

N.E.W.S. PAGE 15

Once upon a time in Morbi


In 1974, an agitation from an engineering college led to the overthrow of state govt. Now there are no unions, and LEC is unaffected by CAA



BIG PICTURE PAGES 12-13

The New New Delhi

Architect-planner Bimal Patel shares his blueprint of the planned revamp of the Capital's Central Vista



CWC MEETING

Cong turns up heat on govt: Stop NPR and withdraw CAA

NPR is disguised NRC; states ruled by Cong must take wise decision: Sonia

MANOJ CGG
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE CONGRESS on Saturday asked the Centre to immediately stop the process of updating the National Population Register (NPR) — the first indication that Congress-ruled Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Punjab may not participate in the massive nationwide exercise. Kerala and West Bengal have already rejected the NPR. A senior Congress leader indicated that the party's governments in the states could bring Assembly resolutions against the NPR exercise. "If state legislatures pass resolutions, it will assume an altogether different dimension," the leader told *The Sunday Express*.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



PM Modi, Mamata in Kolkata. PTI

ANOTHER REPORT, P 6

Mamata tells Modi to withdraw CAA, then joins dharna

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JANUARY 11

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday said she had asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to repeal the new citizenship law because it was dividing the country.


After a "courtesy meeting" with Modi at Raj Bhavan, Mamata went to a *dharna* organised nearby by her party's students' wing against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC), and the National Population Register (NPR).

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EXEMPT US: MEGHALAYA PAGE 7

SUNDAY STORY

PAGE 11



Here's looking at you

SUNDAY PROFILE

M Jagadesh Kumar

Vice-Chancellor, JNU

PAGE 14



GOING, GOING, GONE

One of the two towers of Alfa Serene in Maradu, Kochi, is brought down Saturday, nine months after the SC sought demolition of four apartment complexes for violating CRZ norms. The other tower (right) was destroyed soon afterward. AP

PAGE 8

After days of denial, Iran admits it shot down Ukrainian aircraft

Anger on Tehran streets, protesters ask Ayatollah Khamenei to step down

NASSER KARIMI & JOSEPH KRAUSS
TEHRAN, JANUARY 11

IRAN SATURDAY acknowledged that it shot down the Ukrainian jetliner that crashed on Wednesday, killing all 176 people aboard, in a "disastrous mistake", after the government had repeatedly denied mounting ev-

idence that it was responsible. The plane was shot down early Wednesday, hours after Iran launched a ballistic missile attack on two military bases housing US troops in Iraq in retaliation for the killing of Iranian General Qassem Soleimani in an American airstrike. The rare admission by Iran's Revolutionary Guards raised a host of new questions, such as



176 people were killed after the plane was hit. The NYT

MORE REPORTS
PAGE 17

No special relief, J&K land curbs may be for agricultural plots only

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE PROTECTION for land ownership and against acquisition in Jammu and Kashmir may be restricted to just agricultural land, and not be on the lines of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Besides, Ladakh is unlikely to be included under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution which grants tribal regions autonomy of administration and legislation.

Sources in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), which is formulating provisions on these issues in consultation with the local administrations of the two Union Territories, said while protection of jobs for local people may be guaranteed through requirement of 15 years of domicile in Jammu and Kashmir, land protection would remain confined to agricultural land.

"Matters are still being discussed, but protection against

INSIDE

GOVT EXPENSES TO BE CUT BY 20% P 6



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Star Labs CEO Pranav Mistry with his parents in Las Vegas before his presentation. Nandagopal Rajan

Maker of dreams and artificial humans: Meet Indian star of biggest tech show

NANDAGOPAL RAJAN
LAS VEGAS, JANUARY 11

THE NEON stall at the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) was an anomaly — it had no products to show, just some large screens with human-looking characters going about some pre-programmed functions. Yet, it was one of the biggest crowd-pullers at the Las Vegas Convention Centre — hundreds

streaming in for a glimpse of the world's first artificial humans.

Three days after he first showcased his creations to the world, the brain behind the NEONs — NEO (new) + human — still seemed nervous before his daily live demonstration. In the front row were the parents of Pranav Mistry, president and CEO of Star Labs, the independent unit of Samsung that is behind the latest creation.


"As I grew up in India, in a

small village, I always used to ask: can we make technology more human?" Mistry started his session, with a white neon sign above saying NEON, and flanked by screens showing his creations. The boy from Palanpur in Gujarat is no stranger to the limelight, having taken the stage at many Samsung keynote events showcasing products he has created for the Korean giant.

But this time it was different. There was no Samsung logo be-

hind for reassurance: the Star Labs president was on his own. And that seemed to be the freedom that Samsung has given the IIT-Kharagpur graduate who joined the company as director of research in 2012. Mistry was known as the person behind the UI and UX that millions of Samsung consumers used daily. NEON is not much different — it is almost like a human interface to make technology more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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WEB EXCLUSIVE



TWO ILLEGAL KOCHI APARTMENTS RAZED TO RUBBLE

“The demolition has gone absolutely according to the plan. Almost perfect. The collateral damage has been almost nil. There has been no harm to human or animal life. No perceptible damage to any property as well,” Vijay Sakhare, Kochi city police commissioner, told reporters.

VIDEO OF THE DAY



AISHE GHOSH

Not scared of Delhi Police, we have our evidences

INTERVIEW



RAMAKRISHNAN MURTHY

‘Hitting the perfect note, even for a second, is worth entire struggle’

EXPRESS AUDIO

‘Oh, but you don’t look like a Muslim!’ with Rakhshanda Jalil

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In this episode of the Sandip Roy Show, Sandip talks to writer and literary historian about her collection of essays.

FROM PAGE ONE

JNU wardens

Sneha told *The Sunday Express* she is yet to be called by the internal committee set up by university to look into the matter.

Chief Security Officer Naveen Yadav refused to comment on the issue.

Between 4 pm and 8 pm on January 5, wardens Sneha and Yadav write in the report, they approached various authorities. Around 4 pm, it says, Sneha “saw the mob comprising 40-50 people, with their faces masked, moving out from the hostel premises”. “...those standing in the premises informed that the mob were looking for some residents and when they could not find them in their respective rooms, the mob finally moved out of the hostel. The mob was carrying sticks, iron rods, etc. The 100 number was dialled immediately for police help. Till now, no violence had occurred,” it says.

Sneha said she saw the mob move out the main gate of the hostel and head towards Tapti Hostel.

“Just after this, around 4:30 pm, the other two wardens, Dr Ramavatar Meena (Senior Warden) and Dr Prakash Sahoo (Recreation Warden), came to hostel office and started calling police number for help. As the situation seemed serious, an immediate emergency meeting with three wardens was called around 5:30 pm,” the report says.

Apart from calling the PCR, the wardens say they sent a letter to the Chief Security Officer seeking extra security, and asked the guards to step up vigilance. Three hours after Sneha says she first saw the mob, masked men and women returned, their numbers having swelled.

“Around 7 pm, again the mob (around 150 people, both boys and girls, face masked, carrying sticks and iron rods in their hands), entered the hostel premises. The mob entered the girls as well as boys wing. The mob attacked many residents and their rooms were also brutally vandalised,” the report states.

The wardens say 18 rooms and their residents in the boys’ wing were attacked, including a visually challenged student, while the hostel main gate and the glass of the mess doors were “destroyed”. The girls’ wing remained “undestroyed”. The report says around 20 students from other hostels took shelter at Sneha’s residence, located next to Sabarmati Hostel, for safety. A window of her residence overlooks the hostel main gate.

“The hostel residents have complained that mob was also carrying acid and pepper spray with them,” the report states.

Yadav, who was outside, says she rushed back to the campus around 7:30 pm after being alerted by Sahoo.

Meanwhile, Sneha says, she got a call from Senior Warden Meena delegating the charge of acting senior warden to her. He did so as he and Sahoo had been “attacked by the mob and somehow escaped from campus”, she says in the report.

By the time Yadav reached around 8 pm, a series of calls had been made to police and for ambulances by both Sneha and her. They said they also updated the Dean of Students and Pashchimabad Provost regarding the situation.

“All residents were extremely traumatised and full of fear and feeling unsafe,” they state, adding that they inspected the boys’ wing and tried to console them.

The report adds, “Looking at the gravity and seriousness of the incident, hostel wardens ask for an investigation. The hostel property that got vandalised needs to be restored immediately.”

Tech show

human, as he has always wanted to.

“There is AR, VR, and many

other new technologies. But all these are not making technology easier for people...all these are just new ways to connect to the same data,” Mistry told *The Sunday Express*. But all this new technology, he said, was just making us more and more “disconnected”. “Technology should be that much human... My work has always been about how machines can become more and more like us, rather than we becoming more like machines.”

A human interface, he said, will help us all know more about each other. So NEONs are not like virtual assistants that plug into the Internet and are ready to answer queries or play a song on request. They are more about shared experiences, learning skills, and gradually creating memories.

But that layer is a few years away. For now, NEONs are well under the control of their creators — and while it takes milliseconds for them to emote like humans when asked to, it will take time yet for them to know when to smile or frown on their own.

NEONs are powered by a proprietary technology called CORE R3 — “reality, real time, and responsiveness” — and will have to wait for another technology, SPECTRA, later this year to start adding the layer to intelligence that will ultimately make them autonomous.

“CORE R3 is the front-end reality engine that is able to give you that real expression. M NEON, right now, does not know when to smile. When you come tomorrow and talk to a neon, they don’t know that you were here yesterday,” the 38-year-old explained. The spectrum of emotions and knowledge will come only when the NEONs are “actually in the field”; this is the layer that SPECTRA will enable later, Mistry said. Initially, Mistry wants to focus on B2B scenarios, where the complex memory later is not that important.

Mistry is clear that he does not want NEONs to have collective memory: “That’s not the way I have designed these.” That is also a safeguard of sorts. “A product like Facebook is about ensuring how its billion node network works. If anything breaks there, everything breaks. My network is a small network that can live independently.”

But Mistry is also categorical that a physical form for his NEONs is not possible in his lifetime. “I’m a very optimistic person when it comes to technology... but I don’t think that we are anywhere close to having the physical embodiment of the the NEONs in the next 25 or 30 years.”

And he does not want to plug in NEONs to the robots that are already there. He would, however, like to collaborate with companies like Google, Facebook, and Baidu that have done work in similar fields.

“I come from a small town environment... a boy aiming to change the world we are living in. I know I can do that,” Mistry said, recalling how he could not speak English before he came to the US over 15 years ago. But the boy from Palanpur does not want to be known for the money he makes. “What inspired me is Michelangelo or even Walt Disney. I don’t know how rich they were... but what they gave to me, to the world, and to billions of people is the dreams.”

Iran admits

alters the narrative around its confrontation with the US in a way that could anger the Iranian public. Iran had promised harsh revenge after Soleimani’s death, but instead of killing American soldiers, its forces downed a civilian plane in which most passengers were Iranian and none survived.

In Twitter messages, angry Iranians asked why the plane was allowed to take off with tensions in Iran so high.

A group of Iranian protesters

Congress steps up heat on govt

At the beginning of a meeting of the Congress’s highest policymaking body in Delhi, party president Sonia Gandhi described NPR 2020 as a “disguised NRC (National Register of Citizens) in form and content”, and not a “benign exercise”. “At first, the government thought that the NRC exercise could be carried out throughout the country. After the disastrous results of the Assam NRC, the government has hit upon the idea of NPR. Let us not be under any illusion that the NPR is a benign exercise. In form and content, NPR 2020 is a disguised NRC. As a party in government in several states, we must take a wise and uniform decision on NPR...,” Sonia said.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi is abroad, and was not present at the meeting.

After deliberations, the Congress Working Committee (CWC) came out with a strongly-worded resolution demanding that the “Citizenship Amendment Act should be withdrawn and the process of NPR be stopped forthwith”.

On Friday, AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra had told students of Banaras Hindu University and social activists who were arrested over protests against the new citizenship law and NRC, that the

Congress would revoke the CAA if voted to power at the Centre in 2024. Sonia told the CWC that the “CAA is a discriminatory and divisive law”, the “sinister purpose” of which was to divide the Indian people on religious lines.

“The ill-conceived Citizenship Amendment Bill has led to spontaneous nationwide protests. It has raised bona fide questions regarding its constitutional validity and political morality. The CAA and proposed NRC have created an environment of fear and anxiety in the country especially among the religious and linguistic minorities, tribals, poor and the vulnerable sections of the society,” the CWC resolution said.

Arguing that the people have a right to protest against the wrong policies of the government, and that it was the duty of the government to address the legitimate apprehensions and concerns of the people, the CWC alleged the government’s response had been “insensitive”, and accused it of “blatant use of State power to silence the voices of dissent”.

Sonia spoke about “police excesses” and “use of brute force” in many towns of UP, and in universities such as Jamia Millia Islamia and JNU. “We have no faith that either the UP state government or the LG of Delhi

will bring the culprits to justice. We therefore demand that a comprehensive high-powered commission should be constituted to enquire into the incidents connected with the anti-CAA protests and justice to the affected persons,” she said.

The citizenship Act, the resolution said, “presents a serious challenge to internal security and makes India vulnerable to hostile external forces”, and demanded that the Act “should be withdrawn and the process of NPR be stopped forthwith”.

Significantly, the CWC passed a separate resolution slamming the “suppression of the voice of youth and the students of India”. It expressed solidarity with the youth and the students in their “fight for defending the Constitution, standing for independent and creative learning and aspiring for employment-linked education at a minimal expense”, and asked “every worker” of the party to work alongside the youth and the students in this endeavour.

At least two CWC members, R P N Singh and Jitendra Singh, however, felt by actively taking up these issues, the party would be “walking into the BJP trap” of polarising the country. Sources said these leaders felt the party should focus more on livelihood issues like the economic crisis

and unemployment.

Those who disagreed argued that the economic slowdown and unemployment were indeed being taken up very effectively, but the Congress could not remain silent on the other issues, the sources said. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who has been the party’s most visible face in the campaign against the new citizenship law and NRC, is learnt to have argued that the party needs to take these issues to the rural areas, and to articulate the Congress’s position better.

Several leaders agreed that a campaign should be undertaken in the villages to counter the BJP’s narrative. It is learnt that senior leader P Chidambaram said Assemblies in party-ruled states should pass resolutions against the attempt to roll out the NRC under the garb of the NPR.

The economic situation, the CWC said, was alarming, with India staring at a deepening economic crisis. The government was guilty of monumental mismanagement of the economy, the Congress said, and asked it to reveal its roadmap for reviving the economy, investors’ confidence, and creation of jobs.

The Congress also asked the government to lift curbs and restore civil liberties in J&K.

Mamata tells Modi to withdraw CAA

She told the Trinamool Congress Chhatra Parishad’s on-going protest at Rani Rashmoni Road that the CAA, which was notified by the central government on Friday, was unacceptable.

Mamata met Modi as black-flag protests were held across Kolkata on the first day of the PM’s two-day visit to the state. Modi attended a “Ghare Baire” (the world, home, and beyond) event at the Old Currency Building, and inaugurated a light-and-sound show at Millennium Park before travelling to the headquarters of the Ramakrishna Mission at Belur Math, where he was to stay the night.

“This was a courtesy meeting since the Prime Minister has come here (to Kolkata). Earlier, the President had come and we extended courtesy, [State Urban Development Minister] Firhad Hakim, who is the minister-in-waiting, received the Prime Minister at the airport,” Mamata told reporters outside Raj Bhavan after her 35-minute meeting with Modi.

“We have Rs 28,000 crore due from the Centre. Another Rs 7,000 crore is due which is regarding Bulbul (the rehabilitation and compensation package after losses suffered in cyclone Bulbul in November 2019). Around Rs 38,000 crore is due from the Centre. I placed the state’s demand, and he said he would look into it,” Mamata

said.

“I told him that maybe this is not the appropriate time for me to say this, but we feel strongly about this issue. We are against CAA, NRC and NPR. But we have been agitating against CAA, NRC and NPR. I told him we are against dividing people. We do not want people to be driven out of the country. We do not want people to face any atrocities. I told him that the Centre should rethink on CAA. We want it to be withdrawn,” the Chief Minister said. She added Modi had told her that he was in Kolkata to attend scheduled programmes, and that such matters could be discussed in Delhi later.

Mamata has opposed the CAA-NRC-NPR consistently and from the beginning, and has led nearly a dozen protest rallies, padayatras, and public meetings against the Centre on this issue. She has announced that the CAA and NPR would not be implemented in West Bengal.

“Yesterday the Centre issued a notification on CAA. I want to tell them that it is unacceptable, and it will not be implemented anywhere including Bengal. People will not allow it or accept it. The notification will only remain on paper. We consider it illegal, unconstitutional, and inhuman. We were the first to start the agitation against the CAA, NRC, and NPR, and we will agitate till the end,” Mamata said at the dharna in the

evening.

Apparently mocking Modi, she said: “Tomorrow (January 12) is Swami Vivekananda’s birthday. Some people from Delhi are coming here to commemorate the day. But Swamiji gave us a message of peace and communal harmony.”

Rallies were taken out in several parts of North and South Kolkata, Howrah, and North 24 Parganas district to protest the PM’s visit to the state. Student organisations of the Congress and Left, Muslim organisations, and university students including those from Jadavpur and Presidency, hit the streets.

From the afternoon, protests were organised near the airport, where the PM landed. The protesters tried to block roads, and burnt effigies of Modi at major crossings in Kolkata. Protesters carried “Go Back Modi” signs, black flags, and black balloons.

Around 8.15 pm, a scuffle began at Esplanade after police stopped attempts by students and Left activists to break barricades and march towards Raj Bhavan. The protesters were upset that Mamata had met Modi, and had been present as he inaugurated the light and sound show.

Mamata arrived at the spot and urged the students to stay calm. “This is not Delhi Police. This is Kolkata Police. You do not have to worry. Please maintain peace. Let us all agitate in a dem-

ocratic way,” she said with her hands folded before the protesters.

She explained that as Chief Minister, she had certain duties. “I was invited to four programmes. (But) I just went to one, and did not even say anything. It was constitutional obligation. If the PM comes, it is protocol that a Minister goes, and that is why we sent Firhad Hakim, a representative of the minority community. I met him (Modi) to demand Rs 38,000 crore which is due to the state. I have already made it clear that we are against NRC, CAA, and NPR. Please maintain peace,” she pleaded.

Around 10 pm, Mamata left the Trinamool students’ dharna, which continued at Rani Rashmoni Road. Left students too, were readying to protest separately through the night.

Besides Mamata, West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar was present at Modi’s event at Millennium Park. The PM unveiled a “dynamic architectural illumination” with a synchronised light and sound system of the Rabindra Setu (Howrah Bridge), as a part of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Kolkata Port Trust.

At the Old Currency Building, Modi stressed the importance of the country’s heritage and culture, and called for preservation and modernisation initiatives at various museums.

J&K land curbs

purchase of property by outsiders as provided in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand does not appear feasible at the moment. It may remain restricted to protection of agricultural land as is there in most states,” an MHA official said.

Since the abrogation of Article 370 stripped the erstwhile state of its special status, there have been calls in J&K seeking protection of land and jobs for locals. Anxiety in Jammu is higher as few outsiders are expected to venture to Kashmir on account of the fragile law and order.

“Putting too many restrictions on land acquisition will defeat the very purpose of abrogation of

Article 370 and the objective of industrialisation and development in the region. Also, with outsiders being allowed to buy land, it will only push up prices and benefit the local people,” the official said.

On the issue of protecting rights of local people in Ladakh, the other UT carved out of Kashmir on August 5, 2019, the ministry has decided not to include it under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. A recommendation in this regard had been made by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes in September last year.

In December, the government told Parliament that it had no such plans yet as the region already has the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) and it was good enough to protect the rights of locals.

“Still we keep getting representations from various groups and civil society members for inclusion of Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule. Even politicians from the region keep demanding it. The Congress said in Parliament that it is required. But Ladakh has the LAHDC, which has more powers than autonomous councils under the Sixth Schedule,” an MHA official said.

Army Chief

deployed on the borders.”

The Army Chief also mentioned fundamental rights “guaranteed to all our citizens”, and said if the Army was guided by them, “we will not go wrong in the discharge of our duties.” “We are an Army of the people, for the people, and whatever we do, will be for them,” the General said.

The Army Chief’s comments come against the backdrop of accusations of politicisation of the force by his predecessor, General Bipin Rawat, now the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). A week before his retirement, Rawat, asked about the protests on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and National Register of Citizens, said it was not leadership that was being seen in universities and colleges, “the way they are leading masses and crowds to carry out arson and violence”.

Praising the creation of the CDS post and the Department of Military Affairs as “a game changer”, Naravane said if they were looking into all aspects of how these would evolve. “There is no doubt that integration is the key, and that is mentioned in the charter of the CDS... When we go in for joint or integrated theatre commands, we will do so keeping our own requirements and operational realities in mind, and will not blindly copy any existing system or any other army of the world,” he said.

Asked about comments by some ministers that Pakistan Occupied Kashmir would be a part of India, Naravane said if any such orders are received from Parliament, the Army would act on them, noting that there was a parliamentary resolution saying the entire erstwhile state of J&K was a part of India. “If Parliament wants that the territory be one day ours and if there are orders in this regard, we will definitely act on them,” he said.

Repeating his remarks from the day he took over as Army Chief, Naravane said that earlier there was a view that the threat was more towards the western front (read Pakistan) than the northern front (China). “Now we think both borders are equally important... It is in that context that the rebalancing is taking place.”

Regarding China, the Chief said that after the Wuhan and Chennai meetings between PM Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping, “certain strategic guidelines” are given. He said most differences at the border are now settled at the lowest levels and not allowed to escalate, which had led to peace on the northern border. “We have had a number of rounds of talks... Maintaining peace and

tranquillity on the border only helps... No talks can be successful if bullets are flying.”

Naravane said there would be a direct line between the DGMO in India and the Western Theatre Command in China, which looks after the India-facing front.

The General, who returned only on Friday from a visit to Siachen, said the glacier was strategically important as it faces both Pakistan and China. “We should not lose sight that it’s one place where colliquity can happen.”

On the threat of a two-front war, Naravane said that in that case, “there will always be a primary front and a secondary front”. He said that there are also Dual Task Formations which can move between the two fronts.

Though the Army is involved in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations, Naravane said this was short-term and the Army was prepared for its long-term role of conventional warfare.

He said that of the four studies started by General Rawat to re-organise the Army, two had been completed and are being implemented, and that they expected clearance from the government on Integrated Battle Groups soon. “In this process of integration, we will take everyone along, nobody will be left behind.”

Apart from allegiance to the Constitution, the Army Chief said belief in self and consolidation, along with taking care of the aspirations of its personnel and putting quality over quantity were some other principles by which the Army functions.

PTI quoted the Pakistan army as saying it was fully prepared to respond to any Indian aggression. “Statements by Indian Chief Of Army Staff... to undertake military action across LoC are routine rhetoric for domestic audiences to get out of ongoing internal turmoil,” Pakistan Army spokesman Maj Gen Asif Ghafoor tweeted.

J&K porter

a sharp-edged weapon.

Asked about the incident at a press conference in Delhi Saturday, Army Chief Gen M M Naravane said that professional armies never resort to such “barbaric” acts. “We will deal appropriately with such situations in a military manner.”

The last such incident was reported back in September 2018, when a BSF jawan was killed and his body mutilated in Samba district, leading to the cancellation of Indo-Pak talks scheduled days later. In December 2017, bodies of four soldiers, including a Major, killed in Rajouri sector were found to be mutilated by a BAT team that infiltrated 300-400 metres inside the LoC. Similar incidents were reported in 2017, 2016 and 2013.

The two porters, along with four others, were injured during Pakistani shelling at Kassalian village in Poonch district, falling ahead of the barbed wire fence marking the Line of Control. The Army generally hires civilians for logistics duties here. While Aslam, a resident of Kasalian, was killed on the spot, fellow villager Altaf Hussain, 23, died on way to hospital. The families carried out the funeral on Friday evening.

The three injured porters are recuperating and said to be stable. The Army had retaliated with heavy firing to the attack.

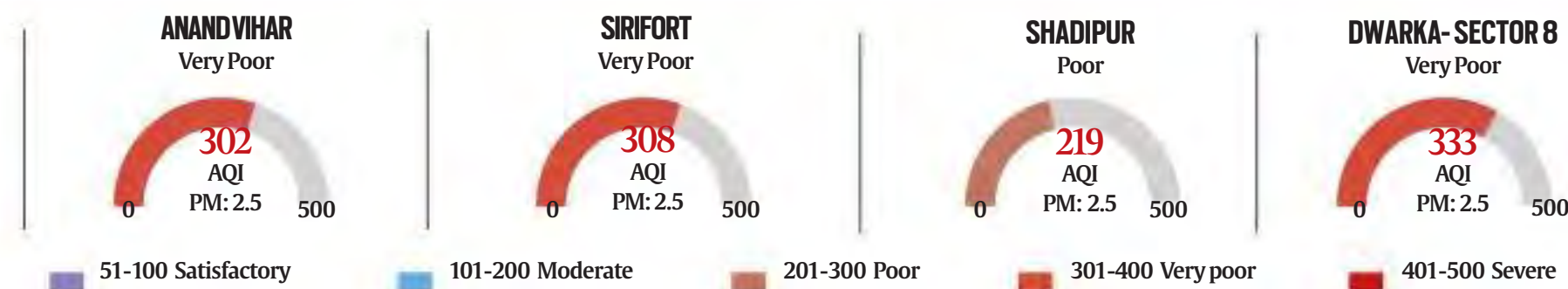
Condemning the killings, the Congress asked why Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh were “silent” on the “barbarism” by Pakistan, and recalled that the BJP had attacked the UPA government mercilessly over the matter. “When will Pakistan’s cowardly acts be given a befitting reply? ‘10 heads for 1’ when?” Congress spokesperson Randeep Surjewala tweeted, referring to the BJP’s threats against Pakistan.

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JNUSU SAYS WON'T ALLOW IT

Police want JNU hostel audit to check for 'outsiders'

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE JNU administration Saturday asked all senior wardens to conduct a "security audit" of their hostels to check for outsiders, on the advice of the Delhi Police.

The Delhi Police had written to Registrar Pramod Kumar on January 7, saying this should be done "on top priority". On January 10, the Dean of Students Welfare (DSW) sent a circular in this regard to all senior wardens.

The January 7 letter to Kumar by the SHO, Vasant Kunj North, said, "In view of the present scenario, it is requested that hostels be audited through the hostel wardens of JNU regarding stay of any outsiders/unauthorised students/guests. If any stay of outsiders/unauthorised students/guests come into notice the same may please be intimated to the undersigned immediately."

On January 10, DSW Umesh Kadam sent a circular to all senior wardens "requesting them to post the notice in the hostels". "All hostel residents have to follow the rules regarding having guests in the hostel room as per the procedures and rules of IHA and provide the necessary details in the form accordingly," it said.

"In case, any outsider/unauthorised student/guest is found staying in the rooms, necessary action will be initiated... and the details of such guests shall be forwarded to the SHO, Vasant Kunj North," it added.

The JNUSU said it rejected this safety audit. "When wardens like (the Periyar warden) themselves are responsible for the violence by giving them shelter in their homes, what's the point of looking for outsiders?" said JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh. She added they would not allow checking for "outsiders" without consulting the hostel presidents, the committee and JNUSU.

Asked to explain why the notification came three days after the police advisory, Kadam said he was informed about it only on Friday night. Kumar said, "We had to go for MHRD meetings so we couldn't issue it. But verbally, we had told senior wardens about it."



Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan with JNU Students' Union president Aishe Ghosh at Kerala House on Saturday. ANI

None of those injured in V-C meet with students

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

WHILE students and teachers injured in the January 5 violence have not been paid a visit by JNU's Vice-Chancellor so far, a group of 30 "randomly selected" students were called by him for an interaction to his office Saturday. Asked why top level officials had not met injured students yet, Registrar Pramod Kumar said visiting the hospital would be akin to "politics", and suggested a possibility of gherao.

According to the Registrar, about 30 "common students" were picked by the administration for the interaction. "Jo bhi chalte phirte humein mila, humne use bula liya (Whoever we met by chance, we called)," he said.

JNUSU alleged at least one of the students was affiliated to the ABVP. But ABVP's JNU unit president Durgesh Kumar denied this.



At Sunday's meeting. ANI

JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh said she had not been informed of any such meeting. ABVP also said the V-C had not met injured students from their organisation.

Asked if the V-C and other officials should have first met injured students, Pramod Kumar said, "How did the students go in the ambulance? Ambulances have doctors. Are doctors not part of the administration?" He claimed students at the meeting told them about "issues because of unauthorised people staying in the hostel".

Pinarayi meets Aishe: 'Whole country with JNUSU in their fight'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

KERALA CHIEF Minister Pinarayi Vijayan met JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh, who was injured in the January 5 violence on campus. Vijayan and Ghosh met at Kerala House Saturday, where the former presented her with a book titled *Halla Bol: The Death and Life of Sajdar Hashmi* by Sudhanva Deshpande.

Vijayan told Ghosh that the "whole country is with JNUSU in their fight for justice and their protest against the fee hike in the institution and the Citizenship Amendment Act." He also posted a photo on Twitter with Ghosh.

On Facebook, he wrote JNU was fighting "an epic battle against the Sangh Parivar..."

SIT probe will look at Delhi University as well, seven more students identified

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

A SPECIAL investigation team of the Delhi Police Crime Branch has widened its probe and, after identifying more suspects involved in the January 5 violence, is likely to visit Delhi University to collect details about some of the students there. Officers believe there is a possibility that some DU students had entered JNU during the violence, and the SIT is expected to send notices asking them to join investigation in the coming days.

The SIT has so far recorded the statements of eight wardens from JNU's Periyar and Sabarmati hostels, 13 security guards and five



DCPs Joy Tirkey, MS Randhawa at Friday's press conference

students. Police have also found several mobile video clips which are being scanned.

On Friday, Delhi Police released the names of nine suspects — all students, of whom seven were identified as members of Left student outfits. The other two

are from the ABVP. While Delhi Police identified the Left outfits as SFI, AISF, AISA and DSF, they did not name ABVP during the press conference.

"Apart from nine students whose identity was disclosed on Friday, we have identified seven others so far with the help of technical evidence. We are likely to send notices to them in the coming days, following which we will confront them with the evidence," an officer said. He also acknowledged that the new names "include ABVP members".

"We are preparing profiles of all students whose names emerged during the investigation or who have been named in cross complaints filed by both sides (the Left and ABVP). After collect-

ing details from the JNU administration department, we are preparing their profiles and also collecting details of their political background," the officer said.

The JNU administration has said CCTVs on campus were not working during the violence as the server room was allegedly damaged by some students on January 4. On Friday, however, the SIT sent a notice to the administration asking them to provide videos from cameras installed on the campus. It is learnt that police believe back-up of the footage could be available.

"We also identified 37 students from two WhatsApp groups created during the violence and wrote to WhatsApp for details," the officer said.

Willing to end registration boycott, JNUSU won't budge on hostel fee

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

IN A step towards resolving the academic deadlock on campus, the JNU Students' Union Saturday said it they would call off their registration boycott and pay the tuition fee — if the administration waives the increased hostel room rent.

At a press conference, JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh said, "If the Vice-Chancellor is so keen on registration, we will pay the tuition fee of Rs 108 or Rs 120 (as the case may be for BA, MA, MPhil and PhD) and get our registration

done. But we are not going to pay a single penny of our hostel fee, because we don't accept any hike in hostel fee. We will never accept this hike no matter how long the struggle."

All students, barring below poverty line students, are required to pay room rent of Rs 3,600 per semester at the time of registration. BPL students are required to pay Rs 1,800 per semester. For a double-seater room, the fee is halved in both cases.

Ghosh said the decision was being taken as the JNU administration had refused to abide by the record of discussions with the HRD Ministry. "The record stated

that the points of the IHA manual should be discussed in an IHA meeting, but no meeting has been called. Even JNUSU representatives are not being called for a meeting," she said.

JNUSU vice-president Saket Moon said that while the MHRD had asked the JNU administration to take a "lenient view" of students' protest against fee hike, the administration had instead stopped the registration of around 300 students.

Asked if the JNUSU's demand would be considered, Registrar Pramod Kumar said, "The registration is midway, and more than 3,800 students have registered."

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Notice is hereby given pursuant to SEBI Circular SEBI/HO/MRSD/DOS3/CIR/PI 2018/139 dated 6th November, 2018 the Company has received following request from the transferee to transfer the below mentioned equity shares as these equity shares were purchased by them long back and could not get transferred/registered in their names earlier.

Folio no.	Name of shareholder	Name of Transferee(s)	Certificate no.	Distinctive nos./No. of shares
10289	Kamal Singh Jain	Jayendral Lalji Doshi	16713	6607721-770 50

Any person who has a claim or interest in the above shares and having any objection to the issue of duplicate share certificate in lieu of the above is required to notify the same to the company at its registered office within 15 days from the date of this notice indicating the nature of the claim or interest of his objection to the said issue of duplicate share certificate through an affidavit duly attested. Else the company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificate without entertaining any claim/damage whatsoever it may be.

For **SML ISUZU LIMITED (PARVESH MADAN)**
Company Secretary
Place: Chandigarh
Date: 11.01.2020

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Applications (Two copies along with one soft copy) are invited in the prescribed format from eligible candidates for appointment of the following posts in various Departments of the University:

S. No.	Posts	No. of Posts	Pay Structure
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2.	Associate Professor	27	In the Academic Pay Level 13A of 7 th Pay Commission Pay Matrix
3.	Assistant Professor	35	In the Academic Pay Level 10 of 7 th Pay Commission Pay Matrix
4.	Assistant Librarian	3	
5.	Assistant Director of Physical Education	2	

For further details, application form, qualifications and general instructions please visit the University website www.tndalu.ac.in from **13.01.2020**

The last date for receipt of application is **03.02.2020 by 5.45 p.m.**
Any addendum/corrigendum shall be posted only on the University website. The University reserves the right either to fill or not to fill the posts without assigning any reason whatsoever.
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(Ashutosh Kumar Dwivedi)
Registrar

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Sisodia takes on BJP: People of Delhi are not up for sale

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

EVERY VOTE for the BJP would encourage the gradual erosion of the free power, water and transport schemes in the capital, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said Saturday, mounting a strident defence of the subsidy model of the AAP government.

Sisodia alleged that a senior BJP national general secretary suggested that the people of Delhi are “up for sale”, which was an “insult” to those benefitting from the subsidies. He demanded an apology from Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP working president JPNadda over the statement.

Sisodia claimed the BJP has planned to launch a campaign ‘Dilli ka Swabhimani’ (Delhi’s self-respect) with the theme ‘Dilli bikaau nahi hai’ (Delhi is not up for sale).

“BJP has insulted the people of Delhi by using the term. Availing subsidised services of the government doesn’t make people ‘bikaau’. BJP national general secretary Anil Jain has made the comment. I want to emphasise that people are not ‘bikaau’, they are the real ‘masters’,” Sisodia told a press conference.

Sisodia said every individual, irrespective of whether she is a daily wage labourer or a white collar worker, pays taxes, and the AAP government is merely putting that money to good use by building classrooms, and subsidising education, health, power, water and transport in Delhi.

“Paying tax is anyway a burden on people, but when you charge people to provide services which have been funded from tax collected from them, you add a double burden. We ended this. People pay taxes and it is the government’s duty to provide services to them,” said Sisodia.

In Delhi, households consuming up to 200 units of electricity and 20,000 litres water per month get zero bills, with the state government footing their bills. For electricity consumption between 201-400 units, the government gives a subsidy of 50%.



Sisodia made the remarks at a press conference that also saw the launch of AAP’s campaign song. *Amit Mehra*

AAP to rely on flash mobs to popularise new campaign song

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

AHEAD OF the Delhi Assembly polls on February 8, the AAP Saturday launched its campaign song, which has been composed and sung by music director Vishal Dadlani, whose association with the party predates its first stint in office in 2013.

The music video — *Lage Raho Kejriwal* — was launched at the party’s ITO headquarters by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, in the presence of AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, national secretary Pankaj Gupta, senior leaders Atishi, Durgesh Pathak and manifesto committee member Jasmine Shah.

“The words of the song reflect the people’s sentiments. This is their mandate,” Sisodia said, adding that the song will be popularised through flash mobs in marketplaces and other buzz campaigns across the city in the run-up to the polls.

Around 20 teams will conduct the flash mobs and more will be created in the coming days, the AAP leader said.



A dance performance at the launch of the song, Saturday. *Amit Mehra*

Dadlani had composed and sung the AAP’s 2015 campaign song — *Paanch Saal Kejriwal* — as well.

In 2016, the musician had announced he was quitting AAP after a row erupted over his remarks on Jain monk Tarun Sagar. He later apologised to the monk.

“For the next 30 days, this song will resonate with the people of Delhi. In all our party rallies and meetings, this song will be played. The 2015 campaign song was a huge hit and even today people use that song on many occasions. Similarly, *Lage Raho Kejriwal* will become the theme song of Delhi for the next five years,” he added.

PILOT TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN SOUTH, SOUTH WEST DELHI

Jal Board project to let people check water quality in their locality online

SHIVAM PATEL
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE DELHI Jal Board (DJB) is undertaking a pilot project which would allow residents to check the quality of water being supplied to their locality online.

DJB officials associated with the project told *The Indian Express* that the pilot would be implemented in South and South West Delhi first. It is expected to be expanded to cover the entire city in around three to six months, after which open access would be provided to the public.

The quality of samples taken from five different locations in every ward — and of other areas

in the DJB’s network, including raw water sources — would be uploaded in a software. People would be able to access this information by entering their ward name on a web portal, DJB officials said, adding that the data would be updated every day.

Sanjay Sharma, chief water analyst at DJB, said, “Through this, people would get a complete report of the water being supplied to them, from the raw water source to their locality... This software is the first of its kind in India.”

A water quality index would also be generated based on international guidelines, which would rank the quality of water between 1 and 10. People would also be able to check parameters



Quality of samples from every ward will be uploaded on a software. *Archive*

including the pH level, colour, residual chlorine, turbidity and microbiological presence in the water being supplied to them.

Shalabh Kumar, member (water supply) at the DJB, said the project was in the process of being implemented and officials

have started using the software, adding that it will be rolled out to the public in some time.

The water department is using a software named AACE-LIMS, developed by Mazelinov for the project, which has been in the works for nearly three years, officials said. They added that the pilot is free of cost, which means the DJB does not have to pay the software developer for it.

Under the project, DJB staff would be required to upload photographs of the spot from where samples are taken on a mobile application, both before and during the collection. The software would also record the GPS coordinates of the location from where the picture is uploaded.

Those testing the samples at the DJB laboratories would then upload the result against the corresponding log entry in the software, which would be available for the public to see online.

DJB officials would also be able to check, in an internal web portal serving the water department, if any particular water quality parameter is higher than the required standard in their network.

This would be aided by colour-coded location markers corresponding to particular parameters. For instance, if the concentration of nitrate is higher than the standard at a DJB tubewell, the colour of the location marker over that tubewell, on a map of the city, would change.

No detention centre big enough to house those opposing CAA and NRC: Arundhati Roy at Jamia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY with protesters opposing the CAA and NRC at Jamia Millia Islamia, author Arundhati Roy Saturday said that “no detention centre was big enough” to keep people who are raising their voice against the new citizenship law across the country.

Roy spoke briefly in front of gate seven of the university, which has come to be known as Jamia Square, where an agitation against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) has been on for nearly a month.

“I have come here to tell you that I am with you. Now that we have all come together, no detention centre will be big enough to fill us in,” Roy said. “I hope that a day will come when this government, which is trying to break



Writer Arundhati Roy with Jamia students in front of gate 7 of the varsity’s campus on Saturday. *Praveen Khanna*

the nation, will be in the detention centre and we will be azaad.”

The crowd joined Roy in chorus as she raised slogans such as ‘Inquilab zindabad,’ ‘Jamia zind-

abad,’ ‘JNU zindabad,’ and ‘Desh ki janta zindabad,’ after which she left the stage saying “we will not back down.”

The area outside the university has become ground zero for

protests against the new citizenship law and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC). The name Jamia Square is reminiscent of Tahrir Square, which was the focal point of the 2011 Egypt revolution.

On December 15, the university witnessed a brutal crackdown after police barged inside the campus library and mosque and allegedly attacked students with lathis and teargas in order to control anti-CAA protests.

An artwork on the iron railings that go along the campus next to the main road has photographs of how the violence unfolded at Jamia, along with those of protests that have raged across the country since. Recent attacks on students inside the Jawaharlal Nehru University campus also feature on the railing.

The national flag, placards and other artwork are also af-

fixed to the railings, and walls are painted with political artwork and anti-CAA and anti-NRC graffiti.

A sense of community exists at the site, which can be noticed in the small tea and biscuit stalls residents from nearby areas and students have set up along the main road outside campus. There is no charge for refreshments, but people still contribute to donation boxes at the stalls.

Pushing forward the demand of a rollback of CAA, former Jamia student Zayed Khan distributed several thousand copies of draft letters addressed to the Chief Justice of India as well as the President, calling for the repeal of the “discriminatory” and “unconstitutional” law.

“I have received back 2,000 signed copies of the letter to the President and about 1,500 copies of the letter to the CJI. I will be posting them soon,” Khan said.

BRIEFLY

Fire at shoe factory in Mayapuri

New Delhi: Two people were injured after a shoe factory caught fire in West Delhi Saturday evening. The incident took place in Mayapuri Industrial Area phase-I. The fire was raging till late Saturday night. Delhi Fire Service director Atul Garg said at least 23 fire tenders and 90 firefighters were deployed to douse the flames. “The area where the factory is located is congested and we had trouble reaching the site,” he said.

Public must help clean environment: NGT head

Gurgaon: In his keynote address delivered in the Regional Conference on Environment held at Gurgaon, National Green Tribunal (NGT) chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel said the common masses must be involved in keeping the environment clean. Urging state governments to adopt an “economically sustainable model” to accomplish this, Goel said, “Common masses should also be involved in this process.”

Praise from Nobel laureate

New Delhi: Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee Saturday said Delhi government schools have outperformed private ones. CM Arvind Kejriwal tweeted that the endorsement of the acclaimed economist was a moment of pride for Delhi. “This year Class 12 results of Delhi govt schools were at 96%, while pvt schools were at 93%,” he wrote. **ENS**



THE OTHER INDIA GATE

A model of India Gate with posters against the Citizenship Amendment Act at Shaheen Bagh bus stand, near the site where women have been protesting against the law for the 27th consecutive day. *Praveen Khanna*

JJP will contest 20 seats in Delhi, says Chautala

Chandigarh: Haryana’s Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala-led Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) will contest the Delhi Assembly polls on “at least 20 seats”. The decision was taken at the party’s working committee meeting Saturday in the capital. However, it is yet to be decided if the party will contest alone or in alliance with the BJP.

The BJP had last year entered into a post-poll alliance with JJP in Haryana, when the former fell short of majority by six seats and JJP won 10 seats in the 90-member House.

“We have decided to contest on 20 seats in Delhi Vidhan Sabha polls. Party founder and senior leader Ajay Chautala will take the final call on whether the party will go solo or in alliance with BJP,” JJP’s senior leader Dr K C Bangar said.

Dushyant’s younger brother and party’s youth wing head Digvijay Chautala said, “Five committees have been constituted to formulate further strategy... JJP will campaign in Delhi with Dushyant Chautala as its leader.” **ENS**

After complaint, NGT stays construction of 39-storey building in DU

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE NATIONAL Green Tribunal has directed that construction be stopped and an environmental impact assessment be carried out of a private 39-storey building being built near Vishwavidyalaya Metro station.

The project has drawn the ire of students and staff of Delhi University, who have approached the Supreme Court, the Delhi High Court and NGT over the construction.

DU students demanded that the 20,000 square metres of land, on which a residential building is being planned, be given to the varsity for building hostels for 4,000 students.

In an order Wednesday, the Tribunal observed, “Applying the ‘precautionary principle’ of environmental law, we consider it necessary to require an evaluation of relevant data, and not the old database, by a joint committee comprising representatives of the CBCB, MoEF&CC and IIT Delhi”.

The project area was part of

The project is being constructed on 3.05 hectares of land the DMRC bought from the Defence Ministry in 2001

3.05 hectares of land the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation acquired from the Defence Ministry in 2001. The Metro station was built on one hectare of land and the rest was given to a company, which is planning to build residential flats.

The Tribunal noted that environmental clearance (EC) was granted to the project in 2012, which had lapsed and a fresh application was submitted for its amendment.

However, it said the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) later declared the EC to be null and void, and treated the amendment application as a fresh one without ensuring the data taken into account was relevant as of the date of application.



DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

DON'T BE A VICTIM TO HOUSING FRAUDS



Some Registered/unregistered societies are known to float cheap and affordable housing schemes in Delhi to cheat public in the garb of approved scheme under Land Pooling Policy of DDA.

BEWARE

- Websites publish list of winners of the draw to induce innocent buyers.
- Low registration amount/initial deposit and assured result in lucky draw is offered.
- Ads are published through internet, emails and SMS promising cheap and affordable houses/flats in L Zone, P Zone etc.

REMEMBER

- The Land Pooling Policy of DDA is at budding stage and no project has been approved by DDA yet.
- Check the status of approved projects at Official website of RERA.
- Offering of flats/houses without registration and approval of RERA by developers is illegal.

**Any person aggrieved by such offers may contact/file complaint with EOW Delhi at the following address:
Economic Offences Wing
Police Station Complex, Mandir Marg, New Delhi**

**The link of DDA website for any information is:
<https://dda.org.in/ddaweb/landpooling.aspx>**

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: cp.amulyapatnaik@delhipolice.gov.in | Write to CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi



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- Swami Vivekanand

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Upendra Tiwari

Minister of State (Independent Charge)
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Date: 12 January, 2020 | **Time:** 11:00 AM

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- Martial Arts • Food Festival • Adventure Programme • Cultural Evening • Folk Dance • Folk Song

6 GOVT & POLITICS

Bihar govt to congratulate parents on birth of girl child

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, JANUARY 11

THE BIHAR government will soon start sending congratulatory message cards to parents on the birth of a girl. This will be in addition to Rs 2,000 transferred to their bank account, and a tree planted to mark the occasion.

The government took its cue from a recent initiative started by Banka administration of sending greeting cards to parents on the birth of a girl.

The congratulatory card, signed by a top government official, reads (translated from Hindi), "It gives us immense happiness to know that you are blessed with a baby girl. The district administration congratulates you and wishes for the bright future of the girl."

Overleaf, the card mentions government schemes for girls.

CM Nitish Kumar has said the government will replicate the practice in the entire state. The government, under health, education and social welfare department schemes, gives parents Rs 18,000 till the girl turns 18. Rs 2,000, given at the time of a girl's birth, is invested in bonds.

Modi quotes Tagore: Aspects of India's history overlooked

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JANUARY 11

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Saturday claimed that several important aspects of the country's history were overlooked by historians who wrote about it after Independence.

Speaking at a cultural event at Kolkata's Old Currency Building, Modi said, "It is unfortunate that during the British rule and even after Independence, the country's history overlooked several important chapters and aspects of our country. Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, writing in 1903, had said that India's history is not what students study for examinations.

"Some people came from outside, killed their own relatives, brothers for the sake of claiming the throne... this is not the history of our country. I am not saying this. This was said by Gurudev himself. He had said in this history, it is not mentioned what the people of the country were doing. Didn't they have any existence?" he said.

During the event, Modi dedicated four refurbished heritage buildings of the city — the Old



Protests against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kolkata, at the Esplanade on Saturday. Partha Paul

Currency Building, the Belvedere House, the Metcalfe House and the Victoria Memorial Hall — to the nation.

He stressed on the need to show the country's heritage and culture to the world and called for the preservation and modernisation of various museums and heritage buildings.

Modi also announced that five iconic museums of the country will now match international standards. "We have to show our country's heritage and culture before the world. We have to make India a hub of heritage tourism. It has been decided that five iconic museums of the country will be made of international

standards," he said.

The Prime Minister said that a museum must be set up to document the contribution of Bengali freedom fighters. "A museum called Biplobi Bharat should be established, in which Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Aurobindo Ghosh, Rash Behari Bose, Khudiram Bose, Deshbandhu, Bagha Jatin, Binoy, Badal, Dinesh, every such great freedom fighter should be given a place," he said.

After attending the cultural programme, Modi shared the stage with West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at Millennium Park, where he had gone to inaugurate a light and sound show. Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar was also present.

Later, the Prime Minister travelled in a vessel on the river Hooghly and made his way towards Belur Math — the headquarters of Ramkrishna Mission. A follower of Swami Vivekananda, Modi was to spend the night there.

On Sunday, Modi is scheduled to address students at Belur Math. Later, he will attend the Kolkata Port Trust's 150th anniversary celebrations at Netaji Indoor Stadium. Governor Dhankhar and Banerjee are also scheduled to be present at the event.

AUSTERITY MOVE TO AVOID FISCAL SLIP

Govt set for 20% cut in wasteful expenses

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

IN AN austerity move, the Union government has decided to reduce wasteful expenditure on items such as travel and food by 20 percent, it is learnt.

A decision of this effect was taken at a recent meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth (CCIG), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, according to sources.

"All ministries have been directed to reduce wasteful expenditure on travel, food and conferences by 20 percent. The CCIG has asked the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, to take necessary action in this regard," a source told *The Sunday Express*.

The minutes of the CCIG meeting were circulated last week to the ministries concerned for follow-up action, the source said.

The move is being seen as the Centre's attempt to avoid fiscal

slippage by containing non-development expenditure and controlling fiscal deficit well within the limit of budgeted target of 3.3 percent during 2019-20 financial year. With the GDP growth expected to slow down to an 11-year low of 5 per cent during the ongoing fiscal, the task of maintaining fiscal discipline becomes more challenging.

This is not the first time that the government has resorted to austerity measures for rationalisation of expenditure. In October 2014, the Department of Expenditure had asked other departments to cut non-Plan expenditure by 10 per cent. It had also asked them to observe economy in organisation of exhibitions, fairs, seminars and conferences, as also to reduce expenditure on purchase of vehicle and domestic and international travels.

An order issued by then Secretary (Expenditure) Ratan P Watal on October 29, 2014, had stated: "Such [austerity] measures are intended at promoting fiscal discipline, without restricting the operational efficiency of

the Government. In the context of the current fiscal situation, there is a need to continue to rationalise expenditure and optimise available resources."

Constituted in June last year, the CCIG includes Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Railways Minister Piyush Goyal as members.

The CCIG, which met first time in the last week of December 2019, also decided on a dozen other actionable points, including review of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy and identification of infrastructure projects for Rs 100 lakh crore investment programme announced by the Prime Minister in last year's Independence Day speech.

While Sitharaman has unveiled Rs 102 lakh crore infrastructure projects to be taken up in next five years, some other actionable measures are yet to be announced.



PM Narendra Modi with Sultan Qaboos.

Courtesy: Twitter

With Oman sultan's death, India loses key partner in Gulf

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

WITH THE demise of Oman's Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said, India has lost a key friend and partner in the Gulf region where it has vital stakes. Sultan Qaboos, the longest-reigning leader of the modern Arab world, died on Friday at the age of 79.

As a student, Qaboos was taught by Shankar Dayal Sharma who went on to become the President of India. Sultan Qaboos's father, an alumnus of Ajmer's Mayo College, sent his son to study in Pune for some time, where he was Sharma's student.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday condoled the demise of Sultan Qaboos and described him as a beacon of peace for the region and the world. "I am deeply saddened to learn about the passing away of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said. He was a visionary leader and statesman who transformed Oman into a modern and prosperous nation," Modi tweeted.

Sultan Qaboos was a true friend of India and provided strong leadership for developing

a vibrant strategic partnership between India and Oman, the Prime Minister said. "I will always cherish the warmth and affection I received from him. May his soul rest in peace," Modi said.

"He had very fond memories from his student days and that is the reason he has been very generous towards the Indian community and India's requests for help," an Indian diplomat told *The Sunday Express* from Muscat.

Sultan Qaboos also played a role in the release of Father Tom Uzhunnalil, the Vatican priest who was abducted in Yemen in March 2016 and released in September 2017.

There are about 7.7 lakh Indians in Oman, of which about 6.55 lakh are workers and professionals. There are Indian families living in Oman for more than 150-200 years. Thousands of Indians are working as doctors, engineers, chartered accountants, teachers, lecturers, nurses, and managers, among other professionals.

India will look at the new ruler, Haitham bin Tariq (65), Oman's former culture minister and Qaboos's cousin, for being a generous benefactor for the Indian community.

SUSHANT SINGH
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

WHEN GENERAL M M Naravane took the stage in the auditorium of the Mankeshaw Centre for his first annual press conference as Army Chief, not many expected him to set the tone for his 28-month tenure so firmly with his opening statement. It came swiftly and in an understated manner, unprompted, but the intention and the thought underlying it was hard to miss: a course-correction, to pull the Army away from political controversy back into its professional domain.

Pre-empting the criticism that the armed forces had become politicised under the current government, the new Army Chief started with the A-B-C of his priorities. The 'A' stood for allegiance — where he stressed that the allegiance that every Army personnel owed was to the Constitution, and the values enshrined in its preamble. Never in public memory has an Army Chief said so categorically that the Army is deployed on the borders to defend the core values in the preamble to the Constitution



Gen M M Naravane in New Delhi on Saturday.

Tashi Tobgyal

— justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity — for every Indian.

The ongoing countrywide protests by students against the new citizenship law and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC) have been marked by public readings of the preamble. But Gen Naravane was not wading into that territory; he was trying to arrive at a formulation where any political party or ideology, including those in the government, did not figure in any manner.

Historically, from Gen K M Cariappa's time, the formulation of the cause served by the Army

has been slightly different: it has always been said that the Army serves the government of the day, and not any political party or ideology.

Gen Naravane not only repeated the bit about constitutional values but added fundamental rights, when a question was put to him about statements made by his predecessor and the Eastern Army Commander in support of the CAA.

Asked directly about violence against students in JNU, including police action, he avoided the topic, and limited himself to certain homilies about the National

Lucknow, Noida to get Police Commissioner system

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 11

NEARLY 40 years after a similar initiative came a cropper, the Uttar Pradesh government has decided to introduce the Police Commissioner system in the state by creating the post in major districts such as Lucknow and Noida. Meerut and Kanpur were also being considered in this connection, government sources said.

Top officials in the government confirmed that Chief

Minister Yogi Adityanath has given a go-ahead to the proposal, which is likely to be placed before the Cabinet at a meeting Tuesday.

Another senior official said the CM took the decision keeping in view the disturbance in law and order situation, leading to large-scale violence in several districts, including Lucknow, during recent protests against the new citizenship law. Inquiry reports into these incidents mentioned "lapses in coordination" between the administration and the police over enforce-

ment of CrPC 144, sources said.

Also, instances of "ego clash" between the district SP and DM over their powers have been a cause for concern for the government for several years. After the BJP government came to power, an order issued from the state home department in 2018 had triggered a major controversy and escalated the differences between IAS and IPS officers. As per the order, the district SPs were directed to seek approval from the DMs before posting and transfer of station house officers/station officers.

With paint, social media, ushering in road safety in Goa



SMITA NAIR
PANAJI, JANUARY 11

A ZUMBA instructor, a house nurse and a taxi operator have been painting speed breakers at night across Goa to help drivers and bikers spot the potential safety hazard, while leaving their stamp — hashtag #Rosto (roads in Konkani) — etched alongside. Since December 17, the three, assisted by local residents, have covered 71 speed breakers using paint sprays. Rosto is now a social media exercise with followers across villages and the expat

community.

"Every issue in Goa is fought on roads, so we decided to start by painting roads," says Cecille Rodrigues, 38, a mother and a zumba and skating teacher. Rodrigues is assisted by Seema Chimulkar, 60, a house nurse, and Prakash Malani, 32, a taxi operator hailing from Gujarat. Rosto has its seeds in a car repair bill from last February — when Rodrigues had to pay Rs 15,000 for shock absorbers. "It hurt since it was also my birthday," she says.

Soon, Rodrigues started documenting deteriorating the state of road in small videos, hoping for a "discussion".

With the fierce Goa monsoon damaging village and tourist roads, and the state government's casual response to the number of road accidents — 264 deaths in 2018, according to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) —



(From left) Malani, Rodrigues, Chimulkar.

Smita Nair

Rodrigues reached out using a language that is uniquely Goan.

In September, she released a parody video showing potholes across the state that went viral. "I used Lorna's (Cordeiro) most famous song *Bebdo* (meaning alcohol) of a drunk and negligent husband and replaced it with 'Rosto' for a negligent govern-

ment drunk on false notions of power," she says.

As people took note, so did Chimulkar, a recluse fighting depression after her parent's death. On October 2, they held a 15-km walk to highlight the bad roads, which led to more participation on social media. "One night before Christmas I just took some oil

paint and returned to paint the same speed breaker which had spoilt my back and car," she says.

Rodrigues and Chimulkar started out identifying speed breakers in badly lit areas, or previously declared accident spots, and painting them. One such night Malani, having finished his taxi routine, spotted "two women fanning a speed breaker".

They shoed him away at first. But the father of two girls returned to the spot on his bike, and was handed a broom to clear the remaining stretch. Now, Malani is the in-house speed breaker reconnaissance expert using his work hours in the day to spot, map and create a paint-job inventory for "the night activity".

"Every day, my car jumps at least one speed breaker. I have hurt my head and back several times. And I know many of my friends in the taxi business who

have undergone worse, even accidents," he says. "We look out for speed breakers with no signage, or where there are no light poles, or worse, that lie around turns."

Earlier they used oil paint, but it took at least two hours to dry and lasted just a few weeks. Later, they experimented with paint used on football grounds. Chimulkar now has got a paint manufacturer to supply marine paint used in ship decks at wholesale prices.

It takes two cans of these marine paints to cover small speed breakers and five for big. "It comes with a guarantee of six months even under scorching sun and weather," says Malani. Seeing the response to the #Rosto activity, paint manufacturers now want to be branding partners.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Mumbai school invites BJP leaders to discuss CAA, probe ordered

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 11

INVITING BJP leaders to talk to its students and teachers about the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) has put a Matunga-based school in a spot. Describing the incident as a "shameless attempt to politically influence young and innocent minds," School Education Minister Varsha Gaikwad ordered a probe into the incident on Saturday.

On January 10, Shree Dayanand Balak, Balika Vidyalaya and Junior College, which is run by the Arya Samaj, had organised an hour-long programme at a public ground next to the school. Local BJP leaders, including corporator Nehal Shah, interacted with school students from classes VIII, IX and X and first and second-year students of the junior college to "spread awareness" and "correct misinformation" about CAA.

Speakers at the event reportedly called those protesting against CAA as "traitors" and urged those present at the programme to save the nation from them. Postcards bearing the address of the Prime Minister's office were later distributed among the students, encouraging them to write their views and feedback.

Mumbai BJP's Uttar Bhartiya Morcha's General Secretary, Sumita Suman Singh, who had organised the interaction, is a trustee of the school. Photographs showed a BJP banner, bearing photographs of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and former CM Devendra Fadnavis, among others, on the stage.

"This is blatant politicisation of schools. This won't be tolerated... I have asked the education secretary to probe... An explanation will be sought from the school... Action will be initiated if the school management is found to have indulged in politicisation," Gaikwad said, adding that directives will be issued to other schools as well.

Singh denied using the students for political campaigning, while admitting that installing the BJP hoarding was a "mistake".

Challenge Opp to discuss whether CAA will snatch citizenship or give it: Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GANDHINAGAR, JANUARY 11

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Saturday challenged Opposition leaders to hold a discussion on whether the Citizenship Amendment Act has provisions to snatch citizenship or give it. Shah claimed that the Opposition has kicked up a "storm of misinformation" to create anarchy and mistrust in the country.

Speaking at the Mahatma Mandir Convention Hall in Gandhinagar during the launch of cyber safety initiatives of the Gujarat Police, Shah said, "Narendra Modi turned the CAB into CAA in order to provide citizenship to crores of people. In this regard, the entire opposition... Rahul Baba and company, Mamata (Banerjee), (Arvind



Amit Shah in Ahmedabad on Saturday. Over 5.5 lakh postcards, written by Ahmedabad residents to the PM, thanking him for the CAA, were stacked on the dais, Gujarat BJP said., Javed Raja

Kejriwal, Communists... have kicked up a storm of misinformation. They have spread the lie that

through this Act, citizenship of minority, Muslims, is being snatched. Today, from this dais, I challenge

them to hold a discussion on whether CAA has the provision to provide citizenship or snatch it."

Shah said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has introduced CAA to provide citizenship to "crores of people". However, the minister refrained from mentioning the National Register of Citizens (NRC) or National Population Register (NPR) in his 30-minute speech.

Shah urged BJP workers to conduct "door-to-door" campaigns on CAA.

"The Opposition has worked towards misleading minority and youth, and as a result, a sense of anarchy and an environment of mistrust has developed. But lies don't have legs. I urge BJP supporters to visit each household and tell people the truth about CAA. Because they (opposition parties) have no other issue to raise today,

be it development, law and order, foreign policy or defence policy. PM Modi has increased the stature of India in the world and these people don't have any other option but to rely on one lie. I advise them that their lies are not going to mislead the people of India for long," Shah said.

The Home Minister also said that the Partition and the 1971 Indo-Pak war gave birth to the issue of citizenship. "Thousands and thousands of refugees had to leave their homeland in order to safeguard their dignity and their women's honour, and this has been going on... in India they did not receive citizenship, schooling, jobs, healthcare or rights. Why? Because governments, due to their greed for vote-bank, thought that if they were given rights, then someone else would be upset," Shah said.

PROTEST WATCH

KARNATAKA



A protest against the CAA, NRC and NPR in Bengaluru. PTI

ASSAM

AJYCP protesters held, college teachers defy diktat

Guwahati: Protests continued across Assam against the Citizenship Amendment Act on Saturday. Sadiya in Upper Assam saw a major demonstration addressed by Lurinjyoti Gogoi, general secretary of the All Assam Students' Union (AASU). In Guwahati, activists of the Asom Jatiyatabadi Yuba Chatra Parishad (AJYCP) marching to gherao the Assam state secretariat to protest the new citizenship law were arrested as a preventive measure, officials said. Slogan shouting AJYCP activists from Tinsukia in Upper Assam marching towards the state

secretariat were stopped at Khanapara area ahead of the secretariat in Dispur, officials said. Protests were also held in Nagaon, Jorhat and many other places across the state on Saturday. The Assam College Teachers Association staged a demonstration in Guwahati against the CAA despite a state government order warning government servants against expressing any opinion or statement criticising the government in violation of service rules. "... We have a constitutional right to freedom of speech as citizens of India," said a member of the

ENS

WEST BENGAL



An indefinite sit-in against the CAA, NRC and NPR, entered Day 5 at Park Circus area in Kolkata. Partha Paul

Exempt whole of Meghalaya, Assam from CAA: Sangma

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, JANUARY 11

MEGHALAYA CHIEF Minister Conrad Sangma on Saturday emphasised the need to exempt Assam and the whole of Meghalaya from the ambit of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, even as protests against the new law continued in Assam with massive demonstrations.

Conrad, whose National People's Party is an ally of the BJP in Meghalaya, has been vocal about protection of rights of the people of Meghalaya in the light of the amended citizenship law. The CAA, in its current form, exempts a large part of Meghalaya, as practically the entire state falls under the ambit of the Sixth Schedule.

Speaking at the 15th annual general conference of the Council of Nokmas at Jengjal in West Garo Hills, Sangma thanked the Union government for exemptions accorded to parts of Meghalaya but said that his demand of exemption to the entire state still stands. He also said, "Assam was not ex-



Conrad Sangma

empted (from CAA). We are firm even now and our demand still stands with the Government of India — even Assam must be exempted from this Act."

If possible, he said, "different protections" must be given to the people of Assam.

Sangma also demanded that the Inner Line Permit (ILP) regime should be implemented in Meghalaya. Stating that he has put this demand before the Centre, the Meghalaya CM said, "We have passed a resolution in Assembly that ILP must be implemented in the state. We feel the people of Assam also need similar protection. Therefore we urge Gol that the whole state of Meghalaya must be exempted [from CAA], ILP should be put in Meghalaya, and it should also be extended to the state of Assam."

New political party needed: Cong leader

Meanwhile, senior Congress leader and former CM Tarun Gogoi on Saturday said that a new political party has become a necessity in Assam to oust the ruling BJP in the state. "A political party has become a necessity now to oust BJP. We are not selfishly looking after our own interests because a new political party might inflict some damage on our party as well. We are trying to protect the interests of the people of Assam," he tweeted.

Gogoi's remarks come days after the All Assam Students' Union suggested that a new political alternative was inevitable.

Responding to Gogoi's remarks, Assam minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "Your agony is understandable Tarun Gogoi... BJP has become a formidable force and Congress is no longer capable of taking on the might, and our growing popularity in Assam with Narendra Modi at the helm. New outfit is surely something you could try..."

No protests now, those involved in vandalism apologising: Adityanath

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
GWALIOR (MP), JANUARY 11

UTTAR PRADESH Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said that his government decided to seize the properties of those who indulged in vandalism during demonstrations against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), after which the protests died down.

The BJP leader was addressing a rally in support of the CAA at GYMCA Ground here.

The UP CM said there was no violence in his state after the Supreme Court delivered its verdict in the Ayodhya case, paving the way for construction of Ram temple.

"Congress created an atmosphere of violence on the issue of CAA, but we decided to seize the properties of those who were indulging in violence. There is no vandalism, there are no protests now, instead the accused are seeking apology," he said.

The "reality of such people" should be revealed, Adityanath



'Congress created an atmosphere of violence'

said, adding that his government put up posters with photographs of those accused of vandalism in various cities.

Accusing the Congress and other opposition parties of misleading people on the CAA and inciting violence, he said, "This is a law to give citizenship and not to snatch away anyone's rights. The Congress, which once trampled on the Constitution by imposing the Emergency, is now talking about saving the Constitution. The states ruled by Congress and its allies are talking about not implementing the CAA. Is this not a defiance of the Constitution?" he asked.

11 dead, nine missing after Kannauj accident: cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 11

A DAY after a double-decker private bus and a truck caught fire after a head-on collision in Chhibaramau area of Kannauj district, police suspect that 11 persons, including two women and three children, were burnt to death.

This comes after a forensic team found remains of nine people in the bus and one in the truck. Police suspect the body in the truck was of the driver, Ajay Yadav alias Rinku, who was from Mainpuri district.

Bus driver Kamlesh Kashyap, who was rescued from the vehicle by local residents, died of burn injuries during treatment in Farrukhabad on Saturday, police said.

"We suspect 11 deaths, including the drivers of the bus and truck... Others were passengers... Eight persons have so far approached police claiming that their family members, who were travelling in the bus, are missing. DNA profiling will be done to ascertain the identity of the deceased," said Inspector General, Kanpur Range, Mohit Agarwal.

Agarwal said that 23 others, who were also travelling in the bus, were taken to hospital for treatment and some of them have returned home. "Among 23 persons, 16 suffered burns and compensation declared by the state government has been given to them," Agarwal said.

Police are yet to ascertain the number of people present in the bus. Police suspect that a few passengers, who safely came out of the bus, have returned to their homes and did not report this to the district administration and police.

"Among the nine passengers who are now missing are two women and three children. DNA profiling of remains found inside the bus will be done," said Vinod Kumar, Kannauj Additional Superintendent of Police.

Bengal rape-murder: week after 3 arrests, chargesheet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JANUARY 11

A WEEK after the arrest of three men for the alleged rape and murder of an 18-year-old girl, North Dinajpur police filed a chargesheet in the case on Saturday.

"We have completed the investigation and submitted the chargesheet in a record one week. The aim is to deter criminals and ensure quick justice," said North Dinajpur SP Sumit Kumar.

The accused were arrested from Tripura and Mizoram.

The victim's father had first filed a missing person's complaint on January 3 after the girl went missing on December 30. On January 5, her body, which was packed in a gunny bag, was recovered from the Kakra river. The post-mortem report confirmed that she was raped, police said.

Police said that the teenager was lured by one of the three men on the pretext of marriage. The three accused allegedly gangraped her before the murder, police said. The accused allegedly stuffed the body in a gunny bag and threw it in the river, according to police.

Meanwhile, a three-member BJP del-

egation on Saturday visited the hometown of the family of another gangrape victim who was burnt to death in South Dinajpur. However, the delegation could not meet the family, and alleged that the TMC was behind their disappearance.

"We reached here today (Saturday) morning. As soon as the police came to know about our arrival, they picked up the family and took them to another place. They have made the family switch off their phone. This incident was as brutal as the one in Hyderabad where the victim got justice, but in Bengal it's Hitler raj. We will raise the issue in Parliament, highlighting the growing number of rape cases in Bengal," said Lockett Chatterjee, state president of BJP's Mahila Morcha, who was part of the delegation.

A suo motu missing diary was lodged by the police at the insistence of the BJP leader.

The West Bengal announced a compensation of Rs 4.12 lakh to the family of the victim.

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विज्ञापित
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विज्ञापित संख्या- पी0आर0 12/ 2020

समिति के नई दिल्ली शाखा हेतु सेवानिवृत्त (Retired) पदाधिकारी/गैर सरकारी/निजी संस्थान में कार्यरत (Working) पदाधिकारी के लिए वॉक-इन-इंटरव्यू (Walk-in-interview) की सूचना

बिहार विद्यालय परीक्षा समिति, पटना की नई दिल्ली शाखा हेतु प्रशाखा पदाधिकारी के पद के लिए अनुमती अभ्यर्थियों का संविदा के आधार पर नियोजन हेतु, दिनांक 22.01.2020 को 10:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से समिति के मुख्य भवन, सिन्हा लाइब्रेरी रोड, पटना-800017 में आयोजित Walk-in-Interview हेतु आमंत्रित किया जाता है :-

पद का नाम	रहित एवं आरक्षण कोटि	शैक्षणिक योग्यता एवं अनुभव	मासिक मानदेय
प्रशाखा पदाधिकारी	01-GEN	किसी राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र सरकार अथवा किसी राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र सरकार के किसी संस्थान के सेवानिवृत्त (Retired) पदाधिकारी। अथवा केन्द्र अथवा किसी राज्य सरकार की परीक्षा समिति (Examination Board) के सेवानिवृत्त (Retired) पदाधिकारी। अथवा किसी गैर सरकारी संस्थान / प्रतिष्ठित निजी संस्थान में समकक्ष पद पर कार्य करने का 10 वर्षों का कार्यानुभव। शैक्षणिक योग्यता- किसी भी मान्यता प्राप्त विश्वविद्यालय / संस्थान से स्नातक उत्तीर्ण।	सेवानिवृत्त (Retired) पदाधिकारियों के मामले में मानदेय के रूप में उनका अंतिम प्राप्त वेतन में से पेशन की राशि घटा कर शेष राशि देय होगी। इस पद हेतु मानदेय के रूप में 50,000 /- रु0 प्रतिमाह एकमुश्त राशि देय होगा।

2. उपर्युक्त पद हेतु संविदा आधारित नियोजन के संबंध में बिहार विद्यालय परीक्षा समिति के मुख्य भवन, सिन्हा लाइब्रेरी रोड, पटना-800017 में दिनांक 22.01.2020 को 10:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से वॉक-इन-इंटरव्यू (Walk-in-Interview) में अपने बायो-डाटा/आवेदन पत्र एवं शैक्षणिक योग्यता संबंधी प्रमाण पत्रों की मूल एवं स्व-अभिप्रमाणित छायाप्रति के साथ उपस्थित होंगे। 3. सेवानिवृत्त (Retired) पदाधिकारी के लिए : (i) उपर्युक्त पदों पर सेवानिवृत्त (Retired) पदाधिकारी के मामले में नियमित नियुक्ति होने तक अथवा दो वर्ष की अवधि के लिए (जो पहले ही संविदा पर नियोजन किया जायेगा)। बाद में राज्य सरकार की अनुमति प्राप्ति होने पर इस अवधि को बढ़ाया जा सकता है। (ii) सेवानिवृत्त (Retired) पदाधिकारी के मामले में प्रथम बार अनुभव की अवधि ग्यारह माह की होगी। तत्पश्चात् संतोषप्रद सेवा होने पर एवं आवश्यकतानुसार अवधि विस्तार किया जायेगा। (iii) सेवानिवृत्त (Retired) अभ्यर्थियों के लिए नियोजन हेतु अधिकतम उम्र 65 वर्ष होगी। 4. गैर सरकारी/निजी संस्थान में कार्यरत (Working) अभ्यर्थियों के लिए : (i) संविदा पर नियोजन हेतु अधिकतम आयु सीमा 60 वर्ष होगी। 5. उपर्युक्त पदों पर मंथित में होने वाली रिक्तियों के विरुद्ध नियोजन हेतु पैनल का निर्माण किया जाएगा। 6. आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप, अनुभव, अर्हता एवं अन्य जानकारीयों बिहार विद्यालय परीक्षा समिति के विभागीय वेबसाइट <http://biharboardonline.bihar.gov.in> पर प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

सचिव

आवंटन/नीलामी तिथि 28.01.2020
प्रारत: 11:00 बजे से

उ.प्र. आवास एवं विकास परिषद
के अन्तर्गत
आवासीय/व्यावसायिक सम्पत्तियों की आवंटन/नीलामी एवं ई-नीलामी

ई-नीलामी तिथि 31.01.2020
प्रारत: 10:00 बजे से

सामान्य आवंटन/नीलामी स्थल	जोन	ई-नीलामी हेतु सम्पत्तियों का विवरण
कार्यालय सम्पत्ति प्रबंध, आफिस काम्पलेक्स, सेक्टर-9, बुन्दारा योजना, लखनऊ	लखनऊ	आसपासी योजना, अवध विहार योजना एवं बुन्दारा योजना, (लखनऊ) [व्यावसायिक, प्रीमियम हाउसिंग, ग्रुप हाउसिंग, संस्थागत तथा हेल्थ सेक्टर/नर्सिंग होम भूखण्ड]
कार्यालय संयुक्त आवास आयुक्त (कानपुर जोन), आफिस काम्पलेक्स (भूतल), केशवपुरम्, कल्याणपुर, कानपुर	कानपुर	केशवपुरम् योजना-1, अम्बेडकरपुरम् योजना-3, हंसपुरम् योजना-2 (कानपुर), लोहियापुरम् योजना, फतेहाब (फर्रुखाबाद), सुत मिल योजना (इटाना) [ग्रुप हाउसिंग, व्यावसायिक, संस्थागत, प्रीमियम हाउसिंग भूखण्ड, हेल्थ क्लब, कम्प्युटी सेक्टर (लीज पर), हेल्थ सेक्टर/नर्सिंग होम कन्वीनियन्ट शॉप, कैंसिलिटी भूखण्ड]
आफिस काम्पलेक्स (भूतल), सेक्टर-13, आवास विकास कालोनी, सिकन्दरा योजना, आगरा	आगरा	सिकन्दरा योजना (आगरा), शिकोहाबाद योजना (शिकोहाबाद), फिरोजाबाद योजना (फिरोजाबाद), हाथरस योजना (हाथरस), कासगंज योजना (कासगंज), योजना संख्या-1 (बुलन्दशहर) [व्यावसायिक, कैंसिलिटी, कन्वीनियन्ट शॉप, हेल्थ सेक्टर, मल्टीप्लेक्स, संस्थागत, कम्प्युटी सेक्टर भूखण्ड (लीज पर)]
सामुदायिक केन्द्र, सेक्टर-3, जागुति विहार, योजना संख्या-6, मेरठ	मेरठ	मंगल पाण्डे नगर योजना-1, ट्रांसफोर्ट नगर योजना-2, शास्त्री नगर योजना-3 तथा 7 (मेरठ), जागुति विहार योजना-6 तथा 11 (वित्तार) (मेरठ), शाकुनी विहार (पवीकला योजना-8) (सहारनपुर), बसुन्धरा योजना, सिद्धार्थ विहार योजना, मण्डोला विहार योजना (गाजियाबाद) [कन्वेन्शन सेंटर, व्यावसायिक, ग्रुप हाउसिंग, संस्थागत, होटल, प्रीमियम हाउसिंग, कन्वीनियन्ट शॉप, मण्डोला/डीलर भूखण्ड]
कार्यालय संयुक्त आवास आयुक्त, (बरेली जोन) आफिस काम्पलेक्स, सविल लाइन्स, बरेली	बरेली	शाहजहांपुर योजना (शाहजहांपुर), संधल गेट योजना (बन्दौली), मझोला योजना, जिनगर विहार योजना (मुरादाबाद) [व्यावसायिक, कम्प्युटी सेक्टर, प्रीमियम, ग्रुप हाउसिंग, सेक्टरियल कन्वीनियन्ट शॉपिंग भूखण्ड]
कार्यालय सम्पत्ति प्रबंध, आफिस काम्पलेक्स, अंगुरीबाग योजना, अयोध्या (कैलाबाद)	वाराणसी	महादेवी झारखण्डी योजना (गोरखपुर) [व्यावसायिक भूखण्ड]

ई-नीलामी हेतु पंजीकरण अवधि दिनांक 13.01.2020 से 23.01.2020 तक ई-नीलामी पोर्टल <http://upavp.mjunction.in> पर ई-नीलामी हेतु वेबपानल आवेदक आरक्षित दर से आणवित सम्पत्ति के मूल का 10 प्रतिशत बरतसि दिनांक 24.01.2020 से 30.01.2020 तक जमा कर सकते हैं। निर्माण सम्बन्धी नियम उ.प्र. आवास एवं विकास परिषद, उत्तर प्रदेश एवं वल्लभन में प्रचलित भवन निर्माण उपविवेध के अनुसार होंगे। (4) ई-नीलामी हेतु सील विड या ऑफलाइन आवेदन किसी भी दशा में स्वीकार नहीं किये जायेंगे।

परिषद द्वारा निर्मित/विकसित समस्त सम्पत्तियों (आवासीय/अवासीय) के आवंटन के पश्चात एक मुश्त 60 दिन में भुगतान करने पर 5 प्रतिशत की छूट दिये जाने की व्यवस्था लागू की गयी है।

नोट : (1) किसी भी आवंटन / नीलामी एवं ई-नीलामी बोलों को स्वीकार/अस्वीकार करने तथा नीलामी की नियम एवं शर्तों में परिवर्तन करने का अधिकार आवास आयुक्त में निहित है। (2) आवंटन / नीलामी एवं ई-नीलामी में प्रस्तावित सम्पत्तियों का विस्तृत विवरण परिषद की वेबसाइट www.upavp.in पर उपलब्ध है। (3) निर्माण सम्बन्धी नियम उ.प्र. आवास एवं विकास परिषद, उत्तर प्रदेश एवं वल्लभन में प्रचलित भवन निर्माण उपविवेध के अनुसार होंगे। (4) ई-नीलामी हेतु सील विड या ऑफलाइन आवेदन किसी भी दशा में स्वीकार नहीं किये जायेंगे।

ई-नीलामी हेतु सम्पर्क करें : 033-66031798, 033-44091798 (सोमवार से शुक्रवार प्रातः 10:00 बजे से सायं 5:30) टोल फ्री : 1800-180-5333, 0522-2236803 (सोमवार से शुक्रवार प्रातः 10:00 से सायं 6:00) ई-मेल: upavp.helpdesk@mjunction.in

उत्तर प्रदेश आवास एवं विकास परिषद
104, महात्मा गांधी मार्ग, लखनऊ
Website : <http://www.upavp.co.in>, E-mail : info@upavp.co.in

Decorated police officer held with Hizbul militant

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JANUARY 11

A TOP militant commander and his associate were arrested in a private vehicle in Kulgam district of J&K on Saturday. The two were caught with a decorated J&K police officer whose recent posting was at the Srinagar airport.

Senior officers, including Kashmir IGP Vijay Kumar, were tightlipped about the matter. There was no official confirmation from police till late Saturday. The arrested militant was identified as Syed Naveed Mushtaq, alias Naveed Babu, a former policeman who joined militancy in 2017. His associate was identified as Asif.

A senior officer told *The Sunday Express* that a vehicle was intercepted at a checkpoint in Kulgam on Saturday and the DySP-ranked officer was caught with the militants. “We are investigating the officer’s presence with militants,” the senior officer said. Sources said the officer’s residence was searched. Naveed, a policeman turned

Boy told to clean excreta, RI for teacher

Chennai: A government school teacher in Tamil Nadu’s Namakkal was Friday sentenced to five years’ rigorous imprisonment for allegedly forcing a Class II student to clean human excreta in the classroom. The incident took place in November 2015. The accused, Vijayalakshmi, 35, was arrested after the Dalit student’s parents, who are daily-

wage labourers, filed a police complaint with the help of local Dalit outfits. They alleged that the child was also manhandled by the teacher and abused with caste slurs. Namakkal police registered a case under SC and ST Act, 1989. During the probe, it emerged that Vijayalakshmi also segregated Dalit students during rehearsals for school events. **ENS**

Maharashtra chemical factory explosion leaves six dead

NIRAJ RAUT & SAGAR RAJPUT
BOISAR, JANUARY 11

SIX LABOURERS were killed and at least 10 injured after a huge explosion took place at a chemical plant in Bhoisar’s Tarapur Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation area — 136 km west of Mumbai. The explosion destroyed a part of the plant as well as an adjacent building, which was under construction. At the time of going to press, rescue operations were underway to locate the workers trapped under the rubble.

The police said the incident took place around 7 pm when the owner of the plant, Natubhai Patel, and 11 labourers, were inside. The deceased have been

identified as Ansari Elias, Nishu Singh, Madhuri Singh, Golu Yadav, Rajmatidevi Yadav and Mohan Ingale. At least five fire engines and 10 ambulances were rushed to the spot following the explosion.

Sources said the explosion took place when a trial run of a chemical production was being conducted. Hydrogen used during the trial could have led to the explosion. Following the incident, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray announced a compensation of Rs 5 lakh each for the families of the deceased.

The police said that Patel had bought the plant, earlier known as Tara Nitrate, two years ago. The new management, registered under the name ANK Pharma Private Limited, had only on January 2 received pre-

mission to operate from the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, the police have learnt. The plant was yet to commence commercial operations and was undertaking trial runs.

"Patel had bought the plant and renovated it. We are checking whether he had adequate permission from the pollution control board. However, we have been told that the company had received the permission earlier this month," said an officer.

The police, however, added that the owner did not have requisite permission from the Directorate of Industrial Security and Health (DISH). "A major chunk of the plant collapsed. Another building was being constructed on the premises. That too suffered extensive damage and people were trapped under both

the structures," the officer said.

The police said the intensity of the blast was so huge that it was heard within a 25-km radius, and window panes of some houses in the surrounding area shattered. The factories that stood next to the plant also suffered damages. Following the explosion, SP Gaurav Singh and Palghar Collector Kailas Shinde rushed to the spot. Both police and DISH have started a probe into the explosion.

"For now, we are registering a case of accidental death report. Later, on the basis of our findings, we shall decide on the future course of action," said Singh, adding that the DISH report would also be considered. "Rescue operations are still on. We will conduct a detailed inquiry," the collector said.

Tejas Naval variant makes first landing on aircraft carrier

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE DRDO on Saturday took another step towards building a successful Light Combat Aircraft Tejas for the Indian Navy.

The Naval version of the LCA Tejas, whose Air Force variant is built by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), conducted a successful arrested landing onboard the INS Vikramaditya on Saturday morning. Calling it an “important milestone”, the Navy tweeted, “With this feat, the indigenously developed niche technologies specific to deck based fighter operations have been proven, which will now pave the way to develop and manufacture the Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter for the #IndianNavy.”

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated the DRDO and the Indian Navy for the achievement. “Extremely happy to learn of the maiden landing of DRDO developed LCA Navy on INS Vikramaditya. This successful landing is a great event in the history of Indian Fighter aircraft development programme. Congratulations to Team @DRDO_India&@indiannavy for this achievement,” he tweeted.

Saturday’s achievement will pave the way for testing the sky-jump take off from the ship.



Police at the blast site in Vadodara on Saturday. *Express*

Six killed in blast at Gujarat factory

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
VADODARA, JANUARY 11

SIX WORKERS were killed and at least ten others critically injured in a high intensity blast at Aims Oxygen Private Limited, an industrial and medical gas manufacturing unit, in Vadodara district on Saturday morning. The plant is located in Padra, about 30 kilometres from Vadodara city.

The police have booked Siddharth Patel, chairman of the plant, Shwetanshu Patel, director, Satya Bal Nayar, director, Akash Agarwal, plant manager, and Raju Rathwa, operator and supervisor, under IPC sections 304 (punishment for culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 338 (causing grievous hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others), 337 (causing hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others) and 114 (abettor present when offence is committed).

The intensity of the blast was so huge that it blew the metal roof of the plant and shattered window panes of homes in the vil-

lages around it, police said.

The deceased have been identified as Ashok Himmat Padiyar, Gulab Singh, Mafat Parmar, Fateh Singh, Mangal Padiyar and Sanjay Ganpat. According to the police, the incident occurred at around 11 am on Saturday.

An official of the Vadu Police said, “The preliminary probe has revealed that a fire engulfed the nitrogen and hydrogen cylinders inside the plant and thereafter spread to the oxygen plant. The intensity was so high that it caused a tremor in the vicinity up to 5 kilometres. The fire department is preparing its report, after which we will ascertain if any kind of negligence in handling the elements caused this explosion,” the official said.

The police official said local residents have alleged that the company did not provided workers with any safety gear.

Congress MLA Jaipal Thakor, who visited the spot, demanded immediate arrest of the owners and management of the company as well as compensation to the families of the dead.

MODASA 3 accused of rape, murder of Dalit woman surrender

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, JANUARY 11

DAYS AFTER a 19-year-old Dalit woman was allegedly gang-raped and murdered, three out of the four accused surrendered before the Modasa police late Saturday night. The fourth accused is on the run, police said.

The woman had gone missing from her home on January 1, and after four days, her body was found hanging from a tree in Modasa. Medical report confirmed that she was gangraped and the death caused due to asphyxiation by hanging.

Modasa police received flak after the woman’s family alleged that the police initially refused to lodge a missing person’s report, following which protest had broken out in Modasa.

“The three accused surrendered before the police. The procedure of their arrest will follow soon. The fourth accused is still on the run. According to her family, one of the three accused abducted the victim on January 1,” Modasa SP Mayur Patil said.

The FIR was registered on January 7.

According to the victim’s sister, who is complainant in the case, she saw one of the three accused who surrendered in his car around 12.30 pm on January 1 near Modasa bus stand. As per the FIR, when the sister asked him about the victim, he allegedly told her that he had kidnapped her, and that her family could do whatever they wanted.

The FIR also mentions that family members of the victim had checked CCTV footage from January 1, in which the deceased was seen in the car with the accused. The family members had approached Modasa town police station on January 3 to lodge an FIR but they claimed that the police turned them away.

MODERN COACH FACTORY, RAEBARELI

Open tender based on Single packet system Tender Notice No. MCF/RBL/Tender/ Pipe bending & Cutting/2019-20/C2361 Dt:- 08.01.2020 is invited by Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/Bogie & Wheel, MCF/RBL through IREPS portal www.ireps.gov.in for and on behalf of President of India for the following work:-

Description of work: Cutting, Bending & Threading of SS pipes and Aluminium pipe for Furnishing & Bogie Shop as per scope of work. **Approx. Value:** ₹ 1,02,40,728.73 **EMD:** ₹ 2,01,200.00 **Cost of Tender document:** ₹ 5,000.00 **only.** **Quantity of work:** As per schedule. **Completion period of work:** 12 months or earlier. **• Period of submission of tender document:** From 15.01.2020 to 29.01.2020 **• Date & time of closing of Tender:** 29.01.2020 at 11:45 hrs. **• Date & time of opening of Tender:** 29.01.2020 at 12:00 hrs. **• Detailed Tender Notice, Eligibility criteria, Terms & conditions** are available at IREPS website: www.ireps.gov.in in tender document. **Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/Bogie & Wheel**

E-Tender Notice No. 30/2019-20 (Open) of Dy.CE/IMCF/RBL, Deputy Chief Engineer//IMCF/RBL, for and on behalf of The President of India invites "E-Tenders" for following works. **SN 1 Name of work:** Provision of barbed wire fencing of ECO park phase-I. (Approx. length 2943 M) **Tender No.:** 49/2019-20 **Approx Cost in:** ₹ 39,54,233.02 **Earnest Money:** ₹ 79,100.00 **Cost of Tender document:** ₹ 3000.00 **Date of Opening of tender:** 31.01.2020 **Completion Period of work:** 06 months **• Tenderers** shall be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed for this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **• Earnest Money Deposit & Tender Document Cost** will be accepted separately only online payment through net banking in /to FA&CAO/MCF/RBL or Gate Way Payment through IREPS Portal. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's Cheque, Deposit Receipts & FDR etc. are not allowed. **• For detail,** please log on Indian Railway IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in **Deputy Chief Engineer-I**

Tender Notice No. 300-G-MCFORHPMELKO-03 **Date:** 09.01.2020

On behalf of the President of India, Dy. GM (G), Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli is inviting open tender based on Two packet system in prescribed tender format from capable bidders through IREPS portal www.ireps.gov.in for the under mentioned work.

1. Details- **1 Name of work:** Housekeeping & Maintenance of Officers' Rest House (ORH) & Supervisor's Rest House (SRH) at PME office near Langda Fatak, Talakatora Road, Lucknow for a period of 03 years (1096 Days) as per scope of work. **2. Place of work:** Officers' Rest House at PME Office near Langda Fatak, Talakatora Road, Lucknow. **3. Approx. cost:** 1,79,94,083.87 (Rupees One Crore Seventy Nine Lacs Ninety Four Thousand Eighty Three and Paise Eighty Seven Only.) **4. Cost of Tender documents:** ₹ 5,000.00 (Rupees Five Thousand only.) **5. Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,40,000.00 (Rupees Two Lacs Forty Thousand only.) **6. Quantity:** 03 Years (1096 days.) **7. Period of completion:** 03 Years (1096 days.) **8. Period of submission of tender document:** 22.01.2020 to 05.02.2020 at 15:00 hrs. **9. Date & Time of Closing of tender:** 05.02.2020 at 15:00 hrs. **10. Date & Time of Opening of tender:** 05.02.2020 at 15:30 hrs. **11.Pre Bid Meeting:** Date: 20.01.2020, Time: 11:00 Hrs., Venue: Dy. GM(G)/MCF/RBL in Administrative Building of Modern Coach Factory at Lalgaon Rambareilly. **12. Validity of tender:** 1. 60 days from the date of opening of tender. 2. Price variation clause is applicable. 3. Participation by Association of Partnership (AOP)/Joint Venture (JV) firms is not allowed for this tender. **• Detailed Tender Notice, Eligibility criteria, Terms & Condition** are available at Indian Railway IREPS website: www.ireps.gov.in in tender document. **Dy. General Manager (G)**

Tender Notice No. 300-G-MCFORHPMELKO-03 Date: 09.01.2020 On behalf of the President of India, Dy. GM (G), Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli is inviting open tender based on two packet system in prescribed tender format from capable bidders through IREPS portal www.ireps.gov.in for the under mentioned work.				
1. Details- 1 Name of work: Housekeeping & Maintenance of Officers' Rest House (ORH) & Supervisor's Rest House (SRH) at PME office near Langda Fatak, Talkatora Road Lucknow for a period of 03 years (1096 Days) as per scope of work.				
2. Place of work: Officers' Rest House at PME Office near Langda Fatak, Talkatora Road Lucknow				
3. Approx. cost: 1.79.94,083.87 (Rupees One Crore Seventy Nine Lacs Ninety Four Thousand Eighty Three and Paise Eighty Seven Only.)				
4. Cost of tender documents: ₹ 5,000.00 (Rupees Five Thousand only)				
5. Earnest Money: ₹ 2,40,000.00 (Rupees Two Lacs Forty Thousand only.)				
6. Quantity: 03 Years (1096 days)				
7. Period of completion: 03 Years (1096 days)				
8. Period of submission of tender document: 22.01.2020 to 05.02.2020 at 15:00 hrs.				
9. Date & Time of Closing of tender: 05.02.2020 at 15:00 hrs.				
10. Date & Time of Opening of tender: 05.02.2020 at 12:30 hrs.				
11.Pre Bid Meeting: Date: 20.01.2020, Time: 11.00 Hrs., Venue: Dy. GM(G)/MCF/RBL in Administrative Building of Modern Coach Factory at Lalgaun Raebareli.				
12. Validity of tender: 1. 60 days from the date of opening of tender. 2. Price variation clause is applicable. 3. Participation by Association of Partnership (AOP)/Joint Venture (JV) firms is not allowed for this tender. •Detailed Tender Notice, Eligibility criteria, Terms & Condition are available at Indian Railway IREPS website: www.ireps.gov.in in tender document.				
Dy. General Manager (G)				
e-Advised Tender Notice No. 10/ET/2019-20 Date: 10.01.2020				
SN	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Due Date
01	12190482	Kit of Assembly Components to Air Spring type flat Bogie.	500 Set	04.02.2020
02	12190484	Kit of Components to Air Spring type Bogie Bolster for flat Bogie	600 Set	04.02.2020
03	12190509	Set of forge item of flat bogie assembly	1000 Set	04.02.2020
04	04190412	Elbow Equal 15 Bore	32400 Nos	30.01.2020
		Elbow Equal 25 Bore	5724 Nos	
05	04190071	Pipe 42x2 in Length of 6000 MM	41261 Mtr	23.01.2020
06	03190024 B	Hexagon Bush 32x20 Bore	5104 Nos.	24.01.2020
07	04190410	Hex Double Nipple 20 Bore	48994 Nos.	23.01.2020
		Hex Nipple 25 MM Bore	19793 Nos.	
08	05190517 A	Supply & Installation of 750V/3-Phase Power Conductors.	30 Set.	22.01.2020
09	05190522	Harness of Underframe & Roof Arrangement for LHB EOG LFCWAC Type Coaches	19 Set.	28.01.2020
10	05190523	16 Pin Control Coupler/Connector Having IP65 or Better Ingress Protection.	100 Set.	22.01.2020
11	07201001	Liquidified Petroleum Gas Bulk (LPG)	200 MT	27.01.2020
12	03201014	Attachment wall for lav. Accessory of LHB type Coaches	5744 Nos.	06.02.2020
		Attachment wall complete LH colour satin blue	3467 Nos.	
		Attachment wall complete RH colour satin blue	1595 Nos.	
13	04190079	Austenitic Steel Seamless pipe OD: 48.26x2.77MMx4000MM	1025 Nos.	30.01.2020
14	11190346	Set of Bracket Complete of Destination Board for LHB Coaches	800 Set.	05.02.2020
15	11190352	Stop	400 Nos.	11.02.2020
16	11190355	Frame Part Complete for Power car LHB	100 Nos.	11.02.2020
17	11190351	Bracket Complete	400 Nos.	11.02.2020
18	11190350	Mounting Bracket for LHB Coaches	100 Nos.	11.02.2020
Corrigendum No. 01				
01	E-Tender No. 08/ET/ 2019-20 Dated 20.12.2019 13190239A & 20.01.2020 Due date may be read as 20.01.2020 instead of 06.01.2020.			
02	E-Tender No. 08/ET/ 2019-20 Dated 20.12.2019 13190269A & 17.01.2020. Due date may be read as 17.01.2020 instead of 10.01.2020.			
03	E-Tender No. 07/ET/ 2019-20 Dated 06.12.2019 12190533 & 27.01.2020 Due date may be read as 27.01.2020 instead of 06.01.2020			
04	E-Tender No. 07/ET/ 2019-20 Dated 06.12.2019 04195005 & 03.01.2020 This Tender has been cancelled			
Due date may be read as 30.12.2019				
Website Address: www.ireps.gov.in & www.mcf.indianrailways.gov.in				
Serving customers with a smile.				

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana
State Health Agency
Registered under J&K Societies Registration Act VI (1941 A.D) (Reg. No.: D18C/7188-RS/916)
Old Secretariat, Srinagar/Director Stationery & Office Supplies Rail Head Jammu

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Tender Notice No: SHA/AB-PMJAY/JK/2019-20/24 Dated: 07.01.2020

On Behalf of State Health Agency Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) e-bid under two cover system (Technical bid in cover 1 and Financial bid in cover-2) is invited from Insurance Companies for implementation of Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir and UT of Ladakh.

Date of release of Tender Document	07/ 01 / 2020
Last date of receiving queries	11th January 2020 till 12 P.M
Pre-bid meeting	11th January 2020 at 3:00 P.M at National Health Mission Office Nagrota Jammu.
Issue of Addendum / revised tender Document (if required)	18th January 2020.
Last date of bid submission	23th January 2020 at 4:30 PM on https://jktenders.gov.in
Date and time of opening and evaluation of Technical bid	24th January 2020 at 11: 00 A.M at National Health Mission Office, Nagrota, Jammu
Date and time of Financial Bid opening	24th January 2020 at 1:00 P.M at National Health Mission Office, Nagrota, Jammu
Issue of Notice of Award (NOA)	27th January 2020
Acceptance of Notice of Award	Within 3 days of the issue of Notice of Award.
Signing of Insurance Contract	Within 21 days of issue of Notice of Award.

Detailed tender document may be downloaded at J&K Govt. Portal www.jktenders.gov.in.

Sd/-
(Bhupinder Kumar), IAS
Chief Executive Officer
SHA-PMJAY

DIPJ-4178

कार्यालय अक्षीक्षण अभियन्ता, ड्रेनेज मण्डल, गाजियाबाद

सिंचाई एवं जल संसाधन विभाग, उ.प्र., चिक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या- 02/एस.ई./2019-20

महामहिम राज्यपाल, उत्तर प्रदेश की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदायें (<https://etender.up.nic.in>) सिंचाई एवं जल संसाधन विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश में वर्गीकृत श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से दिनांक 22.01.2020 को अपराह्न 1.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा की प्री-क्वालिफिकेशन टेक्नीकल विड अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, ड्रेनेज मण्डल, गाजियाबाद के कार्यालय में मुख्य अभियन्ता (यमुना) ओखला द्वारा गठित समिति के सदस्यों द्वारा दिनांक 22.01.2020 को अपराह्न 2.00 बजे खोली जायेगी, इसके अगले कार्यदिवस में, इस सम्बन्ध में यदि कोई हो तो इस कार्यालय में आपत्ति प्राप्त की जायेगी। प्री-क्वालिफिकेशन/ टेक्निकल विड में क्वालिफाइड पाये गये ठेकेदारों की ही फाईनलियल विड खोली जायेगी। कार्यालय बंद होने अथवा अवकाश होने की दशा में यह निविदायें अगले कार्यदिवस में उसी समय खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदा दिनांक 16.01.2020 को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 22.01.2020 को अपराह्न 1.00 बजे तक डाउनलोड/अपलोड की जा सकती है। कार्य का विवरण निम्नवत है:-

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य का अनुमानित लागत (बिना जी.एस.टी. लाह रु.)	घरगरी/ (लाह रु.)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि (रु.)	सम्बन्धित राष्ट्रीय कार्यलय का नाम	का मुख्य - जी.एस.टी. (रु.)	निविदा प्रपत्र पंजीकरण श्रेणी
1.	जनपद शामली में यमुना नदी के बायें किनारे पर स्थित ग्राम चीतरा य कतरी में बाढ़ सुरक्षा कार्य	365.00	7.30	03 माह	अंधियाली अभियन्ता, ड्रेनेज खण्ड, शामली (युनायतनगर)	800+144 - रु. 944	“ए” एवं उच्चतर
2.	जनपद बागपत में यमुना नदी के बायें किनारे पर स्थित ग्राम खेड़ा इस्मालपुर एवं खेड़ा हटना में बाढ़ सुरक्षात्मक कार्य	920.00	18.40	03 माह	अंधियाली अभियन्ता, सिंचाई खण्ड बहीत, (बागपत)	800+144 - रु. 944	“ए”

विस्तृत ई-निविदा सूचना का विवरण एवं नियम व शर्तें उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की वेबसाइट (<http://upgovt.up.nic/> infotech) तथा सिंचाई विभाग की वेबसाइट (<http://www.idup.gov.in>) पर उपलब्ध है।

दिनांक 6.1.2020 **www.upgovt.nic.in**

हस्ता./- अध्यक्ष अभियन्ता
ड्रेनेज मण्डल, गाजियाबाद

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियन्ता, (सज्जा एवं सामग्री प्रबन्ध)

गंगा सिंचाई भवन, तेलीबाग, लखनऊ

ई-निविदा सूचना सं०-20/मु०अ०सज्जा/2019-20

महामहिम राज्यपाल, उत्तर प्रदेश की ओर से ऑन लाइन <http://etender.up.nic.in> के माध्यम से जनपद पीलीभीत में शारदा नदी के दाये तट पर राहुल नगर अंबे चंदिा हजारा ग्राम के निकट कटान से सुरक्षा हेतु ड्रेजिंग द्वारा नदी में चैनलाइजेशन कार्य हेतु आमंत्रित ई-निविदा सूचना 20/मु०अ०सज्जा/2019-20 के प्रकाशन के सम्बन्ध में ड्रेजिंग द्वारा चैनलाइजेशन के कार्य हेतु बजट की प्रत्याशा में निविदा दिनांक: 19.01.2020 अपराह्न 17.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है।

जिसकी टेक्निकल विड दिनांक: 20.01.2020 को पूर्वाह्न 12.00 बजे कार्यालय मुख्य अभियन्ता, सज्जा एवं सामग्री प्रबन्ध, तेलीबाग उ०प्र०, लखनऊ के कार्यालय में खोली जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 14.01.2020 से 19.01.2020, प्रातः 10:00 बजे से 17:00 बजे तक डाउनलोड, अपलोड किया जा सकता है। कार्यालय बन्द होने की दशा में विड अगले कार्य दिवस में उसी समय खोली जायेगी। पूर्ण निविदा एवं प्रपत्र की जानकारी <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर भी उपलब्ध है।

कार्य का नाम:- जनपद पीलीभीत में शारदा नदी के दाये तट पर राहुल नगर अंबे चंदिा हजारा ग्राम के निकट कटान से सुरक्षा हेतु ड्रेजिंग द्वारा नदी में चैनलाइजेशन कार्य ।

हस्ता./- मुख्य अभियन्ता, (सज्जा एवं सामग्री प्रबन्ध), गंगा सिंचाई भवन, तेलीबाग, लखनऊ

TENDER NOTICE

STATION HEADQUARTERS POKARAN, DISTRICT- JAISALMER (RAJ)

TENDER FOR COLLECTION OF METAL SCRAP FROM POKARAN FIELD FIRING RANGES

1. Online bids (E-tenders) are invited by Station Commander, Station Headquarters Pokaran, PIN-900164 c/o 56 APO on behalf of the President of India from Government approved contractors of the appropriate class on the prescribed tender forms for a contract for retrieving collection and disposal of metal scrap of fired ammunition and used targets from Pokaran Field Firing Ranges (Sectors 'A', 'B' and 'C' Sectors only) Pokaran, District Jaisalmer on as is where is basis for the period from **01 Feb 2020 to 31 Jan 2021**. The tender can be viewed in Defence Procurement Portal www.defprocure.gov.in

2. Details

(a)	Reference No	: 0605/6/GT (2019-20) (i)
(b)	Title	: Retrieving collection and disposal of metal scrap
(c)	Tender ID	: 2020_Army_312067_1
(d)	Bid Submission start	: 06 Jan 2020 at 0900 hrs
(e)	Last date of Bid submission	: 20 Jan 2020 at 0900 hrs
(f)	Last date of depositing physical docu	: 20 Jan 2020 at 0900 hrs
(g)	Bid opening	: 20 Jan 2020 at 0900 hrs
(h)	Tender fee	: Rs 5,000/-
(i)	EMD	: Rs 25,00,000/-

3. For further details log on to www.defprocure.gov.in

Administrative Commandant

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

खुली ई-निविदा सूचना

सं. जी-11/-/डीडीएस/वीएस/एबीआर ई-निविदा संख्या 20/मु०अ०सज्जा/2019-20

1) अजमेर मंडल के आठ रोज रेलवे स्टेशन पर सांजवैक चोपना प्रणाली के साथ समक्षित ब्लोअड सर्किट डिजिटल डिस्क सिस्टम के लिए एलईडी और स्पीकरों की आपूर्ति, संस्थापन, संचालन, एवं रखरखाव के लिए खुली ई-निविदा पर www.ireps.gov.in के माध्यम से आमंत्रित की गई है। क्रम सं. : 1) आरक्षित दर :- रु. 10,29,133/- प्रथम वर्ष हेतु। कार्य अवधि : पांच वर्ष बयाना राशि : रु. 109900/- 2) ई-निविदा में भाग लेने की अंतिम तिथि व समय : 07.02.2020 को 15:00 बजे तक। 3) ई-निविदा खुलने की तिथि व समय : 07.02.2020 को 15:30 बजे तक। नोट : सभी संबंधी निविदाकारों से अनुरोध है कि इस निविदा से सम्बंधित किसी भी शुद्धिपत्र हेतु व निबंधित रूप से संबसाईट www.ireps.gov.in देखें। **54-DI/20** Contact help line no. 138 for general complaints

DIRECTORATE OF FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES J&K

GANDHI NAGAR, JAMMU

Tel: 0191-2457821
Fax: 0191-2453013
E-mail: info.fesjk@gmail.com

EXTENSION NOTICE

It is notified that the dates of downloading, online submission, submission of hard copy and date of opening of tender for e-NIT No. 01 of 2020 Dated 01.01.2020 are extended as under:

- Period of Downloading of Documents:** Upto 23.01.2020, 02.00 P.M.
- Date of Submission of Online Documents:** Upto 23.01.2020, 02.00 P.M.
- Date of Submission of Hard Copy:** Upto 24.01.2020, 04.00 P.M.
- Date of Opening Tender:** 27.01.2020 or any other convenient date

No. Acc/FPS/ES/2020/NIT/171-79
Date: 08.01.2020

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
Fire & Emergency Services,
J&K, Jammu.

DIPJ-

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Madhusudan S/o Late Shri R.M.Nair R/o-32/4, Third Floor, Old-Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-110060, have changed my name to Madhusudan Nair for all purposes. 0040526182-2

I,Geeta Singh W/o Adesh Kumar R/o-A-93, Sector-Delta-1,Greater Noida,U.P.,have changed my name to Gita Rani for all future purposes. 0040527347-1

I,Vinod Kumar S/o Mahender Singh R/o-DU-38, Panchwati-Colony, Palwal, have changed my son's name Daksh More to Daivik More for all future purposes. 0040527345-8

I,Vijay Kumar Sharma S/o Krishan Gopal R/o RZD-3/137, Gali No.7, Flat No.5, Mahavir Enclave-II, Delhi-45, have changed my name to Vijay Kumar for all purposes. 0040527310-1

I,Vidhya alias Vidhya Chandranathan U alias Vidhya Wakale W/O, Chandranathan U R/o-D-703, The Crescent Apt, Block-F-2, Sec-50, Noida have changed my name to Vidhya Chandrakant Wakale. 0040527375-1

I,Vaishali Shadija W/O Dinesh Shadija R/O Block-G3/Plot-12-13, First-Floor, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi-110085. Have Changed My Name To Komal Shadija. 0040527364-9

I,Vaibhav Baveja S/O Deepak Baveja R/O C-93, Near Gt Karnal Road, Mahendru Enclave, Delhi-110033. Have changed my Name To Vaibhav Baweja. 0040527364-10

I,Urmimala Puri W/O Ravi Puri R/O-702b, The-Laburnum, Sushant-Lok Phase-1, Block-A, Sector-28,Gurgaon-122009 Have Changed My Name To Ina Puri For All Future Purposes. 0040527375-4

I,Simmi Aggarwal W/o Sanjay Aggarwal R/o B-308, 2nd Floor Lok-Vihar Pitampura Delhi-110034, changed my name to Shyama Gupta permanently. 0040527343-4

I,Shalu W/o Sunil Kumar R/o Q-6, First-Floor Parvana Apartment Sector-9 Rohini Delhi-110085 changed my name to Shallu. 0040527374-6

I,Shalinee Mathur W/O Late Sh. Raksh Kumar R/O Flat No.101, Tower No.33, Common Wealth Games Village, Near Akshardham, Delhi-92, have changed my name to Shalini Verma for all purposes. 0040527311-1

I,Tajuddin Khan S/o Jamaluddin Khan R/o C-1/38 Old Jassola Village Extn. New Delhi-110025 changed my name to Tajuddin. 0040527374-3

I,Shadab Parvin W/o Mohd. Zafar Khan, R/o B-173/3, B-Block, Mandawali Fazalpur, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Shadab Parveen for all purposes. 0040527314-1

I,Seema Bhatija D/o Late.Chatur Bhuj W/o Jagdish Khilrani R/O-A-106, Lok-Vihar, New Delhi-34, changed my name to Pallavi Khilrani after-marriage. 0040527364-6

I,Sanjeew Kapoor S/o Om Parkash Kapoor R/o GH-14/310, Paschim Vihar, Sunder-Vihar, Delhi-87, have changed my name to Sanjeev Kumar Kapoor. 0040527364-2

I,Sanjay Kumar Bera S/O Braj Kuishor Bera R/o Village+Post Punak, Thana Darauli Dist-Siwan Bihar 841227 have changed my name to Sanjay Kumar. 0070692364-1

I,Rajesh Kumar S/o Gian Chand Sharma R/O B-7/21, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi, have changed my name to Rajesh Sharma for all purposes. 0040527343-6

I,Pradeep Kumar S/O Abhilash Sharma, H.No.360, Mohan Mekins Society, Sector-5, Vasundhri, Ghaziabad, U.P.201012, Changed My Name To Pradeep Sharma. 0040527364-1

I,Parveen Kumar Arora R/O A-3/174 1st floor Sector-7 Rohini Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Parveen Arora for all purposes. 0040527154-1

I,Pankaj Jain S/o Ashok Kumar Jain R/O-B-211, 2nd-Floor, Ramprasth Ghaziabad UP-201011,have changed my name to Pankaj Kumar Jain for all purposes. 0040527375-6

I,Nitanshu S/o Pritpal Sharma R/o-H.No.212, Gopal-Park, Near Chander-Nagar, PO-Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051, have changed my name to Nitanshu Sharma. 0040527364-4

I,Nayab Ahmad S/o Abdul Salam R/o House No-133, Gali No-4, Near 52 Peer Adrash Mandi Prem Nagar, Loni Dehat, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201102 declare that name of mine of mine has been wrongly written as Nayar Ahmad in my 10th and 12 th class marksheet, certificate. The actual name of mine is Nayab Ahmad, which may be amended accordingly. 0070692360-1

I,Mukesh Kumar S/o Om Parkash R/o-101 Omex Grand Woods, Sector-93B, (Omex-Grand Tower) Alexandria-D-2 Noida-201304 Have Changed My Name To Mukesh Handa. 0040527375-2

I, A.V.S. Chhikara S/o Saubhagya Singh Chhikara R/o-7-B/2T5, Malviya-Nagar, New Delhi-110017, have changed my name to Aviral Varenyam Singh Chhikara for all purposes. W.e.f 10/01/2020. 0040527364-5

I, A Eashan S/o Avutapalli Ramesh Babu R/o-Flat-81 Vrindavan-Park Phase-I S.No.48-1/4, Diamond-Water Park Road Lohegaon Pune-411047 have changed my name to Eashaan Rao Avutapalli, for all future purposes. 0040527345-7

I,have changed my name from Rinki Kumari to Rinkee Choudhary for all future purposes. Rinkee Choudhary W/o Rajesh Kumar Choudhary R/O H.No.69, KH No-420, Behind Gurudwara, Sultanpur Gadaipur Haуз Khas, South Delhi 110030 0050160849-1

I,Vineet S/o Sh.Mohan Kumar R/O RZ-39B, Gupta Market, Najafgarh, New Delhi-110043 have changed my name to Vineet Mohan for all purposes. 0040527370-2

I,Mohammad Nadeem, F/o-Mohammad Zeeidan Siddiqui, R/o-Flat-No.102 Tower-16, Fresco-Apartment, Nirvana, Sec-50,Gurgaon, HR,have changed my minor son's name to Mohammad Zyan Siddiqui,for all purposes. 0040527370-3

I,Man Mohan Sharma S/O Sh.Kamal Kumar Sharma, Resident Off-F-1,20, Jagdishpur Near-200 Feet-Bypass, Jaipur, Pin-302020, Rajasthan, India. Have Changed My Name From Man Mohan Sharma To MOHAMMED Ibrahim For All Purposes. 0040527345-9

I,Satya Narayan S/o Sh. Hira Lal Rana R/o Village-Mayapur, District-Nagaur, Tehsil-Parbatsar, Rajasthan-341502, have changed my name to Satya Narayan Rana, for all future purposes. 0040527345-4

I,Sarita Devi Joshi W/o MWO Tek Chand Joshi R/o H.No.E-27, Roop Enclave, Sector-82, Faridabad, Haryana-121004 have changed my name to Sarita Joshi for all purposes. 0040527307-3

I,Sonu S/O, Moti Lal Shukla R/O House No.744, Kalyan Panna, Village Tikri Kalan, West Delhi-110041 have changed my name to Sonu Shukla for all purposes. 0040527361-1

I,Shubha Arya W/O, Tirthankar Dutta R/o I-043 Gulshan Ikebana Sector-143 have changed my name to Shubha Dutta for all purposes. 0040527320-1

I,Sanjeev Sulhan S/O Amarnath, H.No.18, Rampuri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019. Changed My Name To Sanjeev Kumar. 0040527345-1

I,Rakesh Kumar S/o Sh. Mahendra Prasad Yadav R/O RZF-770/2, 2nd Floor, (Right Side) Raj Nagar Part-2, Gali No.12, Palam Colony, Bagdola, South West Delhi, Delhi-110077 have changed the name of my minor son from Rajvi to Advik Singh for all purposes. 0040527307-1

I,Navneet Chandhok D/o Satnam Singh Chandhok R/o-J-5/2 Rajouri Garden New Delhi. have changed my name to Navneet Kaur Chandhok. 0040527343-3

I,Komal D/o Yashpal R/o-Flat No.199, Pkt-I, Sector-A-6, Narela, Delhi-40,inform that my father name wrongly-written in my educational document as Yashpal Mehra instead of Yashpal. 0040527374-1

I,Karamjit Singh Sehra S/O Jai Singh H.No-E-79 Street No-6 South-Anarkali Krishna-Nagar Delhi-110051. Have Change My Name To Karamjit Singh. 0040527374-4

I,Kamini Gupta D/o Satish Gupta R/O-US-193, 4th-Floor, North School-Block, Mandawali-Fazalpur, Delhi. have change my name from Kamini to Kamini Gupta. 0040527343-2

I,Hashim Ali S/O Gulam Mohammad Iqbal R/O-1697 Gali Nagina Lal Kuan Rodgirjan Delhi-110006.Changed My Name To Syed Hashim Ali. 0040527364-7

I,Harpreet Kaur W/o Haminder Singh Pasricha R/O E-304, Jhulelal Apartments, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Harpreet Kaur Pasricha for all purposes. 0040527323-1

I,Bishamber Kumar S/o Ramkishan Bhatia R/o H.No.56, Gali No.1, Basti-Bankner, Delhi-40. have changed my name to Bishamber Bhatia permanently 0040527374-2

I,Jyotsna R/o 19-B Janyug Apartments Sec-14 Rohini Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Jyotsna Bath. 0070692319-1

I,Anupam S/O-Avdesb Ojha R/O-Flat No.162 Plot No-1 Heritage Tower Appt Sec-3 Dwarka Delhi-110078. Changed My Name To Anupam Ojha. 0040527364-8

I,Anita Gupta W/O Rajiv Lochan, Resident House No-26, Sector-12, Sonipat, Haryana Have Changed My Name To Ritui. 0040527375-5

I,Ajit Singh s/o Sita Nand Singh R/O-202, Plot no.29, Sec-1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, have changed my name from Ajeet Singh to Ajit Singh. 0040527343-1

I,Tulika Bhattacharya W/O-Indrajit Bal R/O-Village-Shimultala Post/Tehsil-Krishnagar District-Nadia, West-Bengal-741101, have changed my name,from TULIKA BHATTACHARYA to TULIKA BAL BHATTACHARYA for all purposes. 0040527370-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Usha Rani D/o Late Sh. Sheeshpal R/O 291, First Floor, Dhaka Johar, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, North West Delhi, Delhi-110009 declare that name of my mother has been wrongly written as Satyawati in my 10th, 12th, class marksheet, certificate, graduation degree, M.A. degree. The actual name of my mother is Sato, which may be amended accordingly.

LOST & FOUND

It is information that I,Naresh chander garg S/o Shyam sunder garg R/o-H.No-4 Road No-71, West Punjabi Bagh Delhi-26 have lost the original provisional allotment letter No-16455/403223/PKP0025081 dated-20.04.2019./original payment receipt issued by jaiprakash Associated Ltd. in respect of unit bearing No.S-81 KP-II Jaypee Green Noida on date, 20.11.2019. Any one finding the said documents is requested kindly return the same to me or to the company. Ph.no-9810928109.

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate of class-10th year-2015,Roll.No.8174510,issued by CBSE has been actually lost,Anshil Tyagi,R/o-409/1,Hastals Village,Uttam-Nagar,New Delhi-110059.

It's notified for the information that my original-qualifying examination-marksheet of Main Secondary-Examination Year-2018 RollNo.8156380 issued by CBSE has lost. Shaaily Singh R/O-B-104, Brij-Vihar, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201111 Mobile-9911333771.

I,Santosh Kumari W/O Late Sh.Prem Prakash, have lost Original documents related to DSIDC (Provisional Allotment Letter, Allotment cum Demand Letter, payment receipts etc.) Property-Application no-13744 (E-64 DSIDC Bawana-2, Bhorgarh industrial area, Delhi). Finder-9810053193.

Lost Original G.P.A / Agreement to sell executed by Mr. Mohan Lal on dated 08.02.1973 in favour of Mr. Ram Prakash Gulati in respect of the Property, receipt & etc. and Original Sale Deed executed on 23.02.1973 executed by Shri Ram Prakash Gulati as General Authority of Mr. Mohan Lal in favour of Mr. Kanhaiya Lal in respect of Plot No.4 (now known as C-14) having land area measuring 255 Sq. Yards Out of Mustafi No.83, Killa No. 5, in Block G-1, situated in the area of village Hattal, known known as Uttam Nagar, New Delhi. Advocate Sanjay Bhadoria & Associates LGF-32,Durga Tower,R.D.C.,Ghaziabad

MATRIMONIAL



NRI/GREEN CARD
American Citizen Beautiful
Brahmín Girl, 5'-4", 1986,
Manglik, Seeks Tal Handsome
Educated Boy, Caste no Bar.
Contact- 9216559211

OTHERS
Alliance invited for daughter,
post graduate, smart and
beautiful, 5'4"/1991 from
suitable and settled sikh Jatt
boys. Defence officer (clean
shave) preferred.
nssidhu@gmail.com
9757313761/ 8968966337

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client Tara Chand Harit S/o Charan Singh R/o 280, Main Road, Mandawali Fazalpur, Delhi hereby disown/declare in his Praveesh Kumar Harit from all movable-immovable properties/ severe all relations, being his alcoholic, disobedient and beyond the control. Anybody deals with him, shall do at his/her own cost. My client will not be responsible for his any acts. Sd/- DEEPPCHAND En. No. D/2098/2014

PUBLIC NOTICE
Know all and sundry by these publications that my client Smt. Shaktira Begum wife of Sri Munne Khan, Resident of 43-44, Y Block, Mansarovar, Delhi-83 severed all her social relations with their son Abdul Samad aged about 22 years, who is not under their control and guidance, and also disowned and disown him from all the movable and immovable properties of my clients including the above mentioned dwelling house, due to his keeping wrong company, illegal, tortuous acts and anti social behavior. My clients shall not be responsible for any acts or conduct of their said son, named above, in future. Sd/- CHANDRA CHANDRA (Advocate) Ch.No.561, Patila House Courts, New Delhi-110001

PUBLIC NOTICE
My Client Shri Rajinder Singh S/o Late Shri Khem Singh R/o N-12/B-575, Rana Pratap Bagh, Kaur Nagar, Delhi-110007 have disowned/debarred their son Mr. Arun Kumar and his wife Aarti and his Daughter Manvi from their immovable properties and other assets and have severed all their family relations with them by all means, we shall not be responsible if any person shall any type of deal with my son Arun Kumar and his Wife and Daughter. For Rajesh Kumar Sharma (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE
My Client Shri Rajinder Singh S/o Late Shri Khem Singh R/o N-12/B-575, Rana Pratap Bagh, Kaur Nagar, Delhi-110007 have disowned/debarred their son Mr. Arun Kumar and his wife Aarti and his Daughter Manvi from their immovable properties and other assets and have severed all their family relations with them by all means, we shall not be responsible if any person shall any type of deal with my son Arun Kumar and his Wife and Daughter. For Rajesh Kumar Sharma (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE
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PUBLIC NOTICE
My Client Shri Rajinder Singh S/o Late Shri Khem Singh R/o N-12/B-575, Rana Pratap Bagh, Kaur Nagar, Delhi-110007 have disowned/debarred their son Mr. Arun Kumar and his wife Aarti and his Daughter Manvi from their immovable properties and other assets and have severed all their family relations with them by all means, we shall not be responsible if any person shall any type of deal with my son Arun Kumar and his Wife and Daughter. For Rajesh Kumar Sharma (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all through this Public Notice that my clients Sh. Rajendra Kumar S/o Sh. Jai Pal Singh and Smt. Kamlesh W/o Sh. Rajendra Kumar both R/o H-99/3, Street No. 6, Ganga Vihar, Delhi - 110094 have severed all kind of their relationship and disowned & disinherited their son namely Sh. Sumit Kumar & their daughter in law namely Smt. Anji Rani W/o Sh. Sumit Kumar from their all movable and immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them in any manner, shall do the same on his/her own risk and my clients shall not be responsible for any act, deed and omission of their aforesaid son & daughter in law, hereinafter. (JUMESH GUPTA) ADVOCATE Ch. No. 660, Western Wing Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE
FREEHOLD FLOO FLAT NO.120, THIRD FLOOR, POCKET-A, SECTOR-24, ROHINI, NEW DELHI Public at large is hereby informed that the captioned property is subject matter of Shri. Akanksha Registered Mortgage with State Bank of India / Other Banks / FI, and my client Smt. Akanksha Bhardwaj alias Akanksha Upadhyaya entered into an agreement to sell the said property to Sd/- Sh. Vishal Tyagi in respect of sale of captioned property. It is further informed that the GPA executed by Shri Vishal Tyagi in favor of his father Shri Gopal Kishan Tiwari reporter as registered and shall be online with NCR is done vide LR No 23508/2020 dated 07.01.2020. It is hereby notified that any person or entity firm / company, Bank / financial institution having claim any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of documents mentioned above or otherwise and / or objection to the said sale, they may lodge/notify the same to the undersigned with documentary proof, court judgment within 15 days from the day of publication (failing which the title Sale Deed executed in favor of Smt. Akanksha Bhardwaj alias Akanksha Upadhyaya or in joint name with her nominees shall be clear and marketable without any defect, encumbrance, flaw and impediment and my client (s) shall free to create Equitable / Registered Mortgage by deposit of / Chan of available title documents with any person / firms, company / financial institution / Bank.

NIRMAL KUMAR (Advocate)
Mobile-98109171, Email-nirmalag@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
BUILT UP FLAT BEARING NO. 2082, NISHAT CORNER, PLOT NO. 5, SECTOR - 19B, PHASE I, DWARKA, NEW DELHI. Public at large is hereby informed that the captioned property is subject matter of Equitable / Registered Mortgage with State Bank of India / Other Banks / FI, and my client Smt. Anita wife of Shri Arun Kumar entered into an agreement to Sell dated 31.08.2019 with prospective buyer Smt. Man Meest Sukhwinder Singh or in joint name with her nominees shall be clear and marketable without any defect, encumbrance, flaw and impediment and my client (s) shall free to create Equitable / Registered Mortgage by deposit of / Chan of available title documents with any person / firms, company / financial institution / Bank.

NIRMAL KUMAR (Advocate)
Mobile-98109171, Email-nirmalag@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sale of ENTIRE SECOND FLOOR (WITH ROOF RIGHTS) OF FREEHOLD PROPERTY BEARING NO. RZ-187 AREA MEASURING 100 SQ YDS OUT OF KHASRA NO. 30/3/2 VILLAGE DABRI COLONY KNOWN AS VAISHALI, GALI NO.4, DABRI PALAM ROAD, DELHI-45. Notice is hereby given for information to the General Public by my client i.e. LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD that Smt. Manju Kumari has acquired the above property i.e. PROPERTY BEARING NO. RZ-187 AREA MEASURING 100 SQ YDS OUT OF KHASRA NO. 30/3/2 VILLAGE DABRI COLONY KNOWN AS VAISHALI, GALI NO.4, DABRI PALAM ROAD, DELHI through Sale Deed dated 31.10.2007 registered vide No. 100553. Now said Smt. Manju Kumari has intends to sell the above referred property to the customer (Smt. Mitlesh Khawari) of my client, LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD. The customer is availing the financial facility to purchase the above referred property and against the security of above referred property, if any person including banks, financial institutions or any other person, relative, organization, company, firm or government authority having any claim, right, title or any interest of any nature whatsoever into or upon the above-referred property, is hereby called upon to make the same known, in writing with documentary evidence by registered AD Post to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 15 (Fifteen) days of publication of this notice to the undersigned on the below mentioned address, failing which the same shall be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned. In the event of no response being received to this notice, the purchase/ mortgage of this property shall be completed by our client without any reference to and without in any manner being affected by any such right title, interest or claim whatsoever.

MANISHA CHAUDHARY, ADVOCATE
LIC LESARUS, 210, VISHWANATH CITY MALL (NEAR RAMPHAL CHOWK), SECT-7 DWARKA, NEW DELHI-110075 (911-43605363, 9898906723)

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is to inform the public at large that Mrs. Raj Rani Sharma acquired the property i.e. Property No. K-3, measuring 75 sq. yds. New Gurgaon, Pusa, Chaudhary Nagar, Shikhar, Delhi, vide sale Deed dt. 01.07.2011, further Mrs. Raj Rani Sharma died intestate leaving behind 13 heirs, namely Kantia Rani, Sudesh Sharma, Mrs. Mohan Rani, Neelam Sharma, Mr. Vijay Kumar and Mr. Ramesh Kumar Sharma. Later other 13s executed their Resignment deeds dt. 12.04.2017 and 17.04.2019 in favour of Mr. Vijay Kumar and Mr. Ramesh Kumar Sharma who further executed a sale deed dt. 01.01.2019 to Mrs. Manu Bala. Manu Bala is the undisputed owner of said property all date. OR any person / firm / institution / company having any claim, right in respect of the said property by way of inheritance, share, sale, gift, mortgage, loan, etc., shall be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned. In the event of no response being received to this notice, the purchase/ mortgage of this property shall be completed by our client without any reference to and without in any manner being affected by any such right title, interest or claim whatsoever.

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CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING
JAWAHAR BHAWAN, 6th FLOOR, ASHOK MARG, LUCKNOW

No: ME-1/2020/ 53(2)

RE-TENDER

The E-Tender notice invited by Principal, Medical College, Jhansi by letter no.-495/E-Tender/Housekeeping/2019, dated 20 September, 2019 to select the service provider agency for housekeeping and sanitation at Government Medical College, Jhansi. After technical evaluation the committee has recommended for Retender. This two bid system is hereby retendered as follows. The details are available at (up.tender.nic.in)

1-Loading of Re-tender 13-01-2020
2- Date of submission of bid and providing hard copy at medical college 03.02.2020 upto 5:00 PM
3- Date of opening of technical bid- 04.02.2020 from 3:30 pm onwards (at the office of DGME, U.P. Lucknow)
The rest of tender conditions will remain same.

Sd/- (K.K. Gupta)
Director General
date above immediately

(K.K. Gupta)
Director General

Office of the Chief Executive Officer,
U.P. Livestock Development Board,
Gokarn Nath Road, Badshahbag,
Animal Husbandry Directorate Campus, Lucknow-226007

NOTICE

"Agencies/Firms/Companies etc. who are interested to work for U.P. Livestock Development Board in the following field as their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), may submit their detailed proposals to U. P. Livestock Development Board, Lucknow by 31st January 2020,

1. replicating Madhya Pradesh Sanjeevani Model in Uttar Pradesh, (i) to enable Door Step Delivery of Vet Services in all 75 districts of UP like Artificial Insemination, Treatment, Vaccination, Problem advisory etc., having own proven Software (ii) Centralized Call Center (iii) Program Management.

2. having prior experience and in-depth knowledge of Embryo Transfer Technology, In-Vitro-Fertilization (IVF) & Trainings, are required for making our Newly established Embryo Transfer Technology Laboratory & Training Centre operational at Modie Mukarrampur, Baher(Bareilly), Uttar Pradesh."

Chief Executive Officer
U.P.L.D.B., Lucknow

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2. having prior experience and in-depth

Across
THE AISLE



PCHIDAMBARAM

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The CAA has pierced the indifference and apathy of the younger generation. The older generation has been put to shame. Thousands of young men and women have poured into the streets to protest, to march, to hold candlelight vigils, to wave the National Flag and to read the Preamble of the Constitution and reflect on its intangible but enduring values. As expected, the ruling class has reacted with blind fury, bluster and banalities, but the rulers are nervous

New normal angers youth

When they did, successive US Administrations dug in their heels and vociferously defended the war. Whether it was Kennedy's, Johnson's or Nixon's, the refrain was the same: victory is just one battle away. Surprisingly, it was Richard Nixon — a hawk and resolutely anti-Communist — who sensed that the US was fighting a hopeless and unwinnable war and decided to pull out.

SOMETHING TERRIBLY WRONG

The ferment that we witness in the campuses of Indian universities and colleges bears a striking resemblance to the events of 1968. Students and youth have sensed that something is 'terribly wrong' in the way the country is being governed. There were many sparks like appointment of vice-chancellors with dubious credentials, unwarranted interference by bumptious governors/chancellors, flawed appointments of teachers, mismanagement in the conduct of examinations, restrictions on student union activities, fee hikes, etc. Some university administrations were politically biased and favoured one political group of students over others and triggered clashes — the most notable was the administration of Jawaharlal Nehru University that openly encouraged the ABVP, the students' wing of the RSS. Voices of protest were labelled the *tukde tukde* gang. Sedition cases were slapped against stu-

dent leaders. If the new 'normal' in universities was frightening, the 'normal' in the country at large was also oppressive. Every day brought more horror stories of rape and lynching, trolling and abuse, and arbitrary arrests. Mendacious boasts about growth, development and jobs angered young men and women who were apprehensive about the future, especially about getting jobs. An observant student could discern that the force driving the new 'normal' and legitimising it was the majoritarian arrogance of the rulers that manifested itself in many ways: intolerance of dissent, contempt for other faiths, hard approach to enforcing law and order, censorship and other restrictions (such as shutdown of Internet), prolonged detention without charges, imposition of reactionary dogmas ('inter-caste or inter-faith marriage will not be allowed'), etc.

REFUSAL TO ENGAGE

At the political level, the majoritarian arrogance was visible in the refusal by the government to engage with the Opposition and in rushing through controversial legislation in Parliament. Here is an example: Articles 5 to 11 of the Constitution of India deal with citizenship. The Constituent Assembly debated these provisions for three months before the Articles were adopted. By contrast, the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2019 was approved by the Cabinet on

December 8, 2019, passed in both Houses of Parliament, and notified as a law on December 11 — all within 72 hours! More than political parties — some of whom did extraordinary flip-flops — it was the students and youth who woke up to the real threat to India and the Constitution. They realised that the majoritarian arrogance and steps would lead to authoritarianism; more than that, it would divide India and pit Indian against Indian. Some Indians would become less than others in terms of rights, privileges and opportunities. It would be a catastrophic throwback to the India of 70 years ago and would erase the gains made since Independence. The Citizenship (Amendment) Act has pierced the indifference and apathy of the younger generation. The older generation has been put to shame. Thousands of young men and women have poured into the streets to protest, to march, to hold candlelight vigils, to wave the National Flag and to read the Preamble of the Constitution and reflect on its intangible but enduring values. As expected, the ruling class has reacted with blind fury, bluster and banalities, but the rulers are nervous. The Prime Minister has allowed his Home Minister to assert that "we will not withdraw an inch from CAA". It seems there is an irresistible force and an immovable block. Someone — or something — has to yield. On that will hang the fate and future of India. It's an unhappy beginning to the New Year.

Fifth
COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH

Twitter @tavleen_singh



The cost of abusing power

IT WAS cold, it was dark, they had babies in their arms whom they held close to keep them as warm as possible. But, nobody left. They waited for the finale of their protest in Delhi last week, waited until they had sung the National Anthem from the steps of the Jama Masjid. It is not the first time that protesters against the amended citizenship law have sung the National Anthem as a song of protest. And, it is not the first time that the symbols of the protest have been the Indian Constitution and India's flag. But, what should become clear to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his closest aide, Amit Shah, is that the protesters have stolen the symbols of nationalism out of their hands and made them their own. And it has become increasingly hard for the BJP's social media army to label Muslims, leftists, liberals and dissidents as being 'anti-national'. This is an extraordinary achievement.

Unsurprisingly, a nervousness is evident in Modi's ministers that they find hard to conceal with hysterical speeches and denunciations. After the Home Minister's clumsy attempts to crush the protests under his jackboot, he and his comrade in arms, Yogi Adityanath, have been pulled back from the frontline and other seemingly more acceptable faces have replaced them. Smriti Irani has come forth to denounce Deepika Padukone for standing beside those who want to 'break up India' and those who 'celebrate every time a CRPF jawan' is killed. It is slightly shameful that a minister of the Union of India should feel the need to cross swords with a Bollywood star, but it is an indication of nervousness. Other milder voices like those of Prakash Javadekar and Nitin Gadkari have been heard in recent days in the hope that they will improve the Prime Minister's tarnished image, but so far nothing has worked.

The Prime Minister has himself assured Indian Muslims more than once that they have no reason to fear losing their citizenship and that there is in any case no NRC (National Register of Citizens) going to happen in the near future. But, when a community has spent six years silently watching the lynching squads and the cow protection gangs unleash terrible violence against them, it will be hard to shut them up now that Muslims have found their voice. No state government has used more violence to silence Muslim protesters than the government of Yogi Adityanath, and he has failed despite allowing his police force to kill nearly 30 people.

The protesters are no longer only Muslims. Their ranks have been joined by people whom the BJP's shouting brigade calls 'libtards' and 'sickularists'. And, the reason why they have joined is not because they fear being kicked out of India when citizenship inspectors come around, but because they see that what is being done to India by the Modi government is very, very wrong. So wrong that if anyone can be called the '*tukde-tukde* gang' it is them. I say this after careful consideration because I have covered Pakistan as a reporter for decades and met many, many senior military men who have nearly all confided to me that they are certain that India will break one more because of the alienation of its huge Muslim community. If this happens, it will not be because JNU students shout slogans but because our most senior elected officials have misused their enormous power.

It made me happy to hear the Supreme Court declare, while ruling on Kashmir, that shutting the Internet down indefinitely and imposing restrictive colonial laws like Section 144 indefinitely was an 'abuse of power'. It is. And, since Modi became Prime Minister for the second time, there has been too much abuse of political power. If the protests have continued in the streets of our cities and on campuses across India for nearly a month it is because people realise how powerless they are individually against he might of the Indian State. In Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath has abused his power to the extent that he has started seizing the properties of people who have been digitally recognised at protests. He is so smug in his right to do what he likes that he has jailed writers, actors, poets and ordinary housewives. The man he has damaged most is the Prime Minister.

Since he first became Prime Minister, Modi has assiduously cultivated an international image of being a statesman and a modern leader. That has been shattered almost beyond repair. But, what he perhaps needs to worry more about is his image within India. He needs to step out of his echo chamber of hysterical 'nationalists' and go and talk to the people who are protesting. He needs to notice that it is they who also carry the Indian Constitution as their protest manual and the Indian flag as their identity.

Caste in a green room: A fictionalised account

Dalitality

SURAJ YENGDE

Twitter @Surajyengde



"I WOULD like to thank everyone who contributed to the making of my story. I would not go to sleep without recalling every precious moment of this night. Each second is an archive for me. I would like to tell you all that as it is because of you that I am here. Who would have imagined that a brown girl with a thick Indian accent, coming from a middle-class family, would be at the centre stage of this mega event in New York City? I saw my sisters suffering the abuses of white males. I want to tell them now it's 'times up'. Pack your bags... WE WILL FIGHT YOU BACK," Devika Chopra said in one breath to a rousing applause. The audience in tuxedos and gowns moved to the reception later.

"Congrats Ms Chopra, I would like to ask a few questions... I am Forite, investigate reporter at a Paris-based fashion magazine."

Cheerfully acknowledging the intrusion of a world-renowned journalist, Devika invites him for a talk. The cameras flash as she takes him to the green room behind the stage.

The first question is on the night's events. "Honestly, it is unbelievable. I came to New York to find my passion. I worked minimum wage as a waitress studying journalism. My parents were middle class, father in defence and mother in a private company. They worked hard to send me to a good school. My experiences have been marked by negation and rejection. People found me inferior. I went through a stage of self-doubt, of seeing myself as out of the American social culture. I tried to fit in but was never accepted."

"But then as I saw Beyoncé burning the stage and soaring the charts. She inspired me, JLO was there and so was the queen, O (referring to Oprah Winfrey). These Black and Latinx women keep inspiring me. Ava DuVernay is undoubtedly my icon. You may say I copy her style (*laughs*). But Camila Cabello is a work of pure beauty and persuasion. There is so much talent in these people that remained unacknowledged in this wretched world of ours (referring to her industry). Had it not been for my sisters in America, there would be no today and I wish to contribute to that legacy."

Forite asks Devika about her feelings about being recognised as the South Asian

face of the industry. "I love that because I am embracing my heritage like other Black women and men are embracing theirs, and diversity is what makes us more renowned and beautiful. I want to push for more South Asian voices in the mainstream."

Forite intervenes to ask another question about Devika's impression of India. "I love my country. I am more Indian than you can imagine, apart from my Indian accent. Of course, we have problems. Like in the US, we have racism, sexism, homophobia, xenophobia and all kinds of white people's malice towards POCs (person of colour). We have our problems that have to do with colonialism and its aftermath."

"Is caste in your society equivalent to racism in America?" Forite asks. Devika replies immediately. "I think caste is an issue of the past. We have reservations for lower castes. We call them Shudras and they have rights as equal citizens. I would agree that in the past their condition was weak and they were treated badly, but now, they are also rising and have a political party which is run by a corrupt woman. So they've their issues to tackle."

Forite intervenes: "With an experience of a quarter century across the globe, I am constantly in search for newness and diversity in fashion. In India, I tried many times to find authenticity of culture from a different perspective. I could not find lower castes or tribals in fashion or films. I did a survey to find out how many fashion magazines in India covered lower castes or tribals, how many outlets upheld their fashion and style of cuisine without appropriating them? To my surprise, I could not find any expert on any credible resource."

"I couldn't track them in the most beautiful Indian men and women list of the year. Or the list of most influential Indians, or even awards recognising their talent. The editors of Indian and Western fashion magazine outlets also appear to have a distant understanding of the social equations of your country. They hired me to do a segment on India's diversity and it was just limited to taking pictures of the poor and Banjaras dancing. You are a champion of diversity and the most influential name in the industry. Would you be able to talk about this and champion this cause?" Forite fronts with a smile.

The atmosphere is rarefied. Slowly, like crumpled leaves, Devika and Forite leave the green room to the spectacle of glory outside. Camera flashes continue.

Suraj Yengde, author of bestseller Caste Matters, is a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard Kennedy School. He curates the fortnightly 'Dalitality' column

She
SAID

NEHA AGGARWAL

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I WAS 14 when I attended my first senior national camp. It was in May 2004 in Patiala, under a foreign coach assigned for the Indian table tennis team. An endurance session was scheduled for Saturday morning — we were instructed to run at our best speed for 50 minutes.

I was determined to beat my seniors. At the same time, I was not sure if I should even run because I was on my first day of periods. But I did not want to make excuses as it was my first senior camp. So, I ran. My body wanted to give up after 15 minutes itself, but my mind did not. I kept thinking, 'I hope I have not stained myself'.

By the time I finished, I felt like throwing up. That evening, I just lay in bed in pain. I did not know if it was even advisable to have such strenuous workouts during periods. I remained unaware of this for the next one-two years until I realised that as athletes, you just have to do it. There is no other way around it.

Because we were always surrounded by men, we never spoke about menstrual health and the issues we faced during periods. Consequently, nobody took the initiative to educate us, and as athletes, we did not know that this issue was directly related to performance. Each month, the mind took precedence over the body.

Because we were always surrounded by men, we never spoke about menstrual health and the issues during periods. We did not know that this issue was directly related to performance. Each month, the mind took precedence over body

So I was taken aback when I read about recent research, which revealed that an alarming number of Indian athletes miss their periods and are deficient in iron, putting them at risk of career-threatening injuries as well as long-term health consequences. It is an important finding and hopefully, will trigger conversations on this topic because right now, there is absolutely no dialogue.

The word period was such a taboo that coaches called it 'ladies' problem' — the term itself is so negative. I got along well with my coach but when I had my periods, I just told him, "I'm tired". We never got into the details. Because of the lack of conversation, everything was up in the air.

You have to deal with practical problems and also some myths. Like we were always told to not lift weights during periods. So how do weightlifters go about

Match day and a 'ladies' problem'



Aggarwal says that at Olympic Gold Quest, an organisation working with Indian sportspersons, she consciously talks to junior athletes about menstrual health

their training? As athletes, we did not know if we were supposed to do core or abs workout while menstruating. But we did because we wondered what if the periods coincided with match day!

Dealing with periods was as much about mental stress as about the physical strain. You have to deal with mood swings, and are constantly worried if you are stained. If you are in the middle of a two-hour session and cannot take a long break to change, you're just thinking, 'Do I have a stain?' Ultimately, it affects the way you train. And you are asking your teammates to check — this conversation used to happen all the time.

When the dates of important tournaments were declared, I would first figure out if my period dates were clashing. That way, I could stay prepared as most of the venues, especially in India, didn't have good washrooms and you had to worry about simple things like disposal. While travelling, be it in India or abroad, I would always carry four things with me — polythenes, newspapers, hand wash and perfume.

Eventually, it stops being a big deal because you just grow up with these things. But when I look back, I wonder if there would have been a difference in my performance if conscious efforts had been

made to help us recover better during periods. There were so many women athletes I know who took pills to delay their periods. Maybe regular testing, monitoring of periods and a specific nutritional plan could have helped them.

In my current role at Olympic Gold Quest, I deal with some of India's top junior and senior athletes. I notice the same problems that I faced 10 years ago. We make a very conscious effort to talk to the junior athletes about it, educate them and take care on the nutrition front. But a lot more needs to be done.

These days, we have seen improvement in other sectors — you see some corporate offices and airports keeping sanitary pad dispensers. But that practice isn't followed in sports. I have not seen it at any international tournament either.

A huge change in cultural mindset is required. Even in our everyday life, it is not okay to talk about periods. Men still find it awkward to talk about it. And in India, we have don't have enough women coaches and trainers to bring about change. Like any other cultural shift, this is also going to take time. But in the meantime, we should try to ensure that women athletes are comfortable talking about menstrual pain and that periods are not dismissed as a "ladies' problem".

Aggarwal is a former national table tennis champion and represented India at the Beijing Olympics

'She Said' is a fortnightly column curated by National Editor Shalini Langer

Out of
MY MIND

MEGHNAD DESAI



WHAT IS Uddhav Thackeray up to? He has been in politics a long time. He sat at the feet of his father who innovated a new style of politics in India. Reviled as a fascist, Bal Thackeray succeeded in establishing street-fighting Right Wing Regional Populism as a brand. Whatever the established political parties may have thought, he captured Mumbai.

Whatever the current fortunes of the BJP and Shiv Sena, it was the Shiv Sena which succeeded politically in launching

Is it time for Uddhav to go national?

Hindutva (with a Marathi angle) as a viable political brand. It is this perhaps that Uddhav is now keen to reestablish. Since the 1990s when the Sena was the senior partner in Maharashtra, it has had to play second fiddle. During the 2014 Modi government, its MPs felt slighted but bore up.

Now, with a new coalition at his back, Uddhav is in a hurry to differentiate his party from the BJP. Twice in recent weeks, he has said the most radical things of any politician. Thus he compared the JNU incidents to the attack on Mumbai on 26/11. Narendra Modi loves to tar his critics with the Pakistan brush. Uddhav has now returned the compliment in the most hurting

way possible by comparing the JNU perpetrators with a Pakistani terrorist outfit.

Then, he has opened up the protest against Article 370 in a way bolder than the 'secular' parties have dared. The 'Free Kashmir' banner carried at a Mumbai procession would not have been carried a yard without the Sena's permission. This is the most extreme harsh difference Uddhav has articulated with the BJP.

For the first time, there is a deliberate split on the Hindutva Right. It is as if Uddhav has read the tea leaves and decided that, given his age and his tightly disciplined party, plus the strategic support of the NCP's Sharad Pawar, he can offer himself as

a rival to the BJP. The calculation must be that there is no prospect of the Congress ever coming back, not while Rahul Gandhi is in the way of a better leader emerging. If there was any doubt, the Congress idea of attacking Savarkar for his alleged homosexuality (is the Congress for retention of Section 377 and homophobic?) is remarkably ill advised.

There is no other force on the secular Liberal front with a strong regional base. Mamata Banerjee will lose West Bengal soon enough. Mayawati and Akhilesh Yadav are unlikely to gain much traction in Uttar Pradesh. Stalin has yet to win Tamil Nadu. Uddhav as Maharashtra Chief

Minister is a plausible leader of the anti-BJP coalition in 2024. No doubt there will be ups and downs but Uddhav's advantage is that he will eat into the BJP's Hindu support not just in Maharashtra but wherever there are unhappy BJP supporters due to the economic slowdown and problems of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act. He has inducted Muslims in his Cabinet.

These are early days but then it will take full four years to build up his credibility as a national leader. It cannot be sudden. Uddhav has had a long time waiting in Matoshree to think how to fulfill his father's dream — a Maratha Prime Minister in Delhi. The time is near.

Here’s looking at you



When actor Deepika Padukone visited JNU last week, standing in quiet solidarity with injured students, it was the loudest Bollywood had spoken out on issues outside its gilded sets. SHUBHRA GUPTA examines the new eloquence in the industry – angry, unapologetic and not afraid to seek answers

ATOP-flight Bollywood actress standing with folded hands in front of a person who is not readily visible: this image, which flashed across the globe in less time than it takes to type this sentence, captured a moment.

Deepika Padukone’s unannounced mid-week visit to Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) — where she greeted the injured student leader Aishe Ghosh, and then stood quietly, one amongst the sea of faces behind Kanhaiya Kumar — was unaccompanied by a statement. She didn’t say a word. She didn’t need to. She was there. In solidarity. In empathy. Right there, right then, Big Bollywood was standing up, speaking up.

Cynics and online trolls, who slammed Padukone’s JNU visit as a “publicity gimmick to promote” her new film *Chhapaak*, couldn’t really be blamed. It’s been a long-standing PR-marketing practice, to dig up a convenient controversy just ahead of the release of a film, which is allowed to as conveniently die down, once it has made sufficient noise.

But what these vitriol-drippers were forgetting was that there are a million ways for an A-list star to attract public attention. Padukone could have gone anywhere, and she would have managed to get a crowd swarming around her. She chose, instead, to stand up and be counted, at a student-gathering at JNU, a place which, if you believe the vicious narrative woven around it, is full of “*desh ke gaddar*” (traitors”).

The question that came tumbling out in the aftermath of that unprecedented moment was this: would the biggies of Bollywood break their silence? The Khans, the Kapoors, the Bachchans, those who rule the film industry, and those who have chosen to resolutely keep quiet, despite the grave recent provocations, including attacks on students of Jamia Millia Islamia, Aligarh Muslim University and JNU.

It isn’t as if there had been radio silence till then. Over these past few years, actors Swara Bhasker and Richa Chadha have consistently been vociferous in their calling out of troubling issues (lynchings, rapes, misogyny), leading to a shower of online abuse. Sonam K Ahuja and Sushant Singh have been standing tall as well. Anubhav Sinha’s Twitter feed is an entertaining compendium of speaking out, or fending off of trolls. But what really changed the tempo, and upped the game, was Anurag Kashyap’s return to the social media platform, which he had famously quit a few months ago.

“I think I got back (to Twitter) because I was just so angry when I saw the violence (on students of Jamia Millia in December,

when police went on the rampage inside the library and lobbed tear gas shells on the campus) and no one was saying anything. I had been made vulnerable a few times before, and had retreated (from Twitter), but this time the anger was so much that I threw away the fear,” says Kashyap.

Since then, there has been a constant barrage of combative tweets, not just from Kashyap, but also from a whole host of film personalities. Some have been vaguely worded (Rajkummar Rao, Vicky Kaushal); others have been sharply critical of the government and police, arraying themselves alongside the protesting students in universities around the country, and the regular folk who are coming out in support of the protesters, especially the women of Shaheen Bagh, near Jamia. “I was there (at Shaheen Bagh) on January 1, and felt so charged,” says Alankrita Shrivastava, who took on patriarchy in her *Lipstick Under My Burkha*. “And it’s wonderful how they don’t feel persecuted or victimised. It’s the students of India who have shown us the way.”

For Kashyap, “the sacred line was crossed when students were violated: earlier we dissented but we also knew we had a Constitution and Supreme Court and police. Now it is not so. Everyone is colluding and the sense of justice has eroded”. He has kept up the momentum with his tireless, relentless take-downs of the powers that be.

“Speaking up is important and the only right left that we should exercise,” he tells *The Sunday Express*. “Dissent should not have to be an act of courage.”

Why do you think some from your community are not speaking, I ask him. Is it the fear of retaliation, or is it that they are apolitical, and couldn’t care less about how things are as long as their interests are taken care of? “I think silence is also a statement,” he says. “Not attending dinners and not endorsing the government is also a statement. No one is apolitical. I also believe that the three Khans are not speaking because they will be ‘othered’ as very rich Muslims.”

Sinha echoes the sentiment, albeit from a different tangent. “When Shah Rukh spoke of intolerance (five years ago), he was attacked without mercy. His car was stoned, his life was threatened. Aamir’s statement (to *The Indian Express*, taking off from what wife Kiran Rao had said) was taken out of context. Did anyone stand up for them then? I think the problem with celebrities coming up front is that attention gets deflected from the issue. It’s a complex thing.”

But the argument has been that bona fide celebrities have power. And shouldn’t that be harnessed to highlight just causes? “As

EXPLAINED
New voices a break from past

BOLLYWOOD IS a high-stakes game, played with an eye on box-office revenue and one in which powerful players call the shots. In this industry run on patronage and lineage, fortune is often determined by which ‘camp’ one is seen in. Which is why Deepika Padukone’s visit to JNU, in solidarity with the students who were attacked by masked men on January 5, is a powerful statement. Padukone’s silent support, along with a host of young actors, directors and creative talent choosing to speak out on issues concerning society at large, is a break from the industry’s past.

long as the focus remains on the students, and the issues they have been fighting for — fee hike, free-to-think-and-act-campus, democracy — any or all support is fine. The problem with big stars is that they take that attention away,” says director Sudhir Mishra.

So how would he assess Padukone’s visit to JNU? “Deepika chose to make a film like *Chhapaak*. She has challenged the very notion of what a Bollywood heroine should look like. That’s also a kind of protest, no?” he says. “And her going to JNU was in continuity with that same sentiment, no? I don’t think it was a stunt.”

That rhetorical “no?” is a yes, of course. It seems particularly appropriate to speak to Mishra at this juncture about students, protests, and rebellion — the volatile mix in his striking debut feature, *Yeh Woh Manzil Toh Nahin* (1987), as well as *Hazaaroon Khwahishein Aisi* (2004). As befits someone who has been around for “35 working years”, as he puts it with a laugh, he strikes a cautionary note when it comes to the incessant demand that the silent amongst them (especially the Khans) speak up.

“Sometimes, not speaking is braver than those who are speaking, because they know that it will become about them,” he says.

“Every single party, not just the BJP, should be listening to what the young are saying. It is the students who have inspired Bollywood, not Bollywood that has inspired them.”

Mishra tells me he has taken this present situation personally. “I am a professor’s son, and grew up on campus. If you destroy the idea of education, you are destroying everything.”

Is that why he is re-making *Yeh Jo Manzil Toh Nahin*? Well, not really remaking, but revisiting, because that’s how I ended my film in 1987, and I was forced to ask myself, have things not changed at all?”

The protest has also stepped off the safety of a digital platform and into the real world, even if momentarily. On January 6, a bunch of Bollywood folk gathered on Carter Road in support of the JNU students. In the crowd were, among others, Kashyap, Chadha, Vishal Bharadwaj, Anubhav Sinha, Hansal Mehta, Rahul Bose, Dia Mirza, Zoya Akhtar, Taapsee Pannu, Neeraj Ghaywan and Swanand Kirkire. “The whole thing (the gathering) grew organically and came together over a period of just a few hours,” says Sinha, whose past couple of films, *Mulk* and *Article 15*, have shone a light on religious and caste divides. “We deliberately kept it free of name-calling. It was our way of showing that we care, that we are with you (the students).”

There was protest poetry (Bharadwaj brought the house down), song, and high spirits. When Kirkire sang ‘*Baawra mann dekhne chala ek sapnaa*’, that immortal song that embodies youth and rebellion and hope, everyone joined in. And when he recited his poem, the cheers took a long time to die down. “I penned my poem because it reminds me of Gandhi’s India,” says Kirkire, “the poem says that even if you do violence, we will come back with love”.

The ‘crowdfie’ at Carter Road may not have been as neatly produced a visual as the infamous selfie taken early last year by actors through the Progressive Writers Association wrote lines that are still hummed every time there is a call for revolution. Actor Balraj Sahni’s photograph in bloodied clothes, after personally fighting back attacks on the party headquarters, adorned the CPI office building in Mumbai for a long time.

Jawaharal Nehru’s influence went beyond the formation of the Film Finance Corporation (FCC) in 1960 and the establishment of the Film and

Good question.

With inputs from Ektaa Malik & Suanshu Khurana

When they stood up, spoke up in the past

SEEMA CHISHTI

NALLATHAMBI, the good brother in Tamil, was a 1948 film that was an act of revolt against the zamindari system. Written by Annadurai, the legendary chief minister of then Madras state, it is an early example of cinema’s intimate link with politics, social commentary, and what one might term ‘standing up’ now.

Tamil cinema continued the tradition of cinema being seamlessly about politics and society. Screenplay writer M Karunanidhi, and actors MGR and Jayalalithaa, dominated the state’s politics and it was cinema that they drew from. Even recently, Rajinikanth, Kamal Haasan, Captain Vijayakanth, Khushboo are people of cinema, who are in politics.

Andhra Pradesh’s N T Rama Rao or NTR is not just another vintage example of persons in cinema being political but also of cinematic tricks and spectacle being used to sharpen politics and give it wheels. NTR’s Chaitanya Ratham, a road-trip in a Chevrolet van which turned the push against the then invincible-looking Rajiv Gandhi into a storm, spun regional leaders into ‘national’ ones and changed politics.

Bombay cinema and its artistes and writers too have had their brush with the political. As early as 1948, Ram Daryani’s *Ghar ki Izzat*, a film about a subversive Indian son caught between his mother and wife, found it necessary to insert a song to mark the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi earlier that year.

Prithviraj Kapoor came out of the Indian People’s Theatre Association (IPTA), the pre-Independence theatre body that used culture as a form of protest. In his memoirs, the late socialist Madhu Dandavate recalls a session of the All India Congress Committee held in Bombay, before the formation of Pakistan, when all attendees were invited to watch Prithviraj Kapoor staging a play called *Deewar*, on the need to bridge distances between India and Pakistan.

In a newly independent India, even for — and especially for — Hindi cinema, it was impossible to stay away from national issues, politics and social commentary. The Communist Party, with its many members and sympathisers imbuing ideas of egalitarianism, amity and socially radical thoughts, played its part.

Mehboob Khan Productions had the hammer-and-sickle as part of its on-screen logo. Kaifi Azmi, Shailendra, Sahir Ludhianvi, Rajinder Singh Bedi, Majrooh Sultanpuri, Krishan Chander and others through the Progressive Writers Association wrote lines that are still hummed every time there is a call for revolution.

Actor Balraj Sahni’s photograph in bloodied clothes, after personally fighting back attacks on the party headquarters, adorned the CPI office building in Mumbai for a long time. Jawaharal Nehru’s influence went beyond the formation of the Film Finance Corporation (FCC) in 1960 and the establishment of the Film and

Television Institute of India (FTII) in 1960. People close to him, K A Abbas, Raj Kapoor, Chetan Anand, Nargis, spared no punches, whether in themes they picked or comments off-screen.

Critic and cinema scholar Aruna Vasudeva writes in *The New Cinema* (1986), “With the Film Finance Corporation’s policy decision in 1968 to start giving loans to new filmmakers for small budget, offbeat films... the groundwork for the arrival of alternate cinema was laid.”

While the films made in the run-up to and after the Emergency offer little hint of the turmoil then, Manoj Kumar’s *Roti, Kapada aur Makaan*, released in 1974, was an honourable exception. There is a scene when the hero is beating up a villainous grocer and ‘Vote for Congress’ is written prominently on the wall behind them.

In January 1989, at the International Film Festival of India in Delhi, Shabana Azmi was asked on stage which directors had brought out the best in her. Azmi took the mic and said, “My views on my directors and the new wave can be reserved for a later date. What is very important right now is that we’ve been distributing some leaflets in the audience. My fear is that not all the leaflets have been equally distributed. And so, I choose this occasion to read out our protest, please bear with me.” She proceeded to calmly name the ruling Congress party.

Then there were big stars who entered politics. Amitabh Bachchan took the plunge, first supporting his then family friend Rajiv Gandhi and later became an MP. Rajesh Khanna, Dharmendra, Hema Malini, Raj Babbar, Govinda and Nagma, among others, fought elections.

Things changed as Bombay cinema became the Bollywood film ‘industry’. There was money to be made and a lot to lose too. This tamed the voice emerging from the City of Dreams. With the Shiv Sena controlling Bombay and Bal Thackeray larger than life, Mani Ratnam had to infamously meet him and show him *Bombay*, a Hindu-Muslim love story in the aftermath of the Mumbai riots of 1992-93, before he could release the film. Actors were happier to do PR-inspired statements, appearances or placements in ways that products were made to do. The ‘industry’ put up little resistance when there was pressure on *Ae Dil Hai Mushkil* (there were calls for its ban after the Uri attacks since it starred Pakistani actor Fawad Khan) or *Padmaavat* (Rajput outfits sought a ban alleging it portrayed a Rajput queen being intimate with a Muslim king).

Yet, the most relevant instance of Bombay cinema’s history of connect with politics is in Balraj Sahni’s convocation address to JNU in 1972. “More often than not I had lost courage at the crucial moment and taken shelter under the wisdom of other people. I had taken the safer path... For this reason, afterwards, I have felt rotten... Whenever I lost courage, my life became a meaningless burden.”

Those who speak today, in some measure, shed that “burden” that Bollywood has borne for some decades now.

“Speaking up is important... Dissent should not have to be an act of courage... Earlier we dissented but we also knew we had a Constitution, Supreme Court, police. Now it is not so. Everyone is colluding, sense of justice has eroded.”

ANURAG KASHYAP
DIRECTOR, PRODUCER

“I was there (at Shaheen Bagh) on January 1, and felt so charged. It’s wonderful how they don’t feel persecuted or victimised. It’s the students of India who have shown us the way.”

ALANKRITA SHRIVASTAVA
DIRECTOR, SCREENPLAY WRITER

“When Shah Rukh spoke of intolerance, he was attacked without mercy... Aamir’s statement was taken out of context. The problem with celebrities coming up front is that attention gets deflected from the issue.”

ANUBHAV SINHA
DIRECTOR



THE NEW

NEW DELHI

‘There’s nothing we are doing that Lutyens wouldn’t have. It’s radical, but doesn’t rupture with past’

In a detailed presentation and interview, Dr Bimal Patel, architect and urban planner, whose Gujarat-based firm is redeveloping the Capital’s Central Vista, shares the blueprint and objectives of the coveted project, says it will modernise administration and make it more efficient, defends the 2024 deadline for its completion, and believes fears about the construction causing pollution are “a little bit exaggerated”



Photos: Gajendra Yadav

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN: The Central Vista is part of our national architectural history and iconography. Does it really need to change? In the way that you are planning it — tearing down some buildings, replacing it with other buildings — will we lose some of our history with such a change?

As we go around making this major change, we will try to do it in a way that is not a rupture with the past. What we are trying to do is to respect history, perhaps even strengthen the original intent by using architecture to strengthen the original diagram... There’s nothing we are doing that doesn’t say, listen, this is exactly what (Sir Edwin) Lutyens would have done. It might be a radical change but certainly not something that breaks with the past — it’s taking the past and working with it.

On whether facilities need to be modernised or not, my personal views are not that important... One big motivation for Parliament’s modernisation is the expansion needs. Milan Vaishnav did a nice article on the crisis of representation, on how the number of people MPs are representing is rising with rising population. Second, there are imbalances country-wide due to population changes. All these issues will have to be tackled, which will need expansion. If you need expansion, you are going to have to make a new facility. That’s what our conclusion was.

Anybody who’s trying to make administration work more efficiently will see the need for having appropriate infrastructure. Personally, if you ask me, I’m not surprised by the government’s or the Prime Minister’s decision to do it. The way he used to work in Gandhinagar, where you have the Central Secretariat with everybody sitting... the kind of synergies that you get from everybody being in one place, from having a standardised infrastructure... anybody who has run large organisations knows that you need the infrastructure. I see it very much as a part of modernising administration. This is not to build new buildings; the buildings are the means of modernising administration and making it more efficient. The government’s objective is to synergise functioning. That is driving the whole idea.

As for the Central Vista, the avenue would have been refurbished... in any case... and there’s no radical change here. To move people from the ministry, from North and South Blocks... gladdens my heart as an individual. When I go there, I can gaze at the buildings, at the mysterious things that go on inside... Essentially, even when Lutyens and (Herbert) Baker built them, these were meant to be architectural instruments of intimidation. They were going to be on a high hill and government was going to be up there... It’s about time, I would say, that we truly appropriated these buildings. These are just personal views.

Sometimes, hesitation paralyses us. I operate in the public realm in different places, and I see that paralysis everywhere because people are so worried about thoughtful development that they want to see no change at all. I think we have to be cheerful about how we make the change. Change is inevitable because things change, technology changes, population changes, and life changes.

RAVISH TIWARI: But why are we trying to create something that took two decades to build, in just seven years?

Why the rush?

The first building I did in my life was the Gujarat High Court, measuring 1 lakh sq ft. This (the Central Vista) is 100 lakh sq ft. It took seven years to build at the time. That was India then with 2% growth, flyovers and infrastructure took forever to be built... If it can be done faster, then why not do it? It saves money, time of disruption etc. Everywhere we go, all of us Indians say why do we take so long to build our infrastructure? I have read many articles which talk about why our infrastructure takes so long to be built... So could it be done faster? Can we do it in three shifts? Many people come back with stories on how in China, they build one floor a day... Maybe you could see this is as a symbol, a desire to do things faster?... I have worked with many industrialists who have wanted their factories to be up and running by a certain day... If you are going to do it at the expense of quality, then I would say hold on... I think there’s a very clear message to us saying minimise the disruption in whatever way you can; not just in terms of construction or moving offices... I would rather see it this way.

SOMYA LAKHANI: How will you ensure that Lutyens’s symmetry — with no building interrupting another building’s view — is maintained?

You cannot come to Central Vista, design something and not be respectful of the symmetry that exists... I believe that if someone looks at it, they will not complain about at least that dimension. I’m being very careful in wanting to continuously reinforce the essential diagram of Lutyens, rather than work against it... When you are doing additions, you have to be respectful. You don’t have to mimic it completely — there are new requirements, new technology... We find me one building where I have not been respectful.

ABANTIKA GHOSH: What kind of expenses will be involved?

The numbers are being worked on. I still have no idea of the facilities the PMO etc will have. Parliament is a very special building, but the office buildings are at office building costs. I can’t give you a full number because it doesn’t exist. These figures will be available in a couple of months. The office building will be a picture of rationality and efficiency. As Parliament has a more significant function, we might do a little more there. (But) the office buildings are the big chunk of it. Refurbishment costs, pavings, I doubt it will be anything more than what paving work costs in Delhi at the moment... Maybe we will spend on better light fittings, signage. Every time you make an expense, the real question is what are you making it for. Is it to increase the life or functionality of the structure, to improve its look and feel? I’m from Ahmedabad where clients are very demanding. So that becomes part of the DNA of any Ahmedabad architect. I’m not special in that regard... I think we are careful about costs here also.

KRISHN KAUSHIK: While you say that if things can move faster, let them, the 2024 deadline seems to be politically motivated — it’s the election year.

You are asking the wrong person. I have no way of answering that question. I am a professional and we get these sort of demands — sometimes they are doable, sometimes they are not. If it is doable, I will help them do it. If it isn’t possible, I will respectfully



say it can’t be done. I can’t blame that person for wanting it.

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN: Your client is the government of India. Who are you actually building for? Are you making this in the image of the individual or individuals who occupy the offices of the Government of India right now, or are you building it for all time, for all the people?

I don’t think there is a question in this. Public projects of this sort are successful if they meet the needs of various people. It’s not one person, and they’re fine because there are multiple people and dimensions to their needs. Is it for the tourists who come? Sure, I want tourists to come. Is it for citizens who want to go to the garden on Sunday with their families? Yes, it’s for them too. Is it for the national spectacle that we have, the (Republic Day) parade? Yes, it is for that too. Is it for the office-goers who work there? It is for them too. Is it for the Speaker, the President? Yes, it is for everybody. To say it is for this person or that is out of the question when you’re doing public projects. Also, in public projects these days, the real challenge is to find that common ground as there are such opposing views about things. I am hoping our common sense

will make this project work.

KRISHN KAUSHIK: After the public tendering process starts, how will you ensure that both quality and deadlines are met because that is not in your hands at all times?

Yes, it’s certainly not in my hands — project management issues become important at some stage. I can do things now that will

WHY BIMAL PATEL

Architect Bimal Patel is the man behind most urban planning projects of note in the country, including redevelopment of the Central Vista in New Delhi now. In 2011, his firm HCP Design, Planning & Management designed the new office space, Swarnim Sankul, for Gujarat CM (then or Narendra Modi) and his Cabinet. More recently, the Padma Shri awardee

has been associated with the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor project, expected to be ready by 2021, and the Mumbai Port Trust development, aimed at revamping the eastern seafront of the city. He started his architectural career in the mid-’80s and made his mark with revamp of the Kankaria Lake Waterfront (2006) and the Sabarmati Riverfront (2002)

listen, there are common pilgrims getting fleeced... The (new) project is a big improvement. They are building toilets, a shaded area in which 3,000 pilgrims can line up, there is a place where they can put their chappals and not get fleeced, it’s a place that can be kept clean and you don’t have to look at the ground while walking. Why do we have open running gutters as part of romantic India? I will show you places where these gullies you are talking about are actually encroachment, built on top of heritage structures, on top of temples.

AAKASH JOSHI: Why did you not go in for broader political consultation on the Central Vista project and made your job easy?

I have worked on public projects for the last 25 years. It’s important to have consultation, indeed, and it is at various levels. It is a process. In such a complex process where do you start from and where do you end... My experience with all these projects is that, sadly, one never gets it right, and that is for two reasons. As a society we don’t have that much expertise, and nobody seems to be ready for a mature discussion. As we do more and more projects, I think we will get better. But I agree, we could do the consultation project much better.

SOMYA LAKHANI: One of the concerns about the project is the pollution that its construction would cause. Do you have a plan regarding that?

This vision of one project suddenly engulfing Delhi in a fog of pollution is to be examined. It already has a fog of pollution and it doesn’t come from here... The maximum amount of dust in the air is because of unpaved streets... The vehicles are plying and throwing up dust... Streets constitute at least 20% of the land area of the city. Once we examine the issues, these fears turn out to be false. Everybody is looking at a city growing and is worried about a concrete jungle covering entire India. That is a scare. If all Indians were to be urbanised and they were to consume land, how much of India would be covered by cities? One billion Indians in city, all concrete-paved. How much of India would be concrete?... This fear that you will be engulfed in pollution with one more construction site is a little bit exaggerated.

Nonetheless, we will constantly humidify the site. Most construction sites are wet. Humidifying sites during demolition is easily possible and can be built into the contract. One idea is to house construction workers at the end of a Metro line so that they take the Metro and come to work like others. The contractor doesn’t have to be given separate land for housing construction workers. Perhaps you need to stagger timings, so that construction workers come like that. We could have noise barriers, like noise protectors.

KRISHN KAUSHIK: How is it that almost all the pet projects of the Prime Minister are bagged by one architect?

Do you think these are the only projects that he is doing? I am not doing the Prime Minister’s museum. I did not do Statue of Unity. Perhaps, I am a good architect.

It was an open competition. I speak the risk of being self-interested in this... A project of this scale, size and complexity requires capacity. You look for somebody who has in the past done something equivalent.



The brief: diversity, efficiency, flexibility

SHIVAM PATEL & SOMYA LAKHANI

By 2024, the Capital will wear a new look — a new Parliament, a new residence for the Prime Minister, an arboretum of rare plants, and a spruced up Rajpath. The buzz surrounding the Union government’s ambitious redevelopment project of the Central Vista is strong — just as it was in the early 20th century when architects Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker embarked on their journey of turning New Delhi into the Capital of colonial India.

The two friends-turned-foes, who designed the Rashtrapati Bhawan, Parliament House, India Gate, North and South Blocks, and the National Archives of India planned to build administrative buildings on either side of the Central Vista avenue. The work, however, remained incomplete.

Following independence, these empty plots were turned into offices — many of them in shabby state and requiring urgent intervention.

Last September, the Union government announced the Central Vista redevelopment project, with the contract going to Gujarat-based HCP Design Planning and Management, headed by architect Dr Bimal Patel.

Parliament House

The construction of the Parliament building, then called the Legislative Building, began in 1921, a decade after work began on the Central Vista. It was inaugurated in 1927, with Baker himself adding two floors to the structure in 1956 following demand for more space.

The Central Hall, where joint sessions take place twice a year, doubles up as the lounge, and the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are based at the ends. It’s because of these reasons that the need for a new Parliament was felt.

Says Patel, “We identified the triangular plot next to the current Parliament where there is an expropriated office, some car parking, security arrangement... It’s essentially empty.” The new Parliament, being built on a triangular grid, will have a Lok Sabha hall, a Rajya Sabha hall, a lounge around the open-toilet courtyard, a floor with sculptures in the middle and various offices on the periphery. The height of the two buildings will be the same, with six storeys.

Patel says the seating arrangement in the halls will be in the traditional horseshoe design. The preferred option for the Lok Sabha is to have two people benches of generous size on which three can sit when there is a joint session. While the Lok Sabha capacity will be over 500, it will go up to 1,300 during joint sessions.

The new Parliament will be equipped with a sophisticated acoustic design. It will also have high-tech software and hardware systems related to voting and audio-visual systems and screens on the desks. There will also be chambers for MPs.

The building will have a glazed spine, with each of its windows different to “indicate the diversity of India”.

Prime Minister’s residence

It will move from the current 7, Lok Kalyan Marg, address to a plot closer to Rashtrapati Bhawan. As of now, the PM’s residence is 2.8 km away. The PMO too will move from a plot in the Central Secretariat to another near the PM’s new residence. Similarly, the Vice-President’s residence, which is about 1.7 km from Rashtrapati Bhawan, will move to a plot on the other side of the presidential palace. “All the disruptive travel between home and office gets minimised once the PM and V-P’s residences are moved here,” says Patel.

Central Secretariat

All ministries and offices are to be moved to the Central Vista. For this, 30 “doughnut-shaped” identical buildings have been proposed on four tracts of government land between India Gate and the Raj Bhawan and Vajra Bhawan. The new plan will bring all the 51 ministries, along with the National Archives, and a central conference centre together to form the new Central Secretariat.

“The brief was to make it modular, make 10 different types of offices related to 10 different levels of functioning to get maximum flexibility,” says Patel. While each of the buildings would have red sandstone facade, matching the existing ones in Central Vista, the interiors would be of glass and steel. Each building will have eight floors and a three-level car parking. But their height would be lower than that of India Gate. Inside, there will be a courtyard each with a garden at the centre, a cafe and an exhibition space. Each building will have two entrances.

Transit-oriented development

This would involve connecting the Central Secretariat Metro station on the Yellow and Violet Line of the Delhi Metro to a “people mover” at the underground level. While the plan will be further discussed with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, the idea is to have a transportation system which people can use to access buildings, as trains or the secretariat at short intervals. From the stations, people would be able to use escalators to reach the actual halls in the buildings.

Cultural institutions

After the ministries move out of the North Block and South Block, they will be turned into museums and the National Museum will be moved into these buildings. Another objective is to commemorate 75 years of independence, for which a renovation of the Central Vista from the ridge to the Yamuna is being considered.

Biodiversity arboretum

Another plus on the table is to carve out the 48-acre forested area at the back of the President’s Estate and turn it into a national biodiversity arboretum. “This would also be a part of the President’s Estate, but it would be open to the public... So we could have something, essentially remaining a forest, but with glass houses where you create microclimates of sorts...,” says Patel.

PM said let us make sure it’s not an endless project. I had a drawing of a joint session hall. He said, ‘Do we need this hall, it’s used twice a year. Can’t we double Lok Sabha hall for it?’ ... I’m a professional, if it isn’t possible, I say so

SUNDAY PROFILE

MAMIDALA JAGADESH KUMAR

The prof & the VC

An excellent teacher, or a bad administrator? A robotic stickler for rules, or a man with no respect for them? A square peg in a round hole, or an humble misfit everywhere? RITIKA CHOPRA with ARANYA SHANKAR on what makes Vice-Chancellor M Jagadesh Kumar the face of the JNU unrest

On October 24, 2002, IIT Delhi hit the headlines for an unusual reason. About 400 students of Nilgiri Hostel boycotted the mess as a mark of protest against their warden, Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar. “At IITs, students have a lot on their plate, and there’s no student politics. The Nilgiri protest was a rare moment in IIT Delhi’s history,” says a former textile engineering student of the institute, who was a part of that agitation.

The immediate trigger was Kumar, the warden since 2000, slapping a hostel resident for using profanity in a conversation with a friend (Kumar had overheard the conversation). “The mess boycott resulted from a build-up of frustration among Nilgiri residents because of a series of steps he had taken,” the former student adds, listing penalties he introduced for late payment of mess and hostel fees, as well as wrong parking.

Another former student, a computer science engineering graduate who was Nilgiri hostel secretary during the period, adds, “He treated us like 10-12-year-olds.”

The boycott eventually lasted three days till IIT Delhi Director RS Sirohi called on Nilgiri students and requested them to end their protest and an inquiry was set up into the matter, confirms Professor, Department of Textile Technology, SM Ish tiaque. He was the associate dean of students’ welfare at the time. “After the inquiry, he (Kumar) was asked to step down as warden. The student who used profanity was also punished.”

That was 2003. More than 16 years later, just across the road from IIT Delhi, M Jagadesh Kumar is the much-reviled figure at the centre of the Jawaharlal Nehru University unrest, with calls growing for his resignation as Vice-Chancellor. His four-year tenure as JNU V-C has been marked by almost constant protests, and allegations by a large chunk of teachers and students of him violating the university’s rules on everything from appointments to conduct of meetings.

For many, the IIT Delhi incident sums up the failings of Kumar as an administrator, even as he is universally hailed as an excellent teacher of electrical engineering, with one of his fields of expertise being nanoelectronic devices. Before becoming warden, Kumar had held only one other post – Chairman, Mess Staff Welfare Cell (September 2002-September 2003) – involving direct and regular interaction with students.

The Sunday Express reached out to Kumar requesting an interview for the profile, but did not hear from him.

Despite serving as JNU V-C since January 2016, Kumar hasn’t stopped teaching at IIT Delhi. “You can judge his dedication and love for teaching by the fact that he doesn’t take any remuneration for the classes here,” says a colleague in the Department of Electrical Engineering. He doesn’t take any classes at JNU.

Nadeem Beigh, a 27-year-old PhD student at IIT Delhi who was taught by Kumar last semester, says Kumar reaches half-an-hour before his lectures at 8 am. “He comes in at 7.30 am sharp to set up his projector. He is the one who turns on the AC in summers and the heater in winters well before the students come in,” says Beigh. “His classes are among the most sought after... Honestly, the person we read about in the newspapers and who we see in our classroom are not the same.”

But even in the precision with which Kumar runs his classes at IIT Delhi could lie clues to why he may be a wrong fit for JNU, which has a history of teachers and students being almost friends, classes spilling out into the open, and students even being allowed to eat or smoke during lectures earlier.

In Kumar’s clockwork planning, his hour-long class involves teaching for 50 minutes – when an alarm goes off to mark the time – followed by a 10-minute presentation by a student.

Kumar’s colleagues also vouch for his honesty and simplicity. Till he was made JNU V-C, he would cycle to everywhere within the IIT campus. “I don’t think he even owns a car,” says an IIT Delhi professor who does not wish to be identified. The teacher adds that Kumar can’t tolerate use of profanity, perhaps explaining that IIT Delhi flare-up.

Even officials at the HRD Ministry – which, as reported by The Indian Express, have been exasperated at his handling of JNU lately and even called for his resignation in November – concede this side of his. Says a former ministry officer, refusing to be identified, “As a person, there’s not much you can fault him on. Kumar is disciplined, decent, law-abiding and humble.”

However, as the officer goes on to add, “Like an engineer, he is linear, methodical and logical. The problem is that (as JNU V-C) he is a square peg in a round hole.”

Incidentally, the HRD Ministry’s note to then president Pranab Mukherjee in 2016 on appointment of a new V-C for JNU had a veiled warning that Kumar could be a misfit. It stated, “Of the panel of four candidates, Prof Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar is Professor of Electrical Engineering at IIT Delhi. The IIT system differs fundamentally from that of a university, including in the culture, structure and functioning.”

Then HRD Minister Smriti Irani had “strongly recommended” scientist V S Chauhan as he had “considerable academic and administrative experience of the university system, both in India and abroad.”

However, Mukherjee chose Kumar. Originally from Mamidala in Nalgonda district of Telangana, he holds a masters and PhD from IIT Madras and did post-doctoral research at the University of Waterloo in Canada. On his official webpage, he lays emphasis on family life. “To lead a happy life, it is important to have a happy family... I met my wife Lakshmi in 1989 and got married to her in 1990. She has an MBA in Marketing. However, she has preferred to be the Manager of our home... We have two sons.”

Says the above officer, “JNU has an intellectual culture and has always been anti-establishment. Knowledge is generated, especially in social sciences, when you ask questions. There’s no such thing as an obedient, complying social scientist.”



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

On Kumar’s functioning, the officer adds, “He has an ideological framework and is trying to supplant a pre-drawn action plan, which is leading to confrontation. Change cannot be brought about in a pig-headed manner.”

JNU colleagues even describe his demeanour as “robotic” at times. A former member of JNU’s Executive and Academic Council, who was one of the most vocal supporters of Kumar earlier, says, “It started becoming apparent to us that he didn’t react to anything anyone said. He’s also a poor communicator and it’s the worst thing for this university. In meetings of statutory bodies, when members would dissent, he would simply say, ‘dissent noted’, without listening and move on.”

Another former member of the Academic Council says, “Kumar really believes a decision means no discussion. We all have to agree with what he says.”

Kavita Singh, former Dean of the School of Arts & Aesthetics, suggests that it is not just Kumar’s “bottom-line” approach as a result of being an engineer that was the problem. “There are still things he can say with this and sound reasonable. But really the cornerstone of his functioning has been to fulfill the RSS agenda of seeing JNU as a political opponent and subduing it.”

The suggestion that Kumar is close to the RSS and its affiliate Vijnana Bharti has been around for a while, with IIT Delhi teachers talking about this, but off the record. There is, however, no official acknowledgement of the same.

A Jayakumar, special advisor with Vijnana Bharti, told The Sunday Express that Kumar is neither a member nor has he ever held an office in the organisation. On January 20, 2016, right after his appointment to JNU, Kumar, while denying any association with Vijnana Bharti, had told this newspaper, “I think it is a good organisation doing good work. I attended its function in IIT Delhi last month.”

Ish tiaque gives examples such as Kumar trying to name the Nilgiri Hostel lawn after Swami Vivekananda as a sign that he leans right in his thinking. Kumar had even put up a plaque which he was asked to remove, says Ish tiaque. “He is a good academician, meticulous, disciplined, hardworking and a gentleman. But he can also be a bit set in his ideas and sometimes inflexible.”

However, JNU School of International Studies Dean Aswini K Mohapatra, who’s also Chairperson of the Centre for West Asian Studies, says it is wrong to see Kumar’s actions only through one prism. Saying he acts on “legally sound” grounds, Mohapatra adds, “Once a rule is made, it has to be applicable to all. He doesn’t discriminate and implements it in toto... He’s someone who walks within the limits of the law.”

Admitting his interactions with Kumar have been mostly formal, Mohapatra puts his finger on another trait that may have come in the way of the V-C settling into his role. “It’s not that he’s not warm. I’ve never felt unwelcome by him,” he says, but obviously there is “some distance” since he is not from JNU and from a science background.

JNU Professor Vibha Tandon, who headed the committee formed by Kumar to hear appeals of students Kanhaiya Kumar, Umar Khalid and Anirban Bhattacharya against a High Level Enquiry Committee findings against them, also asserts that the V-C stands on the side of the law.

Contrary to popular perception, she adds, he “never interfered” in her work. “In any of my official capacities, he has never tried to

brief me. Many times, he hasn’t even asked what I’m doing,” says Tandon. She now heads the Internal Affairs Committee to hear sexual harassment cases, and the panel has been caught in several rows.

Tandon also praises him for being well-prepared for meetings, not sitting on decisions, and being extremely humble. “I have never heard him use bad words against opponents... even people abusing him in meetings.”

However, according to some, one reason why sexual harassment allegations are seen to have been mishandled under Kumar could be that the V-C appears “intimidated by women” and doesn’t have “the vocabulary to talk to them”.

A faculty member says, “I once went to his office to speak about something confidential and he called his secretary (a woman) in, saying it’s better for a woman to be there while he’s talking to one. And he barely ever makes eye contact.”

According to professors, this image of a shy, humble man may be cultivated, not gelling with how he seems to “court publicity”. Kumar’s Twitter timeline is full of links to his interviews to TV channels or websites.

But, ministry officials believe, his right tilt is why Kumar will last out the remaining year of his term, especially as the BJP has not hidden its intentions to breach the Left bastion in JNU. A senior minister had admitted last year that Kumar was stubborn and inflexible but the only one capable of helping them in this.

In an official note to the PMO last year, the HRD Ministry too admitted that the V-C was trying to “change the character of the university”, though adding that any such attempt should have been more calibrated. Officers point to JNU asking 12 Emeritus Professors, including former V-C Asis Datta and historian Romila Thapar, to send in their CVs for university to review their position as one example.

However, Beigh points out, even if Kumar is right-leaning, it doesn’t reflect in his classes. “I am a Kashmiri Muslim, and honestly, I expected him to be biased towards me. But he is so encouraging in the classroom.”

TAKE 5

FACES ON THE FRINGES OF NEWS

ANKUR GUPTA, A VISUALLY IMPAIRED 28-YEAR-OLD WORKING AS AN ASSISTANT MANAGER IN A BANK IN ROHINI

‘I work on trust... Once, I almost gave Rs 2,000 for an auto ride instead of Rs 10’

On January 1, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das launched a mobile application, MANI (Mobile Aided Note Identifier), to help visually impaired people identify currency denomination. The app is available for free download:



“It would be helpful if the app could identify coins too.” Express

1 Do you know about the app? I am associated with Saksham (an NGO working primarily with visually impaired people), where a workshop was held by RBI (to test the app)... I have been using it since October last year. I find it very useful.

2 Does it work well? When I hold a note facing the back camera of my phone, the app scans it for a couple of seconds and announces the denomination. If it is unable to scan, it makes a beep. The app scans all the paper notes. However, it does not scan coins. It also has a feature for the deaf and dumb – with vibrations indicating the denomination.

3 Has the app been useful? It is a wonderful initiative by RBI... Recently, paper notes have changed. It is very difficult for people like me to get used to the new notes. For example, the older version of the Rs 10 note is almost the same size as the new Rs 2,000 note. Once, I almost gave Rs 2,000 to an autorickshaw driver instead of Rs 10. The new notes also lack clear indications to help the visually impaired identify them, while earlier, one could make out a note by touch.

4 Prior to the app, how did you identify notes? Mostly, I worked on trust. I took help from friends and strangers. But that is risky. They (RBI) say the notes have lines in them. But these lines are so faint one cannot touch and figure them out.

5 Can the app be made more user-friendly? The app is more or less flawless. But if it can help identify coins, it would be helpful. Also, the interface of the app is a bit slow.

AMITAVACHAKRABORTY

Four teens and an Uri story

They decided to cross to PoK armed with an Atlas and tips from the film Uri: A Surgical Strike. Roundly chastened, they say it’s only studies from now on

ADIL AKHZER

NEARLY 21 days after they were brought back from the border, the four teenagers trying to make their way to Pakistan Occupied Kashmir have moved to new schools and started tuitions to “focus on studies”.

It was a plan that had been brewing for two months. The 15-year-old, the youngest of the four, says that soon after he completed his annual examinations in the last week of October, he and his two friends, studying in the same school in Anantnag district, dis-

cussed going to PoK for arms training, angry over the situation in Valley. A fourth teenager joined them from Pulwama.

Handed over to their families by police after counseling, the 16-year-old from Pulwama, back home from a winter coaching class in school, says, “It was a mistake. I still can’t believe how I agreed to my friend’s idea. I will never do it again.”

Almost from the start, the plan unravelled. The Pulwama teen says, “A friend shared the plan with me... We decided to start our journey on December 18. But the boy who was behind the idea didn’t turn up that day.”



Heavy security in Uri triggered first signs of panic among the boys. Shuaib Masoodi

The four decided to go ahead anyway, with a vague idea about crossing the Line of Control from Uri town in Baramulla, as shown in the film Uri: A Surgical Strike. One of them had seen the film, which was based on a surgical strike carried out by the Army in 2016 to avenge an attack on the Uri camp. In the movie, the Army crossed the PoK to attack launchpads of militants.

To get them to Uri, 130 km away, the Pulwama teenager brought along an Atlas containing a map of Kashmir. “He said that the Atlas would help us cross the border,” the 16-year-old says, adding that he himself carried along an extra pair of trousers.

“We met at a local railway station on December 19 morning and boarded a train to Panzgam. I had taken Rs 8,000 from home say-

ing I needed the money for books and clothes. At Panzgam, we boarded a train to Baramulla.” Along the way, the four bought some biscuits, bread and butter to sustain themselves.

It was when they were near Uri, having boarded a local bus from Baramulla, that panic first set in. The evening streets of Uri were crawling with Armymen and defence installations loomed around, security becoming even tighter since the attack on the Army base.

Dressed in a pheran, the Pulwama teen says, “We had no idea there would be so much Army. We decided to stay in a hotel for the night, and return home. But police got a tipoff, reached the hotel and took us away.” After a night at the local police station, they were taken to the Baramulla Police Station the next morning. After two days, they were handed over to their families.

Police seized the Atlas, schoolbags, bread and dates from the teenagers – thus bringing to an end their brief “adventure”.

A senior police officer from Baramulla says they don’t get many bids to cross the border via the heavily militarised Uri sector. In the only other such attempt in 2019, a group of boys had been apprehended in Boniyar area in May.

At the Pulwama teenager’s home, family members say they haven’t recovered from

those harrowing two days. “We had given him money for books and a new jacket. But he didn’t return,” says his mother. They contacted relatives and searched nearby areas, before going to police. “His father went to Baramulla to get him back.”

A middle-class family, they have since shifted the 16-year-old to another school. “We have enrolled him nearby and he attends tuitions every day. We are keeping a close watch on him. He never goes out and stays at home,” the mother says. “He is young and came under the influence of friends. I am thankful to police for handing him over to us.”

Adds the teenager, “I go to school in the morning and head straight back... I want to be with my books, so that I become a teacher.” However, every knock still leaves them scared. Recently, Army personnel came to question the teenager. “They asked me how I decided to leave. They wanted to know if anyone in the village was behind it. I told them it was mistake and I will not do it again,” the 16-year-old says.

At the neighbouring home, the family of another teenager says they don’t want to talk about the matter, adding they have also moved the 16-year-old to a new school and put him in tuitions. “We are trying that he remains focused on his studies,” says a relative.



LEENA MISRA & GOPAL KATESHIYA

AS THE winter sun sets, around a dozen students from Lukhdirji Engineering College (LEC), Morbi, Gujarat, emerge from class to settle down on square plastic stools outside a tea stall, their backpacks still on their shoulders.

It's from this college's mess that an agitation over a hostel food bill hike eventually built into the 1973-74 Nav Nirman Andolan that, in turn, became the only student agitation to force a government out in India. More than 45 years later, as campuses across the country see protests over the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), and an agitation over hostel bill at Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) meets almost similar violence, LEC is more animated over the US-Iran face-off following the killing of Iran's No. 2 Qassem Soleimani.

Morbi is the hub of the ceramic tile industry in the country, leaving its air thick with dust by evening. With its 52-acre wooded expanse, LEC is its rare green lung. In a town whose fate is closely linked to global developments affecting trade though, the only stir at LEC over CAA was when a few of its students joined a rally in favour of the Act called by industry owners last month.

"Both the ABVP and NSUI have tried to muster the support of students, but the response has been lame. However, a few others and I joined the pro-CAA rally after being asked by a friend," says a final-year student refusing to be identified.

And yet, it is in LEC hostel messes that 1973-74 lingers. LEC has seven men's hostels for around 900 students — A, B, D, E, (C was pulled down after damage in the 2001 earthquake) and New Hill, New Hostel, NVP — arranged in a rectangular complex named after the river Machhu. There are two women's hostels — F, G — for 140 students.

The dinner in 'Machhu A' this evening is *puris*, vegetable curry, *daal*, rice and curd. Sunil Sitapara, who has the contract to run the kitchen, struggles to churn out the *puris* over a coal-fired stove, as students wait at stone tables. The soot has settled deep into the

crevices of the peeling walls of the kitchen.

Every hostel has its own mess and Mess Secretary, with students deciding the menu and paying per meal. The Mess Secretary of Machhu A, Swapnil Sawant, a second-year production engineering student, says he has been trying to get the authorities to install a gas-fired stove.

Today evening, the mess, which charges Rs 35 for regular meals and Rs 40 on days with dessert, has drawn only about 35 of Machhu A's 100 students. The initial spark for the 1973-74 agitation was a Rs 40 rise in monthly food bill.

None in the Machhu A mess has heard of that protest except Jay Baraiya, a third-year student of electrical engineering. After some prompting, he says, "Yes, the mess bill was increased, so students protested and the Congress government lost."

That time, housed in the regal Nazarbaug Palace, LEC had around 1,800 students, half of them hostellers. In the 1979 floods, the palace was inundated, destroying most of the records of 1973-74. Since the palace was deemed unsafe five years ago and shut, the college operates from a newly-constructed dull-grey square block nearby.

The LEC protest had coincided with a similar revolt at Ahmedabad's Lalbhai Dalpatbhai (LD) College of Engineering, 190 km away. Gujarat then only had five engineering colleges, all run by the government. Affiliated to Gujarat University at the time, LEC and LDCE are now under Gujarat Technological University.

Prof Saurabh Pandya, the incumbent principal of LEC, who did his graduation from LDCE, points out that a lot coincided for LEC to emerge as the epicentre of the protests. "In those days, merit students enrolled at LEC,



(Top) Students having dinner at the Machhu A hostel mess; contractor-cook Sunil Sitapara makes *puris* on a coal-fired stove. *Javed Raja*

and the faculty was 'intellectual'. The students did not have laptops, mobile phones or TV, and kept themselves engaged through other activities. The government of that time was not stable," he lists.

Jayantibhai Patel, a student leader who now heads the Morbi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, says hostel food was an important issue. "The mess secretaries would devote a lot of time buying rations and kitchen items. There would be competition to offer the best meals for the lowest bill."

Bhavnagar-based Prof (retd) Vajashi Gojiya, then a third-year electrical engineering student and general secretary of LEC student's union, says the protests also coincided with overall inflation. "For students, even a marginal increase can be a big deal."

Incidentally, just as the anti-CAA protests were fuelled by police action at Jamia Millia

Islamia, and alleged police passiveness at JNU, the intervention by the force also tipped matters in 1974. On January 3 night, police entered LDCE premises and picked up students, recalls Umakant Mankad, a Congress leader who at the time was an electrical engineering student at LDCE and active in student politics.

The teachers too joined the students, angry over how their salaries were paid. This was also the reason why then chief minister Chimanbhai Patel became the target of the anger. Having been a professor of economics at St Xavier's College in Ahmedabad, he was trustee in many Gujarat colleges.

The agitation was given its name, Nav Nirman (Reconstruction), by local journalist Rajendra Sheth, who was one of the advisors of the Nav Nirman Yuvak Samiti (NYS), which led the agitation.

Later, the movement got national support when Jay Prakash Narayan lent it his support. His Sampurna Kranti movement in Bihar against corruption, inspired by Nav Nirman, eventually precipitated the imposition of Emergency in 1975.

Mankad believes the 73-day agitation also laid the foundation of the BJP, then the Bharatiya Jan Sangh, in Gujarat, with many leaders of the party emerging from the movement. Like Bhupendrasinh Chudasama, the current Gujarat Minister for Education, then a 25-year-old Jan Sangh *karyakarta*. He describes his achievement as "success in creating public awareness and roping in teachers, students and businessmen". A blog on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's website also talks of his involvement with the movement.

At one high point, people came out striking rolling pins on steel plates in response to a 'Sarkar no mrutyughant' (death knell for the government) call. With his position untenable, Patel stepped down as CM on February 9, 1974.

Prof Kalubhai Bhetariya, head of the Department of Applied Mechanics at LEC who was assistant rector of its hostels till recently, says they haven't seen any major issue regarding hostels in recent times.

Among those saddened by this "apolitisation" is Ahmedabad-based documentary filmmaker and writer Manishi Jani, 68, who led Nav Nirman as president of the NYS. A Master's in Philosophy student, he was at the time the only elected student member in the Gujarat University Syndicate, a policy-making body at the university. "This set up an official leadership of students," he says.

Jani was jailed with around 125 students, and negotiations for their release were held with then union home minister Umashankar Dixit and prime minister Indira Gandhi. "The

night we were to speak with Gandhi (March 15), the Gujarat Assembly was dissolved... Indira Gandhi had wanted it to seem that the government negotiated with the students and declared the dissolution. Next day, we were freed and boarded the only metre-gauge train between Ahmedabad and Delhi back home. We were felicitated at every junction. The train took almost two days to reach Ahmedabad."

Jani is now among those leading a campaign against the CAA, and asserts, "People are always hopeful change will come at the end of a mass movement."

Prof Gojiya, who headed the Morbi unit of the NYS, believes that may be wishful. "Today's student politics has been reduced to a stepping stone for party politics," he says. "In our time, no politician would dare meddle with an educational institute and students respected teachers. But today, students are pawns. In such a scenario, it is advisable not to have student union elections."

At Ground Zero of Nav Nirman Andolan, in a Gujarat that has come a long way from 1974, the students agree. Gujarat University has seen no union election since 1998, points out Congress spokesperson Manish Doshi, a former student leader.

Asked whether elections ought to be revived on campus, Chudasama says, "*Punah vicharan karna zaroori hai* (we need a rethink on this). Look at our other two state-run universities, Bhakt Kavi Narsinh Mehta (Junagadh) and Govind Guru (Godhra). They are running fine without elections."

Neither the ABVP nor NSUI has any presence at LEC today. Says ABVP Morbi district convener Parth Prajapati, "We have not had a formal organisation in Morbi for about two years." The NSUI's Rajkot district unit president Rohit Rajput says they are struggling to get members for posts. "But we are trying to revive in LEC now."

Both admit they don't know much more than the basics regarding Nav Nirman.

Not that it worries LEC students. Says Rahul Laurabhiya, a fourth-year chemical engineering student, "Our needs are fulfilled, so we don't need to agitate. Why not focus on studies instead?... I don't think we need *andolans* or elections."

Search for a 'nationality certificate'

Two Haryana sisters got their passport applications stopped for 'looking Nepali'. While they have passports now after the Home Minister intervened, Santosh and Heena fear what might come next

SUKHBIR SIWACH

"WE DON'T know from where we can get nationality certificates. We have visited the Deputy Commissioner's office, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate's office and the Tehsildar office. No one seems to know," say two sisters sitting at their boutique in Ambala.

Far removed from the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) protests, Santosh (29) and Heena (26), who don't have birth certificates, have been running around for six months trying to prove they are Indians. Complicating matters is a remark left by an official on their passport applications, that the two "look Nepali".

On December 28, the sisters finally met Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij, who represents Ambala Cantt in the Assembly. Three days later, Ambala Deputy Commissioner Ashok Kumar Sharma said officials had been instructed to issue the two passports.

A puzzled Bhagat Bahadur, the father of four daughters, including Santosh and Heena, says "till now we thought we are Indians". "I was born and brought up in India and the family was never asked to prove our nationality before this," says the 54-year-old.

According to Bhagat, his father Gopal Singh came to India from Nepal before 1965, settled in Ludhiana, and in 1984, married a Gorkha woman living in the town. Later, the couple moved to Ambala and started doing stitching work. Bhagat was born in Himachal Pradesh. After his wife's death, Singh went back to Nepal but Bhagat stayed on and got married. His wife Ruby Devi and he live with Santosh and Heena in their house in Krishna Colony of Ambala City. Santosh and Heena run a 'dress boutique' called Meera. The other two daughters, Meera and Komal, are married.

The family has Aadhaar cards, voter cards, a ration card as well as backward class certificates. Meera also has a passport, having acquired one in 2010 without any

hassles. She planned to go abroad for study, but didn't eventually and completed her M.Com from an Ambala college.

Having graduated in pharmacy, Heena wants to go to Canada for further studies, while Santosh, who has a diploma in fashion designing apart from an MA in History, is seeking a work visa. Komal, the youngest, does not have a passport.

Santosh and Heena had applied for a passport at the local office at Ambala on June 29. When, after police verification, their passports didn't come, the two approached the Regional Passport Officer (RPO) in Chandigarh on September 16. There, an official remarked on their form that "the applicant looks Nepali". The RPO told the sisters to get a citizenship certificate from the Deputy Commissioner's office. It was then that the rounds of government offices started.

While issuing the two provisional passports, the RPO told Ambala Superintendent of Police Abhishek Jorwal to determine whether they are Indian citizens on the ba-

sis of birth. But neither Bhagat nor his wife and daughters have birth certificates. Police officials say it is difficult to establish citizenship in the absence of birth certificates.

"Police have visited our boutique and residence. We are being asked about our birth certificates repeatedly but we don't have them. Being a poor family, we kept moving from one place to another for years before finally settling in Ambala a little before 1986. Our landlords did not let us give their address for a ration card. Ultimately, a landowner agreed and a ration card was issued to us," says Santosh.

Ambala SP Jorwal says the family may seek citizenship on the basis of "naturalisation", adding, "Our verification process is on."

Passport officials say a person can apply to the Union Home Ministry through a deputy commissioner for citizenship if he or she has been a resident of India for 12 years. A senior passport official confirms to *The Sunday Express* that the Union Home Ministry has delegated powers to the deputy commissioner in cases "where the



Bhagat, daughters Santosh (right), Heena at their Ambala boutique. *Jaipal Singh*

nationality is questioned". "They can issue a citizenship certificate. That's what the Chandigarh DC and many other DCs in Punjab do. They conduct an inquiry at their own level," says an official.

However, Santosh and Heena fear what that will mean, and what will follow. While both Deputy Commissioner Sharma and Regional Passport Officer Sibash Kabiraj say the remark about Nepali looks

was wrong, with Kabir saying officials could have just written "citizenship is questionable", he adds that if the sisters' citizenship is not established, "their passports would be revoked".

Adds a passport official, "If somebody appears Nepali, the official will write on the file that he or she looks Nepali. All Nepali descendants are not necessarily Indian citizens, even if they have Aadhaar card, voter card."

16 BOOKS

CHAPTER 1, LINE 1

Why do I do this every Sunday? Even the book reviews seem to be the same as last week's. Different books — same reviews. Have you finished that one yet?
— *Look Back in Anger* (1956), John Osborne

‘The government would always want me to have a dagger in my hand, not a pen’

Manoranjan Byapari, who was shortlisted for the DSC Prize, tells Pratik Kanjilal what the NRC means, and why he would rather go to jail than to a detention camp

Since the time in which *Gunpowder in the Air* is set, the politics, literature and society of West Bengal have changed completely. What direction are they taking, as the state prepares for a sharply contested election in 2021?

We, who had walked a certain path to think and work for social change, did not have the skill to cope with the adversary. We wanted to make the youth rational, scientifically inclined, socially aware and prepared to protest. We wanted to tell them what we had understood, that this society is unfit for human habitation, and no place to bring up children. It is an inhuman society. We wanted to build a better society where all could live with dignity, and no one would want for food, clothing, health and education.

You are referring to the period when you harboured Naxalite sympathies?

The Naxalite movement was only one part of a struggle for social reform. Many people have fought, each in their own way, for the same goal. And irrespective of ideological or party affiliation, they all understood that in its present form, society is unviable and in need of change. No one deviated from that truth. But later, because of electoral exigencies, parties which contested elections became divided. That didn't happen to the Naxalites, who differed only on questions of praxis, not that of the goal.

But all those who fought for social change, by whatever means, have been defeated by the capitalist dispensation. It has won, and it has poisoned the hearts and minds of the youth. It has made them self-centred. Students and youth have always led from the front in progressive struggles. It is they who make personal sacrifices. But the youth of today have been successfully turned away from protest, and part of the student community has been made self-centred. And our culture... the strength of human society springs from culture. Literature and art show the way. The ways of thought that capitalism has successfully imposed on people have made them selfish hedonists. We have lost to their arts, but we have not fled the battlefield. We have dug in. Our light shines, though dimly. A spark can start a forest fire.

The question is, how long people will accept the present dispensation. At some point, there will be rupture. When it happens, questions about what we have done or failed to do will become irrelevant. If we were in error, the people of the future will set it right, we fully believe. Old people like me, we're done. We'll be in this world for maybe another two or three years, and then we'll be gone. We found the present dispensation intolerable and fought against it. If succeeding generations find it intolerable, too, they'll fight. And if you can accept it, you'll live with it. We have done our duty. When we die, it will be with the satisfaction of knowing that our spine stayed erect.

But whether in the Northeast or in Delhi, the frontline is still the university campus.

Education creates awareness, and awareness ignites revolution. The seat of aware-



THERE'S GUNPOWDER IN THE AIR
MANORANJAN BYAPARI
Eka
162 pages
₹ 499

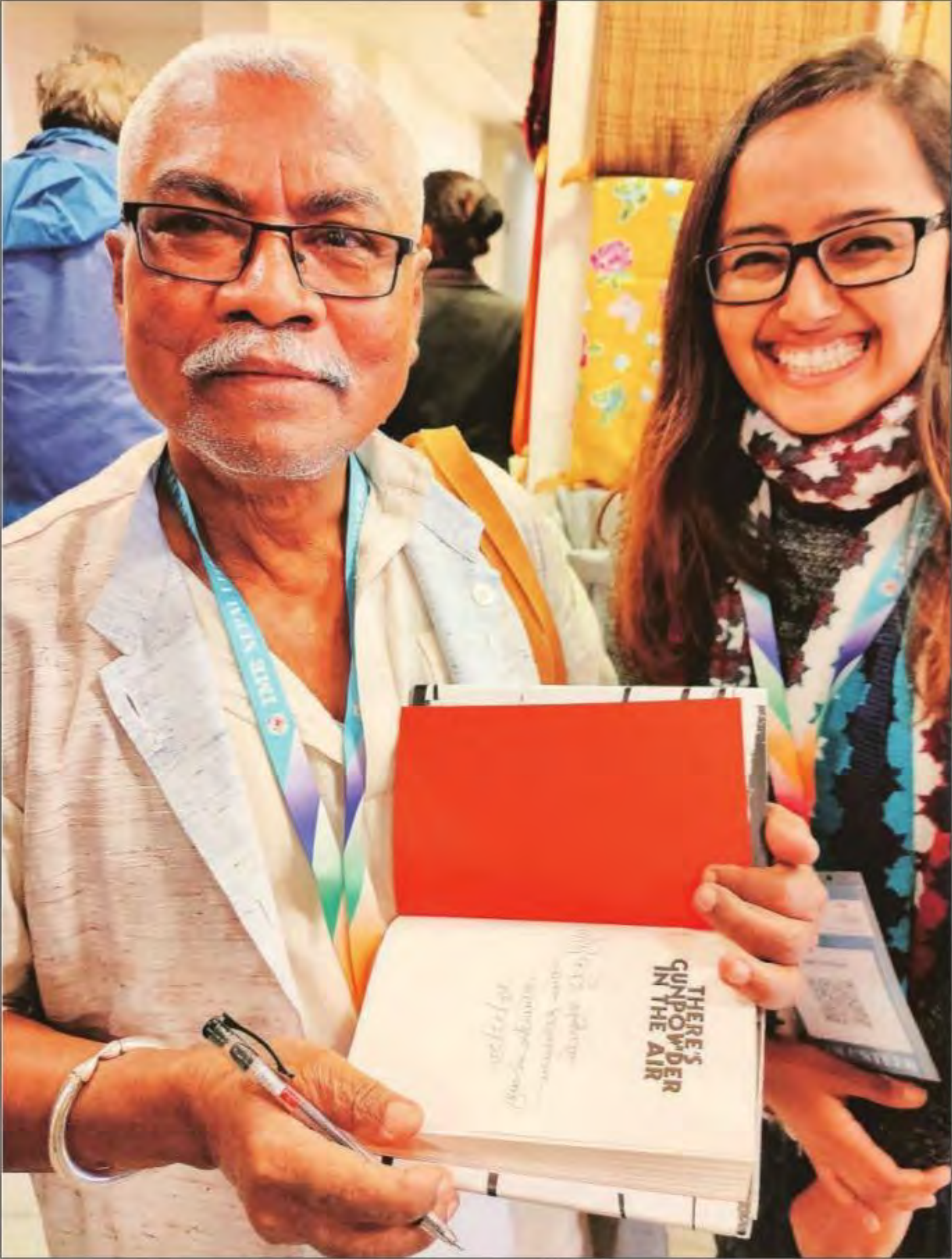
ness is the university — JNU, Presidency, Jadavpur, the people there are the frontline soldiers, capable of analysing society. This is precisely what every ruler fears. They want people to remain unlettered, unaware. Why were fees hiked in JNU? To exclude students from lower-class homes. They want the children of the rich there, to carry forward the culture of the rich, which we call *apasanskriti*. The government does not fear that. In fact, it is what it wants.

Now, when these children emerge from universities, how many can the government promise employment? When people don't get jobs commensurate with their education, they'll be angry and rebel. That's because education has given them the power to analyse what's happening, and to explain it. But an illiterate labourer or rickshaw-puller (Byapari's original profession) like me... I was frustrated, and how did I express it? I picked up a *bhojali* and struck someone. This sort of thing can't start a social revolution. I find it much more useful to write, to be published (Byapari taught himself to write in jail) than to chase people about with a weapon. But the government would always want me to have a *bhojali* in my hand, not a pen. They'll try to push me towards the weapon, and I'll try to stay with the pen.

In the east, many feel that the target of the NRC and the Citizenship (Amendment) Act is not Assam but West Bengal.

The target is the Bengali, whether in Assam, Tripura, West Bengal or elsewhere. Because Bengalis think for themselves and have strong liberal sentiments. And because the left has been the enemy of fascism forever. As fascism grows, their targets are Bengalis, Muslims, Dalits, Adivasis — these societies must be destroyed. Bengalis in particular, because they protest. They get Nobels!

Over there, if they can start a fight between Hindus and Muslims, between people who trace their roots to India and to



Manoranjan Byapari with one of his many fans, Pokhara Pratik Kanjilal

Bangladesh... Seventy per cent of the population of Greater Kolkata is not Bengali. Travel in every direction — south to Haldia, north to Asansol, west to Kharagpur — and you will find yourself amidst Hindi-speaking populations. Bengalis can be made to feel cornered in their own state. The Bengalis who originated on this side of the border are being told by Hindi-speaking immigrants, who are

clearly Indians, that Bengalis from Bangladesh are interlopers. Hindus who moved here from Bangladesh are being told that Muslims are the problem. A rumour has been spread to the effect that two crore Muslims have come here from Bangladesh. Another rumour says that Hindus have fled Bangladesh to escape oppression. And they want us to believe that two crore of their op-

pressors also crossed the border and settled in our midst?

The project is to destroy Bengali society. Now, they are saying that under the CAA, immigrants will be given citizenship so long as they are Hindu, and on the side, they're also saying — they must have suffered religious repression. Now, how is that to be proved? My father, who fled East Pakistan fearing ri-

ots in 1953 — did he make a complaint in the *thana* diary, and did he tell the police, "Write, brother, write that I am fleeing your torture?" The Bengalis from the other side don't understand this trick. What document could you possibly have to prove that you fled religious repression?

See what is happening in West Bengal. Everyone is coming together against the NRC, irrespective of party banners. It may not remain peaceful, and that's how they want it. If there's conflict, they'll impose President's Rule. Meanwhile, the voter lists are being updated, and I'm sure certain kinds of people will be excluded.

So they'll defeat us in the polls — not that we ever trusted elections very much — because Nirvachan Sadan and the Supreme Court pay heed to them. And they have the money to buy everything in the state. A bad time is coming, there will be dreadful repression, and I don't know what will follow. I'm not concerned about my life, or my family... I saw images of a 65-year-old woman being dragged away to a detention camp in Assam. I remember her heart-rending cries. My blood boiled. Let anyone try to touch a single member of my household. Let me see who has the guts to drag anyone away. I shall not go as an innocent to a detention camp. If necessary, I would rather commit an offence, be charged and go to jail for it.

Bangla literature, which was our pride, has lost its activist spirit. It has always had an erect spine, but litterateurs have bent in the hope of finding state patronage, whether from the CPI(M), the Trinamool Congress or the BJP

Is Bangla literature in good health?

Bangla literature, which was our pride, has lost its activist spirit. Bangla literature has always had an erect spine, but litterateurs have bent in the hope of finding state patronage, whether from the CPI(M), the Trinamool Congress or the BJP. The numbers of those who still stand erect have dwindled. The poet Shankha Ghosh remains. Mahasweta Devi is gone, and no one has taken her place to ask the emperor: "So, where are your clothes?" What remains is ambition. The literature of the ambitious is discussed in ambitious magazines. The competition is about licking feet. If one is licking a small foot, another is licking a bigger foot. Commercial literature is being produced, and the most commercially successful is being honoured with awards.

Manoranjan Byapari is now a success, on shortlists everywhere. I have fought my battle in the pages of little magazines. To this day, not a single major Bangla publication has asked for my writing, because it would be contrary to their line and their philosophy. In fact, I have been helped in my struggle by publications outside West Bengal. If I had not looked beyond my state, I would still be an alley writer, still sleeping on the footpath.

LOOKOUT NOTICE

AN OFFICER AND HIS HOLINESS

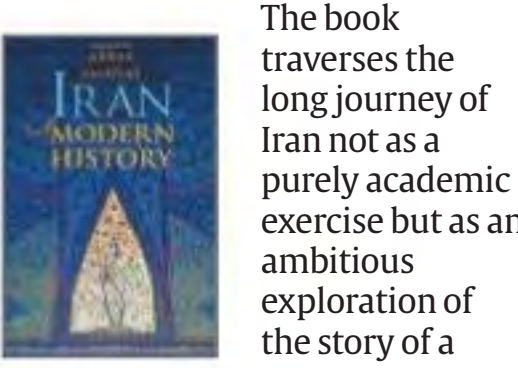
by Rani Singh (Penguin Random House): The run of English literature on Tibet begins, in the popular imagination, with James Hilton's novel *Lost Horizon* (1933, film version by Frank Capra in 1937), which brought the word 'Shangri-la' to the world. But in recent years, fiction has yielded to prose that is no less fascinating, and the focus is not Lhasa, before it fell to Chinese forces, but the flight of the 24-year-old Dalai Lama to India in 1959, which brought Tibet to the world.

Three years ago, Stephen Talty published *Escape from the Land of Snows*, which focused on the role of the CIA's Tibet desk in the flight of the Dalai Lama from a palace encircled by the Chinese military, helping to secure entry into India, and organising a Tibetan resistance.

Now, we read the Indian side of the story in Rani Singh's *An Officer and His Holiness* (Penguin), based on the diaries of her uncle, political officer Har Mander Singh, who managed the sensitive operation which changed the geopolitics of our region for ever. This is apparently the first time that their contents will appear in print.

EXPRESS EDITORS RECOMMEND

IRAN — A MODERN HISTORY, by Abbas Amanat (Yale University Press): As tensions between Iran and the US fluctuate dangerously following the killing of Iranian Major General Qasem Soleimani in an American air strike, a primer on the region's geopolitical history is in order. This is a masterfully researched and compelling history of Iran from 1501 to 2009, written by a professor at Yale University.



The book traverses the long journey of Iran not as a purely academic exercise but as an ambitious exploration of the story of a nation. Starting with the foundation of the Safavid Empire around 1500 AD, the book covers up to the Green Revolution of 2009.

The book is also layered with discussions on literature, music and the arts. It situates history at the intersection of ideology and religion, economy and society, and cultural identity and heritage. The book effectively combines the complex history of the region with chronological and thematic approaches, and, explores events with lasting implications for the world. Clocking in at around 1,000 pages, the book also explains why present-day Iran evolved into what it is today.

Every Season has an End

Unless it's Ib and his relentless pursuit of meaning. An account that reaffirms how the journey is often all there is

ANSHIKA RAVI

ONE OF the most ignored problems in today's culture, I believe, is loneliness. Another is the relentless pursuit of meaning — often strictly one-dimensional in nature — capable of hollowing out people and making them drown in their own insecurities. The first is ridiculously clichéd. The second — meaning — is lost as quickly as it is found.

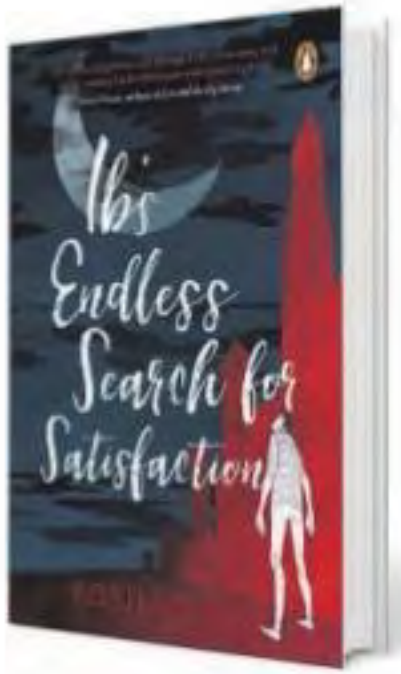
Haruki Murakami and JD Salinger have published seminal work to this end. While Murakami has drawn deliciously on culture, tropes and the relationship between an individual and community, Salinger has made sadness funny. The theme has occupied page after page through an allegorical engine, some bizarre flight of fancy, and plenty of background music that has made sadness lyrical, relatable, and in plenty of cases, enjoyable. *Ib's Endless Search for Satisfaction* (a highly attractive title) makes sadness feel... just sad. In fact, it uses despair, and only despair in its excruciatingly organic form, as fibre to keep spinning the 200-odd pages yarn.

The book is not a soul-crushing read.

And in all probability, author Roshan Ali did not intend to make it into one. The characters, including the protagonist Ib, are unremarkable, which is quite understandable because characters like them are not meant to be remarkable. This might also mean that Ali has written without the singular aim to please or inspire, without any boundary or fear of judgment. He writes on isolation and emptiness as a kid splattering colours on a sheet of paper — with only a few, scattered elements of attraction. There are moments when this feels like the bravest thing about the book; then there are moments when the trick paints the novel dull.

Ib is a fish by nature, living in silence. Quietness has occupied a large part of his childhood. He is the kid you and I have seen inside the classroom, office, public transport. He is the guy who sits in a corner, his face not betraying any emotion he might be experiencing. He is thought to have no ambition in life except to go by the regular business of surviving. He goes about being consistently not noticed, but he has thoughts. And when they are spelled out, there is muted passion, resentment and a longing for answers in them.

Ib's father, Apoo, is schizophrenic, and



IB'S ENDLESS SEARCH FOR SATISFACTION
ROSHAN ALI
Penguin Viking
216 pages
₹ 399

harmlessly so. His mother is a long-suffering, unassertive woman who avoids all conflict and does not believe in talking about things. Then there is Aju, Ib's maternal grandfather, the patriarchal figure and compass of moral regression, it's not a joke every middle-class household has one like him. Each of these characters is dysfunctional in their own way, but nowhere for beyond a nanosecond does one feel as much a shade of sympathy for them. Again,

Ali may not have had the inspiration to turn them into sympathetic characters. For that matter, Ib's life is not swallowed by any mammoth tragedy. His longing for meaning, and the subsequent grief stemming from it, is anchored in his head, from which there is no way out. Ib, after all, is his own problem.

For somebody in search of meaning, Ib's life veers off onto some odd tangents. At one point, he finds himself spending most of his time with a sadhu and accompanies him to the Himalayas, where he eventually discovers — the sadhu confesses to him — that he is a fraud in orange. The sadhu lulls people into his ways, and when he is sure they are trapped, gives them "the truth" — snap all strings of personal attachment with their lives. He does this because he feels people need help, but they know no logic or reason. I quite liked the sadhu's character, but would refrain from drawing comparisons. For Ali writes: "The credulous see meaning in everything; an event which appears special may just be an ordinary coincidence".

For those looking for purpose in Ib's journey, there is none. Towards the end, the reader would want to believe that Ib would get his story straight in his poetic encounter with a girl who wants to be a published author. But no. It is the weight of Ib's thoughts and epiphanies that lift the pages out of mundanity, for Ib's quite shapeless being is relevant only in them.

Ib is rarely the character you long for in a novel of this genre — that of a lost soul who gets (at least) some things in life straight. There is no message, no great purpose behind this novel. It is how it is, indeed, an endless search for satisfaction. That is not necessarily a bad thing either.



TWITTERATI
US DEMOCRAT ILHAN OMAR, ON CONFLICT WITH IRAN
I am a child of war. I know what the toll of it looks like. The trauma of war will never leave me. If I don't speak up for the children who would be displaced from conflict with Iran, who will?

TEHRAN'S ADMISSION COMES AS ABRUPT REVERSAL, IT HAD CLAMED AIRLINER CRASHED DUE TO MECHANICAL ISSUES

UKRAINE PLANE CARRYING 176 PEOPLE 'MISIDENTIFIED' AS CRUISER MISSILE, SAYS IRAN GUARDS OFFICIAL

HUMAN ERROR AT TIME OF CRISIS CAUSED BY US ADVENTURISM LED TO DISASTER, SAYS FOREIGN MINISTER

'An unforgivable mistake': Iran takes responsibility

Canada, Ukraine call for accountability, punishment after Tehran's U-turn

AGENCIES
JANUARY 11

PRESIDENT JUSTIN Trudeau of Canada, who has said his country expects to play a big role in Iran's investigation of the airliner crash that killed 63 Canadians even though the two nations do not have diplomatic ties, said on Saturday that "accountability" was needed after Iran's admission, according to a statement from his office.

"Our focus remains closure, accountability, transparency and justice for the families and loved ones of the victims," the statement said.

"This is a national tragedy, and all Canadians are mourning together. "We will continue working with our partners around the world to ensure a complete and thorough investigation, and the Canadian government expects full cooperation from Iranian authorities."

President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine, in his first reaction to Iran's announcement, said Kyiv would "insist on a full admission of guilt" by Tehran.

"We expect Iran to assure its readiness for a full and open investigation, to bring those responsible to justice, to return the bodies of the victims, to pay compensation, and to make official apologies through diplomatic channels," Zelensky said in a post on his Facebook page.

"We hope that the investigation will continue without artificial delays and obstacles."

Zelensky had come under domestic criticism this week for re-

EXPLAINED
Questions over protocol

AS IRAN faces criticism and anger abroad and within, a key question has been about airport protocol — why did it not shut down its airport and airspace at such a crucial juncture? Tehran shed little light on this matter, though it said the plane flew too close to a sensitive site. However, the Ukraine airline and Iran's civil aviation department have said the plane did not veer from its normal flight corridor



At the site where the Ukrainian plane crashed in Shahedshahr, southwest of Tehran, Iran. AP

Fury against govt as thousands gather on Tehran's streets: 'You have no shame'

THE NEW YORK TIMES
JANUARY 11

Iranians vented fury toward their government after Tehran's admission, with thousands pouring into main squares around the city on Saturday afternoon. Gatherings organised on social media to mourn the victims of the crash swiftly turned into angry protests against the government's actions.

"Death to liars!" and "Death to the dictator!" people chanted, according to videos posted on social media. "You have no shame," shouted several young men, as the crowd joined in a



At a vigil for the crash victims in London. Reuters

chorus, another video showed. People carried candles and placed flowers at the gates of the universities and public squares. The country's elite security force and its top leader were not

spared. At universities, crowds called the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps "incompetent" and "the people's shame."

And some even called on the country's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, to resign.

Even conservatives and supporters of the government accused the authorities on social media of initially misleading the public about what had brought down the plane, whose passengers included many young Iranians on their way to Canada for graduate study.

The semiofficial Fars News Agency posted a harsh commentary condemning Iran's leaders, saying "their shortcomings have made this tragedy twice as bitter."

Siamak Ghaesmi, a Tehran-based economist, addressed the country's leaders in an Instagram post: "I don't know what to do with my rage and grief. I'm thinking of all the 'human errors' in these years that were never revealed because there was no international pressure. I'm thinking of the little trust left that was shattered. I'm thinking of the innocent lives lost because of confronting and being stubborn with the world. What have you done with us?"



THREE PAST INCIDENTS OF PLANE CRASHES



JULY 17, 2014: MALAYSIA
MH17 was flying from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur when it was blown out of the sky over eastern Ukraine, killing 298 people. In June, an international investigative team charged four people, including three with ties to Russian intelligence. Moscow has consistently denied any involvement



JULY 3, 1988: IRAN
A US Navy warship in the Persian Gulf shot down an Iranian passenger plane that the Navy said it mistook for a jet fighter, killing all 290 people onboard. The Iran Air Airbus A300 was flying over the Strait of Hormuz while the warship was being engaged by Iranian gunboats. The Americans wrongly thought they saw a hostile F-14 jet fighter, and downed the plane with a surface-to-air missile



OCT. 4, 2001: SIBERIA
Seventy-eight people, most of them Russian émigrés to Israel, died when the flight from Tel Aviv to Novosibirsk exploded and plunged into the Black Sea off the Russian coast. Four minutes earlier, two long-range anti-aircraft missiles were fired during a Ukrainian air defense exercise. Ukraine's president later said he accepted the finding that his country's military had accidentally hit the airliner.

US unsuccessfully tried to kill another Iranian official in Yemen

ERIC SCHMITT, EDWARD WONG & JULIAN E BARNES
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 11

THE AMERICAN military unsuccessfully tried to kill a senior Iranian military official in Yemen on the same day a drone strike killed Major General Qassim Suleimani, Iran's most powerful commander, according to American officials.

The disclosure of a second mission indicated that the Trump administration had plans for a broader campaign than was previously known, intended to cripple Iran's ability to carry out proxy wars in other countries.

ABDUL REZA SHAHLAI is an official with Iran's Quds Force, a force that General Suleimani had led. Shahlai was known as a main organiser of financing for Shiite militias in the region. The US had offered a \$15 million reward for information about Shahlai

After Iran's retaliatory missile strikes on Iraqi bases that host American troops, both Washington and Tehran appear to have stepped back from escalating the conflict further, at least for now.

President Donald Trump approved the strike against Abdul Reza Shahlai in the same period that he authorized the strike against General Suleimani on January 3, although it was unclear if the American attack in Yemen occurred at precisely the same time.

Shahlai and General Suleimani were two of several Iranian officials the administration targeted in an effort to halt Iran-backed attacks on sites with Americans, US officials said.

The United States had offered a \$15 million reward for information about Shahlai. It accused him of involvement in attacks including a failed 2011 plot to kill the Saudi ambassador to the US. NYT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA KARACHI, JANUARY 11

PAKISTAN PRIME Minister Imran Khan on Saturday demanded an immediate report on the suicide bombing at a Quetta mosque during Friday prayers that killed at least 16 people and left 19 others injured in the restive Balochistan province, terming the incident as a condemnable "cowardly terrorist attack".

The Islamic State terror group has claimed responsibility for the deadly suicide bomb blast inside the mosque in Quetta's Satellite Town area.

The Islamic State has claimed responsibility for the deadly suicide bomb blast inside the mosque. The terror group, in the claim posted on the IS Pakistan Telegram Channel and in messages to some foreign wire services, said it has carried out the attack targeting some Afghan Taliban member.



A police officer examines the site of the blast in Quetta. AP

side bomb blast inside the mosque. The terror group, in the claim posted on the IS Pakistan Telegram Channel and in messages to some foreign wire services, said it has carried out the attack targeting some Afghan Taliban member.

Royal split: Prince Harry delays Canada plan

ADITI KHANNA LONDON, JANUARY 11

PRINCE HARRY has reportedly delayed his plans to fly to Canada this weekend and join wife Meghan and baby Archie as the talks are going on over finalising the couple's future roles after they stepped back from Britain's royal frontline.

The UK and Canadian governments are among those being consulted by royal aides to work out a solution after Harry and Meghan, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, announced their decision to step



Prince Harry

back as senior royals and assume more financially independent roles while dividing time between Britain and North America.

Royal sources have been

quoted in the UK media as saying that the talks are "progressing well" and that Harry's grandmother Queen Elizabeth II, father Prince Charles and brother Prince William are all engaged in trying to find a way forward "sooner rather than later".

It is believed that Harry plans to stay on to try and smooth things over as transition plans are finalised.

"I don't want to get into the whole thing, I just have such respect for the Queen, it shouldn't be happening to her," said US President Donald Trump in reference to the royal split. PTI

DISNEY DEAL

■ Meghan Markle has signed a voiceover deal with Disney. The former actor, who quit the profession when she got engaged to Harry in 2017, inked a deal to work with the studio in return for a donation to an elephant charity, Elephants Without Borders, according to *The Times*.

In blow to Beijing, Tsai Ing-wen re-elected as Taiwan's president

AGENCIES TAIPEI, JANUARY 11

TAIWAN'S VOTERS delivered a stinging rebuke of China's rising authoritarianism on Saturday by re-electing President Tsai Ing-wen, who vowed to preserve the island's sovereignty in the face of Beijing's intensifying efforts to bring it under its control.

Tsai declared victory as voters delivered a stunning rebuke of Beijing's campaign to isolate the self-ruled island, handing its first female leader a second term.

"Taiwan is showing the world how much we cherish our free democratic way of life and how much we cherish our nation," Tsai told reporters as she announced her victory.

She also said Beijing should stop making threats towards the island. "Peace means that China must abandon threats of force against Taiwan," she said, adding, "I also hope the Beijing authorities understand that democratic Taiwan, and our democratically elected government, will not concede to threats and intimidation."



Supporters of Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen at a rally outside her party headquarters in Taipei on Saturday. Reuters

For China's ruling Communist Party, the outcome is a dramatic display of the power of Hong Kong's antigovernment protest movement to influence attitudes toward the mainland in other regions the party deems critical to its interests.

China's authoritarian leader, Xi Jinping, has warned Taiwan authorities understand that democratic Taiwan, and our democratically elected government, will not concede to threats and intimidation."

Tsai's main rival Han Kuo-yu, of the Kuomintang party (KMT), conceded defeat on Saturday

evening, saying he had called Tsai to congratulate her on her re-election. "I can only say that I didn't work hard enough to live up to everyone's expectations," he told his supporters.

Han had pledged to restore closer relations with the mainland but then found himself on the defensive because of China's increasingly authoritarian actions.

The US congratulated Tsai, hailing the re-election as a demonstration of the self-ruled island's "robust democratic system."

ASSOCIATED PRESS DUBAI, JANUARY 11

OMAN'S SULTAN Qaboos bin Said, the Mideast's longest-ruling monarch who seized power in a 1970 palace coup and pulled his Arabian sultanate into modernity while carefully balancing diplomatic ties between adversaries Iran and the U.S., has died. He was 79.

The British-educated, reclusive sultan reformed a nation that was



Qaboos bin Said

home to only three schools and harsh laws banning electricity, radios, eyeglasses and even umbrellas when he took the throne.

Under his reign, Oman became known as a welcoming tourist destination and a key Mideast interlocutor, helping the U.S. free captives in Iran and Yemen and even hosting visits by Israeli officials while pushing back on their occupation of land Palestinians want for a future state.

"We do not have any conflicts and we do not put fuel on the fire when our opinion does not agree with someone," Sultan Qaboos

told a Kuwaiti newspaper in a rare interview in 2008.

Oman's state-run news agency announced his death early Saturday, but offered no cause.

The sultan's death has raised the risk of unrest in this country on the eastern edge of the Arabian Peninsula. The unmarried Sultan Qaboos had no children and did not publicly name an heir, a tradition among the ruling Al Said dynasty whose history is replete with bloody

takeovers. But within hours, Oman state television announced Haitham bin Tariq Al Said, who had served as the sultanate's culture minister, as the new sultan.

The sultan had been believed to be ill for some time, though authorities never disclosed what malady he faced. A December 2019 report by the Washington Institute for Near-East Policy described the sultan as suffering from "diabetes and a history of colon cancer."

18 ECONOMY

WILL HELP PROJECTS RATED BELOW ‘AA’

Govt plans to set up Credit Enhancement fund to boost infrastructure projects

SUNNY VERMA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE GOVERNMENT plans to set up a Credit Enhancement fund to support infrastructure projects that are rated below ‘AA’.

The fund will provide credit enhancement to such lower rated projects, enabling them to raise loans at better rates while improving their viability. “The proposal has been discussed a number of times. The idea is to either set up a professionally managed credit enhancement fund or a well capitalised institution for the same purpose,” a senior government official said.

Since institutional investors put in money only in top rated infrastructure projects, augmenting ratings of projects that are otherwise viable but do not have early cash flows, would help in attracting investors.

Sources said the Union Budget 2020-21, set to be presented on February 1, is ex-

EXPLAINED Will help lower rated projects raise funds

The Credit Enhancement fund will enable lower rated projects to raise loans at better rates while improving their viability.

Since institutional investors put in money only in top-rated infrastructure projects, augmenting ratings of projects that are otherwise viable, but do not have early cash flows, would help in attracting investors.

pected

to make an announce-

ment in this regard. The Credit Enhancement fund can also be jointly run and managed by the government and private sector

sector companies — just on the lines of the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund.

Right now, most of the infrastructure projects are rated below ‘AA’, which essentially means large institutions do not fund such projects. Through

credit enhancement, a borrower or a bond issuer tries to improve its credit worthiness, which helps in lowering interest outgo. A Credit Enhancement fund provides partial guarantee against loan losses to the lenders, enabling the borrower to enhance its credit ratings.

Such a facility can be provided to projects that have strong viability and visibility but the companies executing

them presently have weak balance sheet or cash flows, which is usually the case for infra projects where revenues start accruing in later years. The agency providing the facility usually charges a fee for providing its services. A Finance Ministry panel that recently finalised the National Infrastructure Pipeline has also made the case for credit enhancement facility for infra projects, along with the need to channelise pension and insurance funds’ money into the infrastructure sector.

The Finance Ministry, last month, unveiled Rs 102 lakh crore of infrastructure projects that will be implemented between fiscal year 2020 and 2025, with the central government contributing nearly 39 per cent towards these projects, states accounting for another 39 per cent and the private sector 22 per cent. Of the total project capital expenditure during fiscals 2020 to 2025, sectors such as energy (24 per

cent), urban (16 per cent), railways (13 per cent) and roads (19 per cent) are estimated to account for more than 70 per cent of the projected infrastructure investments in India.

The government’s push to improve funding for infra sector comes in the backdrop of eight core sectors’ production contracting by 1.5 per cent in November, the fourth consecutive month of contraction. Eight core sectors — coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity — are a lead indicator of industrial performance.

The collapse of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS) has created a funding void in the infrastructure sector, with many projects facing uncertainties and rating downgrades.

Apart from resulting in liquidity shortage last year and affecting NBFCs, the IL&FS fiasco has had a negative impact on funding availability for long duration infra projects.

MDR compensation: Govt turns down banks’ demand

SUMIT JHA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE GOVERNMENT has turned down a request from commercial banks for compensation to the tune of Rs 2,000 crore a year for the loss of revenue arising out of the waiver of merchant discount rate (MDR) on digital payments through RuPay cards and Unified Payment Interface (UPI).

The waiver, effective January 1, is aimed at incentivising digital payments and is in sync with the policy objective of moving towards a less-cash economy.

Sources said the Finance Ministry reckons that with digital payments picking up momentum as a result of MDR waiver, banks will only stand to gain on a net basis. Banks will save substantially on their expenditure shared with the RBI on currency printing, transportation, storing, replacing, and handling due to the incremental rise in assorted digital transactions. It is estimated that banks spend some Rs 21,000 crore annually for currency-related costs.

Effective January 1, the government waived MDR on payments made through prescribed

Banks had sought compensation worth Rs 2,000 crore a year for the loss of revenue arising out of the waiver of merchant discount rate (MDR) on digital payments through RuPay cards and UPI

electronic modes. It has made it a must for every business with a turnover above Rs 50 crore to provide the option of digital payments through UPI, RuPay card and QR code to all customers without any MDR charges.

Sources said the government looked at MDR charges as a big disincentive for consumers and merchants in adopting a cashless economy while it served as a money-spinning business for service providers. With digital transactions valued at around Rs 14 lakh crore per month, the MDR comes in at around Rs 7,000-8,000 crore annually. Of this, nearly 55 per cent of revenue goes to the private fintech players and the balance goes to

banks of various categories.

Citing market estimates, sources said there are more than 50 crore RuPay debit cards in the market and 40 lakh points of sale (PoS) machines processing debit card payments. MDR varies from 0-2 per cent of the transaction value, and is paid by a merchant to a bank for accepting payment from their customers via debit cards. This levy is then distributed among the bank, PoS machine vendors and card companies.

MDR charges were earlier charged by banks subject to a cap of 0.60 per cent of card-based transactions for payments over Rs 2,000. As for transactions below the threshold, the digital cost was borne by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

The banks in their representations to the government have also claimed that the MDR waiver policy would nullify years of hard work done by domestic companies in expanding digital payments network and would put National Payments Corporation of India in a competitive disadvantage over international rivals operating in the market, sources said. **FE**

BRIEFLY

Ordinance on coal mines promulgated

New Delhi: The government on Saturday announced the promulgation of the Ordinance for amendment in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015, aimed at opening up the coal sector completely for commercial mining for local as well as global firms.

Lupin gets 2 observations from USFDA

New Delhi: Drugmaker Lupin Saturday said it has received two observations from the US health regulator after the inspection of its Nagpur manufacturing facility.

‘DGCA suspends pilot of AirAsia India’

New Delhi: Aviation regulator DGCA has suspended the pilot-in-command of an AirAsia India flight for three months as he caused a runway incursion incident at Mumbai airport on November 5, a senior official said on Saturday. **PTI**

‘Mercedes to build smart brand cars with Geely’

Beijing/Shanghai: Mercedes-Benz will build smart-branded electric cars with Zhejiang Geely Holding Group in the Chinese city of Xian from a base with annual capacity of around 150,000 vehicles, an official from its German parent Daimler AG said. **REUTERS**

‘US, China agree to semi-annual talks’

REUTERS
BENGALURU, JANUARY 11

THE UNITED STATES and China have agreed to hold semi-annual talks aimed at pushing for reforms in both countries and resolving disputes, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Saturday.

The negotiations will be announced on January 15 as part of the signing of a Phase 1 trade deal between the US and China, but will be separate from any second-phase trade negotiations, the Journal reported, adding the effort will be lead by US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He.

‘Policy changes, JioMart’s entry pose rising risks to global e-comm players in India’

Fitch Solutions said international e-commerce firms in India face the risk of increasingly coming under pressure in the current year due to key policy changes and Reliance Retail venturing into the digital market space

WHAT NOW?: The government is examining the possibility of setting up a regulatory authority to resolve disputes between large online retailers and small enterprises

BRIEF ON THE EARLIER DRAFT GUIDELINES: They ban global online retailers



from selling products from companies or affiliates in which they own an equity interest

OUTLOOK: Despite continued investment,

Fitch’s view is that international e-commerce players (including Amazon India and Flipkart) face the risk of increasingly coming under pressure in 2020 due to key policy changes and Reliance Retail entering the digital market space with new e-commerce platform JioMart, in January 2020

WHY ARE SMALLER PLAYERS MIFFED?: Smaller retailers have been claiming that companies such as Amazon India and Flipkart are pricing them out of the market

DISCOUNTS MAY NOT LAST: The days of deep price promotions on online platforms are likely to be numbered in India, said Fitch

UNDER THE NEW POLICY

■ International e-commerce companies in India would be banned from influencing pricing, employing unfair promotional activities as well as misrepresenting the quality or features of their product offering, Fitch Solutions said

■ E-commerce players will be compelled to store generated data on servers in India. This will put additional burden on international players

Source: Fitch Solutions/PTI

Huawei executive can be extradited to US, Canada attorney general says

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MONTREAL, JANUARY 11

CANADA’S DEPARTMENT of Justice said a Huawei executive arrested in Vancouver could be extradited to the United States because her offense is a crime in both countries, according to documents released late Friday.

Huawei chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou, who was originally detained on a US warrant in late 2018, faces an extradition hearing in Vancouver that begins on January 20.

The United States accuses Meng of lying to banks about violating Iran sanctions.

However Meng’s lawyers maintain that she cannot be turned over to the United States, because in order for that to hap-

pen, her offense would have to meet a “double criminality” standard — meaning it is a crime in both countries.

Violating US sanctions against Iran, they say, is not a crime in Canada.

However, in the documents filed in Vancouver Friday, which were widely cited by media, Canada’s attorney general said the “essence” of her banking interactions amounted to fraud, which is a crime in the country.

The first week of Meng’s extradition hearing will be devoted to the question of double criminality.

Meng, who lives under house arrest at her mansion in Vancouver, denies the US allegations and says Canadian authorities violated her rights during the arrest.

Amazon boss to face protests from traders during India visit

REUTERS
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THOUSANDS OF small-scale traders in India are planning to organise protests against Amazon.com Inc founder Jeff Bezos, who will visit the country next week for a company event and potential meetings with government officials.

Bezos will participate in an Amazon event in New Delhi aimed at connecting with small and medium-sized enterprises, three sources told *Reuters*.

He has also sought meetings with the Prime Minister and other government officials.

Details of Bezos’ visit, including his arrival date and the duration of his stay are not known.

Amazon did not respond to a request to confirm the visit. The Prime Minister’s office also did not

ON THE AGENDA

■ Amazon founder Jeff Bezos will participate in an Amazon event in New Delhi aimed at connecting with small and medium-sized enterprises, sources told Reuters

■ He has also sought meetings with the Prime Minister and other government officials

■ The CAIT said it will protest across 300 cities

respond to requests for comment.

The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), a group representing roughly 70 million brick-and-mortar retailers, said it will protest across 300 cities during Bezos’ stay in the country.CAIT has since 2015 waged a battle against online retailers Amazon

and Walmart-controlled Flipkart, accusing them of deep discounts and flouting India’s foreign investment rules. “We plan to organise peaceful rallies against Jeff Bezos

in all major cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata as well as smaller towns and cities,” Praveen Khandelwal, the group’s secretary general told *Reuters*.

“We expect to mobilise at least 1,00,000 traders in the protests.”

Discounts have helped lure Indians to shop online for everything from groceries to large electronic devices, a phenomenon which traders say has unfairly hurt their business.

No need to panic about crude prices: Pradhan

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

UNION PETROLEUM and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Saturday said there is no need to panic about oil prices owing to present tensions between Iran and the US.

“The government has taken a position to wait and watch and there is no need to panic,” he said on the sidelines of a CII event here.

There are tensions in the Persian Gulf due to geo-political reasons, the Union Minister said.

“There is no dearth of crude oil in the global market. Yes, there has been some spike in oil prices, but for the last two days it is subdued,” Pradhan said.

Crude prices rose to a three-month high of almost \$72 a barrel soon after Iranian air strikes at US-Iraqi military bases, but cooled off



Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. *Express file photo*

amid speculation that Tehran is opting for limited retaliation over the killing of its top general.

Iranian strikes followed the killing of General Qassem Soleimani last week on US President Donald Trump’s orders.

Tensions between the two nations have flared since the US reimposed sanctions on Iran last year.

MUILENBURG WAS FIRED IN DECEMBER AS BOEING FAILED TO CONTAIN FALLOUT FROM A PAIR OF FATAL CRASHES

Boeing’s ousted CEO departs with \$62 mn, even without severance

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 11

BOEING’S OUSTED chief executive officer, Dennis Muilenburg, is leaving the company with \$62 million in compensation and pension benefits, but will receive no severance pay in the wake of the 737 MAX crisis.

Muilenburg was fired from the job in December as Boeing failed to contain the fallout from a pair of fatal crashes that halted output of the company’s best-selling 737 MAX jetliner and tarnished its reputation with airlines and regulators.

The compensation figures



Ex-Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg at a Senate Committee hearing on ‘Aviation Safety and the Future of Boeing’s 737 MAX’ in Washington. *AP file photo*

were disclosed in regulatory filing late on Friday in a difficult week for Boeing when it also released hundreds of internal messages — two major issues hanging over the company before new CEO David Calhoun starts Monday.

The messages contained harshly critical comments about the development of the 737 MAX, including one that said the plane was “designed by clowns who in turn are supervised by monkeys.”

The 737 MAX has been grounded since March following the second of two crashes that together killed 346 people within a span of five months.

“It is incredibly heart wrench-

ing to see the man at the heart of our loss walk away with a reward,” said Zipporah Kuria, whose 55-year-old father from Kenya died in the second crash.

Lawmakers also blasted Boeing. “346 people died. And yet, Dennis Muilenburg pressured regulators and put profits ahead of the safety of passengers, pilots, and flight attendants. He’ll walk away with an additional \$62.2 million. This is corruption, plain and simple,” US Senator Elizabeth Warren said on Twitter.

FAA seeks to fine Boeing

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said on Friday it was seeking to fine

Boeing \$5.4 million, alleging it failed to prevent the installation of defective parts on 737 MAX airplanes.

The FAA alleged Boeing “failed to adequately oversee its suppliers to ensure they complied with the company’s quality assurance system, ... Boeing knowingly submitted aircraft for final FAA airworthiness certification after determining that the parts could not be used due to a failed strength test.”

The FAA proposed a \$3.9 million-civil penalty against Boeing for the same issue in December involving 133 737 NG airplanes, which is the prior generation of the 737.

BRIDGE

Delay drawing trumps if necessary, in order to establish a winner in a side suit on which to discard a loser.

You are South, declarer in 4H.

NORTH	SOUTH
♠ Q62	♠ AK9
♥ QJ63	♥ 109872
♦ KQJ	♦ 74
♣ 986	♣ AK5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

You have 14 HCP and a weak heart suit and open 1H. North gives you a double raise to 3H, showing 10-12 points and four-card trump support. Your heart suit has perked up with partner's support and you bid game. West leads the CQ. How do you plan to play the hand?

This one's a gimme. You can't make the hand if the SJ is a singleton as you will have a natural spade loser to go along with a heart and two club losers. The only hope to make your contract is that East has QJ doubleton so rise with the ace. Play to make!

THE WEST HAND: ♠ 854 ♥ 5 ♦ A10953 ♣ QJ107
THE EAST HAND: ♠ J1073 ♥ AK4 ♦ 862 ♣ 432

Looking at losers, you have two in hearts and one each in diamonds and clubs. How can you get rid of one of them? There is nothing to trump in dummy, so you need to look at getting an extra trick from a side suit. The diamond suit looks promising. Once the ace is knocked out you will have two tricks and could discard your club loser.

You win the club lead with the ace. You should not play trumps immediately. If you do, the opponents will take their HA and then lead another club, which takes out your king and exposes the club loser. Then when you knock out the DA, they will cash their club winner.

The key is to play diamonds first so that you establish a diamond winner on which to discard your club loser. Play a small one from your hand to the king in dummy. If this is ducked by the opponents, continue with the queen. Whenever they take the ace, your jack is promoted to a winner. You would then go to dummy, either by leading your remaining diamond if the ace was taken on the first round, or by leading a spade to the queen. Then discard the C5 on the high diamond in dummy. Now it is time to draw trumps.

The only tricks you lose are one diamond and two trumps, making your contract.

You are East, defending against 6C.

NORTH	EAST
♠ AK52	♠ 9873
♥ 3	♥ AJ1098
♦ A8753	♦ Q9
♣ 974	♣ 82

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	6♦	All pass

Your partner leads the SQ, won by dummy's king. Declarer leads the H3, from dummy what are your plans?

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2250

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- City in Maharashtra - "signal" broken ? (6)
- Mr. Putin of Russia (8)
- Poker holding (4)
- State of being obstinate (10)
- Jolts (4)
- Intolerable (10)
- ____ Raikkonen: 2007 F1 World Champion (4)
- Musical notes (5)
- Sacred river of "Kubla Khan" (4)
- Slipping or botching (10)
- Skywalker mentor (4)
- Message in code (10)
- Labels (4)
- Replied or responded (8)
- Kept carping, criticising (6)

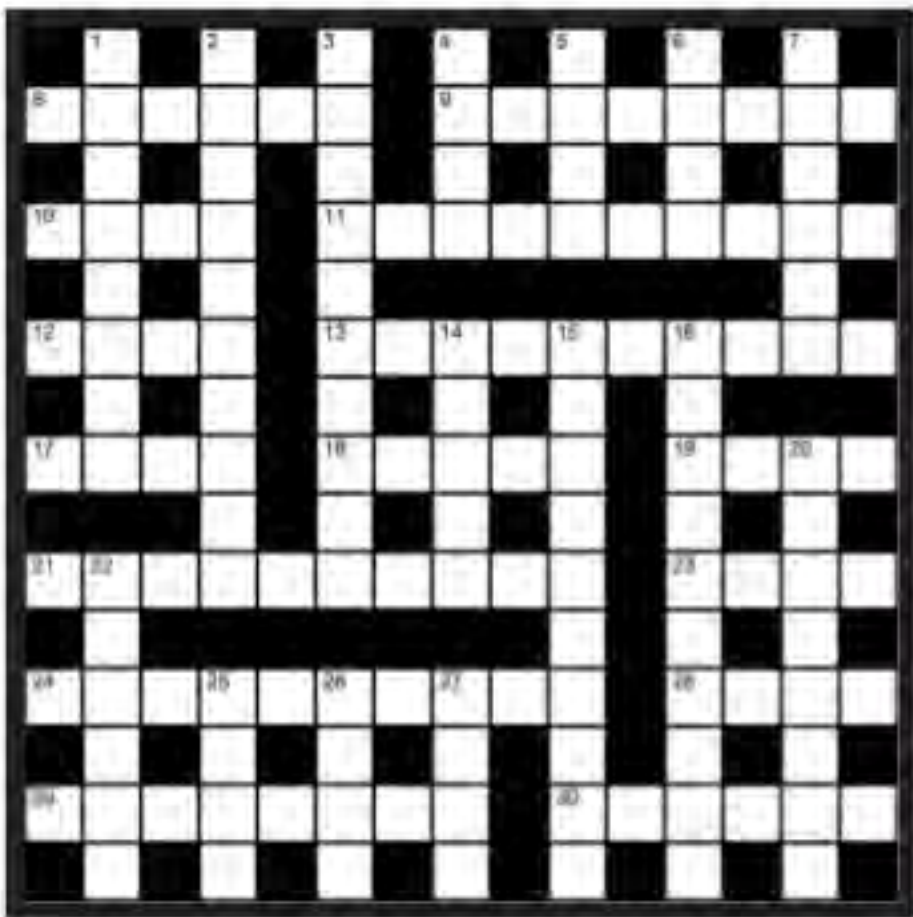
DOWN

- Holy place for majority of Indians (8)
- Offensive action (10)
- Outline (10)
- Eye part (4)
- Vehicles (4)
- Rank (4)
- "Hello" singer ____ Ritchie (6)
- Famed Sydney beach (5)
- Post of duty (10)
- Whenever (2,3,5)
- Lineage (8)
- Voice box (6)
- Chess piece (4)
- Levers for rowing (4)
- Went on horseback (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- Half bids small in islands of Alice Town (6)
- Eugenia, agitated when about 50, is conspiratorially allied (2,6)
- Thin sort of clue, this (4)
- Place in Surrey among the unions for Henrys vii and viii, for instance (5,5)
- A pound of potatoes? (4)
- A right little renegade, or so the referee appears (10)
- Put on for hard use (4)
- Stare in regal fashion ? (5)
- Such dismissals as appear wrong



- to us (4)
- He's unlikely to be found abroad (4,2,4)
- Catch an old conveyance (4)
- Overbearing attitude of one surrendering ? (10)
- Slow moving birds (4)
- One will never turn up over the rest if one comes in here again (2-6)
- Let go or lay off a worker? (6)

- Lessen it in motor-way entry? (8)
- A film character who will not come clean ? (5,5)
- Distressed Diana's informed about Charles's heart (10)
- Hard cheese ! (4)
- Mumble an asperision (4)
- Spirit of Kay in endless wet weather (4)
- Over enthusiastic killer to move around Hindehead (4,2)
- Feast made out of a bone (5)
- Monster due to become just great ! (10)
- Sign for a missing letter ? (10)
- Asian neighbour to ring out

Solutions to 2249

QUICK CLUES Across: Quick Clues Across: 8 Echo, 9 Astronomer, 10 Rommel, 11 Glossary, 12 Children, 14 Flinch, 16 Able, 17 Trier, 18 Cine, 19 Kaiser, 21 Arranged, 23 Ejection, 26 Drills, 27 Adulterate, 28 Etna. **Down:** 1 Acrophobia, 2 Formulae, 3 Sailor, 4 Stag, 5 Gotoo far, 6 Bonsai, 7 Gear, 13 Naira, 15 Cancelling, 17 Termites, 18 Confined, 20 Sicily, 22 Ridged, 24 Jude, 25 Neap. **CRYPTIC CLUES Across:** 8 Rita, 9 No-man's land, 10 Chichi, 11 Nauseate, 12 Dandruff, 14 Rushes, 16 Pig, 17 Bore, 18 Hyde, 19 Height, 21 Magellan, 23 Straw-hat, 26 Affaire, 27 Cumberbund, 28 Non-U. **Down:** 1 Joshua tree, 2 Watchdog, 3 In situ, 4 G-man, 5 Inquires, 6 Sleeps, 7 Knit, 13 Forum, 15 Endeavour, 17 Butchers, 18 Holyland, 20 Grammy, 22 Guards, 24 Tour, 25 Taut

If it's your Birthday

Sunday January 12

This may not be a time for straight talking, but it's a moment for decisive action, so put your foot down. At home, a younger relation needs your firm support.

Monday January 13

You're in the right mood for romantic commitments. A minor clash could be resolved soon, if you take a formal, conservative approach.

Tuesday January 14

To build castles in the air, your foundations must be rooted in the earth. All that's required is that you talk to people and stop being so secretive. In love, following a favourite fantasy will do the trick.

Wednesday January 15

You've got one week left to finalise social fixtures. So jump to it. You'll be on your own to start with, but very soon loved ones will come to your assistance. New, lively people could be entering your life.

Thursday January 16

Your wild plans may not get off the ground but at least you can have a go. Family affairs need extra attention, so keep an eye.

Friday January 17

Seize the hour. Your planets are perfectly poised, encouraging you to succeed where once you failed. Your greatest asset is your charm and you should be able to persuade almost anyone to back you

Saturday January 18

Your hopes are high and you want the best. If you're being unrealistic, the best advice is this: enjoy your fantasies, but always remember they're just that — fantasies.

JUMBLED WORDS

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

I knew everything and received everything. But real happiness, is ____ - Alain Delon (6)

STVII	DIINOG
ILTGN	CORVES

SOLUTION: VISIT, GINT, INIDCO, COVERS
Answer: I knew everything and received everything. But real happiness, is giving.

SUDOKU 4087

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

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



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4086



PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused namely **Vinod, S/o Late Shri. Ved Prakash, R/o I-117, Lai Kaun, Pul Prahlad Pur, South-East, New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence of case FIR No. 465/15 u/s 342/363/376/506 IPC, Dated: 12.12.2019, P.S. Pul Prahlad Pur, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the accused **Vinod** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Vinod** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Processing U/s 82 Cr. P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Vinod**, case FIR No. 465/15 u/s 342/363/376/506 IPC, Dated: 12.12.2019, P.S. Pul Prahlad Pur, New Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 17.02.2020.

By Order
Sh. Sandeep Garg,
Additional Sessions Judge
(Spl. Fast Track Court), South-East District, Court No.-301, Saket Court Complex, Saket, New Delhi

DP/7946/SE/19-(Court Matter)

बोली सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि ग्राम पंचायत खडैबला खंड करुखनमर विला मुरुग्राम के अधीन आने वाले एक जोड़द की मजली पालन हेतु 5 वर्षों के लिए पट्टे पर दिए जाने संबंधी बोली कि जाती है, इस संबंध में ग्राम पंचायत की बैठक में निर्णय लिया गया। इसलिये 16.01.2020 को प्रातः 11 बजे गांव स्थित अनुसूचित जाति के चौपाल में जोड़द को पट्टे पर दिए जाने के लिए बोली की जाएगी। बोलीदाता निम्नलिखित समय व स्थान पर पहुंचकर बोली दें। बोली की शर्तों में कोई भी परिवर्तन नहीं किया जाएगा।

श्री सुरज मुखी
सरपंच
ग्राम पंचायत खडैबला
9728144895

श्री कृष्ण कुमार
ग्राम सचिव
ग्राम पंचायत खडैबला
9991514760

Government of Tamilnadu
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department
District Rural Development Agency, Coimbatore
Installation of Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plants in Rural areas during 2019-20
Rec.No.1179/2019/B5 Tender Notice dated 10.01.2020

1. For details, visit www.tntenders.gov.in
2. E-Bids are invited by the Project Director, DRDA, Coimbatore Districts for Installation of Reverse Osmosis (RO) Plants in Rural areas during 2019-20 in all blocks - package wise, in two cover system.
3. The package wise bid documents can be downloaded free of cost from www.tntenders.gov.in from 14.01.2020 to 29.01.2020
4. Last date and time
(i) Last Date and Time for downloading and submission of bid documents : 29.01.2020 upto 3.00 PM onwards
(ii) Date and Time of online opening of Bid Documents : 29.01.2020 4.00 PM onwards

Joint Director /Project Director, DRDA, Coimbatore

DIPR/323/TENDER/2020

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

Sub: Extension in submission of online forms for B.Sc. Nursing/ Technology Courses batch 2019 at SKIMS.

In view of Bank holiday on 11.01.2020 the last date for submission of online forms for B.Sc. Nursing/ Technology Courses batch 2019 at SKIMS is hereby extended upto 13.01.2020.

Sd/- **Dean Medical Faculty, SKIMS.**

No. SIMS/ACAD/305 05-20-245-48
Dated: January, 11, 2020

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India
ZONAL OFFICE, PATNA ZONE
1st Floor, Chanakya Place, R-Block, Patna-1 (Tel.: 2220640-643)

Possession Notice (for immovable/movable Property) Appendix - IV, Rule 8(1)

Whereas,
The undersigned being the authorized officer of the **BANK OF INDIA Arrah Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 01.11.2019 Calling upon the borrower **Mrs. Sandhya Kumari Sinha W/o Ravi Shankar Kumari Sinha** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **₹49,88,750/-** (Rupees forty nine lac eighty eight thousand seven hundred fifty only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice with future interest and incidental charges.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rule on this **9th Day of January of the year 2020.**

The borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the **BANK OF INDIA, Arrah Branch** (name of the institution) for the amount **₹37,40,857.60/-** (Rupees thirty seven lac forty thousand eight hundred fifty seven paise sixty only) with interest and cost incidental thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time, available to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property: All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Flat No./Plot No., Survey No., City Plot and Parcel of property -Mrs. Sandhya Kumari Sinha W/o Mr. Ravi Shankar Kumar Sinha resident of Mohalla-D.S. Kothi, Awadhपुरी Road, Chandwara More, Arrah, Mauza-Pakri, P.S.-Navada, Area, Thana No.-236, Nagar Nigam Ward No.-14, Arrah, Dist.-Bhojpur, Old Khata No.-230, New Khata No.773, Old Plot No.1102, New Plot No.-1752 & 1753(Part), **Area-6.8437 Decimal** (2 Katha 3 Dhur 16 Dhurki), **Bounded-North:** 19 Feet Rasta, **South:** Methodist Church in India, **East:** Enroja Baidar Rakesh Kumar Sinha, **West:** 14 feet wide rasta.

*With further interest at applicable rate till repayment.

Date : 09.01.2020
Place : Arrah

Authorized Officer
Bank of India

COIMBATORE SMART CITY LIMITED
SMART CITY'S MISSION
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (NIT)

Tender Notice No. e-20/Smart City/19-20/SCM Date : 08.01.2020
The Managing Director, Coimbatore Smart City Limited, Coimbatore hereby invites Bids through both on-line and off-line from eligible bidders for the following work.

S.No	Name of work	Estimate Value Rs.	Bid Security	Period of Completion
1	Horticulture, irrigation & Electrical works in Eco Restoration of 7 Lakhs for Coimbatore Corporation under CSCL			
1	Periyakulam Lake	9.72 Crore	9.72 Lakh	12 months
2	Valankulam Lake	8.94 Crore	8.94 Lakh	12 months
3	Selvachinthamani Lake	5.82 Crore	5.82 Lakh	12 months
4	Krishnampathy Lake	4.32 Crore	4.32 Lakh	12 months
5	Selvampathy and Kumaraswamy Lake	6.88 Crore	6.88 Lakh	12 months
6	Singanallur Lake	1.47 Crore	1.47 Lakh	12 months

A two cover bidding procedure will be adopted. The bidders shall satisfy the qualification criteria and the financial criteria as mentioned in the Bid document. The Pre-bid meeting held on 27.01.2020 on 16.00 hours. The bidding documents will be available from 22.01.2020 to 13.02.2020 and downloaded / uploaded from the website <https://tntenders.gov.in> on or before at 15.00 Hours on 13.02.2020 through online. Tender Submission will be closed at 15.00 Hours and opened at 16.00 Hours on 14.02.2020 through offline.

Roc.No.:61 / 2018 /JN5/ SCM 2
E-Mail cbepmcsmartcity@gmail.com or sejnmurm@ccmc.gov.in
Off : 0422-2396026 / 0422-2391122

Managing Director
Coimbatore Smart City Limited,
Coimbatore Corporation Building,
Big Bazaar Street, Town Hall
Coimbatore -641 001.

Managing Director
Coimbatore Smart City Limited

DIPR/32/TENDER/2020

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

MARTYR OF CISF ON 12TH JANUARY 1983

CISF proudly remembers the supreme sacrifice of this brave-heart. On this day, he laid down his life at the altar of duty. His courage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the force.

The force will remain eternally indebted to him for this noblest deed.

HC/GD CHHEDI LAL BSP BHILAI

माकअनुप- केन्द्रीय गोवंश अनुसंधान संस्थान
गास काम रोड, पोबो 17, मेरठ छावनी-250001 (उप्रप्र), भारत
फोन नं. 0121-2657136 (निदेशक), ईपी बी.एस. 2645598 एड 2656021
ईमेल: pdnotice@yahoo.com

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
निदेशक, सी.आई.आर.सी. मेरठ द्वारा संस्थान में विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक उपकरणों की आपूर्ति हेतु प्रतिष्ठित निर्माताओं/अधिकृत डीलरों/आपूर्तिकर्ताओं से दो बोली प्रणाली (तकनिकी एवं वित्त बोली) के अन्तर्गत सील बंद ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। जिसका विस्तृत विवरण संस्थान की वेबसाइट www.circ.org.in एवं **CPP Portal** (केंद्रीय खरीद पोर्टल <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>) पर उपलब्ध है। **CPP Portal** के माध्यम से ऑनलाइन बोलियों को जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि 14.02.2020 को दोपहर 01.00 बजे तक है एवं बोली खोलने की तिथि 15.02.2020 दोपहर 02.30 बजे है। **प्रभारी क्रय**

URBAN ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
4TH Floor, D Block, Indravati Bhavan (HOD Building), Nava Raipur Atal Nagar, Chhattisgarh, 492002
Phone 0771-2222972 Fax 0771/2222409
Email: technicalcellraipur2017@gmail.com

RFP NOTICE
09/UAADD/2019/236 NAVA RAIPUR ATAL NAGAR, DATED 06/01/2020
RFP for "RFP for Appointment of PR Agency for carrying of IEC activities, Social Media Handling and PR related work of UAADD Chhattisgarh".

Urban Administration and Development Department (UAADD) is the Mission Directorate for implementation of all Schemes of Urban Development in the State. Through this notice UAADD invites bid for "RFP for Appointment of PR Agency for carrying of IEC activities, Social Media Handling and PR related work of UAADD Chhattisgarh."

Name of work	EMD	RFP Document Fee
RFP for "RFP for Appointment of PR Agency for carrying of IEC activities, Social Media Handling and PR related work of UAADD Chhattisgarh."	INR 5,00,000/-	INR 10,000/-

- RFP documents can be seen on the website <http://uad.cg.gov.in> and downloaded from the said portal.
- The RFP can be postponed or cancelled at any time due to administrative reasons and no claim shall be entertained on this account.
- Modifications/Amendments/Corrigendum, if any shall not be advertised in the newspaper but shall be published in the department website only. The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms and conditions, select/reject any application without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
Urban Administration and Development Department,
Chhattisgarh, Nava Raipur Atal Nagar.

76157

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE
DRM/Electrical, North Western Railway, Jaipur for & on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tender for the following work: 1. Complete details of tenders can be seen on Website No.: <http://www.irops.gov.in> 2. Date & time of closing of e-tender : 03.02.2020 upto 15.00 hours. 3. Date & time of opening of e-tender : After 15.00 Hrs. on 03.02.2020 Tender No.: 26/19-20 Name of work : Electrical work in c/w provision of UP-gradation of infrastructural facilities at CC/JU & Provision of Drop pit, Table at Diesel Shed BGKT over Jodhpur Division. Approx. Cost of the work (in Rs.): Rs. 3353566.00 For detailed information visit <http://www.irops.gov.in> 58-D/20 Please join us on **15/1** /NWR/Railways

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER
E-Tender Notice No. M-377-Line Box-JP-FL-1-R Dated : 16.01.2020
Sr. JPM (Enr)NWR/JPR, DRM office, Jaipur acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. 1. Name of work with its location: Transportation of Loco pilots & Guards' line boxes at Jaipur & Phulera stations. 2. Approx. cost of the work : Rs. 56,49,924.42 3. Earnest Money to be deposited : Rs. 1,13,00,000 (Online Payment) 4. Date and time for submission of Tender : Submission of e-tender up to 07.02.2020 at 15.00 hrs. 5. Website particular : www.irops.gov.in 58-D/20 Contact help line no. 131 for general complaints

INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
(A Super Speciality, Autonomous Institute of Govt. of Bihar)
IGIMS Medical College, IGIMS Nursing College
Sheikhpura, Patna-14. EPBX : 0612-2297099/2297631, Website : www.igims.org

Short Tender Notice No. 06/2019-20/Biomedical Eqpt./IGIMS/STORE
SHORT TENDER NOTICE
Tenders in two separate bid system (Technical & Financial bid) are invited from eligible and qualified manufacturers or their authorised distributors / agents for supply, installation and commissioning of biomedical equipment's. Details of participation in Tender process, specification of equipment's, terms and conditions can be seen and downloaded at www.igims.org. The last date for the submission of bid is **23.01.2020 upto 4.00 PM**. The technical bid will be opened on **24.01.2020 at 03.00 PM**. **Director**

पश्चिमांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि., विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना
निम्नलिखित निविदाओं के द्वारा निम्नवर्णित कार्य को बाह्य एजेंसी के माध्यम से कराने हेतु अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा/ निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं :-
अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं-07/वि.कार्यशाला खं./मेरठ/कार्य/2019-20 {निविद मूल्य-रु 1180.00 (18% जी.एस.टी. सहित (अप्रतिदेय)} अनुमानित लागत-रु 1.00 लाख, धरोहर राशि रु 2000.00} विद्युत कार्यशाला मण्डल एवं खण्ड, मेरठ एवं अधीनस्थ कार्यशालाओं में कार्य, मवाना अड्डा-मेरठ एवं बडौत के प्रयोगनाथ स्टेशन पर इत्यादि सामग्री क्रय का मेरठ।
अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं-08/वि.कार्यशाला खं./मेरठ/कार्य/2019-20 {निविद मूल्य-रु 1180.00 (18% जी.एस.टी. सहित (अप्रतिदेय)} अनुमानित लागत-रु 2.00 लाख, धरोहर राशि रु 2000.00} विद्युत कार्यशाला खण्ड, मेरठ के अन्तर्गत कार्यशालाओं में सतियस्त परिवर्तकों की मरम्मत के कार्य हेतु उपलब्ध सॉलिट प्रेस बोर्ड से विभिन्न आकार के गुटकों को बनवाये जाने का कार्य। ई-निविदा खुलने की दिनांक -24.01.2020 प्रतिभागी फर्मों द्वारा अपने चालू बैंक खाते से ई-निविदा हेतु वांछित धरोहर राशि एवं ई-निविदा शुल्क (18% जी.एस.टी. सहित) (अप्रतिदेय), आर टी.जी.एस./एन.ई.एस.टी. के माध्यम से अधिशारी अभियन्ता, विद्युत कार्यशाला खण्ड मेरठ के नाम से सैन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ इण्डिया की जेल चुंकी, मेरठ स्थित बैंक शाखा में संचालित चालू बैंक खाता सं. 1403900519 (IFSC Code CBIN0282337) में जमा कराया जायेगा। आई.एम.पी.एस द्वारा जमा कार्य ई निविदा शुल्क व धरोहर राशि मान्य नहीं होगी तथा जब धनराशि जमा कर ली जायेगी। निविदा भाग-1 (निविदा राशि एवं धरोहर राशि एवं अन्य सम्बन्धित प्रपत्र), निविदा भाग-2 (ग्राइजिजिड) निविदा खुलने की तिथि को 14.00 बजे तक ई-टेंडरिंग वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in पर अपलोड की जायेगी।
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राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाय

अधिशारी अभियन्ता
विद्युत कार्यशाला खण्ड
प.वि.नि.लि. मेरठ

20 SPORTSLINE

HIGH HOOPS

Geethu Anna Jose, India's brilliant 6-ft-2 Centre, took a shy at the WNBA tryouts in 2011 but couldn't quite crack the code, overwhelmed by the cultural and athletic challenges of it all. Now almost a decade later, five young Indian women have set up base in North American schools, colleges and universities, prepping themselves for a shot at the biggest women's basketball league in the world. Transplanting themselves into the American college system on scholarships while being aided by the Indian NBA Academy, the five are negotiating campus life with its academics and intense conditioning sessions. **SHIVANI NAIK** speaks with the group of five women which can help elevate Indian basketball out of the current lull as they bounce off the bench and earn playing time — The Power of the Five, which could help India challenge the traditional Asian powers.

Finding her comfort zone, culturally and on the court

ASMAT KAUR, 16

THE LAWRENCEVILLE SCHOOL, NEW JERSEY

ASMAT'S father works in telecom and mother's a published author of fiction, and the compact family of three have perfected the art of packing, unpacking and settling in quickly in new places owing to the father's transferable job. Chandigarh, Lucknow, Indore, Mumbai — the 16-year-old has moved around from state to state since age 5, but it's the basketball move to New Jersey for the 6-ft-1 that has been a "360 degree turn in life — culturally and in the aggressive game as well."

Playing Centre — mostly post work, though she can move around the perimeter — the adjustment was more than polishing her 3-pointers and more about the aggressive attitude on court. Asmat points to a unique tweak for foreign players. "Look, it's a foreign country. At home, I could be no-mercy aggressive on court and switch to rational outside the game. But once you go to a culturally different place and are out of your comfort zone, aggression can deflate out of the body. You are in America, so you relearn to be aggressive in a non-offensive way," she explains.

Asmat grew up tall and lanky, but basketball was an obvious choice at 13, soon turning into a passion beyond her then 5-ft-9 frame, towering over classmates. The only child, her parents trawled the internet for options so she could target WNBA, no less, while setting up her personal workouts as they moved from Indore to Mumbai's



Dominic Savio, taking in her loping strides, cement courts and casual training routines.

Sunday amateur games in the fall season (basketball's a winter sport in the USA), helped her ease into the drills and she recently watched an NBA game at Brooklyn, strengthening her resolve to play at the highest level, WNBA. "I miss my friends from around India. But I'm aware that if you focus on your career through your teenage years, stay single-minded and devoted to learning the skills and not try rushing to success, then I can crack the big one — WNBA."



Wrestling-gymnastics base, toughened by pumping iron

KHUSHI DONGRE, 18

ASA COLLEGE, MIAMI

A CHILDHOOD spent training in wrestling and gymnastics made Khushi, hailing from Aurangabad, a formidably strong player when she moved to basketball, encouraged by her enthusiastic father. A lawyer in Aurangabad, Khushi's father pushed her towards the playground, though the turning point came when she was crying to him after being ragged by seniors in junior college. "I got ragged on a basketball court and I went back bawling. My dad told me if I really wanted to play, then I should work harder," she recalls.

On either side of an ankle trouble, Khushi would end up playing eight nationals in multiple age categories after she took to the sport in 2015. One of the first ones to hit the treadmill and bench press in the gym, Khushi focused on strength and conditioning. Training with her father, who continued playing in the masters U45 category, also helped her grow up.

"I have a big body, I'm strong, I had a career-high 47 points in u-15 nationals and I trained hard in the gym. I also loved studies and had

5'10ft

One of the first ones to hit the treadmill and bench press in the gym, Khushi focused on strength and conditioning. Training with her father, who continued playing in the masters U45 category, also helped

good grades," she says of the move to Miami, made smoother with her outgoing personality. She studies Business Administration now, alongside developing as an all-rounder training 4-5 hours a day. At 5'10", matching the power of opponents wasn't her challenge. But the blitzing pace took her aback. "The Asian pace is very slow. In the US and even college basketball, it's all about speed. I trained how to run. There people are huge, so you have to trick them in running and we need to use our mind. I figured out on Day 1 that it was gonna be a lot of mind work. I'm a little bit famous in college for my skills," she says.



6'1ft

The only child, her parents trawled the internet for options so she could target WNBA, no less, while setting up her workouts as they moved from Indore to Mumbai's

Dominic Savio

Out with the rulebook, in with the 'system'

SANJANA RAMESH, 17

NORTH ARIZONA UNI, FLAGSTAFF

SANJANA INHERITED her mother's athletic genes — Sr played with the hoops (not shooting into them) in tennikoit and hustled in kho kho. Her father, an IIM Bangalore professor, instilled the importance of being sound in academics and lawyer brother, older, taunted her suitably on being intellectually callow. From a mix of these and a rash in badminton at 10 after which she traded the shuttle for hoops at 11, emerged the Bangalore girl's ambition to play basketball at the highest level in the USA.

She's 6 feet and a power forward, and discovered the elusive "system" in the States that's non-existent in India: defence, offence, transitioning, the works. Along the way, she recalls literally flying back and falling when an American opponent casually stuck her elbow out, and left a rattled Sanjana thinking "Why did she do that!" She got over the coy, prissy rulebook of Bangalore high school basketball, and prepped herself to not get thrown about.

This meant weight training three times a week, lot of squats and planks, whipping of muscle groups she never knew existed. Summers were about conditioning, where weights was the start of the story. She was in Arizona at 7,000 feet above sea level, four times Bangalore, and the air was gaspingly thin. "They'd want you to puke in the end literally, it

is that intense," she says. Sprints of 1,800 yards were the preamble to weights and courtwork. "Everyone here knows how to dribble and shoot. But we are trained in specifics on ball handling, form (shape of the shot) and defence, which is hard work — bent knees and hands up at all times."

Back home, she was the tallest with the highest jump and was accorded the respect of playing post. In the US, she learnt she'd get benched if she didn't run up and down the court or was not boxing out. Picked in 11th grade from a scouting WNBA camp, who helped send out her reports and game footage to different universities, Sanjana is the pivot of the American group, speaking to them weekly and helping them through the adjustments of campus life for an Indian baller in America.

WNBA or a professional league abroad are the targets, but life right now is one giant grind of bone aches. "Student athlete life is sad. Classes, practice, gym, eat, sleep, repeat, sneaking in homework somewhere there. Zero social life," she laughs. She misses people and food from back home and teaches her buddies desi moves on 'Kaala Chashma', but enjoys the chucking con. "Oh, it's so easy to be smarter here than others, now I know why Indians want to study abroad! I was average in Bangalore, here I'm a Math genius! No, but they think Indians are hardworking and kind and very (laughs) smart. And sweet."

On road to recovery, Yadav copes with math, quiet festivities



5'11ft

Firstly she hid the injury from her parents, once ignoring 50 missed calls from her mum. "I wanted to prove I was a good player, so why did it have to happen to me?" she lamented to her older brother, while going in for the MRI

VAISHNAVI YADAV, 17

PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE, FLORIDA

THE BEST-LAID plans of men and mice often go awry. For Vaishnavi Yadav, all that could go wrong did. The Varanasi girl had been gung-ho about going to America and even joked about dazzling every scout when she left home, having surprised herself by scoring well in GRE and earning the scholarship. An injury to her knee from a fall was the worst thing to happen then. In a mix of salvaging sympathy and plain-speak, her college team trainer told her: there couldn't have been a better place than the American college in Florida to get hurt.

Yadav is inclined to seeing humour in real dark situations, so she says she set aside time each day to mope and curse her luck at getting the opportunity to play basketball in the US and injuring herself within the first few months. "Timetable mein slot banaana pada rone ke liye daily," she recalls. On the whole, she hurtled through the first few weeks of the dreaded ACL.

Firstly she hid the injury from her parents, once ignoring 50 missed calls from her mum. "I wanted to prove I was a good player, so why did it have to happen to me?" she lamented to her older brother, while going in for the MRI. Vaishnavi had been picked in trials a month after returning from a back injury, then the knee meniscus cracked. When her mother was finally told, she threatened to send across tickets and haul her back home. "I never thought I'll say a line so lame, but that day I told my mother: 'I'm a big girl now'," she recalls, readying to wheel into surgery with no family around, though helped greatly by hostel mates and team officials. She also remembers telling her dad to lie to the press about the injury since they'd started asking why she hadn't been starting in college games, and the last thing she heard before getting into the OT was her dad telling her, he would not lie. "I was feeling guilty but he screamed at me. *Wo bole injure hui hai, koi chori, daccati nai daali ki hum ye chhipaaye.*"

Of all the girls, the adjustment has been the roughest for Vaishnavi. "It's always very quiet here. I'm not used to the silence and I like *hasee-mazaak*. It's tough to mix easily here. Also their English is higher level," she declares.

For the first 10 days, she subsisted on corn-flakes and omelettes. Facetimeing with her mother, she learnt to cook. She scored straight 'A's in most subjects, save math which continues giving her grief as does the grim silence.

"*Ab New Year le lo...* no fireworks, no noise, no screaming Happy New Year like we Indians do. I mean, if a sheep or cow gives birth in Allahabad, there is more *dhol-bajja* than what they did here to celebrate New Year!"

There's the other sound she's craving to hear — the thap-thap of the ball dribbling on polished wooden floors.

6ft

She recalls literally flying back and falling when an American opponent casually stuck her elbow out, and left a rattled Sanjana thinking "Why did she do that!"

Chennai vegetarian in Great White North

SRISHTI SUREN, 18

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG, CANADA

SRISHTI'S PARENTS Suren and Sunitha played basketball on the Chennai circuit. Naturally, they weren't overly keen on letting her drift into a sport that can be heart-breaking in its returns, besides breaking knee bones on outdoor courts.

Cricket or squash sounded better options. But even more predictably, Srishiti wanted to do nothing but play basketball since she was three and accompanied her mother, who still plays at 44, court-side. She also idolised Geethu Anna Jose watching her play since she was little, but still tall for a toddler.

Her father's resistance continued until Srishiti took a gap year to train at the IMG Academy after her 12th, and used that as a launchpad to earn a scholarship at the University of Winnipeg where she studies psychology and plays as a (rather tall) shooting guard at 5'11.

Eventually when her father came around to let her let go of her dream of being an architect, the former MCC player got down to tweaking her wrist and arching action when shooting, lending it the familiar Chennai solidity in technique. Prior to Winnipeg, she had to work hard on her TOEFL and SAT scores and learn the ropes of carrying herself and fitting in that Collegiate life demands before women find their footing in basketball.

5'11ft

Prior to Winnipeg, she had to work hard on her TOEFL and SAT scores and learn the ropes of carrying herself and fitting in that Collegiate life demands



Hardik’s return
set to be delayed
as selectors pick
squad for NZ
tour today

Mumbai: With all-rounder Hardik Pandya’s anticipated return getting delayed after he failed the fitness test, India’s limited overs squads are unlikely to be tinkered with much for the upcoming six-week tour of New Zealand. Starting January 24, India will be playing five T20 Internationals, three ODIs and two Test matches, and squads for the tour will be picked on Sunday.

Pandya was expected to make the Indian squad after remaining out of action for four months due to a back injury but the all-rounder could not clear the mandatory fitness test, indicating that it will take him more to recover from the surgery he recently had. India will be playing eight white ball games in New Zealand, and it will be interesting to see if the selectors pick a 16 or 17-member squad, instead of 15.

With the India A team’s shadow tour coinciding with the seniors’ visit, it gives the selectors an option to draft players on SOS basis if the need arises.

The selectors will primarily focus on zeroing in on the core for white ball cricket considering that this is a T20 World Cup year.

While the T20 squad that played against Sri Lanka in the just-concluded series all but picks itself, Pandya was expected to be included once he proved his fitness in the warm-up games. However his failure to clear the fitness test is an indication that he is far from ready for interests.

It will be interesting to note if the ODI team is an extension of the T20 squad. The weakest link in the ODI team is Kedar Jadhav, who has managed to hold onto his 50 over slot amid pressure to replace him. In New Zealand, Jadhav’s technical frailties could be exposed and his lack of overs in recent times makes him a case for exclusion.

In case the Indian team looks for technical solidity, Ajinkya Rahane could make a comeback, but if the team management is thinking in terms of treating 50 over games as an extension of T20 series, Mumbai player Suryakumar Yadav’s explosive power hitting at No. 5 or 6 could be an option. Both Surya and Sanju Samson are in the A squad.

Gill vs Rahul for Tests?

The Test squad wears a very settled look with the only contention being the third opener’s slot. Picked as a reserve for the home series, the young Shubman Gill deserves to be the third opener, but K L Rahul’s current form and experience in Test cricket could also be considered.

The selectors will also deliberate on if a third spinner (Kuldeep Yadav) is needed for the two-match Test series instead of a fifth pacer (Navdeep Saini) to accompany Jasprit Bumrah, Umesh Yadav, Mohammed Shami and Ishant Sharma. The rest automatically pick themselves in case there are no fitness issues.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Aussies warm to Smith at No. 3

Former captain likely to return to his preferred spot in the upcoming ODI series against India



Australian players warm up at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on Saturday. Australia take on India in the first ODI here on Tuesday. *Nirmal Harindran*

TUSHAR BHADURI
JANUARY 11

MORNING SHOWS the day – the saying goes. How one starts often dictates how they will finish.

Hence, if one is a cricket lover and appreciates the various challenges and contests that the 50-over encounter provides in a condensed time-frame, one will be well advised to not miss the first 10 overs of either innings when Australia and India do battle in their short three-game series.

Because that’s when Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul, Steve Smith and David Warner are likely to set the tone for their sides, against some high-quality fast bowling from both teams. With not much heavy artillery in the rear, the damage with the bat needs to be done at the top.

It is the opening skirmishes that are likely to decide who eventually comes out on top in Mumbai, Rajkot and Bengaluru. India’s top three of Rohit, Shikhar Dhawan or Rahul (take your pick) and skipper Kohli make the line-up as top-heavy as one can get. In fact, it was what lay hidden beneath the cream that brought India’s 2019 World Cup campaign to an end in the semifinals. After seeing off the likes of Bangladesh, West Indies and Sri Lanka in recent months, the usual suspects will have to lead the line

against undeniably a stronger opposition this time.

Regardless of results in the last few matches, the likes of Shreyas Iyer, Rishabh Pant, Kedar Jadhav, Shivam Dube and Manish Pandey don’t provide the aura of a blockbuster middle order. Some of them were found wanting against the same opposition about nine months ago.

Australia have been frequent visitors to India in the last few decades, and when they came last year before the World Cup, they recovered from a 0-2 deficit to take the ODI series 3-2. What made the achievement even more laudable was that it was done without the services of Warner and Smith.

With the two back in the side, the Aussie selectors could even afford to drop Usman Khawaja, one of the chief architects of last year’s success in India, and Glenn Maxwell, whose x-factor can turn any match on its head.

And if noises coming out of the Australian team management are to be believed, the top three are likely to be skipper Aaron Finch, Warner, followed by Smith in his preferred No.3 spot, where he averages 52.72 compared to 35.61 at four, which is where he batted for most of the World Cup.

And this being a short series provides all the more reason to give the big players as much opportunity as possible to make

Australia have been frequent visitors to India in the last few decades, and when they came last year before the World Cup, they recovered from a 0-2 deficit to take the ODI series 3-2. What made the achievement even more laudable was that it was done without the services of Warner and Smith.

a big impact by facing as many deliveries as possible.

“There is a fair chance Steve Smith will bat No.3,” interim coach Andrew McDonald told AAP. “The top three fall into Warner, Finch and Smith.”

Even though Marnus Labuschagne will hope to replicate his Test exploits against the white ball, with the likes of Ashton Turner, Peter Handscomb, D’Arcy Short, Ashton Agar and Alex Carey to fill the remainder of the batting spots with, it becomes clear that the top order will largely decide Aussie fortunes.

There has hardly been much ODI cricket played since the World Cup – Australia haven’t had any while India has only had

five completed matches – and one needs to go back to the English summer to gauge the form of key players in the 50-over format. Rohit was the top-scorer of the tournament with 648 runs, just one more than Warner. Finch was seventh on the list with 507. Though Kohli, Smith and Rahul finished outside the top-10, their undeniable pedigree makes it almost certain that they will impact the upcoming series with the bat.

With the two pace attacks on display being arguably the best two going around, it makes added sense to field players who can cope with the tough challenges they will pose.

If the hosts will have to deal with Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood and Kane Richardson, the Indians have the ability to match them with Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami with Navdeep Saini and Shardul Thakur giving ample proof of what they can bring to the table.

So, if the top order negotiates the opening spells without much damage, they can lay the foundation for a big total or a successful chase. Conversely, if the quality pacers on display get the big guns out cheaply, they can almost decide the fate of the match before the halfway mark of an innings.

There will be no time for sighters when the action gets underway between the two familiar foes.

India in turmoil,
students should
go back to
classrooms,
says Gavaskar



Sunil Gavaskar made the remarks at the 26th Annual Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Lecture.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

THE LEGENDARY Sunil Gavaskar on Saturday expressed confidence that India will overcome the current “turmoil” caused by nationwide students’ protests just like it had dealt with several critical situations in the past.

In the past few weeks, there had been multiple protests, first at the Jamia Milia University against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and then due to violence by a masked attackers at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU).

“The country is in turmoil. Some of our youngsters are out on the street when they should be in their classrooms. Some of them are ending up in hospitals for being out on the streets,” were Gavaskar’s introductory remarks while delivering the 26th Annual Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Lecture.

The iconic opener Gavaskar believes in the idea of India which will enable the citizens to pull through this hour of crisis.

“The majority of them are still in classrooms trying to forge their career and to build and take India forward. We as a nation can go higher only when we are all together. When each one of us has to be simply Indian, first and foremost. That is what the game taught us.

“We win when we pull together as one. India has overcome many crisis in the past and it will overcome this as well and emerge a stronger nation. We as a nation can go higher only if we are all together,” he said.

He also cited the example of 1965 war against Pakistan.

“Our minds go back to one such major crisis in 1965 when our neighbours invaded and got a fitting reply.”

Later in the programme, Gavaskar urged the students to go back to the classrooms.

“I will only tell them to go back to the classrooms. That is their main duty. They have gone to the university to study, so please study,” he said.

RANJI FIFTH ROUND

Mulani, Tare rescue
Mumbai vs Tamil Nadu

Chennai: Shams Mulani (87) and Aditya Tare (69, batting) raised a 155-run partnership with fighting half-centuries to help Mumbai finish the opening day of their Ranji Trophy Group ‘B’ match against Tamil Nadu at 284 for six, here on Saturday. Electing to bat after winning the toss, the visitors were in a spot of bother as lanky left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore (3/77) and ace off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin (3/58) struck at regular intervals to leave them five down. Baba Aparajith-led Tamil Nadu as Vijay Shankar was drafted into the India ‘A’ team for the New Zealand tour and left to join the squad. Kishore got into the act first and picked up the first three wickets in the opening session. Ashwin was wicket-less till the lunch break but made his presence felt after the break, dismissing debutant Hardik Tamore (21) and Sarfaraz Khan (36). Earlier, Mumbai got off to a solid start as Jay Bista made a fluent 41 and put on 50 runs for the opening wicket with debutant Bhupen Lalwani (21).

BRIEF SCORES: Mumbai 284 for 6 in 89.4 overs (Shams Mulani 87, Aditya Tare 69 batting, Jay Bista 41; R Ashwin 3/58, R Sai Kishore 3/77) vs Tamil Nadu.

Wakhare, Sarvate
skittle out Bengal

Nagpur: Off-break bowler Akshay Wakhare and slow left-arm orthodox Aditya Sarvate were deadly on a spinner-friendly track as defending champions Vidarbha bowled out Bengal for a paltry 170 here on the first day of a Ranji Trophy group A encounter. At stumps, Vidarbha were 89 for 3 with skipper Faiz Fazal (51) being dismissed off the final delivery of the day by off-spinner Arnab Nandi. The nature of the pitch is an indicator that the match is likely to end inside three days. Barring former skipper Manoj Tiwary (48) and the injured Ritwick Roy Chowdhury (27), none of other Bengal players were able to cross 20-run mark. Wakhare (5/56 in 19 overs) and Sarvate (4/53 in 20 overs) made life miserable on a track where there was turn. Such was there dominance that team’s biggest star Umesh Yadav (1/19) bowled only six overs in two spells.

BRIEF SCORES: Bengal 170 in 56 overs (Manoj Tiwary 48, Akshay Wakhare 5/56, Aditya Sarvate 4/53). Vidarbha 89/3 in 32 overs (Faiz Fazal 51, Shreyan Chakraborty 1/20, Arnab Nandi 1/19).

PTI

These are the days when I can be
proud of myself, gain motivation

Saurashtra’s rock dug his team out of another hole and, in the process becoming just the ninth Indian to achieve a rare milestone: 50 first-class hundreds. Here are five of his most cherished hundreds in his own telling

CHETESHWAR PUJARA
JANUARY 11

IT’S HARD for me to select a few special hundreds as I cherish all 50 of them. A lot of hard work has gone into reaching where I’m now.

I don’t usually look at stats but these are the days when I can be proud of myself and gain motivation for the future. I feel there is still a lot of time left in my Test and first-class career. The landmark has come at the right time, just before the New Zealand tour.

Some of my personal favourites:

145* vs SL, Colombo (2015)

I was out of the playing eleven and trying to make a comeback. There was a chance that I could be left out again. I put extra pressure on myself to score runs. I had to open the innings in the third Test, and the conditions were challenging. Everyone was struggling. The series was lost at 1-1.

We lost six wickets for some 150 runs but Mishy bhai (Amit Mishra) batted well. I was batting well but looking at the scorecard, had we would not scored 300-odd runs on that pitch things would have been very difficult. It was that time of my career when a lot of things were going around me. I had not had a great Australian series and things were not going well. But that knock changed people’s perception and I didn’t look back after that.

123 vs Australia, Adelaide (2018)

In an away series, it’s important to start well. It was a four-Test series and we had never won a series in Australia. When batting first, it’s important to put up a decent total. If we had got all out for say 180, the team’s morale would have gone down. I always want to perform in challenging conditions abroad and that too in my first inning of the first Test. If you start off well, you carry on the form and confidence into the next game. I scored 123, pulled out my team from some 140 for six. We managed to get 250. It gave me the confidence for the rest of the tour.

148* vs Delhi, Kotla (Ranji)

Saurashtra had almost lost that game and at lunch we were 80 for eight. We had to bat



Saurashtra’s Pujara made 162 off 238 balls against Karnataka in Rajkot.

two more sessions to draw the game and I batted with tail-enders. I was batting on 20-odd and by the time the fourth day ended, I had scored 148. I had a crucial partnership with Jolly Jobanputra. It was a good Delhi side and everyone thought we will be bowled out soon. I just batted over by over and my partners too responded well. Then the time came when we thought that we had a chance to draw the game.

300 against Odisha (Ranji)

The pitch nor the opposition was challenging but a first-class triple hundred is always special. I have a triple hundred against West Indies A and many in junior cricket but scoring a triple in Ranji Trophy means a lot. I was on a great run, it was my third triple hundred in a month. I had scored back-to-back triple hun-

dreds for Saurashtra under-23 against Mumbai and Maharashtra in a week. I scored the one against Odisha a week later, I guess.

100 vs Karnataka, CCI (Ranji QF)

It was a very high-profile game as Rahul bhai (Dravid) was playing that match. So was Sunil Joshi. We were competing against a great Karnataka team. Those days Ranji Trophy knockouts were played at neutral venues.

We were on the verge of losing the game. We were 10 for 3, chasing some 320 runs on the last day. The ball was turning and bouncing. Nobody thought we will win that game but we went for it. We discussed in the dressing room that if we get 100 runs in each session, we will be through to the semifinals. My hundred in that game was a big boost for my career.

(As told to **Devendra Pandey**)

Sangwan’s dream season
keeps getting better

VISHAL MENON
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

RAILWAYS FAST bowler Himanshu Sangwan prefers to call it the ‘effort ball’, but it was more than that. It was a magical delivery that swung viciously in the air, pitched on a good length and deviated marginally, enough to slip past Madhya Pradesh’s veteran No.3 batsman Rajat Patidar’s defences and clip the off stump.

Those that had assembled at the Karnail Singh Stadium on Saturday, braving Delhi’s winter morning chill, were treated to a superlative exhibition of swing and seam bowling. On a freshly laid strip, Sangwan tore open Madhya Pradesh’s fragile batting line-up, returning with the best bowling figures of 6/33 in his five-match first-class career. In the process, Madhya Pradesh folded for an abysmal score of 124 in the first innings at the stroke of tea interval on Day 1. In reply, Railways stacked up 104/3 courtesy an enterprising unbeaten 43 from their opener Mrunal Devdhar, and were in hot pursuit of garnering a comprehensive first-innings lead at the draw of stumps.

In his debut Ranji Trophy season, the 24-year-old has already made it a habit of prising out the main batsmen from opposition teams. If it was Patidar on Saturday, a fortnight ago at the Wankhede Stadium, he had dismissed Ajinkya Rahane. Sangwan credits such giant-killing acts to the time he spent with Ranji Trophy veteran Pankaj Singh during the off season. “He (Pankaj) told me that if I wanted to succeed in first-class cricket, I needed to vary my pace. If I kept bowling at the same pace, the batsmen would get used to it after some time. That’s what I did today to dismiss Patidar. He was well set and it was one such effort ball that did the trick,” Sangwan told *The Indian Express*.

With 25 scalps, he leads the wicket-takers list in this season. For someone who has made such an instant impact, it’s scarcely believable to note that just two years ago, Sangwan was unsure if he would even feature in a competitive fixture. After representing Delhi at the U-19 level alongside Rishabh Pant in the 2014-15 season, Sangwan failed to progress any further at the DDCA. The following year, he tried his luck in neighbouring Haryana, but couldn’t break through. Those were vexing times for the youngster. Having grown up in Rajasthan’s Jhunjhunu district,



Railways’ Sangwan took 6/33 against Madhya Pradesh on Saturday.

Sangwan had left home to pursue his passion of being a fast bowler. In such trying times, it was the constant support from his parents – father Surendra Singh Sangwan is a bank manager and mother Bhagwan Rati a teacher – that kept him going.

After spending two years in the cricketing wilderness, a friend informed him about job openings with the Indian Railways. He applied for the post and six months later, got employed as a ticket examiner at the New Delhi station. The job put his cricketing aspirations back on track. In 2018, Sangwan made his U-23 debut for the Railways in the CK Nayudu Trophy and finished the season with 37 wickets from seven matches. His exploits had fast-tracked him into the Ranji Trophy squad last year. “If you spend two years without playing at the competitive level, it does play on your mind. I was living on rent in a one-room flat in Najafgarh and back then, I would avoid visiting my relatives, just to avoid their nagging questions about job and career prospects. All that changed with this Railways job,” he said.

Going forward, Sangwan knows that his job is only half done. He needs to repeat this act in the second innings if his team harbours hopes of pushing for an outright win.

BRIEF SCORES: Madhya Pradesh 124 (Rajat Patidar 38, Himanshu Sangwan 6/33, Amit Mishra 2/38) vs Railways 104/3 (Mrunal Devdhar 43 not out).



New year, old guard

World’s top two Nadal, Djokovic’s tight wins set up the ATP Cup final between Spain and Serbia

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SYDNEY, JANUARY 11

RAFAEL NADAL was coming off a really late night, and was determined to finish work before midnight on the eve of the inaugural ATP Cup final against Serbia. After more than 20 tight games against 20-year-old Alex de Minaur’s relentless attack, Nadal converted his first service break to clinch the second set and then it was all one-way in a 4-6, 7-5, 6-1 win as he secured Spain’s semifinal win against host Australia on Saturday night.

Top-ranked Nadal and his Spanish team will face No. 2-ranked Djokovic’s Serbian team on Sunday night for the first title in the new 24-team international tournament. Djokovic beat Daniil Medvedev 6-1, 5-7, 6-4 to secure Serbia’s win over Russia in the first of the semifinals. Nadal said it’s been a difficult few days for Spain. The Davis Cup champions played the group stage in Perth and had a transcontinental trip to Sydney for the playoffs. He didn’t want any repeats of the quarterfinals the previous night, when he lost to David Goffin – just his second loss in a singles match since a semifinal defeat to Roger Federer at Wimbledon – and then didn’t win the deciding doubles encounter against Belgium until after 1 a.m. in a match tiebreaker. So Nadal basically finished a quarterfinal and a semifinal on the same date. He didn’t get to bed until 5:30 a.m., and wasn’t happy about the scheduling.

“Yeah, has been a tough couple of days, especially for Team Spain ... with jet lag to make things even a little bit more difficult,” Nadal said. “But here we are. Has been important day for us. Roberto played an amazing match, and I had a great comeback.”

Roberto Bautista Agut had earlier beaten Nick Kyrgios 6-1, 6-4 to give Spain the lead, and Nadal’s win secured Spain’s victory before the doubles.

Nadal hadn’t lost back-to-back singles matches since 2016. De Minaur took the challenge to him, getting a service break to open and, after missing set points on Nadal’s serve in the 9th game, closing out the first set relatively quickly. “I wasn’t surprised. He’s young. He has a lot of energy. He plays with a lot of passion,” Nadal said of de Minaur. “And I was a little bit lower energy than usual. That’s why he was able to take advantage. And I think when the match was going on, I was able to play better and better, to find a little bit better the rhythm and the energy back to my body.”

Nadal led Spain to the Davis Cup title at Madrid last November and is aiming to make it back-to-back triumphs in international team events. To do that, he’ll need to end a drought on hardcourts against Djokovic that dates back to his U.S. Open win in 2013. Djokovic leads their career meetings 28-26, but has been dominant on the surface. Nadal’s last five wins in their series have been on clay. “This is not a singles competition. This is a team competition,” Nadal said, referring to the best-of-three match format.



Rafael Nadal beat Alex de Minaur 4-6, 7-5, 6-1 to secure Spain’s semifinal win against hosts Australia. AP

Nadal x Djokovic = Good news for Roger

RAFAEL NADAL versus Novak Djokovic, the most played rivalry in tennis gets a 55th match-up at the ATP Cup. It will be the third meeting on Australian soil, all have come in finals. The first such meeting, back in the final of the 2011 Australian Open produced the longest ever Grand Slam final, a five-setter that Djokovic won after five hours and 53 minutes.

It was a match that saw both players being unable to stand during the presentation ceremony, prompting organisers to go against tradition and call for chairs. As soon as Nadal beat Alex de Minaur to book a spot in the ATP Cup final against Djokovic’s Serbia, the memes started pouring in.

A split-screen image with a photo of Nadal and Djokovic, both with hands on knees, unable to stand straight after the tiring final from 2011, made rounds. The caption for that reads ‘Nadal and Djokovic one week before the Australian Open.’

Another photo is of a certain 20-time Grand Slam champion, beaming at the prospect of both his big rivals being tired ahead of the first major of the year, along



with the caption ‘Meanwhile, Federer...’

For all you know, that might just be the way Federer will be watching this match.

SOME LOVE FOR KYRGIOS

Australia has a love-hate relationship with the mercurial Nick Kyrgios. At the

ATP Cup, it’s been a different tone that he has adopted. He’s been relatively well-behaved, almost single-handedly led his country to a semi-final finish. Off court, he’s lent a hand in raising awareness for the deadly bushfires that have been threatening the country – pledging \$200 per ace he hits in the Australian summer (so far 70 aces = \$14,000), and even spoke against PM Scott Morrison’s delayed reaction towards the bushfires.

So when he did finally fold on court, in a 6-1, 6-4 loss to an in-form Roberto Bautista Agut, his performances and kind gestures did not go unnoticed.

“If you’re going to turn on Kyrgios again after one bad match, in which his opponent has played sublime tennis, you can p’ss off,” tweeted one user.

“Nick Kyrgios is a 24-year-old, who is carrying the expectations of Australia on his shoulders. The internal pressure he’d put on himself would be crazy. Nerves got him tonight. Put yourself in his shoes before you bash him online for being a ‘flog’ or a ‘disgrace,’” posted another.

Madrid powerhouses meet in Super Cup final in Saudis

ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEDDAH, JANUARY 11

THE SPANISH capital’s two soccer powerhouses will face off on Sunday thousands of kilometers from Madrid in the final of the new-look Spanish Super Cup.

Real Madrid plays Atletico Madrid in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to decide the winner of the first edition of a revamped tournament.

The Spanish federation expanded the competition to four teams – instead of two – and moved it from the start of the season to its midpoint. The federation was not deterred by human rights activists and European football’s governing body who criticized it for taking the mini-competition to Saudi Arabia on a three-year deal reportedly worth 120 million euros (\$134 million).

UEFA President Aleksander Ceferin had recommended for European soccer teams not to play in countries “where the basic rights of women are not respected.”

Spanish federation president Luis Rubiales has tried to deflect the criticism by highlighting that opening the games to women spectators was part of the deal to play in the country.

Coach Ernesto Valverde, whose Barcelona team was beaten by Atletico 3-2 in Thursday’s semifinal, has publicly said that the games are about making more money.

Amnesty International organized a small peaceful protest in front of the Saudi Arabia embassy in Madrid on Wednesday to call for the release of women activists who have been fighting for their rights in Saudi Arabia.

On the field, and despite the limited interest the games have drawn back in Spain, the semifinals offered some exciting contests. Madrid showed off the quality of its midfielders to overcome injuries to its forwards in a 3-1 win over Valencia on Wednesday, while Atletico stunned Barcelona with two late goals.

Traditionally the Super Cup was the league vs. cup winner. Barcelona won last season’s Liga, while Valencia claimed the Copa del Rey.

Madrid will still be without the injured Karim Benzema, Gareth Bale and Eden Hazard. Against Valencia, manager Zinedine Zidane successfully experimented with a line-up loaded with five midfielders, and three of them – Toni Kroos, Francisco “Isco” Alarcon and Luka Modric – found the net.

Zidane, however, was tight-lipped over

whether he would repeat the formula against Atletico at the King Abdullah stadium.

“I am not going to tell you how we are going to play,” Zidane said Friday. “The important thing is that we play on the attack, not with a certain scheme. The important thing is to have a balanced side.”

This will be the third time the crosstown rivals have met since the end of last season. Atletico embarrassed Madrid 7-3 in a preseason game in the United States in July. They then drew 0-0 at Atletico’s stadium in a Spanish league match in September.

Atletico coach Diego Simeone said that his two most in-form players, goalkeeper Jan Oblak and forward Angel Correa, have recovered from knocks they received against Barcelona. Oblak made several saves to keep his team alive against Lionel Messi’s Barcelona until Alvaro Morata and Correa struck to flip the score.

“Madrid is a team that we know very well,” Simeone said. “They transmit the sensation that they have to win, and then they do so. We are both teams that are extremely motivated to win this cup and we will both use all our weapons to win this game.”

Barcelona striker Luis Suarez to undergo knee surgery

Barcelona: Barcelona says Uruguay striker Luis Suarez will have surgery on Sunday for a right knee injury.

The Spanish club made the announcement on Saturday – two days after Suarez played the complete 90 minutes in a 3-2 loss to Atletico Madrid in the semifinals of the Spanish Super Cup being held in Saudi Arabia.

The 32-year-old Suarez is the club’s fourth all-time leading scorer with 191 goals in 270 matches. He has helped Barcelona win one Champions League, four Spanish league and four Copa del Rey titles.

Barcelona did not say how long it expects to be without its second-leading scorer this season after Lionel Messi. Suarez has 14 goals so far.

He will likely miss several Spanish league and cup matches during a January and February packed with games from the two domestic competitions, including an always demanding trip to Valencia on Jan. 25.

Barcelona plays Napoli in the Champions League round of 16, with the first leg in Italy on Feb. 25 and the second leg at Camp Nou on March 18.

Serena cruises into Auckland final; Osaka knocked out

REUTERS

WELLINGTON, JANUARY 11

SERENA WILLIAMS showed no signs of sentiment as she clinically dispatched teenager Serena Williams showed no signs of sentiment as she clinically dispatched teenager Amanda Anisimova 6-1 6-1 in just 45 minutes on Saturday to advance to the Auckland Classic final against Jessica Pegula.

Williams, who won the first of her 23 Grand Slam titles before Anisimova was born, gave the 18-year-old a harsh lesson in tennis reality and showed again that she was not prepared to let the next generation take over just yet. Anisimova said on Friday it had been a life-long dream to play Williams but she must have felt she was living a nightmare on the main court at Auckland Tennis Centre on Saturday. The 38-year-old gave the third-seed little opportunity to get into the match and was just too powerful for Anisimova, who had no answer to the pace, depth and angles of her returns and service game.

“I was definitely in the zone today and it was one of those days,” said Williams. “I knew I was playing a really great player so I knew that I had to come out serious.” The American is also in the doubles final on Sunday with good friend Caroline Wozniacki, who had her own hopes of a first Auckland title ended by Pegula 3-6 6-0 in the earlier semi-final. Wozniacki has been ever present at the tournament since 2015 but is retiring after the Australian Open later this month. She had lost her two previous fi-

nals in Auckland, to Venus Williams in 2015, and Julia Georges in 2018. “Caroline has had an amazing career ... and I’m glad that I got to play her before she retired, but I am just happy to get the win and am excited to be in the final,” Pegula said.

“I definitely knew that if I played defensively, I wasn’t going to win that battle, because she is the best in the world at that, so I knew I had to step in, take my chances and trust my game.”

Wozniacki, who gained a measure of revenge on Georges in the quarter-finals on Friday, raced through the first set, but found herself 3-0 down in the second. Pegula’s lead, however, disappeared just as quickly as she had built it and Wozniacki battled back to 3-3, but the American managed to break the former world number one in the final game of the set to send it to a decider.

It was then virtually one-way traffic in the third set as the American opened up the court and moved the Dane around and raced away with the encounter, which she sealed on her second match point opportunity with a forehand winner.

Pliskova beats Osaka

Brisbane: Defending champion Karolina Pliskova saved a match point before prevailing in an epic slugfest with Naomi Osaka, while Madison Keys pulled off an escape of her own in the other semi-final in the Brisbane International on Saturday. Pliskova and Osaka served 29 aces between them and were often locked in fierce baseline rallies.

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