section 24.

LTCC on inherited shares

**Q. I would like to know the period for which long-term capital gains tax is calculated on the sale of shares where the cost and date of acquisition is not known. I had inherited shares from my father by demat transfer from his account after he expired. Some of these shares were inherited by him from his grandfather in physical mode and converted into demat form later. However, we have no clear records of the date of purchase or the purchase price. If I now sell these shares, what is the period for which the long-term gains will be calculated?**

**I personally felt I could consider the share value as on 31.1.18 as the acquisition cost. Or, should it be the cost on the day of transfer to my account? Please advise**

DR. NIKHIL S. GOKHALE

**A.** Transmission of shares in the event of inheritance from an ancestor poses a very unique situation after the introduction of long-term capital gain tax levy on listed equity shares/securities. In cases where cost of acquisition is not known, the act spells out that fair market value on the date of acquisition by the ancestor needs to be considered as the cost of acquisition.

However, in cases where both are not known, it is advisable that closing prices as on 31.01.2018 for such shares for which securities transaction taxes (STT) was paid on acquisition be considered. In your case, when your father/grandfather purchased shares in physical form, STT would not have been paid. In such cases, the shares will be treated as a regular capital asset and fair market value as on 01.04.2001 can be considered. However, long-term capital gains will be taxable at regular rates with indexation benefits.

**Q. This refers to your reply to the query of Mr. Subir Mukhopadhyay in the edition dated October 21. I am also a very senior citizen and in my case, the company from which I retired pays the insurance premium of ₹6,500 per year for hospitalisation expenses only. I spend about ₹6,000 per month on buying medicines for me and my wife. Based on your reply, I assume that I can claim the balance of ₹43,500 under Section 80 D by enclosing all the bills given by pharmacies. Kindly confirm.**

S.GANESAN

**A.** In this case, the company is paying for hospitalisation expenses per year directly. It is assumed that this amount is not deducted from the pension receivable by you. There is no question of claiming deduction for health insurance, as the premium is not being paid by you. You may claim up to ₹50,000 towards actual medical and healthcare expenses incurred for self and wife.

*(The author is a partner, GSS & Associates, Chartered Accountants, Chennai)*

*Readers can send in queries on personal finance and investing to moneywise@thehindu.co.in. Our experts who write on personal finance will answer these queries. Moneywise will not give specific recommendations for investment in a particular mutual fund scheme, share or fixed deposit.*

# Ring-fence your money

Investments in shares, corporate deposits, banks et al. can be risky in these times if caution is not exercised

VIDYA BALA

**I**f you thought debt funds were a bad idea earlier this year, then the DHFL saga in June 2019 would have given you a shock about corporate deposits. If you then consoled yourself saying there are still banks, the PMC Bank episode would have broken that thin confidence left.

After the PMC Bank episode, a friend of mine mocked that even equities look safer than banks as they can at least be liquidated any time. But he said it too soon as the plight of the risk-takers in the equity world just got worse. For no fault of theirs, equity investors who had a broking account with Karvy Broking are now left wondering if they indeed hold all the shares they actually own.

Did you know?

Who would have thought a marquee lender of home loans like DHFL, that too, several decades old (don't tell me you don't trust vintage), would have reached the endgame, going into bankruptcy? Did you know that NBFCs give loans to you for a longer time frame (like home loans) but

borrowed money for shorter time frames from large institutions? Did you know this can lead to what is called asset-liability mismatch and can spell doom when the money tap from such institutions suddenly run dry?

And the NBFC can become bankrupt when it is unable pay back its

shorter-term borrowings because there is no fresh money (à la Ponzi)?

Or, did you even realise that having ₹1 lakh as bank deposit insurance (yes, PMC Bank has it too) means nothing because you can't get your money when you want? The insurance kicks in only when a

bank goes into liquidation.

The insurance cannot help when you need to withdraw for your monthly needs.

Forget the poor depositors and savers. If you consider yourself smart and are therefore investing in equities, did you know that the power of attorney you give your broker can be misused, to move/misappropriate your shares and even pledge them for the broker's own needs? This is what allegedly happened in the Karvy Broking case.

It is simply not possible to predict events such as these. So, you can only do what is in your control – that is, stick to the basic principles of investing diligently. Here are some of them.

Diversify

If you have deposits in co-operative banks, or are testing waters with small banks, make sure you do not park a chunk of your savings and investments there simply because interest rates are higher. You need a large public or private sector bank to add to it. If you are already with a large private or public bank and hold several lakhs, consider holding additionally in any of the domestic system-

ically-important banks (identified as SBI, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, by the RBI) to keep some emergency money. These banks are supposedly too big (whose assets account for more than 2% of GDP) to fail. That also means if they do fail, the government is expected to act; failing which the entire financial system can collapse.

If you are a regular corporate deposit investor, diversification matters much more. While the recent event of DHFL may have shaken your faith in the system, in general, NBFCs have higher disclosure norms than companies. The additional disclosures they are required to make with respect to liquidity and asset-liability mismatch (please do your reading about this, there is no other choice) provides some cues. The credit ratings alone won't do any longer.

As a general thumb rule, if you are a senior citizen needing regular income, invest first in post office, Vaya Vandana Yojana and RBI bonds before jumping into corporate deposits.

And in general, for all corporate deposit investors, a time frame of over three years is risky as it is hard to predict what can happen to even a sound company.

It is better to take out your

money and reinvest (not withdrawing the risk of lower interest) than losing it. Remember, corporate deposits are unsecured, and you will not have first right when a company goes defunct.

Some checks

If you are a demat account holder, you don't need multiple demats, you only need to monitor carefully. Make sure your broker has a process of regularly communicating with you on your settlement. Regularly open the e-CAS statement mails you receive from NSDL or CDSL or open an account with them to check if what is reflected there matches with your brokerage account. In case of any discrepancies, write to the depositories and the regulator SEBI through SCORES.

With all this too, your money may not be safe.

You only reduce your risk. I had a neighbour commenting that it was so much easier when people invested in real estate instead of complex financial products. My reaction was: What was DHFL into? How did PMC Bank lose? Where did the pledged share money from Karvy Brokers go? And real estate is a haven indeed!

*(The author is Founding Partner – PrimeInvestor.in)*



# The name's Bond, Bharat Bond

Conservative investors, including retirees, can consider investing in these bond ETFs

DHURAIVEL GUNASEKARAN

The Union Cabinet has recently approved launching a bond ETF (Exchange Traded Fund). Called the Bharat Bond ETF, this fund will track the index comprising debt securities of Public Sector Undertakings with the highest credit rating.

Edelweiss Mutual Fund is launching the NFO (New Fund Offer) which is open for subscription between December 12 and 20, 2019. ETFs are passively managed mutual funds that aim to generate a similar return as that of the index they follow. ETFs are traded on the BSE and NSE. The AMC plans to mop up about ₹7,000 crore from the NFO, sources say.

Unlike existing ETFs in India, the Bharat Bond ETF will have a defined maturity date just like bonds and fixed maturity plans of mutual funds. On maturity, investors will get the investment proceeds along with returns. Edelweiss MF is launching two series of Bharat Bond ETFs – one matures in April 2023 and the other after 10 years (ie April 2030). Only growth option is offered here.

These ETFs will invest only in AAA-rated bonds issued by PSUs maturing on or before the maturity of the ETFs. The ETF will hold the bonds till maturity and coupons received from those bonds will be reinvested in the fund. Post the NFO period, ETF units will be listed on

NSE and BSE. Through demat accounts, investors can buy and sell units at the prevailing market prices. Edelweiss MF plans to launch a fresh tranche in both ETFs, once a year. The older three-year and 10-year tranches, will continue to be available with shorter residual maturity in the secondary market. It may also be launched as a further fund offer (FFO).

Edelweiss MF charges an expense ratio of 0.0005% for managing the Bharat Bond ETF. This is the cheapest among MF schemes and ETFs in India. A lower expense ratio helps earn higher returns than a scheme with a higher expense ratio.

Series to track index

Bharat Bond ETFs will track the index constituted by the NSE. Each of the ETF series will have a specific index to track.

Bharat Bond ETF-April 2023 will track 'Nifty Bharat Bond Index-April 2023' as benchmark. This index that measures the performance of portfolio of AAA-rated bonds issued by 13 government owned entities.

The total number of constituents in the index is 99 as it holds different series of bonds from the same issuer. For instance, the index holds 10 series of bonds issued by PFC. The REC, NABARD and PFC are the top three issuers comprising 45% of the weightage in the index. The maturity date of the



The bonds held are AAA-rated. Instruments with this rating are seen having the highest degree of safety. •GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

index is April 15, 2023; hence, it is same for the ETF too.

Similarly, Bharat Bond ETF-April 2030 will track 'Nifty Bharat Bond Index-April 2030' as benchmark. This will measure the performance of portfolio of AAA-rated bonds issued by 12 PSUs. The total number of constituents in the index is 50.

NHAI, IRFC and Power Grid Corporation are the top three issuers comprising 45% of the index weightage. The maturity date is April 15, 2030. Since these ETFs have a defined maturity structure, it would be easier to predict the returns that they are likely to deliver at maturity. As per the NFO docu-

ment, if you invest in the ETFs during NFO and hold till maturity, you will get an annualised yield of 6.59% and 7.52% in the ETFs maturing 2023 and 2030, respectively.

Note that these returns are indicative and not guaranteed by the MF or the government.

Post the NFO period, investors can buy these ETF units on the exchanges. According to Edelweiss, the indicative yield (Yield to Maturity) of each ETF series will be displayed on the AMC's website daily.

Trading volume is key

Liquidity or the trading volume plays an important part while

you transact on the exchanges.

In India, most debt ETFs are thinly traded which makes ETF transactions cumbersome.

Liquidity in an ETF is mostly determined by corpus and market makers. Normally, a large asset size in an ETF implies the likelihood of more active trading in the exchanges. Since the Bharat Bond ETFs are expected to collect a large corpus, there could be ample liquidity available in these ETFs. Market makers are authorised participants appointed by AMCs to keep the price of the ETF at any point in time close to the fair value of its portfolio. SEBI has mandated multiple market makers for these ETFs to ensure liquidity.

To incentivise market makers for making the market more liquid, SEBI allows AMCs to spend ₹20 crore for such activities. This will enable active participation of market makers.

Second, units of Bharat Bond ETFs are now eligible for repo transactions. Though the corporate bonds repo market in India is at a nascent stage, there is a chance that market makers can use their holding in Bharat Bond ETFs to raise funds.

The bonds held are rated the highest grade of AAA. Debt instruments with this rating are considered to have the highest degree of safety for timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry the lowest credit risk. These enti-

ties are backed by government, ensuring safety of capital.

Bharat Bond ETFs provide a good opportunity to retail investors to participate in the corporate debt market while taking the lowest credit risk. The buy and hold strategy mitigates the interest rate risk too. The yields offered in these ETFs are more or less equal to the rates offered by the PSU banks on their deposits of similar tenure. Conservative investors including retirees, whose investment horizon matches the tenure of the available bonds, can consider investing in these bonds.

Bharat Bond ETFs are treated at par with debt mutual funds where the sale of units after 36 months from the date of purchase qualifies for long term capital gains tax; the gain is taxed at 20% with indexation.

Points to note

Any deterioration of credit quality of the bonds held in the basket of the index may lead to capital erosion for investors.

Considering the higher allocation to a few issuers, investments may also be exposed to concentration risk. One needs a demat and broker's account to transact in the ETFs. Anyway, the fund house is planning to launch a fund of funds (FoFs) scheme. These FoFs enable investors to participate in the underlying ETFs without a demat or a broker's account.

LOOSE CHANGE

RAVIKANTH



*"Dusseera sale, Diwali sale, Mothers' day sale, New Year sale...! One day, I am sure we will be saving up for an All-Fools-Day sale!"*

PERSONAL LOAN - RATES AND CHARGES

Name of Lender	Interest rate (%)	EMI (Rs) Loan amount- 5 lakh Tenure - 5 years	EMI (Rs) Loan amount- 1 lakh Tenure - 5 years	Processing fee
State Bank of India	10.5-14.9	10,747-11,869	2,149-2,374	Upto 1% of loan amount
Citi Bank	10.5-18.99	10,747-12,968	2,149-2,594	Upto 3% of loan amount
HDFC Bank	10.75- 21.3	10,809-13,611	2,162-2,722	Upto 2.5% of loan amount
Indian Bank	10.35-14.8	10,710-11,843	2,142-2,369	Upto 0.512% of loan amount
Punjab & Sind Bank	12.45-13.7	11,236-11,557	2,247-2,311	1% of loan amount
Bank of Baroda	11.4-16.4	10,971-12,266	2,194-2,453	2% of loan amount
Axis Bank	12-24	11,122-14,384	2,224-2,877	Upto 2% of loan amount
ICICI Bank	11.25-22	10,934-13,809	2,187-2,762	Upto 2.25% of loan amount
Union Bank of India	10.1-14.2	10,648-11,686	2,130-2,337	Upto 0.5% of loan amount
Canara Bank	11.35-15.05	10,959-11,908	2,192-2,382	Upto 0.5% of loan amount
Federal Bank	11.49 onwards	10,994 onwards	2,199 onwards	Upto 3% of loan amount
Punjab National Bank	10.75-14.5	10,809-11,764	2,162-2,353	Upto 1.8% of loan amount
UCO Bank	10.95-11.35	10,859-10,959	2,172-2,192	Upto 1% of loan amount
Bandhan Bank	15-16.19	11,895-12,210	2,379-2,442	1% of loan amount
South Indian Bank	11.1-14.2	10,896-11,686	2,179-2,337	2% of loan amount
Central Bank of India	10-11.25	10,624-10,934	2,125-2,187	Rs 500

Rates as on December 5, 2019 Source: Paisabazaar.com

NEW CAR LOAN - RATES AND CHARGES

Name of Bank	Interest rate (%)	EMI (Rs) Loan amount 5 lakh Tenure- 5 years	Processing fee (% of loan amount)
Oriental Bank of Commerce	7.95-8.50	10,126-10,258	Rs 2,500-7,500
State Bank of India	8.75-12.10*	10,319-11,148	NIL till 31.12.2019
Axis Bank	9.05-11.30	10,391-10,946	Rs 3,500-5,500
HDFC Bank	9.50-10.25	10,501-10,685	Rs 3,000-10,000
RBL Bank	13.50-14.00	11,505-11,634	Up to 2.00%
Indian Bank	8.85-9.20	10,343-10,428	upto Rs 10,236
Union Bank of India	8.20-8.70	10,186-10,307	up to 15,000
Punjab National Bank	8.55-9.00	10,270-10,379	Upto Rs 1,500
Bank of India	8.60-9.20	10,282-10,428	NIL till 31.12.2019
South Indian Bank	9.00-9.75	10,379-10,562	Upto Rs 10,000
Canara Bank	8.45-11.05	10,246-10,884	Rs 1,000-5,000
Bank of Baroda	8.65-10.40	10,294-10,722	Rs 500 till 31.12.2019
Indian Overseas Bank	8.70	10,307	Rs 500-10,000
Federal Bank	9.25	10,440	Rs 1,500-2,500
Corporation Bank	8.50-9.00	10,258-10,379	1.00%
IDBI Bank	8.85-9.45	10,343-10,489	Rs 1000
Allahabad Bank	8.30-10.75	10,210-10,809	Upto Rs 8696

\*Additional concession of 0.25% on application through YONO. Further concession of 0.20% on purchase of electric vehicle. Rates and charges as on December 5, 2019 Source: Paisabazaar.com



## Step out of the spiral

Promoting mental health literacy among students and educators is the right step towards addressing the rising suicide rates in higher education institutions

■ ALBERT P'RAYAN

Of late, the number of suicides in the (Indian Institute of Technology) IITs and other higher education institutions has been on the rise. This year, three IIT Hyderabad students committed suicide, and it was reported that in their suicide notes they had mentioned 'academic pressure' and 'depression' as reasons for their decision to end their lives. Four cases of suicides were reported at IIT Kharagpur, and the institute was criticised for its failure to prevent students from taking such extreme steps. Many more cases of suicides in other higher educational institutions have been reported in the recent past.

Very recently, a first-year postgraduate student of Humanities and Development Studies at IIT Madras, allegedly committed suicide. She was found hanging in her hostel room. It is said that the girl had mentioned that a professor was the cause of

her death, and the case is being investigated by the Central Crime Branch. Hopefully, the public will come to know the real cause of her alleged suicide. Some IIT sources say that she was a bright student and therefore academic pressure could not have driven her to take her own life (if we assume that it is a suicide). Why did the meritorious student decide to commit suicide? Was she subjected to any form of mental torture or harassment? Was she not prepared to face challenges? Did she not seek help from anyone? Should the education system be blamed for the rising number of suicides in higher education institutions? Many such questions have been raised and, unfortunately, some questions remain unanswered.

The purpose of the article is not to unravel or unlock the mystery behind the death of the girl, but to ana-



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

lyse the causes of suicides in higher education institutions and to suggest measures to tackle the issue.

### Triggers

What are the causes of climbing suicide rates among students? There could be so many reasons, but some common ones include unrealistic expectations of parents, peer pressure, academic stress, attitude of faculty towards students, unhealthy competition, career issues, feelings of rejection, discrimination, mental

health problems such as depression and psychological distress, lack of help-seeking skills and access to professional counselling.

The myths that engineering and medicine are the top courses preferred by academically brilliant students, the best brains go to IITs and AIIMS or other top medical colleges, and all IITians get placed in top companies and are paid high salaries, make some parents nurture unrealistic dreams and push their wards to make their dreams come true.

Every year, over 10 lakh candidates prepare for IIT JEE and only around 9,500 students are admitted to the IITs. When parents push their children to achieve unrealistic goals and when the children fail to fulfil their parents' dreams, the seed of depression is sown in their young minds. Some students are able to crack highly competitive exams, thanks to vigorous coaching, and get seats into the IITs, but are unable to cope with academic pressure. As a result, they are subjected to depression

and some of them are forced to discontinue their studies.

According to the data shared by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, 2,461 students (both UG and PG) dropped out of various IITs during the past two years. We can imagine the trauma experienced by the dropouts and others who are not able to cope with academic pressure and unfriendly campus environment that pushes them into the pool of depression.

The negative attitude of some faculty members to-

### To-dos

It is high time education institutions took some concrete steps to prevent student suicides. Here are some suggestions:

- Educators should be aware of the mental health needs of students.
- They should promote mental health literacy and improve the mental health of students.
- They should create a student-friendly campus.
- They should teach help-seeking skills.
- Institutions should be humanised.
- Mental health professionals should be available on campus for counselling students who need help.
- Steps should be taken to reduce academic stress.

(MHL) is not a familiar term in Indian educational institutions. Most education administrators and educators have never felt the need for promoting MHL among teachers and students. Very recently, while discussing its importance with a group of school teachers, I noticed that they did not seem to have a clear idea of what it is and the need for it. I wasn't surprised because only a few years ago, I came to know about its significance while going through an article related to it.

MHL includes "the ability to recognise specific disorders; knowing how to seek mental health information; knowledge of risk factors and causes, of self-treatments, and of professional help available; and attitudes that promote recognition and appropriate help-seeking".

Educational institutions should take steps to enhance the MHL of students as well as educators. This will help everyone understand their mental health and enhance their help-seeking and self-management skills. According to some research, those who have high levels of MHL seek help for mental health issues more compared to those with low levels of MHL. Educators, teachers and others who are in constant touch with students should have MHL and know how to identify the students who struggle with depression and help them come out of it.

Those who require assistance for overcoming suicidal thoughts may contact the State's (Tamil Nadu) health helpline 104 or suicide prevention helpline of NGOs such as Sneha 044-24640050; Vandrevala Foundation 18602662345; and Roshni 040-66202000

The writer is an academic, columnist and freelance writer. rayanal@yahoo.co.uk

### SCHOLARSHIPS

#### ODI Fellowship Scheme 2020

ODI Fellowship is a merit-based award bestowed upon those who have shown exceptional academic record and holds a master's or PhD-holders in economics, statistics or a related field and who have a strong academic background in either economics or statistics is a prerequisite. The selected scholars will get financial awards.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants who have a PhD or master's degree in economics, statistics or a related field, by the time they take up a fellowship, can apply for this award.

**PRIZES AND REWARDS:** The selected students will get GBP 21,000 in the first year of study and GBP 23,000 in the second year, plus accommodation allowance.

**APPLICATION MODE:** Online  
**DEADLINE:** December 11  
<http://www.b4s.in/edge/ODII>

#### Shastri Research Student Fellowship for Doctoral Students

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute is offering this fellowship to the doctoral students enrolled in a full-time PhD programme in India or Canada. This fellowship aims at providing an educational and transformative cultural experience to the current PhD students.

**ELIGIBILITY:** PhD students enrolled in India and Canada, studying in a university/institution recognised as member institutions of SICI and are preferably from the age group of 21-35 years, can apply.

**PRIZES AND REWARDS:** Selected candidates will receive a financial award of CAD 560 per week for up to six months.

**APPLICATION MODE:** Online  
**DEADLINE:** December 17  
<http://www.b4s.in/edge/SRS5>

Courtesy: buddy4study.com

### EXAM PREP

## Decoding CLAT 2020

With the exam coming up in May, here are few tips to prepare, keeping in mind the new pattern

■ HEMA RAMAN

After more than a decade of conducting the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT), it is time to embrace a major pattern change. Recently, The Consortium of National Law Universities issued a press release which indicated changes to the pattern and number of questions in the forthcoming CLAT 2020 on May 10.

An entrance exam is designed to test the students' aptitude to pursue a course in a university. When this objective is not fulfilled, it is important to revamp the exam to suit the end. The two most important skills for budding lawyers include comprehension and critical reasoning skills. Law schools also mandate that students possess these two skills to cope with the teaching methodology adopted by most law schools. In the recent years, the professors at National Law University (NLU) have felt that CLAT has failed to test these skills, and has instead tested the memory quotient of law aspirants. In short, CLAT has not succeeded in testing students' real aptitude to pursue law, resulting in a mismatch between selected students and law school requirements.

### Changes

CLAT Consortium has proposed to substantially reduce the number of questions in CLAT from 200 to 120-150 questions. This is a welcome move and brought relief to students as cracking 200

**The CLAT Consortium has realised that it is rather unfair to quiz students on their know-**



FREEPIK

questions in 120 minutes put tremendous time pressure on students.

Further, students will no longer be required to cram facts for the General Knowledge (GK) section as questions in this section will be asked only on current affairs, rather than static GK topics such as history, geography, science and so on.

The English section in CLAT 2020 will comprise of only comprehension passages with a view to test their understanding of the passages, contextual meaning of words and inferences drawn from the passages.

Instead of testing the arithmetic aptitude of candidates, the focus of the math section will be on testing data interpretation skills of students, which is more relevant for law aspirants.

Logical Reasoning (LR) section will place more emphasis on critical reasoning skills. This section will include a variety of questions to determine students' ability to reason through an argument logically and make an objective decision. It will test their deductive reasoning skills.

The CLAT Consortium has realised that it is rather unfair to quiz students on their know-

ledge of legal concepts even before they enter the law schools. This section will now test students' ability to deduce conclusion from a given set of premises. The section would continue to have propositions and a set of facts to which the said proposition has to be applied.

With less than 200 days for the D-day, it is important for the CLAT Consortium to release the sample paper and detailed syllabus at the earliest.

### Tips

1 Read newspapers, especially the editorial section. This habit will strengthen your comprehension skills, enhance your vocabulary.

2 Exposure to varied questions on logical reasoning is vital.

3 Read issue-based current affairs, rather than merely memorising random facts.

4 Practise comprehension passages of varying difficulty levels.

5 Keep a calm mind and quickly adapt to your study strategies to face the new CLAT pattern.

The writer is Director, Sriram Law Academy.

## Spotting a match made in heaven

The bond or rapport you share with your therapist will go a long way when you seek professional help



FREEPIK

**EQ... ENGAGE**  
 KRITHVI SHYAM

In past editions of this column, when we discuss mental health, we always stress on the importance of getting help. Often, this might mean turning to mental health professionals – psychologists, psychiatrists and so on.

But what if you took a chance on meeting a psychologist and left feeling ambivalent?

The fact is, meeting a psychologist is like meeting a doctor – sometimes, you find yourself wanting to seek out a second opinion.

Not all psychologists are built alike, and it is important that the professional you meet establishes a good rapport with you, because that forms the basis of your therapy. This does not mean you and your counsellor have to be friends (quite the opposite, in fact!), but it means that you are comfortable with this person, believe that they understand you, and trust them to help you get to a better place.

### Red flags

Here are some signs that you and your psychologist may not "click":

1. **They pass judgement on you:** Here you are, bravely deciding to be vulnerable and open up to another person about your issues, and your therapist acts like those annoying aunts who are always trying to avoid? Yes, therapists are meant to ask probing questions to get you to think, but not at the expense of your self-worth. If you are constantly leaving therapy session feeling worse about yourself because of the judgements passed by your therapist, that's a sign to start looking elsewhere.

2. **They push the boundaries of the relationship:** Constantly talking about themselves or trying to become friends with you are red flags. It is a tricky balance to strike, but a good therapist keeps things professional while staying empathetic.

3. **They don't have time for you:** Constantly taking calls during sessions, getting interrupted frequently by office staff, or not putting in the effort to explain concepts to you suggest that maybe this person has too much on their plate to invest his/her energies in helping you.

4. **Their experience and specialisation do not gel with what you are looking for:** Therapists practise different types of therapy, the most common of which is CBT, or Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. They also tend to have specialisations – for instance, working in the area of anxiety, depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, child psychology, and so on. It is important to find a therapist who has knowledge or experience of working with the issues you are grappling with, using a therapy you are comfortable with.

5. **It is a gut feeling:** Sometimes things just don't "feel" right, though you are unable to pinpoint just why that is. That still is a perfectly acceptable reason to look for another therapist. You are under no obligation to continue with a therapist, if you do not want to, no matter how many sessions have been completed; and therapists are well aware of this.

It is not always possible to ascertain in the first session itself whether things will work with your therapist. And in the event that they don't, it is important not to give up – you would put in the effort to find doctors to provide second opinions on physical health issues. The same effort needs to go into finding the right therapist for you.

The writer is a psychologist and management consultant. krithvis@gmail.com



IN CONVERSATION

■ ARCHANA SUBRAMANIAN

Neha was in class VII and struggled to study in a mainstream school. She also had a low self-esteem, gradually turned into a recluse, and refused to talk. She was assessed and found to have dyslexia. She came to Madras Dyslexia Association (MDA) for help, and hugely benefited from the therapy. Today, Neha is a designer, photographer and is into digital marketing as well. She is also a confident speaker and often gives talks on topics associated with dyslexia.

While Neha was lucky to have found the right source of help, many students with dyslexia still suffer without proper diagnosis and therapy, mainly owing to lack of awareness.

Discussions and deliberations led to a group of educationists empathetic to this cause to come together, and philanthropists joined them. Thus was born MDA in 1992. D Chandrasekar, Founder and President, sheds light on the learning disorder, and what schools could do to be more inclusive.

**Could you throw light on what dyslexia is and what we should be looking out for, in terms of first noticing the signs? How different is it from other learning/developmental disorders?**

Dyslexia is a learning disability that occurs in one out of every six school-goers, irrespective of the economic, language and geographic status. These children are intelligent with an IQ of 85 and above, but have difficulty in reading, spelling, writing, and speaking. This can be easily re-mediated using multi-sensory techniques. The earlier one does it, the better it is, as the gap between their achievement and active potential will be minimal in the early stages. Hence, it is important to address this condition as soon as one notices this.

One can start noticing this even at the age group of three to five, by looking at the developmental milestones. Unremediated dyslexic children become social delinquents and cause major social problems. Hence, it is not just an educational problem. Children who come here (to MDA) have learning difficulties due to multiple reasons. If the child has learning difficulty with an IQ of less than 70, it could be due to underdevelopment of the brain. If the child has an IQ between 70-85, it can be due to multiple reasons such as autism, down syndrome, slow learning, and so on. If the child has an IQ above 85,



SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Overcoming the challenge

Born with high IQ, dyslexic children suffer from learning problems. But institutions like the Madras Dyslexia Association are trying to help, as much as possible.



D Chandrasekar

**Empower them:** Identify their strengths.

and has learning difficulty, then it is dyslexia.

**At what age does it first appear?**

One can start suspecting from the age of three to five itself. However, the confirmation that the child is dyslexic will take place only at the age of eight. Dyslexia is a life-long condition. Though this condition does not begin in mid-life, it is possible that this remains unnoticed till the person is an adult.

**What does the therapy involve?**

Children with dyslexia will be weak in executive functions such as punctuality and tidiness. If they are trained in these areas, they will excel. There are a number of successful people with dyslexia such as industrialists, businessmen, sportspersons, artists, builders and designers.

There is no treatment for this; they are given many coping strategies and they must be given more opportunities to work in the area of their strengths. It is not difficult for them to continue with their regular routine.

**Does being a dyslexic categorise one as a special student?**

The Government of India has brought dyslexia as a disability under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, and hence, whatever special provisions and concessions are available to other disabled people are extended to those with dyslexia too. In this way, these children are considered special. They are offered special provisions while they appear for public exams in the state and central boards, and also in a number of joint

**Are mainstream schools equipped to cater to dyslexic students?**

Some time back, most of the mainstream schools had no facilities to cater to them. But due to increasing awareness, many schools have started to come forward to look after these children. MDA has been helping schools to set up resource rooms in the respective campuses. They are also empowering the teachers by providing training. Teachers and parents need to be sensitised, and it would also be beneficial if the identification and re-mediation of dyslexia is a part of the curriculum for B.Ed.

**There are a number of successful people with dyslexia such as industrialists, businessmen, sportspersons, artists, builders and designers.**

**Can dyslexic students pursue regular careers? Also, what extra efforts do they have to put in, compared to others?**

Dyslexic children are very intelligent, but their intelligence is focused onto the creative side. If they are supported and encouraged to pursue a regular career in areas of their strength, they can supersede. However, if they are forced to take up careers that are unrelated to their strength, they are bound to fail, much like anybody else. Hence, it is important that they choose careers that suit them.

**What are some of the biggest challenges for dyslexic students?**

One of the biggest challenges is being accepted by their parents, community and in schools. Once that is taken care of, most challenges can be overcome. Parents need to spend more time with the children and identify their strengths, and use these strengths to help children overcome dyslexia.

**Any self-help technique for those having learning disabilities?**

Madras Dyslexia Association has developed a reading application called MDA Avaz Reader, an assistive device for dyslexic children. Such devices and applications that help children to read, write and spell, will be the best technique.

# Disruptions in a shared space

Noisy or not, distractions in a classroom can break the train of thought of not just students, but teachers too



BACKPACKER'S GUIDE

USHA RAMAN



NEEDPIX.COM

The speaker is deep into the talk. Many students are furiously scribbling notes; others are listening intently. A few are not paying attention, are restless and distracted. Some in this group are trying hard to get involved, but for whatever reason, the lecture fails to grab them. A few minutes in, the door creaks as someone opens it to go out – presumably, to get a drink of water or to take a bathroom break. Some moments later, the door creaks again to let the person back inside. This happens repeatedly through the hour, each time causing a bit of a rattle.

In many college classrooms, the rules are flexible enough to allow freedom of entry and exit. It is assumed that students will take care to not disturb the class as they exercise this freedom. But the truth is, every time the door creaks, or someone gets up, a small ripple of distraction runs through the room, affecting people in different ways. Some may be so in-

involved in the discussion that their focus doesn't shift. Others will look up and take note of the interruption but quickly go back to what they were doing. Yet others will get a bit flustered and take a moment to regain their rhythm. And a few will be unable to recover their concentration.

**Etiquette matters**

The classroom is a shared space, accommodating a variety of personalities, each with their own way of handling attention. In school, we give the teacher the authority to commandeer attention, and it is not unusual for her to loudly call out those who seem to be wavering. Often, children don't have the luxury of going out during a class, without the permission of the teacher. They must wait for the break. In college classrooms, it is expected that students will have already learnt the etiquette of participation, and so, these rules often remain unsaid. It is assumed that individuals will behave in ways that are not

disruptive, that they actively contribute to the shared attention of the classroom, and are respectful of both speakers and other listeners.

We often think of disruption as something noisy and visible, and that creaky door is not even close. But as a teacher, I find myself looking up each time someone walks in and out, and I find that several others are similarly distracted. Expressing respect for a classroom may be as simple as preparing oneself for the hour to come, by getting a bottle of water ready ahead of time, by taking that bathroom break before the class, by turning off the mobile phone and settling in quietly. Isn't that what we do in a movie theatre before a film plays? Granted, a lecture may not be as riveting, but there may be others who want to pay attention.

The writer teaches at the University of Hyderabad and edits Teacher Plus. usha.bpgll@gmail.com

ETCETERA

■ **Scholarships for MBA aspirants**

Graduates who have appeared for CAT, MAT or GMAT can avail of this scholarship. It is offered to encourage meritorious students to pursue higher education and aid the financially-weak students to pursue their career of choice in higher education.

**INSTITUTION:** Amity University, Gurugram

**ELIGIBILITY:** Candidates who have acquired 80 percentile or more in CAT/MAT, or those with a GMAT score of 500 or more.

**PRIZES AND REWARDS:** The course fee of the MBA programme is waived off to the extent of scholarship offered.

**DEADLINE:** Jan 15, 2020  
**APPLICATION:** Online  
<https://www.amity.edu/gurugram/>

**Blackboard**

The Hindu EDGE invites teachers to send in their contributions on issues and challenges they face. The article should be about 500 words. Please email it to [educationplus@thehindu.co.in](mailto:educationplus@thehindu.co.in)

FOOTNOTES

**Combat cyber threats**

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, in collaboration with TeamSprint, has announced an Advanced Certification Programme in Cyber Security and Cyber Defence, starting next year. The six-month programme is designed for current and aspiring professionals who are determined to explore and exploit the latest trends in cyber security technologies. It is structured to conduct boot camps and online interactions to instigate experiential learning. Interested candidates can apply online at <https://iitk.talentsprint.com/CyberSecurity/>

**Upcoming student athletes**

Corvuss American Academy, a boarding school for student-athletes, will launch in September 2020 in Karjat, Maharashtra. The programmes will use the latest techniques, emphasising strategies and position-specific training to maximise physical and mental development. Admissions for classes VI-XII are open from December 2019. For additional information and admission related enquiries, contact +91 9372180715 or email [info@corvussamericanacademy.com](mailto:info@corvussamericanacademy.com)

**EAR SHOT**

ASHOK RAJAGOPALAN



BON APP-ETIT

■ ARATHI MINI

The year is coming to an end and for some of us, this might be a chance to look back with pride at everything we have achieved. However, for others, this might not be the case. If the year was filled with troubles and failures, then, it is time to start the new year with better focus and mindfulness. Here are two apps that will help you.

**Stop, breathe & think**

It is important to de-stress, sleep well and build confidence in life to live better. This app helps with such meditation sessions. You can also track your mood every day, thus ensuring your emotional well-being. There are meditation sessions for beginners and experienced people, apart from yoga and acupressure videos. The lessons help reduce stress, sleep better, tame anxiety and breathe mindfully. It also includes mindfulness

techniques developed specifically for college students. [bit.ly/2sj3TS6](http://bit.ly/2sj3TS6)

**Soulvana**

With sessions on meditation and healing, Soulvana helps users find relief from anxiety and stress and develop strong mental health. It also connects users with thousands of people who are part of the app to discuss and hold sessions on improving mental health and discussing mindfulness. Soulvana comes with guided meditation sessions, sound therapy and advice from the best therapists and teachers from across the world. [bit.ly/2DFv5nO](http://bit.ly/2DFv5nO)

ADMISSIONS

■ **MSc Advanced Computer Science with Big Data**

**INSTITUTION:** The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow  
**ELIGIBILITY:** Minimum second-class honours degree or international equivalent in computer science or another numerate discipline (for example, math, physics, engineering). Some programming or database experience is normally required. Other disciplines who have significant programming experience must contact the institution to discuss applying for this course. The English language minimum score of IELTS 6.0 (with no component below 5.5).

**SEE:** £18,100  
<https://www.strath.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/taught/advancedcomputersciencewithbigdata/>

■ **Undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Fashion**

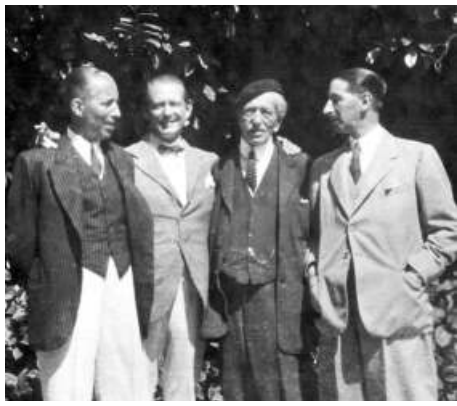
**INSTITUTION:** Indian Institute of Art and Design  
**DURATION:** Depends on the course.  
**ELIGIBILITY:** For undergraduate courses, candidates who have passed their class XII exam (or equivalent) in any stream are eligible. Those who are appearing for their class XII exam in the current academic year or are awaiting their results may also apply.

For undergraduate courses, candidates who have passed their undergraduate exam (or equivalent) in any discipline, as well as those who are appearing for it in the current academic year or are awaiting results may also apply.

**SEE:** Depends on the course; application fee is ₹2,000.  
[www.iiad.edu.in](http://www.iiad.edu.in)

**In college classrooms, it is expected that students will have already learned the etiquette of participation.**





SUSANNA MYRTLE LAZARUS

From starting out as an apprentice to a minor Parisian jeweller, Louis-François Cartier spent two-and-a-half decades building his business. His humble beginnings as a metalworker's son could not be further from the glamour associated with the family name now. The brand counts royalty like Queen Elizabeth of England and Princess of Monaco, Grace Kelly, as patrons. Actor Elizabeth Taylor received her iconic ruby and diamond set while she was in the pool! There are no less takers for the jewellery maker's work today. At a Christie's auction in June this year, Cartier pieces may have accounted for only 5% of the lots, but brought in a quarter of the \$109 million value.

This is where Francesca Cartier Brickell begins her book, *The Cartiers: The Untold Story of the Family Behind the Jewellery Empire*. A search for more Champagne at her grandfather Jean-Jacques Cartier's 90th birthday had led to a treasure that has defined her life's work for more than a decade now. In the cellar, instead of the bubbly, she found a battered old trunk, covered in faded stickers from Parisian railway stations and exotic Eastern hotels. "Inside were hundreds of long-lost family letters and documents, everything from birth certificates to love letters to jewellery designs to old war telegrams. They essentially told the story of four generations of Cartiers, and the evolution of the jewellery business the family had founded back in 1847," she says.

The narrative is interspersed with quotes from corresponding letters, and Jean-Jacques' recollections. Of course, there are over 100 photographs of the family, sketches, and the jewels they created. She writes about how Louis-François and the firm survived "revolution, a disastrous economy, a *coup d'état* and fire" all within a dozen years. Most remarkable were his marketing techniques: he courted the



elite – like Princesse Mathilde Bonaparte, niece of Emperor Napoleon. He well knew that even a visit to the store by such patrons would pique interest.

His son, Alfred, took the Cartier name across the Channel to London, laying the foundation to expand. His three sons – Louis-Joseph, Pierre-Camille and Jacques-Theodule – took care of the Paris, New York and London branches respectively. Louis-Joseph's innate need to experiment led to Cartier coming out with their first men's wristwatch in 1911. His strategic arranged marriage – to the granddaughter of designer Charles Frederick Worth – was not to his liking, but

## Getting to know the Cartiers



(Clockwise from above) Brickell, a Tutti Frutti-style parrot brooch, Kate Middleton in a Cartier tiara, the Cartier brothers with their father, Alfred (in a beret), and the Cartier Crash watch designed by Jean-Jacques • JONATHAN JAMES WILSON, CARTIER FAMILY ARCHIVES AND GETTY IMAGES

he agreed, for the sake of securing the family business.

Pierre got the Americas (and an American wife), where he handled transactions such as the "cursed" Hope diamond, and sold to heiress Evalyn Walsh MacLean for \$1,80,000. One of his most prized deals was exchanging a pearl necklace worth more than a million dollars at the time, for a townhouse on Fifth Avenue, New York, which remains the firm's American headquarters even today. Jacques' mandate included Britain and the colonies, leading to a clientele of maharajas who kept the firm afloat during the Great Depression.

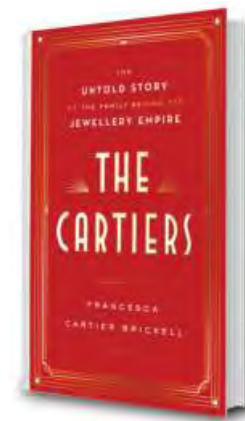
Discovering lost correspondence between generations of her ancestors led Francesca Cartier Brickell to record their history in her new book

The book also covers later generations, including Brickell's grandfather (Jacques's son), who kept Cartier in the family until 1962. While the luxury maison is now owned by Switzerland-based Richemont, Brickell took on the role of an independent researcher, choosing to tell the "human story, with their weaknesses, talents, anxieties, loves, losses and dreams". After a launch at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London last week, she will be travelling to America this month, and will be speaking at Jaipur Literary Festival at the end of January.

Edited excerpts from Brickell's exclusive email interview with *Weekend*.

### What was the kind of research that went into the book?

• Reading through the letters was an enormous job in itself, as they were in both French and English, and many had hard-to-decipher handwriting. I talked about them at length with my grandfather, and spent many hours recording his memoirs. I travelled all over the world, tracking down as many people linked with the firm of old as I could, to try to fill in the picture and triangulate the story, be-



Available in January 2020 at ₹799 (Penguin Random House India)

cause I knew only part of the history was in the trunk.

### Where did your travels take you?

• In India, I followed my great grandfather Jacques Cartier's footsteps. On his trips to meet the maharajas, he would sketch royal jewels in order that he might come up with new designs for remounting them in a more western fashion. It was a moment of real excitement to see the jewels that matched the sketches, such as a stunning diamond aigrette that he'd seen in the palace of Baroda. In Sri Lanka, I visited sapphire mines; in London, Paris and New York, I met many elderly designers and craftsmen who'd worked under my family. It was surprisingly moving.

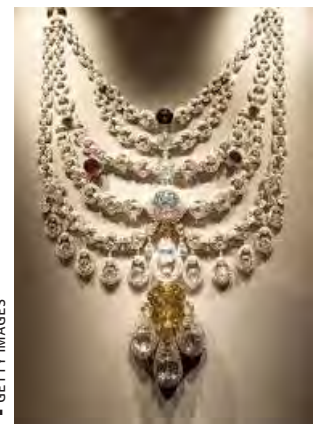
### Did anything surprise you?

• How the Cartier women played such a critical role in the growth of the business. Strategic marriages helped keep the firm afloat in the difficult early days, and later helped it to expand. Another interesting discovery was just how important a market India was. The Great Depression was terrible for luxury brands, and one of the reasons Cartier survived when their western clients reined in spending was because of commissions from the maharajas.

### What was your writing process?

• I spent a long time researching. But I was also bringing up two young children, so I had other distractions as well. In fact, I often took them with me on research holidays. But a couple of years ago, I came to realise that I could be turning over stones forever – each time I made a new discovery, it just opened up a whole new avenue of research possibilities. I needed to get on with the writing or this story would never make it out into the world.

## Francesca's picks



### India connect

From the Maharaja of Patiala's necklace (seen here), containing 2,930 diamonds, to the Maharaja of Kapurthala's emerald turban ornament, the pieces created were quite extraordinary.



### Post-war style

The geometric, symmetrical shapes of Cartier's Art Deco jewels suited women's new, and more assertive, stance. The sautoir necklaces and bandeau tiaras were also designed to work with post-war fashions.



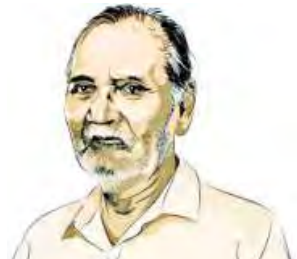
### Tutti Frutti

Jacques called them the Hindoo jewels – mixed carved rubies, sapphires and emeralds in combinations that were groundbreaking for the time.

## DOWN MEMORY LANE

# An Emperor's gift of stone

Long after the immortal love between Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal, lovers over the centuries have a fascination for meeting at the iconic Taj Mahal



R.V. SMITH

The sudden death of the ghazal maestro Rajendra Mehta in Mumbai at the age of 85 vividly brought to mind his 1960s ghazal's memorable lines: "Jab aanchal raat ka lehraye/Aur sara alam so jayey/Tum mujhse milne, shamma jala kar/Taj Mahal mein aa jaana". It was in the same vein that Yesudas sang his famous lyric, "Jab deep jalain aana/Jab shaam dhale aana". Both compositions have the same theme of lovers' meetings after the evening fades away and the solitude of night envelops the world – at the Taj and elsewhere too. However, Tesu and Jhainji, like Baaz Bahadur and Roopmati, as erroneously believed, don't meet at the Taj but in Malwa.

The Taj Mahal is no doubt the greatest embodiment of love and so it is believed to strengthen the bond between lovers over the centuries. Gossip says that Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal meet there even now on Amavasya (moonless) nights. This theme was depicted in M. Sadiq's film "Taj Mahal" too. The belief is also there that if a lo-



Recreating the magic (Clockwise from top) Artists dressed up as Shah Jahan and Mumtaz pose in front of Taj; (below) the iconic monument • SANDEEP SAXENA, V.V. KRISHNAN

velorn man goes to the monument at midnight he would meet Mumtaz Mahal and a love-begone woman could hope to meet Shah Jahan. There are more such old wives' tales, including the one about how Jahanara Begum, the Mughal emperor's eldest daughter, would go secretly at night to meet her lover, a dotting poet, at the Taj,

while her father was lying restless pining for Mumtaz in the Khawabgah (sleeping quarters) at the Agra Fort. This was also portrayed in the 1970s film, "Jahanara".

At the fag-end of the 19th century the wife of a British Major used to meet her lover, a Lieutenant, at the Taj. Both were shot dead one night by the Major who surprised them while they were making love. The incident was recorded in a now out of print book, "Murder at the Taj Mahal", which once used to be the prized possession of the Queen Mary Empress Library in Agra Cantonment.

The lure of the Taj is such that, despite all the security, lovers do manage to steal in there from time to time to seal their bond of affection.

Love-crazy Mashooq Ali Khan managed to often get into the Taj

compound even after closure hours to lament over the death of his beloved Sitara Begum, the wife of a noted local lawyer, in the 1930s.

He was arrested one night while loitering on the Taj platform facing the Yamuna and later sentenced to just a day's imprisonment by a kind-hearted Munsiff Magistrate. Ustad Bismillah Khan played the shehnai one night near the eastern-most minaret during the annual Sharad Purnima (harvest moon) fair at the Taj and drew enthusiastic response from people, among them loveorn couples of course.

No less a person than Maulana Azad was fascinated by the romantic appeal of the Taj. Maulana Azad, few know, was a keen sitar player. On one memorable visit to the Taj he played his sitar as he watched the monument by moonlight. It was a thrilling experience for the scholar – statesman who, in an ecstatic moment, felt as though one of the four minarets was kissing his hand in a mystical union in an ethereal setting. It's better to hear about it in his own words, extracted from the book *Sallies of Mind: English translation of Ghubar-e-Khatir*.

"Once I happened to visit Agra in those (tumultuous) days of the freedom struggle. It was the month of April and nights brought waning moonlight. Late into the night, the moon would peep through the veil of darkness. I had made special arrangement for going to the Taj with my sitar. I would sit on its roof with my face towards the Jamuna. As moonlight began to spread itself, I would start a tune and lose myself in it. I don't have expression to tell what magical experiences the imagination then brought before the eyes," exclaimed Maulana Azad.

All this comes to mind as a belated tribute to Rajendra Mehta as someone croons, "Jab aanchal raat ka lehraye...Taj Mahal mein aa jaana". What a beautiful tribute by the maestro to the memorial of love of a heart-broken emperor for his dear departed consort!

The writer is a veteran chronicler of Delhi

## Functional art

Reshmi Dey, who hand-and mouth-blows glass sculptural pieces, now has a line of jewellery

SUNALINI MATHEW

Last week Reshmi Dey demonstrated and talked about the art and craft of glass blowing at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Delhi, in an event called The Story of Czech Glass. Her work stood with eight Czech companies, as she, along with Jiri Pacinek, one of that country's well-known glass makers, gave a glass-making demo in her mobile studio.

Dey discovered glass when an ex-partner ordered in some glassware from Firozabad, a hub of India's glass-making industry. She says she was mesmerised: "The light, the reflection, the refraction. I still remember there was a teal vase and a fine hand-engraved smokey flower vase." That was in 1999, and she was 25.

Dey, who grew up in Tinsukhia, Assam, and Kolkata, and dabbled in the hospitality industry that was just opening up in the area, boarded a train to Delhi in 1995, looking to do her MBA, much to the horror of her family, "because Delhi was this big, bad place". Born to a conservative government employee father and a mother who wanted her to strike out on her own, she says her whole aim in life was, "To find myself, create my own identity, see what I was capable of."

Once she determined that she'd work with glass the rest of her life, she trained at the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad, and also at the factories there, "at a time when people wouldn't even send their sons to the area." The men would look at her strangely, because she'd be the only woman in the workshop. She remembers an incident when the then principal director introduced her to one of Firozabad's prominent industrialists, saying she was a promising student. "I still remember him saying, 'Does she make it in her kitchen?'"

Despite the scepticism, she started her venture in 1999, selling her gold to start a small studio with ₹33,000 ("There was no studio culture in In-



The bejewelled lady: (top) A model showcasing earring; Reshmi Dey • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

dia at the time") that supplied home decorative pieces to Ebony, Good Earth and to The Next Store. In 2017, she started her Chattarpur, Glass Sutra.

Over the years, she has studied internationally, doing projects with architects such as Manish Banker from Pune, or with art curators.

The wall at Surajkund's Taj Vivanta is hers, as is the installation at Le Meridien, Gurugram. She also does table pieces, candle-stands and a lighting range, with jewellery, her latest addition. Gappei meaning amalgamation in Japanese, includes neck-pieces, earrings and rings.

Glass, she says, connects with her: "It has strength, fragility, transparency, translucence. It doesn't break easily, unlike what people think. It's kind of like a woman." As she prepares to create a piece called Hands of a Craftsperson, Heart of an Artist, a tree, 9 ft x 6 ft, out of glass and crochet ("I love how both the glass and the yarn are fluid"), she says she sees herself as a glass blower, a designer, an artist and a craftsperson all in one, with a mission to take glass as a material to the people.







# Back to BASICS

Actor Kalki Koechlin is excited about bringing her first baby into the world through the water birthing method

## WHAT IS WATER BIRTHING?

It is also referred to as hydrotherapy, where the baby is born through normal vaginal birth with no or reduced use of medication such as epidurals or drugs to speed up contractions.

When a woman starts getting labour pain, she gets into a bath tub (not deeper than two feet) or the inflated baby pool that has warm water controlled at 36 to 37 degrees C (the normal body temperature).

The buoyancy in water is said to reduce the pain and length of labour, making it less traumatic and more relaxing for the mother.

The mother remains in water till the child is born. The post-partum blood loss is less than a traditional delivery, and damage to the perineum is minimised.

It is considered a peaceful transit for the baby who's been in amniotic fluid for nine months and so there is no immediate shock of air.

It is recommended for women who are fit and have no high-risk factors such as hypertension and diabetes and are not carrying twins.

Water birthing as a technique is largely assisted by midwives. A few doctors in Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Bengaluru are now encouraging the natural water birthing process.

Sabharwal.

What people need to understand is that labour is not a disease that requires medical intervention but a natural process that requires medical assistance, she says.

Dr Sabharwal strongly believes that every woman deserves a natural option and needs to be informed about alternative ways to give birth. In the last 16 years, 100-odd women have chosen to have water births in her clinic. "These are mostly young and well-informed independent women who are pro-natural remedies," she adds.

Kalki, who has been with her through her pregnancy, she says, is a motivated and engaged mom-to-be. "She has read enough material and has friends who opted for wa-

ter birthing. She was clear and determined from the beginning," she says.

Kalki says she loves water and "the idea of relaxing in a warm pool is kinder both on the mother-to-be and the baby-to-be-born." "If the mother is stress-free, the baby will also be born stress-free. What better can you ask for?" she says.

"My mother brought me into the world through natural birth at home three decades ago. It was 5 am, there was no electricity, my dad was holding a kerosene lamp. It was quite rustic and also the environment at Auroville was different with lots of naturopathy and alternative living styles. It seemed appropriate for my parents," says Kalki. "You cannot avoid the legacy in motherhood," she laughs.

Though pregnancy and motherhood changes parents' lives, it is important for every person to keep living a regular life, insists Kalki. "The baby of course is going to be a crucial part of our lives, but it does not mean that we stop everything else in order



All set Kalki Koechlin • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SOMA BASU

"If I do not remain active, I will only be snacking and doing Google searches on babies and pregnancies," says Kalki Koechlin, over a phone call from Mumbai, after a seven-hour work day. "I am rehearsing for a play right now and it keeps me engaged," adds the 35-year-old actor, who has essayed roles in *Gully Boy*, *Margarita with a Straw*, *Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara*, *Waiting* and many more.

Soon, she will be part of the all-woman cast in Rehaan Engineer's stage adaptation of Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, set to debut as *Sounding Vanya* at the Serendipity Arts Festival in Goa on December 15.

"After that I will head straight to the Assagio Birthing Centre run by Ursula Corinna Stahlhofen (a German midwife). My partner and I will take individual and joint classes with her to understand how labour and contractions work, basic requirements during delivery such as what and how to pack, and things after post-birth, like breast feeding and bathing the baby, the registration, vaccinations..." she says.

Currently in the third trimester of her pregnancy, Kalki is expecting her first child with her partner Guy Hershberg, an Israeli classical pianist. With January 26, 2020, as the expected date of delivery, Kalki plans to take multiple alternative classes in hypno and music therapy, pre-natal yoga, swimming and exercises for a month at the naturalist and holistic centre nestled in greenery. "I want to be away from city life, noise and pollution and be in the calming lap of nature during my pre- and post-delivery weeks," she says, explaining why she chose this unconventional way of birthing.

## Going natural

Kalki is perhaps the first Bollywood actor who has opted for water birth, says her Mumbai-based gynaecologist Dr Sheetal Sabharwal, who set up Tulip Women's Health Care Centre, India's first water birth clinic, in 2003. "Water birthing is not uncommon over the world, but it has not picked up in India because a woman's journey of pregnancy is essentially governed by the entire family in our society, and fears and doubts linger," says Dr



to deal with parenthood." She had morning sickness in the beginning, and felt weak from even the smallest activities.

"My work commitments made me anxious and I lost weight in my first trimester," she says. But, she adds, when you draw closer, it is being created inside you, you go back to the basics and become much more conscious about how you want to be. If you have a bad day, the baby goes through the bad day too with you; if you scream, the baby hears you scream, so you become much more aware of how you want to treat yourself and others."

In between her good and bad days, what keeps Kalki happy and positive is her work and music, as well as conversations with her gynaecologist, midwife and mother. She says the book *What to Expect When You're Expecting* by Heidi Murkoff and Sharon Mazel also helped.

"And of course, I have been extremely lucky to have the most loving, caring and supportive boyfriend," she says and adds, "As D-day draws closer, it is natural to become anxious. But I am not thinking too much, just taking it one day at a time."

## POOCH CAFE



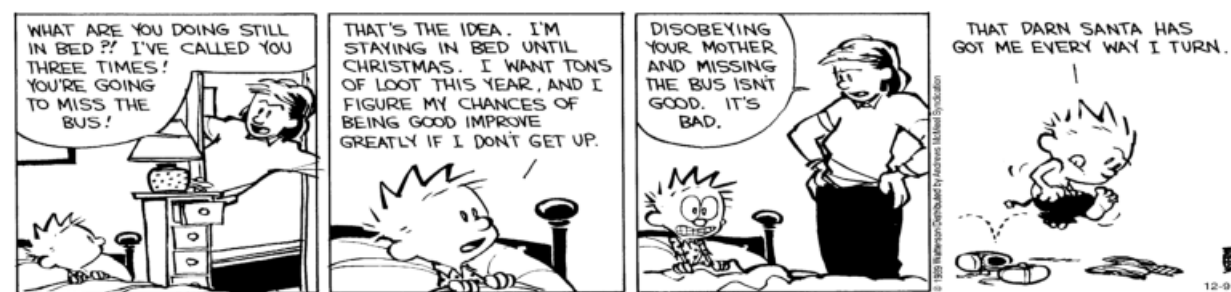
## PEANUTS



## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



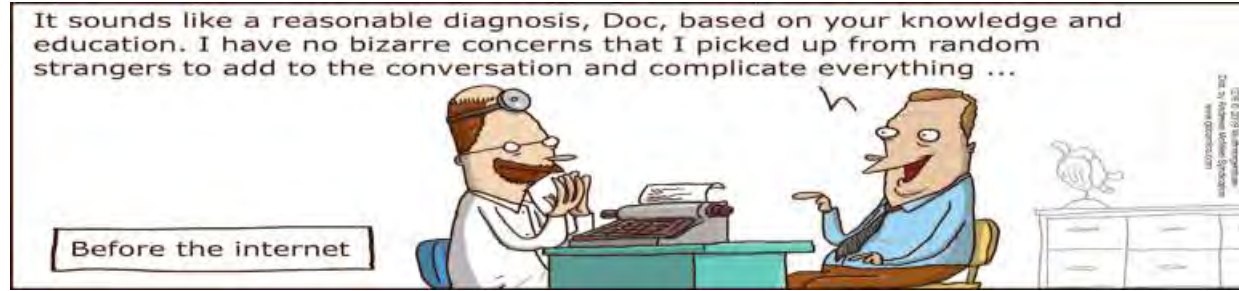
## CALVIN AND HOBBS



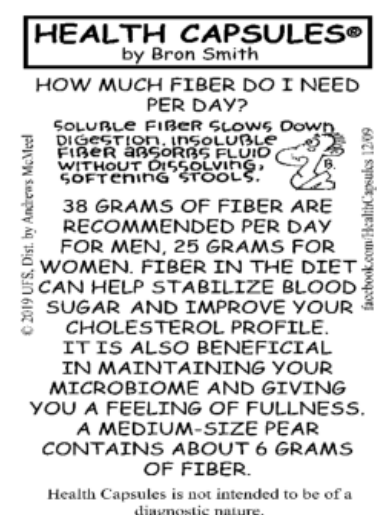
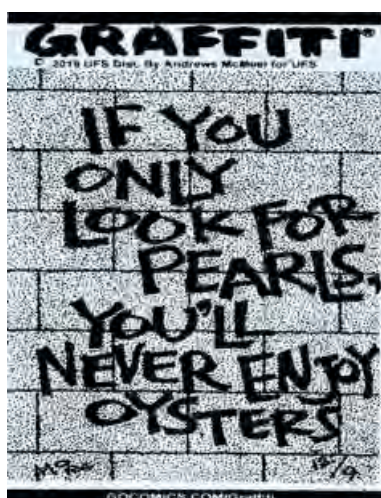
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## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



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- 5 Colin Dexter's fictional detective (5)
- 6 Story (9)
- 7 Acting more from whim than reason - self-insight (anag) (11)
- 8 Whatever happens (2,3,6)
- 12 University administrator - hospital doctor (9)
- 16 Imitator (7)
- 17 Make less effective (6)
- 19 Accommodation (5)
- 23 Vase-like vessel (3)

Solution will appear in *The Hindu* dated December 10, 2019.

Solution No. 13244

- Across
- 1 Speed (11)
- 9 Ancestral (anag) - English royal house (9)
- 10 Despicable person (3)
- 11 Measurement around the waist (5)
- 13 Taking everything into account (7)
- 14 Big cats (6)
- 15 Official writer (6)
- 18 Patent medicine (7)
- 20 Fragment (5)
- 21 Polite term of address for a man (3)
- 22 Involving part payment (2,7)
- 24 Causing discouragement (11)
- Down
- 2 Chap (3)
- 3 Moorland plant (7)
- 4 Military pageant (6)

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# Pollard's men blow away India, take series to the decider

Simmons, Pooran and bowlers deliver in a crunch game for the visitors; Dube, Pant come good for the Men in Blue

## WI IN INDIA

**P.K. AJITH KUMAR**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM  
It was the World T20 champion West Indies that turned up at the Greenfield Stadium on Sunday night. Not the side that has been playing plenty of insipid white ball cricket of late.

Kieron Pollard's men proved too good for India in front of a full house in the second T20. They won by eight wickets with nine balls to spare.

They not just ended their losing streak to India in the shortest format, but also ensured that the third match of the series in Mumbai would be the deciding one.

The visitors' confident chase of a challenging total was anchored by Lendl Simmons, who remained unbeaten on 67 (45b). His first-wicket stand of 73 with Evin Lewis (40, 35b) gave them the perfect start, and his 61-run partnership for the unbroken third wicket with Nicholas Pooran, who played an eye-catching cameo (38 not out, 18b), gave them the perfect finish.

### Brilliant catch

Shimron Hetmyer, too, delighted with his strokeplay before his promising knock was ended by a brilliant running catch by India captain Virat Kohli at long-on. That sensational bit of fielding wasn't the norm, but an exception for India.

In the fifth over, Washington Sundar had dropped Simmons off Bhuvneshwar Kumar at mid-off and that would prove costly. The off-spinning all-rounder from Chennai was having a horrid time on the field for the second match in a row.

He redeemed himself a bit by beating Lewis and having him stumped, but that wasn't enough to stop the aggressive Windies top-order from racing to the target.

Earlier, Shivam Dube showed why Royal Challengers shelled out ₹5 crore for



**The architect:** Lendl Simmons took West Indies home with a superb innings. ■ R. RAGU

him — an uncapped player then — in last year's IPL auction. Coming in, rather surprisingly, as early as the fourth over, at the fall of K.L. Rahul's wicket, he smashed 54 off 30 balls.

His maiden international fifty — in only his fifth match — mattered to India on this night, when its stalwarts at the top of the order failed to click. Sending him in at No. 3 turned out to be an inspired move.

### Dube flays Pollard

After an average effort in the PowerPlay (42 for one), it was his assault on West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard in the ninth over that gave the Indian innings the impetus it badly needed. He pulled two short ones over the leg-side boundary and then sent a full toss above the ropes on the off-side. Twenty six runs came off that over.

He, however, did not last long after that stunning bit of fireworks. He holed out to

Hetmyer in the covers off the impressive leg-spinner Hayden Walsh. He could not make use of the dropped catch by Pollard off the first ball of that over.

Dube's dismissal brought Rishabh Pant to the middle and the wicket-keeper, who had shown glimpses of form at Hyderabad in the last match, ensured that India ended up with a decent total.

His unbeaten 33 off 22 balls will do a world of good to the confidence of the young man who has been under some scrutiny.

It was a disappointing night with the bat for India's big three, though. Rahul was caught at deep square-leg trying to slog-sweep left-arm spinner Khary Pierre, Rohit Sharma was bowled in his attempt to paddle Jason Holder

and Kohli's upper cut turned into a comfortable catch at short third-man.

Interestingly enough, it was Keskrick Williams who took the Indian captain's wicket, but there was no 'no-tebook' celebration this time; he just put his finger on his lips, demanding silence.

On this night, that wasn't the only command from the Windies that worked.

## SCOREBOARD

### INDIA

Rohit Sharma b Holder 15 (18b, 2x4), K.L. Rahul c Hetmyer b Pierre 11 (17b, 1x4), Shivam Dube c Hetmyer b Walsh 54 (30b, 3x4, 4x6), Virat Kohli c Simmons b Williams 19 (17b, 2x4), Rishabh Pant (not out) 33 (22b, 3x4, 1x6), Shreyas Iyer c King b Walsh 10 (11b, 1x4), Ravindra Jadeja b Williams 9 (11b), Washington Sundar c & b Cottrell 0 (1b), Deepak Chahar (not out) 1 (1b); Extras (lb-3, nb-2, w-13) 18; Total (for seven wickets in 20 overs): 170.

### FALL OF WICKETS

1-24 (Rahul, 3.1 overs), 2-56 (Rohit, 7.4), 3-97 (Dube, 10.3), 4-120 (Kohli, 13.2), 5-144 (Shreyas, 16.2), 6-164 (Jadeja, 18.6), 7-167 (Washington, 19.4).

### WEST INDIES BOWLING

Cottrell 4-0-27-1, Pierre 2-0-11-1, Holder 4-0-42-1, Williams 4-0-30-2, Pollard 2-0-29-0, Walsh 4-0-28-2.

### WEST INDIES

Lendl Simmons (not out) 67 (45b, 4x4, 4x6), Evin Lewis st. Pant b Washington 40 (35b, 3x4, 3x6), Shimron Hetmyer c Kohli b Jadeja 23 (14b, 3x6), Nicholas Pooran (not out) 38

(18b, 4x4, 2x6); Extras (w-4, nb-1); 5; Total (for two wickets in 18.3 overs): 173.

### FALL OF WICKETS

1-73 (Lewis, 9.5 overs), 2-112 (Hetmyer, 13.4).

### INDIA BOWLING

Chahar 3-3-0-35-0, Bhuvneshwar 4-0-36-0, Washington 4-0-26-1, Chahal 3-0-36-0, Dube 2-0-18-0, Jadeja 2-0-22-1.

**Toss:** West Indies. **MoMatch:** Simmons.  
West Indies won by eight wickets with nine balls to spare to level the three-match series 1-1. **Third T20:** Dec. 11, Mumbai.

## STAT SPHERE

**1** Kohli (2563, 69 innings, 51.26 avg) edged past Rohit (2562, 95, 31.62) to become the highest scorer in T20s in the world

**3** Number of times West Indies has chased down India's 170-plus targets in T20s. All other countries put together have done it on five occasions

**7** Number of consecutive T20s West Indies had lost to India before this match

**12** Number of T20I innings Simmons had gone without reaching 20 (an aggregate of 73 runs with a highest of 19) before this innings. The last time he scored a T20I half-century was also against India (82 in WT20 semifinals, 2016)

DOTS		FOURS		SIXES	
India	West Indies	India	West Indies	India	West Indies
44	44	12	11	5	12



**Relishing it:** Shivam Dube made the most of the opportunity to bat at No. 3, scoring his maiden T20I half-century. ■ R. RAGU

### KOHLI IN T20IS SINCE 2017

**1ST INNS:** One fifty in 17 inns

Avg 24.33

**2ND INNS:** Six fifties in 11 inns

Avg 90.16

## Mixed emotions for Dube

Delighted to bat well, but disappointed with the result

**M.R. PRAVEEN CHANDRAN**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Shivam Dube has fond memories of Thiruvananthapuram. It was here two months ago that he played a couple of match-winning knocks against South Africa-A. Promoted to No. 3 in the second T20I against West Indies, Dube emerged with flying colours, scoring a 30-ball 54.

### Under pressure

Dube revealed that he was "nervous" and "under pressure" at the start of his innings, and it was Rohit Sharma who helped him calm his nerves.

"I got the opportunity to bat at number three which was a big deal for me. There was some pressure.

"Rohit bhai asked me to back my ability and helped

me calm down. I got the momentum after hitting a six and then I was playing my natural game. I always back my ability to clear any ground and it is my strength," he said.

### Dropped chances

The Mumbai all-rounder was happy with his performance, but disappointed that his knock didn't help the team win. Dube said the dropped chances early on in the visitors' innings were crucial.

He, however, backed the Men in Blue to bounce back and win the series. "The dropped chances were crucial. It is part of the game. They also dropped some. We had a good total today but we failed to grab our chances. We have a good

team and back ourselves to win the series," he said.

### Pleased as punch

West Indies leg-spinner Hayden Walsh was pretty pleased with his game-changing spell in the middle overs, which restricted the Indians to a manageable total.

He said it was a "great feeling" to play a part in the victory which has kept the series alive.

Walsh said he worked really hard to find his way into the team. "It has been a roller-coaster ride for me. I put in a lot of work. I did well in the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) and it obviously caught the selectors' eye. I bowled a lot in the nets and it helped me here," said Walsh.

## Reward for consistency



**Memorable moment:** Shooters Divyansh Singh Panwar, Elavenil Valarivan and Saurabh Chaudhary, who finished the season as No. 1 in their respective events in rifle and pistol, with the Golden Target award in Munich on Saturday. NRAI president Raninder Singh is also seen. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## Yet another medal-laden day for India

### SAG

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
KATHMANDU

Swimmers and wrestlers continued their domination as India put on a commanding performance to leave rival countries far behind in the South Asian Games here on Sunday.

The swimmers picked up seven gold, two silver and two bronze while the wrestlers clinched all the four yellow metals on offer to help India add 38 medals (including 22 gold and 10 silver) on Day 7 of the regional Games.

India's count now stands at 252 (132 gold, 79 silver, 41 bronze), far ahead of Sri Lanka (197 medals) and Nepal (165).

Meanwhile, India now has a total of 15 boxers aiming for the gold medal thanks to seven more pugilists sealing final places on Sunday. In kabaddi, the Indian men and women's teams reached the finals.

**Prominent Indian medal winners:** **Swimming:** Gold: Kushagra Rawat (men's 400m freestyle); Supriya Mondal (men's 200m butterfly); Srihari Natraj (men's 50m backstroke); Mana

Patel (women's 50m backstroke); men's and women's India (4x200m freestyle); Apaksha Fernandes (women's 200m butterfly).

**Silver:** Anand Shylaja (men's 400m freestyle). **Bronze:** Mihir Ambre (men's 200m butterfly)

**Fencing:** Gold: men's epee, men's sabre and women's foil.

**Handball:** Gold: Indian women. **Silver:** Indian men.

**Wrestling:** Gold: Sakshi Malik (women's 62kg); Ravinder (men's 61kg); Pawan Kumar (men's 86kg); Anshu (women's 59kg).

**Judo:** Gold: Sushila Devi (women's 48 kg); Vijay Kumar Yadav (men's 60kg); Jasleen

Singh Saini (men's 66 kg); Sushika Tariyal (women's 57kg); L. Nirupama Devi (women's 63kg). **Silver:** Gayatri Tokas (women's 52kg); Vishal Ruhil (men's 73kg).

**Tennis:** Gold & silver in men's, women's and mixed doubles.

**Squash:** Gold: Tanvi Khanna (women). **Silver:** Sunayana S. Kuruville (women); Harinder Pal Singh (men). **Bronze:** Abhay Singh got a bronze.

**Shooting:** Gold: Shравan Kumar, Ravinder Singh and Sumit Raman (men's 10m air pistol team); Shравan Kumar (men's 10m air pistol). **Bronze:** Ravinder Singh (men's 10m air pistol).

## Stenson fends off Rahm's challenge

Comes up with a spectacular 259-yard approach shot and an eagle on the 15th

### HERO CHALLENGE

**ASHWIN ACHAL**  
NASSAU

Henrik Stenson delivered under pressure to clinch the Hero World Challenge title at Albany Golf Course here on Saturday. Stenson (18-under overall) held firm despite a late surge from Spain's Jon Rahm, who eventually finished one stroke behind the champion.

### Woods fourth

Tournament host Tiger Woods carded a disappointing three-under 69 to take the fourth spot.

This was Stenson's first title since the 2017 Wyndham Championship. The 43-year-old Swede took home the winner's cheque for \$1 million.

Stenson made the big move with an eagle on the par-5 15th hole, crushing a spectacular 259-yard approach shot to within inches of the pin. He then kept his cool and completed the task by making par in the last three holes.



**Holding firm:** Hero World Challenge host Tiger Woods and Hero MotoCorp Chairman Pawan Munjal present the winner's trophy to Henrik Stenson on Saturday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"Walking down the 16th, I saw that Jon had finished 17-under, so I knew that three pars would most likely close the deal," he said.

Stenson was relieved to get his hands on the trophy, after a sustained period of poor results and injuries.

"I just haven't played to more than probably 75% of my capacity in the last couple of years. This is good gratification for the patience and hard work that we've done," he said.

Defending champion Rahm, meanwhile, put himself into contention with a birdie-eagle-birdie run between the 14th and 16th. He could only manage pars in the next two holes, and narrowly missed out. Any disappointment is unlikely to last for long as Rahm is set to get married in a few days.

Woods raised hopes by taking the sole lead after making birdie on the seventh, but a bogey on the 14th derailed his run.

"I blocked a couple of putts today (hitting a putt right of intended starting-line), and I can't stand that feeling. I'd much rather hook the hell out of a putt than hit some kind of block," Woods said.

He will now make the long journey to Melbourne to captain the USA team in the President's Cup.

### ONE Bahamas Fund

As part of ongoing relief efforts following Hurricane Dorian, the Hero World Challenge contributed \$184,500 to the ONE Bahamas Fund. The tournament made a donation of \$500 for each birdie, \$1,000 for each eagle and \$2,500 for each hole-in-one made by the 18 professional golfers in the field.

**The scores:** 270: Henrik Stenson (69, 67, 68, 66); 271: Jon Rahm (70, 66, 69, 66); 272: Patrick Reed (66, 66, 74, 66); 274: Tiger Woods (72, 66, 67, 69); 275: Justin Rose (69, 70, 71, 65); Justin Thomas (69, 69, 67, 70).

(The writer is in Nassau on invitation from Hero MotoCorp)

## Messi breaks La Liga hat-trick record

Juventus stumbles against Lazio

### EURO LEAGUES

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**  
LONDON

Lionel Messi broke yet another record, hitting his 35th La Liga hat-trick as Barcelona beat Real Mallorca 5-2 to keep pace with Real Madrid at the top of the table on Saturday.

A trio of vintage Messi finishes contributed to five stunning Barca goals, the best of them arguably belonging to Luis Suarez, whose brilliant backheel capped a free-flowing move, involving seven different players.

The Argentinian etched his name into history books again after pulling clear of Cristiano Ronaldo's 34 Liga trebles to stand alone.

"Unbelievable," said coach Valverde. "It was a celebration of the Ballon d'Or."

Italian champion Juventus suffered its first defeat of the season with a 3-1 loss against Lazio in Rome blowing open the Serie A title race.

Maurizio Sarri's eight-time reigning league cham-



**Family time:** Messi poses with his children and his sixth Ballon d'Or before dismantling Mallorca on Saturday. ■ AFP

pio remains second in the table, two points behind leader Inter Milan after 15

matches. Third-placed Lazio clawed to within just three points of



**On a roll:** Sakshi Malik proved unstoppable en route to the gold. ■ FILE PHOTO

Juventus.

**The results: Premier League:** Aston Villa 1 (Grealish 45+2) lost to Leicester 4 (Vardy 20, 75, Iheanacho 41, Evans 49); Newcastle 2 (Shelvey 68, Fernandez 87) bt Southampton 1 (Ings 52); Norwich City 1 (Tettey 27) lost to Sheffield United 2 (Stevens 49, Baldock 52).

**Serie A:** Lecce 2 (Falco 60, Tabanelli 70) drew with Genoa 2 (Pande 31, Criscito 45+5-pen); Sassuolo 2 (Berardi 7, Djuricic 36) drew with Cagliari 2 (Joro Pedro 51, Ragatzu 90); SPAL 0 lost to Brescia 1 (Balotelli 54); Torino 2 (Zaza 22, Ansaldi 72) bt Fiorentina 1 (Caceres 90+1).

**La Liga:** Eibar 0 lost to Getafe 1 (Angel 67); Real Betis 3 (Joquin 2, 11, 20) bt Athletic Bilbao 2 (Williams 44-pen, Berchiche 75); Real Valladolid 0 drew with Real Sociedad 0.

**Bundesliga:** Union Berlin 2 (Andersson 33, 50) bt Cologne 0. **Saturday: La Liga:** Levante 2 (Roger 11, 20-pen) lost to Valencia 4 (Roger 45+3-og, Garmeyro 57, 59, Torres 88); Barcelona 5 (Griezmann 7, Messi 17, 41, 83, Suarez 43) bt Real Mallorca 2 (Budimir 35, 64).

**Serie A:** Lazio 3 (Luiz Felipe 45+1, Milinkovic-Savic 74, F. Caicedo 90+5) bt Juventus 1 (Cristiano Ronaldo 25).



TV PICKS

**NBA:** Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 8 a.m.  
**Ranji Trophy:** Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 9.30 a.m.  
**Big Bout League:** Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 7 p.m.  
**I-League:** DSport, 7 p.m.  
**ISL:** Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF



**Manav wins Challenge Series U-21 title**  
MARKHAM (CANADA)  
Manav Thakkar beat Argentina's Martin Bentancor 11-3, 11-5, 11-6 on Sunday here to become the first Indian paddler to clinch U-21 men's singles title in an ITTF Challenge Series event. Manav joins Harmeet Desai, G. Sathiyam and Soumyajit Ghosh in the list of Indians to win an ITTF U-21 men's singles title. **PTI**



**Smith set to be CSA director of cricket**  
JOHANNESBURG  
Former South Africa skipper Graeme Smith is all set to become Cricket South Africa's (CSA) director of cricket, according to CSA president Chris Nenzani. Smith will have just a couple of weeks to put a selection panel and coaching staff in place before the first of a four-Test series against England gets underway in Centurion on December 26. **IANS**

**Bangor Cements stays solid on day one**  
KOLKATA  
Bangor Cement (Kamal Mukherjee, Souendra Dutta, Amarnath Banerjee, Ayan Chatterjee, Suman Sengupta and Sabyasachi Sadhukhan) led with 78.78 Victory Points after the fifth round of the team event of the Winter National bridge on Sunday.



**Luka Doncic stars for Mavericks**  
LOS ANGELES  
Slovenian sensation Luka Doncic put his name alongside that of NBA icon Michael Jordan on Saturday as he scored 26 points in the Dallas Mavericks' 130-84 rout of New Orleans Pelicans. His 18th straight game with at least 20 points, five rebounds and five assists tied him with Jordan for the longest such streak.  
**The results:** Utah Jazz 126 bt Memphis Grizzlies 112; New York Knicks 103 lost to Indiana Pacers 104; Philadelphia 76ers 141 bt Cleveland Cavaliers 94; Houston Rockets 115 bt Phoenix Suns 109; Dallas Mavericks 130 bt New Orleans Pelicans 84. **AFP**



**Jones holds on to win second Australian Open**  
SYDNEY  
Matt Jones joined an elite few by winning his second Australian Open on Sunday, resisting big pressure from South African Louis Oosthuizen to clinch victory by a shot. The 39-year-old Jones joins the likes of Aaron Baddeley, Jordan Spieth and Robert Alenby among his contemporaries to have won two Stonehaven Cups. Japan's Takumi Kanaya, the world's top-ranked amateur, and Australian Aaron Pike ended tied for third. **AFP**

# Kerala looks for encore, Delhi wants revenge

The encounter between the two last year was a thoroughly one-sided affair

RANJI TROPHY

**A. VINOD**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM  
It is the start of a long season, the grind for the prestigious Ranji Trophy.

Kerala, which made the knockouts of the premier championship over the last two years, has raised hopes among fans but will have to put its best foot forward as it takes on Delhi at the St. Xavier's Stadium from Monday.

The encounter between the two last year was a thoroughly one-sided affair, with Kerala completing an upset within three days. And as the two sides face off in Elite Group A and B once again, the former champion should be on the lookout for revenge having done well in the recent Vijay Hazare and Syed Mushtaq Ali tournaments.

**Sound core**  
With established stars Virat Kohli and Ishant Sharma on National duty and Shikhar Dhawan on the injured list, Delhi is led by Dhruv Shorey and has in Nitish Rana, Hiten

## Milestone beckons

The 2019-20 Ranji Trophy season will be the biggest with 38 teams in the fray, one more than last year. A look at the players who are on the verge of reaching milestones:

**1** Cheteshwar Pujara needs one more three-figure mark to complete 50 centuries in his First Class career. He will become the ninth India player to have 50 or more hundreds

**853** Runs needed by Vidarbha's Wasim Jaffer to reach 20,000 in his First Class career. Jaffer had scored 1037 runs in the Ranji last season

**3** Wickets Vinay Kumar, former Karnataka captain and representing Puducherry this season, requires to complete 400 wickets in his Ranji career. Vinay will be only the second fast bowler to have 400 or more wickets after Rajasthan/Puducherry seamer Pankaj Singh (409)

**17** Number of dismissals needed for Gujarat's Parthiv Patel to reach the 300-mark as a wicketkeeper in Ranji. He will become the fifth 'keeper after Naman Ojha, Vinayak Samant, Mahesh Rawat and Pinal Shah to achieve the feat

**100** Dinesh Karthik is three games away from completing a century of Ranji games. Abhinav Mukund (96) and Parthiv (95) are also close to the landmark

**5000** Three batsmen are on the cusp of reaching 5000 runs in their Ranji careers - Ankeet Bawne (4999), Ishank Jaggi (4980) and Priyank Panchal (4971)



The league phase, which begins on December 9, will conclude on February 15

FIRST ROUND SCHEDULE

<b>Group A:</b> Andhra v Vidarbha (Mulapadu); Hyderabad v Gujarat (Hyderabad); Kerala v Delhi (Thiruvananthapuram); Rajasthan v Punjab (Jaipur)	<b>Group B:</b> Baroda v Mumbai (Vadodara); Himachal v Saurashtra (Dharamsala); Tamil Nadu v Karnataka (Natham); Uttar Pradesh v Railways (Meerut)	<b>Group C:</b> Assam v Services (Guwahati); Chhattisgarh v Odisha (Raipur); Haryana v Maharashtra (Lahli); Tripura v Jharkhand (Agartala); Uttarakhand v Jammu & Kashmir (Dehradun)	<b>Plate:</b> Bihar v Pondicherry (Patna); Chandigarh v Arunachal Pradesh (Chandigarh); Goa v Sikkim (Porvorim); Manipur v Mizoram (Kolkata); Nagaland v Meghalaya (Sovima)
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Source: Cricinfo

Dalal, Navdeep Saini, Praadeep Sangwan and Shivam Sharma a sound nucleus that can spur the rest of the team. The team, however, has had little time to prepare af-

ter the Mushtaq Ali tournament. But, head coach Bhaskar Pillay said on Sunday that his young side was fully geared up for the four-day match.

"It is a red-soil wicket and I think Saini will be our best bet," he said. Kerala, in contrast, has been training at the venue over the last 12 days, with

chief coach Dav Whatmore having put the side through some strenuous preparation. With Sanju Samson, inducted into the Indian side, and Rohan Prem, sidelined

# Plaza powers Churchill Brothers to victory

His brace, and strikes from Ceesay and Bakr, give it a 4-2 win over Bagan

I-LEAGUE

**Y.B. SARANGI**  
KOLKATA  
Willis Plaza's brace enabled Churchill Brothers register a convincing 4-2 win over Mohun Bagan in their I-League contest at the Kalyani Stadium on Sunday.

Churchill's second victory helped it leapfrog Gokulam Kerala to the top of the table on better goal difference.

The visitors went ahead as early as the second minute. Dawda Ceasay beat a defender near the left flag to send in a precise cross and Plaza

headed it home. Though Bagan crafted several moves, it found the Churchill backline, led by the efficient duo of Robert Primus Jr. and Abu Bakr, difficult to get past.

In the eighth minute, an alert Jafar Mondal, under the Churchill bar, thwarted an attempt from P.M. Britto, who dashed menacingly but found the custodian make a timely interception. Mondal was again in the thick of action when Fran Gonzalez and V.P. Suhair made an attempt off Bagan's second corner.

After Vinil Poojary missed a sitter, Ceesay jumped high to put a corner kick into the Bagan post in the 28th minute.

Bagan pulled one back when Gonzalez converted a penalty to reduce the margin five minutes later.

**Shooting home**  
Churchill, however, restored the two-goal advantage in the 37th minute when Plaza shot home a long-ranger that a fumbling Bagan 'keeper Debjit Majumder failed to save. Bagan showed more ur-

gency in the second half, creating quite a few opportunities. However, it was undone by poor finishing in what was its first home outing.

Churchill widened its lead when Israel Gurung's floater from the right was headed home by the towering Bakr in the 76th minute.

Though young Bagan substitute Subha Ghosh grabbed a chance to reduce the margin, it was not enough. **The result:** Churchill Brothers 4 (Plaza 2 & 37, Ceesay 28, Bakr 76) bt Mohun Bagan 2 (Gonzalez 33, Subha 90).

NEW DELHI ROUND-UP

**Delhi Audit enters final**  
Delhi Audit and Ministry of Communication & Information Technology set up a title clash in the men's team championship in the inter-ministry badminton tournament, organised by Central Civil Services Cultural and Sports Board, at the AIIMS Gymkhana. **The results:** Men (semifinals): Delhi Audit bt Ministry of Defence 3-0 (Rajiv Sharma bt Amit Yadav 19-21, 21-11, 21-11; Himanshu Saroha bt Prashant Sharma 21-16, 21-14; Himanshu & Tushar Sharma bt Amit & Praveen 21-19, 21-18). Ministry of Communication &

Information Technology bt Ministry of Finance 3-1 (Amit Sharma bt Siddharth Nandal 21-10, 21-18; Amit lost to Sachin Rawat 12-21, 12-21; Amit & Abhinav Prakash bt Pankaj Pandey & S.C. Tiwari 21-10, 21-9; Abhinav bt Pankaj 21-12, 21-10). **Otamendi, Basheer Ali star for Rajnigandha Achievers**  
Daniel Otamendi and Basheer Ali guided Rajnigandha Achievers to an 8-5 victory over Army Polo and Riding Club (APRC) in the final of the Crown Vet Baroda Cup 10-goal polo tournament at the Jaipur Polo ground on Sunday. Basheer Ali was adjudged

the 'most valuable player', and mare Queen of Gaurav Sahgal the 'best polo pony'. **The results:** Final: Rajnigandha Achievers 8 (Daniel Otamendi 4, Basheer Ali 3, Ravinder Mang) bt Army Polo and Riding Club 5 (Angad Kalaan 2, Akhil Sirohi, Gaurav Sahgal, Naveen Singh). Semifinals: Rajnigandha 7 (Otamendi 3, Basheer 2, Kuldeep Singh Rathore 2) bt Jindal Panther 5-1/2 (Simran Shergill 3, Phil Selter, handicap 1 1/2). APRC 6 (Gaurav 3, Angad 2, Naveen) bt Ascension 4 (Abhimanyu Pathak 2, Salim Azmi, Siddhant Sharma).

# Mumbai Falcons clinches two races

XI RACING LEAGUE

**SPORTS REPORTER**  
CHENNAI  
Mumbai Falcons, represented by Kush Maini and Mikkel Jensen of Denmark, won two of the three races while the Bangalore Racing Stars tandem of Arjun Maini and Oliver Webb of England took the honours in the other as the curtains came down on the inaugural franchise-based XI Racing League at the MMRT, here on Sunday.

However, the event was far from smooth with numerous issues cropping up with various cars forcing a

delay to the qualifying event and the races. Earlier, Saturday's events had to be cancelled due to logistical issues. **The results (Provisional):**

**Race One:** 1. Bangalore Racing Stars (Arjun Maini/ Oliver Webb) 27mins, 23.458secs; 2. Mumbai Falcons (Kush Maini/ Michel Jensen) 27:24.018; 3. Blackbirds Hyderabad (Vitan-tonio Liuzzi/ Gosia Rdest) 27:28.969. **Race Two:** 1. Mumbai (28:02.222); 2. AD Racing Delhi (Gaurav Gill/ Rahul Rangasamy) 28:21.637; 3. Bangalore (28:25.847). **Race Three:** 1. Mumbai (27:59.175); 2. Bangalore (28:03.838); 3. Hyderabad (Luizzi/ Akhil Rabindra) 28:28.382.

# Sonia Chahal gets the better of Sakshi Chaudhary

NATIONALS

**STAN RAYAN**  
KANNUR  
He has coached both Sonia Chahal and Sakshi Chaudhary in Haryana's Bhiwani Boxing Club, but Jagdish Singh was not willing to bet on the outcome of the fight between the two in the fourth Elite National women's boxing championship here on Sunday.

"They are both almost equal, it will be a close bout," said the Dronacharya Awardee a few minutes before the 57kg final at the Mundayad indoor stadium.

In fact, it was as close as it could get. The bout, between the two counter punchers, was a thriller all



**A real thriller:** In the championship's most-awaited bout between equals, Sonia, left, beat Sakshi 3-2. **\*S.K. MOHAN**

the way. Sonia was taller but Sakshi appeared stronger. Sakshi used her left jab to good effect in the opening round and in the next, she virtually stalked Sonia around the ring, putting

pressure on her senior. But Sonia recovered well, threw some hard left jabs and followed it up with a couple of right hooks. In the end, she won the championship's most-awaited bout

with a 3-2 verdict. Meanwhile, the young Jyoti Gulia won a tough encounter against Ritu Grewal in a bout which appeared to turn a bit ugly at one stage. Ritu adopted a no-holds-barred strategy - even throwing some illegal punches - in the 51kg final. In the end, Jyoti, the 2017 World youth champion who adopted an inside fighting strategy, won a unanimous verdict and a gold in her maiden senior National. The victory will offer her a chance to fight against M.C. Mary Kom in the Boxing Federation of India's trials, for the Olympic qualifiers, which will be held in Delhi later this month. **The results (finals):** Light fly-

**weight (48kg):** Monika (Rly) bt K. Bina Devi (Pol) 5-0; **Fly-weight (51kg):** Jyoti Gulia (Rly) bt Ritu Grewal (Har) 5-0; **Bantamweight (54kg):** Meenakumari Devi (Pol) bt Meenakshi (Rly) 4-1; **Featherweight (57kg):** Sonia Chahal (Rly) bt Sakshi Chaudhary (Har) 3-2; **Lightweight (60kg):** Pavitra (Rly) bt Shashi Chopra (Har) 3-2. **Light welterweight (64kg):** Pwila Basumatary (Rly) bt Ankushita Boro (Asm) 3-2; **Welterweight (69kg):** Lalita (Rly) bt Meena Rani (Rly) 5-0; **Middleweight (75kg):** Nupur (Rly) bt K.A. Indrajya (Ker) 4-1; **Light heavyweight (81kg):** Bhagyabati Kachari (Rly) Shaili Singh (UP) 5-0; **Heavyweight (above 81kg):** Kavita Chahal (Pol) bt Anupama (Kerala) 5-0. **Team:** 1. Railways (53 pts), 2. Haryana (30), 3. Police (29).

# Call Of The Blue for Salarjung Cup

**HYDERABAD:** Call Of The Blue appeals most in the Salarjung Cup (2,000m), the main event of the races to be held here on Monday (Dec. 9).

**1. MEGATOP PLATE (1,100m),** maiden 2-y-o only (Cat. II), (Terms), H10 p.m.: 1. Charcoal (5) Kuldeep Singh 55, 2. Elegant Stroke (1) Nakhat Singh 55, 3. Greek Soul (8) R. Ajinkya 55, 4. Appenzelle (4) Kiran Naidu 53.5, 5. Beautiful Luv (6) Ashhad Asbar 53.5, 6. Bedford (3) P. Trevor 53.5, 7. Belle Springs (7) Akshay Kumar 53.5 and 8. Classy Dame (2) B.R. Kumar 53.5.

**1. BELLE SPRINGS, 2. BEDFORD, 3. ELEGANT STROKE**

**2. TRIBUTE PLATE (DIV. I),** (1,200m), 3-y-o & over (placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd since July 1st 2019 not eligible), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 1-40: 1. N R I Vision (7) Suraj Narredu 60, 2. Apollo (4) Nathan Evans 55.5, 3. Latest News (1) Kiran Naidu 55, 4. Tremendous Desire (10) R. Ajinkya 55, 5. Break The Ice (8) Nakhat Singh 54, 6. Minnell (3) Akshay Kumar 54, 7. Sweet Brandy (5) Kuldeep Singh 54, 8. Acedian Angel (9) N. Rawal 52.5, 9. My Dream (2) Gaddam 51.5 and 10. Let It Be Me (6) Afroz Khan 50.

**1. LET IT BE ME, 2. MINNELLI, 3. N R I VISION**

(6) Kiran Naidu 56.5, 6. Sree Sree Sree (5) Aneel 56.5, 7. Ashwa Calvari (1) Gaurav Singh 55.5, 8. Spiritual (2) P. Trevor 55 and 9. Tough And Go (9) Afroz Khan 52.5.

**1. SPIRITUAL, 2. TOUGH LADY, 3. SREE SREE SREE**

**4. GREENER PLATE (DIV. II),** (1,200m), 4-y-o & over rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 2-45: 1. Running Fire (4) Kiran Naidu 60, 2. Rose Eternal (7) Santosh Raj 58.5, 3. Magic Street (3) Rohit Kumar 57, 4. Limousine (6) Irvan Singh 55, 5. Hurricane (1) Abhay Singh 54.5, 6. Moka (9) Akshay Kumar 53.5, 7. Story Teller (5) Jitendra Singh 53, 8. Just Like That (2) Ajeeth Kumar 52 and 9. Smarty (8) Gaurav Singh 51.

**1. STORY TELLER, 2. LIMOUSINE, 3. MAGIC STREET**

**7. CROWN TREASURE PLATE (1,400m),** 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II), 4-15: 1. King Maker (1) Surya Prakash 60, 2. Semper Fidelis (7) Kuldeep Singh 59, 3. Lockhart (3) Ajeeth Kumar 56, 4. Evon Von Brandt (2) Nathan Evans 55, 5. Rahil (5) Gopal Singh 55, 6. Digger (9) Gaurav Singh 54.5, 7. Guiding Force (8) Suraj Narredu 54.5, 8. Rajneeti (6) Irvan Singh 54, 9. Royal Green (4) Ajit Singh 53.5, 10. Dandy Man (12) Akshay Kumar 52.5, 11. Heaven Can Wait (11) Afroz Khan 52.5 and 12. Once More (10) Nakhat Singh 52.5.

**1. DANDY MAN, 2. GUIDING FORCE, 3. ONCE MORE**

**8. FLORING VISION PLATE (1,200m),** 3-y-o & over, rated up to 25 (Cat. III), 4-45: 1. Dazzling King (5) Afroz Khan 62, 2. Most Wanted (6) C.P. Bopanna 62, 3. Glendale (3) Akshay Kumar 61.5, 4. Rasika (8) R. Ajinkya 61, 5. Sun Dancer (9) Ajit Singh 61, 6. Country's Pet (10) Suraj Narredu 59, 7. Brave Syera (7) Aneel 58.5, 8. Golden Faraska (1) N. Rawal 58.5, 9. Lion Heart (4) R.S. Jodha 58 and 10. Dumbledore (2) Rafique Sk. 50.

**1. COUNTRY'S PET, 2. GLENDALE, 3. BRAVE SYERA**  
Day's best: CALL OF THE BLUE Double: SPIRITUAL - DANDY MAN Jkt: 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8; Mini Jkt: 5, 6, 7 & 8; Tr (I): 1, 2 & 3; (II): 3, 4 & 5; (III): 6, 7 & 8; Tla: all races.

# Ace Ace Ace delivers in feature event

**HYDERABAD:** Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao's Ace Ace ridden by Akshay Kumar won the T. Chandrasekhar Reddy Memorial Cup, the main event of the races held here on Sunday (Dec. 8). R.H. Sequeira trains the winner. Jockey Akshay Kumar rode three more winners on the day.

**3. CRACK REGIMENT PLATE (1,200m),** maiden 2-y-o only (Cat. II), (Terms): HORUS (A. Imran) 1, Queen Daenerys (Rafique Sk.) 2, Cheltenham (Ashhad Asbar) 3, shd and 3. Im, 13.70s. 76 (w), 5, 11 and 8 (p), SHP: 31, FP: 43, Q: 39, Tla: 147. Favourite: Horus. Owners: Dr. Prabhakar Chowdhary Tripuraneni, M/S. G. Raghunandan Chary & Alluri Ajay Kumar. Trainer: D. Netto.

**4. RAJA NARASIMHA RAO MEMORIAL CUP (1,200m),** 3-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): SOUVET PRIDE (Akshay Kumar) 1, Victory Parade (A. Imran) 2, Forever (Suray Prakash) 3 and Gorgeous Lady (Kunal Bunde) 4, 1/2 and 5-1/2. Im, 12.31s. 74 (w), 5, 5 and 7 (p), SHP: 13, FP: 24, Q: 9, Tla: 61. Favourite: Victory Parade. Owners: M/S. Y. Damodar

hd. Im, 28.03s. 76 (w), 5, 6 and 13 (p), SHP: 16, FP: 55, Q: 22, Tla: 295. Favourite: Rhine. Owner: Mr. A.K. Jaiswal. Trainer: L. D'Silva.

**5. INDIAN NAVY ROLLING CHALLENGE TROPHY (1,400m),** 5-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. II): BAYRD (A. Imran) 1, Ruttilant (Rafique Sk.) 2, Vijay's Empire (Gaurav Singh) 3 and Wood Bridge (Akshay Kumar) 4, 1, 1-1/4 and 1/2. Im, 27.11s. 74 (w), 7, 9 and 8 (p), SHP: 29, FP: 390, Q: 188, Tla: 1,279. Favourite: Bayrd. Owners: M/S. P. Ranga Raju, M. Madhukar, G. Raghunandan Chary & Krishna Raj Sri Raj Vellore. Trainer: D. Netto.

**6. OSMAN SAGAR PLATE (DIV. I),** (1,100m), 3-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): HER LEGACY (N. Rawal) 1, California Beauty (B.R. Kumar) 2, Top Saga (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Stepper (G. Narsh) 4, 3-4, 2 and 3-4. Im, 6.11s. 77 (w), 4, 9 and 5 (p), SHP: 36, FP: 46, Q: 40, Tla: 125. Favourite: Her Legacy. Owners: M/S. Sanjay R. Goyani & S. Prasad Raju. Trainer: Prasad Raju.

**7. T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY MEMORIAL CUP (1,200m),** 3-y-o & over (Cat. I), (Terms): ACE ACE ACE (Akshay Kumar) 1, Amazing Response (Koushik) 2, Titus (Kiran Naidu) 3 and Be Sure (Nakhat Singh) 4, 2, 1/2 and 2-3/4. Im, 11.55s. 71 (w), 6, 7 and 8 (p), SHP: 22, FP: 70, Q: 38, Tla: 201. Favourite: Ace Ace Ace. Owner: Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.

**8. CHAITANYA RATHAM PLATE Q (DIV. II),** (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, rated up to 25 (Cat. III): ROYAL AVENGER (Ajit Singh) 1, Khan Sahib (Gaddam) 2, Patron Saint (Jitendra Singh) 3 and Royal Dancer (Akshay Kumar) 4, 3-1/2, shd and 1/2. Im, 28.96s. 79 (w), 6, 13 and 8 (p), SHP: 67, FP: 784, Q: 398, Tla: 1,579. Favourite: Patron Saint. Owners: Mr. Pratik Jain & Rahul Jain. Trainer: L. D'Silva.

Jkt: 22.372 (145 tkts.), Runner-up: 133 (1,103 tkts.), Mini Jkt: 537 (127 tkts.), Tr (I): 42 (878 tkts.), (II): 79 (335 tkts.), (III): 78 (678 tkts.).

## Anthony Joshua reclaims crown

**AD DIRIYAH (SAUDI ARABIA):** Britain's Anthony Joshua reclaimed his World heavyweight crown from Andy Ruiz, outclassing the Mexican-American in a unanimous points victory on Saturday. He regained his IBF, WBA and WBO titles. **AFP**

## India wins 3-Nations tournament

**HOCKEY**  
**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
CANBERRA  
The Indian junior women's team tasted its first loss of the competition on Sunday, going down 1-2 to Australia, but still won the 3-Nations

hockey tournament after finishing top of the points table. India had seven points from four matches, ahead of Australia on goal difference, with New Zealand finishing third with only three points from four matches. In Sunday's match, Ga-

andeep Kaur scored for India in the 53rd minute to cancel out Abigail Wilson's 15th-minute strike. However, Wilson scored again in the 56th minute to give her team victory. **The result:** Australia 2 (Abigail Wilson 15, 56) bt India 1 (Gandeep Kaur 53).



# Suryakumar Yadav confident his time has come

Has shed his tag of inconsistency with his performances of late

## CRICKET

AMOL KARHADKAR  
MUMBAI

If there is an award for the best performer with the bat this season in white-ball cricket, Suryakumar Yadav will be a prime contender. Mumbai may not have won a title in both the inter-State tournaments so far but the captain has been in such scintillating touch that fans and experts alike are confident that an India call-up is just around the corner.

Still, as he enters the Ranji Trophy season, Surya has a touch of uncertainty in his mind. Not about his game – he feels he has never been as clear as this all through his career – but the fact that he has to balance the art of leading Mumbai in the red-ball

format while waiting for the call-up to India's squad in the shortest format.

"It is a little difficult when you see there's a lot of white-ball cricket around (in India's calendar) and your name is doing the rounds. But at the end, you have got to stay in the present. If it has to happen, it will anyway, in a few days or weeks or months," Surya told *The Hindu*.

### Job at hand

"For now, the challenge is to play Ranji games, lead the team well, perform with the bat and help the team recover from an average season last year. The thoughts of an India call-up in T20 do keep crossing my mind, but you've got to keep that aside and focus on the job at hand."

So far this season, Surya has excelled at it. He finished the Vijay Hazare Trophy with an average of 113, the highest in the tournament. The stylish right-hander continued in the same vein in the Mush-taq Ali Trophy. His tally of 392 was the third highest while his strike rate of 169 was the second-best among batsmen with 250 runs in the tournament.

Ever since making his First Class debut in 2010, Surya – just like his Mumbai senior Rohit Sharma in the first half of his international career – has lived with the tag of "talented but inconsistent". But the maverick who stresses that he has "calmed down having taken to meditation since off-season" hopes that his performances in domestic cricket and the Indian

Premier League over the last couple of seasons have justified his talent.

### Never in doubt

"Obviously I used to hear this a lot. But I never doubted my skill. I never had that question mark in my mind, *ki boss kyun nahi kar raha hai, kaise karega, kar sakta hai ki nahi* (why isn't he doing it, how will he do it, whether he will succeed or not). I backed myself in any situation," Surya said.

"Whatever opportunity I got – be it T20s, one-day or Ranji Trophy – I just tried to enjoy the game as much as possible. Keep batting, keep scoring runs and rest everything will fall in place. Of course it has taken a lot of time. Even I know that. But the time has come."



**In fine form:** Even as he waits for an India call-up in the shortest format, Suryakumar Yadav is keen to do well in the Ranji Trophy.  
• VIJAY SONEJI

## Warne awaits a big pay day

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MELBOURNE

Shane Warne was given a minuscule stake in IPL franchise Rajasthan Royals during the league's inaugural edition in 2008, a deal that could potentially find the legendary spinner laughing his way to the bank in the coming days.

According to the *Herald Sun*, Warne was paid \$657,000 and given an ownership of 0.75 percent for every year he played after coming out of retirement in 2008.

"Part of my deal (was) because I had retired from international cricket and I came out (of retirement), they asked me to be the captain, coach and run a cricket team the way I



Shane Warne. • GETTY IMAGES

wanted to run it; I was the one-stop shop," Warne was quoted as saying by the Australian paper.

Warne, who has also been a coach-cum-mentor and then Brand Ambassador of the Royals, led an unheralded bunch of players to an unlikely triumph during the inaugural edition of IPL back in 2008.

In fact, current India

star Ravindra Jadeja was a talented uncapped player back then, whom Warne had backed to the hilt terming him a "rockstar".

"We were the underdogs, we were the least favoured, no one gave us a chance to win. It was the first ever year of the IPL of franchise cricket where owners bought players and players went into auctions.

Rajasthan Royals franchise is currently worth \$200 million and Warne, according to the report, believes that the valuation will be doubled in next couple of years.

"Three per cent of \$400 million is all right," said Warne, which effectively means that he could earn up to \$12 million.

## IOC set to call the shots in PSPB tennis

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

IOC, packed with the leading players of the country, including Ramkumar Ramanathan, Sumit Nagal, Rohan Bopanna, Divij Sharan, Riya Bhatia, Prarthana Thombare and Mahak Jain, looks set to dominate the 39th edition of the Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) inter-unit tennis meet to be held at the DLTA Complex here from December 9 to 13.

ONGC has the country's best woman player, Ankita Raina, who won a double crown in the \$25,000 ITF women's tournament at Solapur, but does not have a quality second woman player. ONGC has Vishnu Vardhan, V.M. Ranjeet and Vijay Kannan in the men's event. Though it has Yuki

Bhambri in its ranks, he may not compete as he is still recovering from a leg injury.

GAIL will have two strong players – Saketh Myneni and Vijay Sundar Prashanth. The women's team has four-time National champion Prerna Bhambri and Sneha-devi Reddy.

EIL, OIL and HPCL will be the other teams in the fray. Host BPCL has only nominated the veteran players.

On Monday, the men's team quarterfinals will pit EIL against OIL and ONGC against HPCL.

IOC and GAIL have been given a bye and will play in the semifinals directly.

The veterans' competition will also begin with three quarterfinals while defending champion OIL received a bye.

## Manchester City condemns 'racist gesture' during derby

Police arrest a 41-year-old following the incident

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
MANCHESTER

Manchester City pledged to take a zero tolerance approach against supporters found to have subjected Manchester United players to racist abuse after the derby defeat on Saturday.

United midfielder Fred was hit by objects thrown from the crowd as he prepared to take a corner in the second half and footage on social media appears to show a City fan mimicking a monkey at the Brazilian.

Later on Sunday, British police arrested a 41-year-

old man for the same.

"Police were called to a report of a supporter making alleged racist gestures and sounds towards players during the Manchester City and Manchester United derby," said Greater Manchester Police in a statement.

"A 41-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of a racially aggravated public order and remains in custody for questioning."

United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer said both Fred and Jesse Lingard had been "affected" by the alleged abuse.

However, Solskjaer insisted it is the individual concerned, rather than City as a club, who should bear the brunt of any sanctions.

"Why don't we educate him instead? It's not City's fault, it's his. Nothing to do with Man City as a football club," said the Norwegian.

"He's been caught on camera and he should never be allowed into a football ground again, it's unacceptable."

The incident comes after England's Euro 2020 qualifier against Bulgaria in October was twice halted due to racist abuse.

## Manas emerges champion

NEW DELHI: Fourth seed Manas Dhamne won the under-12 boys' title in the Eddie Herr international junior tennis tournament, organised by IMG Academy, in Bradenton, Florida, US, on Friday.

Manas, trained by Aditya Madkekar and Kaifi Afsal in Pune and also groomed at Impact Academy in Bangkok, defeated Maxwell Exsted of the United States 3-6, 6-0, [10-6].

However, Manas and his Nepal partner Aarav Samrat Hada were beaten 7-6 (5), 6-2 in the doubles final by the Korean combination of Se Hyuk Cho and Minseok Maeng.

Manas was part of the International Tennis Federation (ITF) team from India, along with Rushil Khosla and Pari Singh.

**The results (finals):**  
**Under-12: Boys:** Manas Dhamne bt Maxwell Exsted (US) 3-6, 6-0, [10-6].  
**Doubles:** Se Hyuk Cho & Minseok Maeng (Kor) bt Aarav Samrat Hada (Nep) & Manas Dhamne 7-6(5), 6-2.

## Roy Krishna is ISL Hero of the Month

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
GUWAHATI

Fiji international Roy Krishna was awarded the ISL Hero of the Month for November after some scintillating performances for his team ATK.

The striker saw off stiff competition from the likes of Jamshedpur FC's Sergio Castel, Odisha FC's Aridane Santana, FC Goa's Mourtaada Fall and Bengaluru FC custodian Gurpreet Singh Sandhu.

The 32-year-old, who has his roots in India, scored three goals in as many games and also recorded an assist as ATK remained unbeaten throughout November.

Krishna becomes the second successive ATK player to win the Hero of the Month Award this season after strike-partner David Williams bagged the same title in October.

Krishna started the month in emphatic fashion with a brace and an assist against Jamshedpur FC at



Roy Krishna.  
• FILE PHOTO: H. VIBHU

the Salt Lake Stadium – also the home ground to ATK, before featuring in a tough away draw with Odisha FC.

He capped off November with another goal in front of his home crowd that turned out to be vital for ATK. Krishna equalised almost with the last touch of the game with ATK trailing 2-1 against Mumbai City FC, making it 2-2.

## Russia's fate to be decided in WADA meeting today

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
LAUSANNE

Russia will discover on Monday whether it will be banished from sporting competitions, including the Olympic Games, for four years when the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) holds a crunch meeting here.

WADA's Executive Committee is expected to approve a recommendation by its Compliance Review Committee that Russia be handed a four-year suspension after accusing Moscow of falsifying laboratory doping data handed over to investigators earlier this year. Such a heavy sanction would see Russia ruled out of next year's Tokyo Olympics and the 2022 Winter Games in Beijing.

Russian government officials would be barred from attending any major events, while the country would lose the right to host, or even bid, for tournaments.

## Three cheers for Diya Chitale

### TABLE TENNIS

SPORTS BUREAU  
JAMMU

After starring in Maharashtra's triumph in the junior girls' team championship, Mumbai teenager Diya Chitale added a double crown to her kitty on the concluding day of UTT 81st junior and youth National table tennis championships here on Sunday.

In the final of junior (u-18) girls singles, Diya thrashed Swastika Ghosh in an all-Maharashtra final 11-6, 11-2, 11-9, 11-5. Minutes later, the 16-year-old, who trains extensively in Germany, warded off Bengal's Surbhi Patwari's challenge 10-12, 11-8, 19-17, 11-6, 11-6.

Diya became the second paddler after Karnataka's Ar-



**Way to go:** Diya Chitale became the second player after Karnataka's Archana Kamath to be crowned the youth and junior National champion in the same edition.  
• SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

chana Kamath to be crowned the youth and junior National champion in the same edition. Earlier, she

had partnered Swastika to clinch the silver in the junior girls' doubles final.

Maharashtra bagged five

gold, three silver and five bronze medals.

**The results (finals):**  
**Youth:** S.F.R. Snehit (TS) bt Shreyaans Goel (Del) 11-4, 11-6, 11-5, 11-7; **Doubles:** Chinmaya Somaiya & Deepit Patil (Mah) bt Raegan Albuquerque & Mandar Hardikar (Mah) 11-6, 11-2, 11-9.

**Juniors:** Payas Jain (Del) bt Yashansh Malik (Del) 11-8, 9-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-7; **Doubles:** Aadarsh Chetri & Payas bt Alberto Lrruata & H. Jebo (Miz) 6-11, 3-11, 11-7, 12-10, 11-8.

**Girls: Youth:** Diya Chitale (Mah) bt Surbhi Patwari (Ben) 12-14, 11-8, 19-17, 11-6, 11-6; **Doubles:** Surbhi & Poymantee Baisya (Ben) bt S. Selenadeepthi & Kowshika Venkatesan (TN) 9-11, 11-6, 11-7, 11-4.

**Juniors:** Diya bt Swastika Ghosh (Mah) 11-6, 11-2, 11-9, 11-5; **Doubles:** Yashaswini Ghorpade & Anargya Manjunath (Kar) bt Diya & Swastika 8-11, 13-11, 11-8, 14-12.