



A Woman's Place is in the Resistance

For years, they have fought the smaller battles at home. But as women occupy streets, they signal a new beginning



N.E.W.S. PAGE 14

His Police Story

Known for his reserve and inclination to play safe, Amulya Patnaik winds down as chief of Delhi Police

BIG PICTURE PAGES 12-13

Waiting for shadow to lift

Pak Hindus living in Jodhpur camps without water, power and other facilities believe CAA is their passport to the future



SUNDAY STORY PAGE II

I TOLD MYSELF... LET ME JUST END MY LIFE'

Former medium-pacer PRAVEEN KUMAR breaks a big silence, speaks on his fight against depression



EXPRESS NETWORK



SHABANA AZMI INJURED IN ROAD ACCIDENT
PAGE 7

WORLD



BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR WORDS, TRUMP TELLS KHAMENEI PAGE 17



33 PACTS SIGNED

Chinese President Xi Jinping, Myanmar State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi in Naypyidaw on Saturday. Reuters PAGE 17

Tourism project in Himachal hills scales new high, brings jobs, visitors

GAGANDEEP SINGH DHILLON
SHIMLA, JANUARY 18

IN KULLU's breathtaking Tirthan Valley, Jiwe Nand, 25, guides tourists through trails inside the Great Himalayan National Park (GHNP) — from a day's hike to week-long expeditions — for birdwatching, river-crossing, fishing or "simply relaxing", except from December to March when snow restricts access.

Nand says his life changed in 2018, when he attended a 28-day course at the government-run Atal Bihari Institute for Mountaineering and Allied

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Sports in Manali. He is among 350 people — 200 men and 150 women — from two gram panchayats of Kandidhar and Nohanda in Tirthan Valley who have been imparted free training in tourism-related skills in the last five years. Nand says he learnt the basics of rock climbing, rappelling, river-crossing, ice-craft,



Mountaineering trainees in Kullu district. Express

and survival in high-altitude areas. He also underwent an 18-day trekking guide course. "Even before my training, I

sometimes worked as a guide for trekkers. But now I have a professional licence and the skills to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

AT A time when Congress-ruled state governments are opposing the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, with the Punjab Assembly even passing a resolution demanding its repeal, senior Congress leader Kapil Sibal said on Saturday that it would be "unconstitutional" for state governments to say they will not implement it. "If the CAA is passed, no state can say 'I will not implement it'. It is not possible and is unconstitutional. You can oppose it, you can pass a resolution in the Assembly and ask the central government to withdraw it. But, constitutionally, saying that I won't implement it is go-

ing to be problematic and going to create more difficulties," Sibal said at the Kerala Literature Festival (KLF) in Kozhikode, according to a PTI report.

ANTI-CAA PROTEST

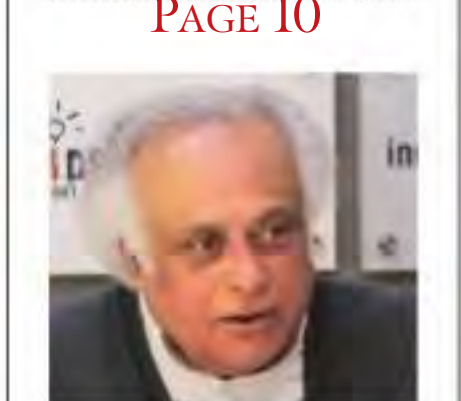
Sent back from IIT, German student told not to return on current visa

RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

JAKOB LINDENTHAL, the German exchange student at IIT-Madras who said he was asked to leave the country last month for attending protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), has been advised against re-entering India on his current visa.

Speaking to *The Sunday Express* from Dresden, Lindenthal said he is still keen on finishing his programme at IIT-Madras, but has been advised by the Indian

IDEA EXCHANGE
PAGE 10



'Not sure if state resolutions on CAA, NPR can stand scrutiny'

JAIRAM RAMESH

Arif Khan makes same point: It's on Union list

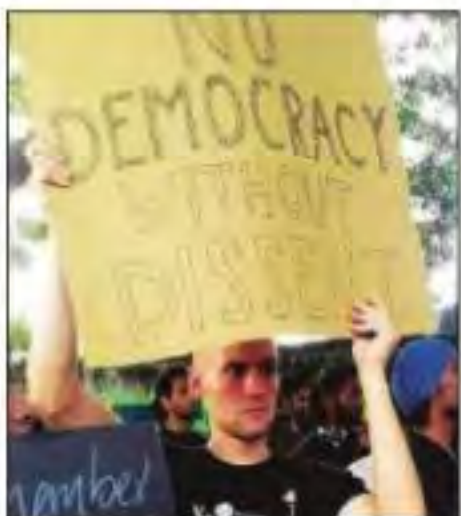


'Govt faced more protests after Shah Bano case'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, JANUARY 18

REFERRING TO the nationwide protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) and saying the Rajiv Gandhi-led Congress government at the Centre had faced greater opposition in 1986, after it overturned the Supreme Court judgment in the Shah Bano case, Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Lindenthal was an exchange student at IIT-Madras

embassy in Germany to not use his current visa, valid till June 27 this year, to go back to India.

The Consular Wing of the Indian embassy in Germany did not respond to questions shared via email by this newspaper.

Lindenthal is a student of Technical University-Dresden (TUD), who had been studying in the Physics department of IIT-Madras as part of the academic and research collaboration between the two institutions since 2008. About five students of TUD-Dresden have been going to IIT

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

5-yr-old's rape: 2 held guilty, court says 'grotesque crime'

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

A DELHI court on Saturday convicted two men accused of raping a five-year-old girl in east Delhi in 2013, observing that "the crime against the victim was committed in a most grotesque and revolting manner and the collective conscience of the community was shaken".

Right after Additional Sessions Judge (ASJ) Naresh Kumar pronounced the order, the two convicts, Manoj Shah and Pradeep Kumar, assaulted

journalists recording footage on their mobile phones outside the courtroom. The two men were whisked away by police, following which the ASJ summoned the chowki-in-charge to apprise him about the assault. One woman journalist told the court that Manoj slapped her on the face. The ASJ asked the journalist to file an FIR in the matter.

Manoj and Pradeep were convicted under Sections 376 (D), 376 (2) (i), 363, 342, 201, 307 and 34 of the IPC and Section 6 of the POCSO Act. The offences carry a maximum punishment of life imprisonment. The court

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

OVER FIVE MONTHS AFTER SUSPENSION

J&K: Calls, SMS restored on pre-paid cellphone service

2G post-paid mobile internet access to 153 white-listed sites in all districts of Jammu, two districts of Kashmir

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, JANUARY 18

THE JAMMU and Kashmir (J&K) administration ordered the restoration of pre-paid cellphone service (voice and SMS) on Saturday, over five months after it was suspended.

"After a careful review, the competent authority has ordered today that voice and SMS facility shall be restored on all lo-

cal prepaid SIM cards across the Union Territory of J&K," said Rohit Kansal, the official spokesperson. "Further, in order to consider provision of mobile internet connectivity on such SIM cards, the telecom service providers shall initiate the process of verification of credentials for these subscribers as per available norms for post-paid subscribers," he said.

Kansal said telecom service

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NIA takes over probe into DySP arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

THE NATIONAL Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday formally took charge of investigations into the arrest of J&K Police Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySP) Davinder Singh, who was caught with two Hizbul



Davinder Singh was held with militants

Mujahideen militants last week. Sources said the agency has al-

EXPLAINED
What Supreme Court said

ON JAN 10, Supreme Court asked J&K administration to "review all orders suspending internet services forthwith". It said "freedom of speech and expression and the freedom to practice any profession or carry on any trade... over the medium of Internet enjoys constitutional protection".

Internet used to watch dirty films in J&K, says NITI Aayog member



Internet ban in J&K has no effect on economy: VK Saraswat

AVINASH NAIR
GANDHINAGAR, JANUARY 18

SAYING THAT internet was just used to watch "dirty films (*gandi filmein*)" in Jammu and Kashmir, NITI Aayog member VK Saraswat said on Saturday that suspension of services in the region, following the government's decision to revoke J&K's special status under Article 370 on August 5 last year, did not have a "significant" effect on the economy.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the annual convocation at Dhirubhai Ambani

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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STREETWISE KOLKATA: SOVABAZAR'S ROLE IN LETTING BRITISH CONQUER INDIA

One of the earliest corruption of the neighbourhood's name include 'Subahbazar', which is derived from the term 'bazaar of the Subah' or 'bazaar of the governor', long before the Sovabazar Rajbari family came to be associated with the area

EXPRESS EXPLAINED



NATIONAL SECURITY
ACT IN DELHI

What the L-G's
notification says,
what it really means

COLOURFUL DISSENT



ARTWORKS AT
PROTEST SITES

When Shaheen Bagh,
Jamia become a canvas
for protest

EXPRESS AUDIO

Australian Open in the
backdrop of wildfires

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

On the Express Sports podcast, we discuss
the impact of climate change on sports,
Greta Thunberg calling out Roger Federer
and what to look forward to in this year's
Australian Open

FROM PAGE ONE

V K Saraswat

Institute of Information and Communication Technology (DA-IIT), where he was the chief guest, Saraswat said: “Yeh jitne politicians wahan jaana chahate hai, woh kisiye jana chahate hai? Woh jaise andolan Delhi ki sadko pe ho raha hai, woh Kashmir mein sadko par lana chahate hai. Aur jo social media hai, woh usko aag ki tarah istamal karta hai. Toh aapko wahan internet na ho toh kya antar padhta hai? Aur waise bhi aap internet mein wahan kya dekhate hai? Kyu e-tailing ho raha hai wahan pe? Wahan gaandi filme dekhne ke alaawa kuch nahi karte aap log.”

“Why do politicians want to go to there (Kashmir)? They want to re-create the protests happening on the roads of Delhi in Kashmir. And they use social media to fuel these protests. So what difference does it make if there's no internet there? What do you watch on internet there? What e-tailing is happening there? Besides watching dirty films, you do nothing there.”

Asked to clarify, he said: “Main yeh baat bata raha hoon ki internet Kashmir mein agar nahin hai, toh uss se economy pe kuch khaas antar nahi padhta (I am saying that if there is no internet in Kashmir, then it does have a significant effect on the economy).”

Saraswat was responding to a question on why internet services had been suspended in J&K if he thought telecom was key to India's growth.

“Internet is down in Kashmir, but isn't internet available in Gujarat? The reason for shutting down internet in Kashmir is different. If Article 370 had to be removed, and if Kashmir had to be taken forward, we know there are elements there which will misuse this kind of information in a manner that will affect the law and order situation,” said Saraswat.

On the ongoing protests at

Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Saraswat, who is also the JNU Chancellor, said: “JNU has become a political battleground. It is not an issue of increase of fees from Rs 10 to Rs 300. Everyone was trying to settle scores. I will not name the political parties.” He described JNU as a “left-leaning” institution, saying that “300 of the 600 teachers” belong to the “hardcore leftist group.”

“Closing down JNU is not a solution. We are a democracy and we have to resolve the conflict in a democratic manner. Our government, education department and everyone associated with it — including me — are trying to resolve it in that direction,” he said. “We cannot take such harsh steps. But, in the 1980s, when (former Prime Minister) Indira Gandhi was the Chancellor, JNU was closed for 45 days... for similar reasons, and at that time 800 students were jailed in Tihar,” he added.

He said JNU Vice-Chancellor M Jagadesh Kumar was doing a “wonderful job”.

On the protests against the new citizenship law, Saraswat said: “Think about the man-hours lost in the agitation and rioting that has been happening since the last three months. How many factories remained shut, traffic came to a standstill, hospitals remained closed. All this contributes to GDP... Work in JNU has been stopped since October last year... the losses are affecting the economy. We are giving people money, but there is no output from them. The government teachers are getting their dues, despite the strike. What is the output... All this affects the economy.”

Arif Khan

said on Saturday that states have no option but to implement the law.

“Eighty-six me Supreme Court ka judgment badla gaya tha. Agar us waqt aap hote to aap dekhate ki

isse zyada virodh hua tha (The Supreme Court judgment was overturned in 1986. Had you been there at the time, you would have seen that there was more opposition [to the government's decision] than this [to CAA],” Khan said while answering questions on the recent CAA protests.

In 1986, the Rajiv Gandhi-led Congress government, had passed the Muslim Women (Protection on Divorce Act), 1986, to overturn the Supreme Court verdict in the Shah Bano case on granting alimony to the divorced woman. Khan, who was then a Union minister, had resigned from the Cabinet in protest against the decision.

Khan added that states will have to implement the new law. “You have the right to go to the Supreme Court and challenge but the citizenship law comes only under the Union list and is not a subject under the State list. We should identify the areas where we have jurisdiction. Under the law, there is no option but (the states) have to implement it under (Article) 254,” said Khan.

On January 14, Kerala became the first state to move the Supreme Court against CAA, with the Left Front government filing a petition under Article 131 and urging it to declare the law violative of the Constitution, its basic structure rule and secular principles. The state Assembly had earlier passed a resolution against CAA, demanding that the law be scrapped. On Friday, Punjab joined suit, with the Assembly adopting a resolution seeking the immediate repeal of the law and Chief Minister Amarinder Singh said his government would approach the top court against it.

On Saturday, Khan, who was in Jaipur as chief guest for a discussion on the dating of the Ramayana and Mahabharata era, said one doesn't have the right to influence decisions by “displaying muscle power”.

“We are a robust democracy and it is not that we became a democracy (only) after Independence. Aspirational democracy has always been here. People put forward their opinions and they are welcome. But one point needs to be kept in mind, we have the right to give our opinion, stick to it, protest for our stand but we don't have the right to break the limits of law, or try to influence decisions by displaying our muscle power. You can put forward your argument by applying your intellectual power, everyone has this right,” he said.

Kapil Sibal

While the Left government in Kerala has already approached the Supreme Court, saying that the CAA is “violative of the principles of equality, freedom and secularism enshrined in the Constitution”, Congress's Chief Minister in Punjab, Amarinder Singh, on Friday announced that his government would also approach the apex court on the issue.

Asked about his remarks in Kozhikode, Sibal told The Sunday Express: “It is like this. If you say you won't implement an Act of the Government of India, you can't say that... It is not possible under the Constitution. But you have said that the Act is unconstitutional, that can you say. That is for the Supreme Court to decide. If the Supreme Court upholds it, how can you say I won't implement (it).”

On statements by Congress Chief Ministers that they would not implement CAA in their states, Sibal said: “They have said that they will not implement the NRC. The NRC happens through the NPR. So, they are saying that we will not cooperate with the Union of India. They are not saying that there will be no law. They are saying we will not cooperate with the Union of India.”

Elaborating, he said: “You can't have a CAA unless you have

an NPR and an NRC. How will you have a citizens' register unless you have a population register and that data is taken. That population register has to be prepared through the local registrar. That has to be by the state officers. It can't be by the central government. There the state is saying we will not cooperate. They are not saying that we will not implement the law if it is passed.”

“How will you implement the CAA till you do the NPR? The Citizenship (Amendment) Act is only an Act. How is that Act to be implemented? You will have to draw up who is a citizen and who is not a citizen. How will that be done? Through the NPR. How will NPR be implemented? By having a local registrar appoint people for every street, to find out from each household, through enumeration and through the additional six questions that they are asking... It is that process which the state governments... because otherwise who is the state government to say that I will not cooperate,” said Sibal.

“There is no cooperation needed. The Act has been passed. We will not implement means we will not implement the NPR. That is ok. You need not cooperate. Then they can appoint their own officers,” he said.

“If the CAA becomes a law, they (states) can't say it can't be implemented,” said Sibal. “Remember, it becomes a law qua individuals once all the names are in the register. To have a CAA across the country, you have to have the NRC across the country. You are only thinking of Assam. Citizenship (Amendment) Act is to be implemented in the rest of India. How will that happen? Unless the register is done. Like what was happening in Assam. The same exercise will have to be done. How will this exercise be done? There is what is called the 2003 rules. The 2003 rules under clause 14... tell you how this is to be implemented. If you want to

have a Citizenship (Amendment) Act which is fine, which is an Act, if you want to decide who is a citizen, who is not... you have to go through the NPR.”

Tourism

conduct larger expeditions. Many people from our village undergo the sponsored training every year,” he says, adding that his fee of Rs 28,000 in Nand's case was sponsored by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

This initiative is part of the ADB-funded Community-Based Tourism (CBT) project run by the Himachal Pradesh tourism department since 2015. The project is the brainchild of Ankit Sood, 46, a former professor of tourism at the government college in Kullu who first pitched the idea to a visiting team from the Bank.

Sood, who has designed the training curriculum, now works as a consultant for ADB and advises the governments of Himachal, Uttarakhand and Sikkim, as a forest conservation expert.

“The project is being implemented in 14 panchayats across six districts to promote new venues of tourism and to de-stress popular hill stations such as Manali and Dharamshala. Across the state, 1,400 people have been trained,” says Sood.

Mamata Thakur, 21, another Tirthan resident, says that after she completed her mountaineering course last year, she started working with private camping organisers in Manali. Taku Ram, 30, who underwent a guide course in 2017, works with an adventure tourism firm in Tirthan as a guide, cook and porter.

Besides the CBT project, the success of Tirthan as a budding destination for travellers can also be attributed to other initiatives, including the formation of cooperatives such as the GHPN Community-based Ecotourism Cooperative Society in Nohanda, which has 65 members.

then posted with J&K Police's Special Operations Group at Humhama, had asked him to “take Mohammad”, a Pakistani national identified as one of those who carried out the Parliament attack, “to Delhi, rent a flat for his stay and purchase a car for him”.

Afzal Guru was convicted and hanged on February 9, 2013.

Davinder Singh, who was posted with the J&K Police anti-hijacking unit at Srinagar airport, was arrested with top Hizbul Mujahideen commander Syed Naveed Mushtaq alias Naveed Baba; Rafi Rather,

a resident of Batpora, Shopian, who joined militancy in July last year; and Irfan Shafi, an advocate and resident of Diaroor Shopian, from a private vehicle, at a checkpoint on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, on January 11.

Police said they had received intelligence input that “an i10 (car) with two militants had left from Shopian and was heading towards Jammu-Srinagar national highway”.

Naveed Baba was the second-in-command of the Hizbul Mujahideen's operational chief in the Valley, Riyaz Naikoo.

the Delhi Police managed to arrest Manoj and Pradeep from Muzzafarnagar and Darbhanga respectively in Bihar in 2013.

The trial in the case, which took place months after the December 2012 gang rape and murder case, lasted more than six years — there were 56 prosecution witnesses to be examined and seven judges heard the case. According to court records, it took more than five years just to complete the prosecution evidence.

While holding the two guilty, the court had mainly relied on circumstantial evidence. Police had found a blood-stained shirt and a carpet with blood stains at the crime spot, tying it to the accused persons. Police also recovered from Manoj a piece of paper with the name ‘Raj’, an alias used by Manoj, along with the latter's phone number. They also submitted a forensic report that confirmed that this piece of paper was torn from a diary recovered from Manoj.

In an attempt to fast-track the case, ASJ Malhotra, who has heard the case since February last year, had been hearing arguments daily for the last two months.

The trial was kept in limbo for some time after Pradeep claimed that he was juvenile at the time of his arrest. The trial court took three years to decide his application and on April 12, 2017, transferred the case to Juvenile Justice Board (JJB). Pradeep was granted bail by the JJB in June that year. Following this, the mother of the rape victim moved the Delhi High Court against the trial court. In 2018, the High Court declared Pradeep was not a juvenile and sent him to trial before the sessions court.

German student

every year under this exchange programme. TU-Dresden was ranked 179th worldwide in QS Rankings for 2020 and 157th in the Times Higher Education (THE) Ranking. IIT-Madras, on the other hand, stood at the 271st position

in QS Rankings and falls in the 601-800 bracket in THE rankings. Weak strength of international students on campus is one of the reasons why Indian universities fare poorly on global rankings.

IIT-Madras was awarded the ‘Institute of Eminence’ tag by the government last year. As an IoE, IIT-Madras will receive up to Rs 1,000 crore from the HRD Ministry to improve its performance in world rankings. Under the scheme, institutions are permitted to admit more international students to improve their rank.

Lindenthal had joined IIT-Madras on July 26, 2019, and would have completed his course work by May this year. However, on December 23, he was given less than a day by the immigration office in Chennai to book his tickets, pack, vacate his room in Bhadra hostel of IIT-Madras and leave the country.

TU-Dresden's deputy press spokesperson, Konrad Kaestner, confirmed that the university had reached out to IIT-Madras seeking clarification regarding Lindenthal's sudden departure. “IIT-Madras informed TU-Dresden this week that they were surprised that Jakob (Lindenthal) had to leave the country. They have also said that the institute did not ask him to leave, but the immigration authority did. They also said that the institute does not have any formal notification from the immigration authorities. They don't know if he was deported and don't have information on the validity of his visa or resident permit. IIT-Madras also does not know if he will be allowed back into the country,” Kaestner said over phone on Friday, adding the clarification by IIT-Madras was given by Akshaya Shridhar, the institute's Inbound Coordinator (Study tours). IIT-Madras has also turned down TU-Dresden's offer to give an official statement to support its student.

Asked whether the incident would affect TU-Dresden's collaboration with IIT-Madras, Kaestner said, “I cannot answer that question as the MoU was not signed by me. What I can say is that the university wants to have complete information (about what happened). We want to know if this could happen to another student (of TU-Dresden) and what were the reasons for doing it in this harsh way. The student had a few hours to leave the country. It's not a fair way to treat a guest of the country.”

When contacted, IIT-Madras Director Bhaskar Ramamurthi directed this newspaper to the institute's media team. Till date, the institute hasn't answered the questions emailed by The Sunday Express on December 31, 2019. A reminder sent to Ramamurthi via SMS on January 2 went unanswered.

Before his departure last month, Lindenthal had told this newspaper that on December 23, he was asked by the immigration authorities to leave India, after he attended a protest on campus against the CAA on December 16. The same day, he had attended another protest in Chennai, where he was photographed holding a placard stating “Uninformed Criminals = Criminals”. On December 19, he participated in another protest in which he carried a placard saying “No Democracy without Dissent” and “1933-1945. We have been there.”

According to him, on December 21, the international office of IIT-Madras informed him about being summoned by the immigration office in Chennai. He told this newspaper that he was in Bengaluru at that time. On December 23, when he went to the institute's international office, he was again asked to go to the immigration office. At the immigration office, after questions on the purpose of his visit, political opinions, etc, Lindenthal said an immigration officer asked him to leave the country.



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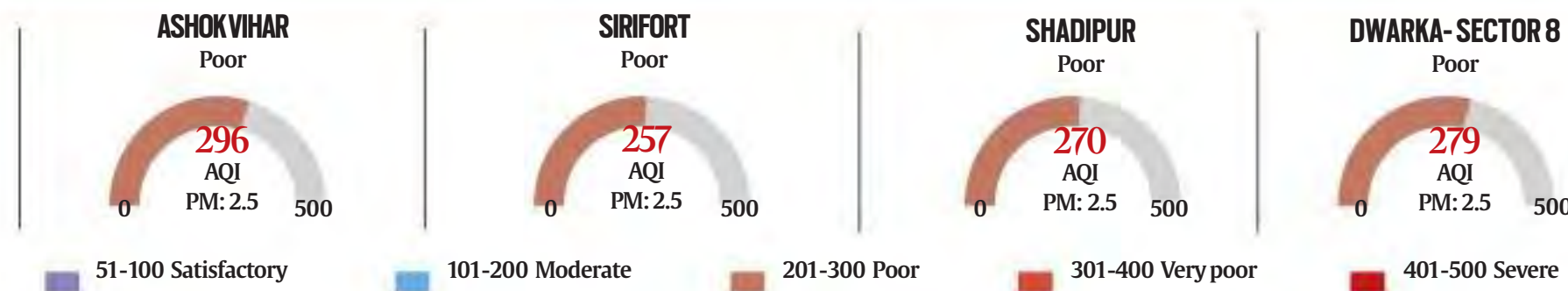
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0-50 Good



As part of revamp, Metro stations near Central Vista may get a facelift

Under plan, underground shuttles to connect Delhi Metro with 10 new office buildings

MALLICA JOSHI & ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

THE UNION Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry is looking at expanding and improving facilities at the Metro stations around the Central Vista, as part of the plan to revamp the entire stretch.

The Yellow and Violet Lines of the Metro intersect at Central Secretariat and two stations — Central Secretariat and Udyog Bhawan — are in close proximity to the Vista.

The revamp is being considered as part of the plan to have a people mover — like those that exist at the Singapore and Dubai Airports — to connect, underground, the 10 office buildings that will come up as part of the Central Secretariat.

The Central Vista redesign is being helmed by architect and urban planner Bimal Patel and his team at HCP Design. During a presentation of the redevelopment plan, Patel said the new offices will be geared towards the concept of Transit Oriented Development (TOD).

Under TOD, efficient public transport systems are built around high density office spaces to minimise the use of private vehicles and promote public transport.

In Patel's plan, all 10 office buildings which will come up on the Vista will be connected with the underground people mover that will run in a loop connecting all offices with each other and with the two Metro lines.

"The idea is to bring all central ministry offices in one place — presently 22 out of 51 are located inside the Vista...

The idea that is being worked on, and is in the stage of development, is to have an underground people mover to connect all the buildings and the Metro at the underground level. This is a people mover, not a Metro; they are underground shuttles. We are working on that. We should make it possible for people to reach their offices without coming of the Metro," said Patel.

"We will have to expand and improve facilities at the two Metro stations to make the TOD plan successful. At present, the

Udyog Bhawan and Central Secretariat stations are very cramped. Central Secretariat station is part of the Yellow Line that was opened in 2005 and there is very little space on the platforms. These aspects will have to be looked into if the Metro and people mover combination has to work well," said a senior ministry official.

The Centre and state have an equal partnership in the Delhi Metro, and the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry is the centre's nodal agency under which the Metro falls.

Paswan alleges bias against JNU SC/STs, varsity denies it

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

UNION CONSUMER Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan Saturday raised the issue of "discrimination" against teaching and non-teaching employees and students of the SC/ST categories in Jawaharlal Nehru University, saying "allegations in the regard are serious and need to be taken care of". While V-C M Jagadeesh Kumar did not respond to calls and texts seeking a comment, Registrar Pramod Kumar "strongly refuted" the allegations.

After meeting a delegation of JNU teachers from the SC/ST categories, Paswan said, "SC/ST category students are most affected by the reduction in admission seats and fee hike by the JNU administration. Despite the prescribed eligibility, JNU teachers from SC/ST category are being rejected during promotion."

In a series of tweets, Paswan alleged: "The delegation informed that despite qualified candidates for the appointment of SC/ST teachers in JNU, the posts are being left vacant by disqualifying them. The allegations levelled by delegation are serious and need to be taken care of."



Paswan said SC/ST students are most affected by the fee hike and reduced seats

He also tagged the official Twitter handles of the PMO, the MHRD and Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal.

Paswan later said he spoke over the phone to Pokhriyal, who informed him that there is no reduction of seats and the fee hike has been withdrawn.

"There is no issue of reduction in the interests of SC/ST. The Government is committed to encourage their interests. The issue will be resolved through a discussion with HRD Minister on Tuesday or Wednesday next week when I return to Delhi from Patna," Paswan later tweeted.

Paswan's comments come in the wake of growing demands from students seeking the V-C's removal. Veteran BJP leader Murali Manohar Joshi had also

demanding Kumar's resignation.

Sources said the delegation also submitted a nine-point memorandum to Paswan, giving details of the alleged discrimination against SC/ST faculty, non-teaching employees and students by the V-C since he joined in 2016. The delegation told the Lok Janshakti Party leader that no SC/ST faculty has been appointed as rector in the JNU administration, despite there being three vacancies for the same, said sources.

The Registrar, however, said: "Such allegations have no evidence and are clearly made to vilify an institution that has always stood for marginalised sections".

"JNU admission policy and practice has successfully given every opportunity and relaxation to SC/ST students, while seeking to fill up vacant seats. All SC/ST candidates who qualify in the written examination in the entrance test are called for viva voce without shortlisting. In the hostel allotment every year, first step has invariably been to allot room to SC/ST students," he said.

He said that while "all SC/ST posts have been filled up in the non-teaching category, full-speed efforts are being made to fill up vacant teaching posts" and a special drive was also conducted for this.

2013 gangrape case: After initial lapses, cops worked 24x7

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

FOUR MONTHS after a 23-year-old woman was gangraped inside a bus in South Delhi in December 2012, another case shook the national capital — the gangrape of a five-year-old girl in East Delhi. A lackadaisical approach by police and a shoddy investigation added to the city's simmering anger over the crime.

On Saturday, the two accused — Manoj Shah and Pradeep Kumar — were convicted by a Delhi court for raping the child in April 2013. Following the verdict, a senior police officer who investigated the case admitted there was "pressure on police after details of the shoddy investigation made headlines".

The SHO and investigating officer of the case had been suspended following the crime, after police failed to do a "proper spot visit".

An officer said, "The child went missing on April 15 and police filed an FIR only past midnight after making her parents wait for hours. The child was found two days later in a ground floor room under her house, after neighbours alerted her mother about sounds of a child wailing."

In 2013, the then Commissioner of Police Neeraj Kumar had said police did not look for the child in the building, "as it was locked... No one

broke the lock and the family did not express suspicion about the accused".

The child was found alive and rushed to a hospital where "foreign materials were removed from her private parts". An officer said, "After the incident, the accused fled to Bihar via train, which they boarded from the New Delhi railway station. But before leaving, accused Shah called his family. This helped police trace his location."

Members of the investigation team recalled how the then CP called the DCP concerned every hour to inquire about the developments. "After we figured out the location, one team flew to Bihar and the other team took a train. The then DCP camped at the special staff office till the first arrest was made on April 20 from Bihar's Muzaffarpur. Shah was arrested then, and accused Kumar two days later from Barahiya village in Bihar," said an officer.

During investigation, it was found that Shah had taken up the ground floor room on rent for Rs 400 a month, and on April 15, the two accused decided to party in the room. An officer said, "They went to the market and bought food and liquor, then returned home and watched objectionable videos. Shah then went out to buy groceries and returned home with the child, who was playing outside the building. He had lured the child with Rs 10. After raping her, they left her in the room, thinking she had died."

'BJP using CAA, NRC to divide people on communal lines'



A 40-foot-tall map of India at the Shaheen Bagh protest, Saturday. Gajendra Yadav

ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

AFTER FORMER IAS officer Kannan Gopinathan was detained at Allahabad airport Saturday, allegedly to prevent him from speaking at an anti-CAA rally, he was put on a flight to Delhi. This gave him a chance to visit Shaheen Bagh, where hundreds of women have been protesting against the CAA and NRC for over a month.

"They thought that only Muslims would protest, but this is a protest for all communities as it is against the Constitution, the poor of the country, and the Muslims," he said on stage at Shaheen Bagh.

Kerala's Finance Minister T

M Thomas Isaac and actor Sushant Singh also made it to Shaheen Bagh, where both addressed protesters Saturday. "The entire country is inspired by the resistance shown by Shaheen Bagh, as CAA is against the Constitution," said Issac.

A 40-foot-tall map of India made using mesh and iron, with neon lighting on the edges, now stands tall at the site, with 'We the people of India reject CAA, NPR, NRC' painted in white in the centre. On Saturday, many protesters also wrote postcards addressed to PM Narendra Modi.

Calling CAA and NRC ploys of the current government to divide people on communal lines, Gopinathan said "the right to dissent is the essence of democracy and when people

stop doing that, it becomes a dictatorship".

Bar pulls up Dec 16 convict's lawyer over forged affidavit

New Delhi: The Bar Council of Delhi Saturday issued notice to the counsel for one of the four death row convicts in the December 16, 2012, gangrape-murder case, after the Delhi High Court asked it to take action against the lawyer for filing a "forged" affidavit in the court and not appearing before it.

"After perusing the High Court order, it is unanimously decided to issue notice to A P Singh, advocate, for 28.02.2020. He is directed to file his reply within two weeks from the date of receipt," the order released by the Council, headed by chairman KC Mittal, on Saturday read.

On December 19, the HC dismissed a plea by convict Pawan Gupta, who claimed he was a juvenile at the time of the offence. Justice Suresh Kumar Kait imposed a cost of Rs 25,000 on Pawan's counsel, A P Singh, for not appearing in court despite several communications. He also asked the Council to act against Singh for filing a forged affidavit regarding the convict's age and observed "he filed the documents to delay the process without applying his mind". **ENS**

BRIEFLY

Police chief holds meet ahead of R-Day, polls

New Delhi: Ahead of the Republic Day celebrations and Assembly polls, Delhi Police chief Amulya Patnaik asked personnel to boost security and take strict action against musclemen to avoid disruptions in the poll process.

20 AC buses arrive

New Delhi: The first batch of 20 AC low-floor buses, out of 1,000, have arrived in Delhi. The buses, currently parked at a depot in Indraprastha, will be inducted under the cluster scheme. No new AC bus has hit Delhi's roads since 2010. **ENS**

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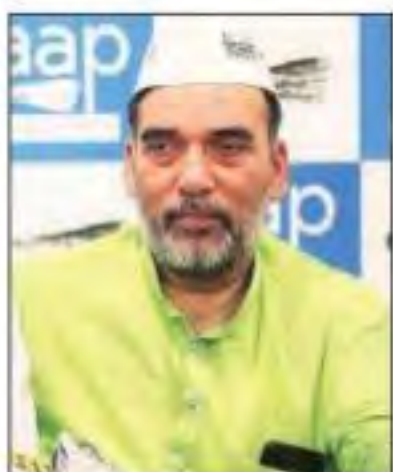
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MOVABLE ASSETS-2019

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GOPAL RAI
AAP, Baburpur

MOVABLE ASSETS-2020

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₹58 LAKH

MOVABLE ASSETS-2015

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Will take
call on polls
today: JJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

GURGAON, JANUARY 18

THE JANNAYAK Janta Party is likely to decide its plans for the upcoming Assembly elections in Delhi by Sunday, with party chief Dushyant Chautala Saturday revealing that a meeting would be held later that evening, following which the party's "future course of action" would become clear.

Chautala said, "The future course of action will be decided after the meeting on Sunday."

On whether the party has plans to fight the polls with BJP, its alliance partner in Haryana, he said: "I received a phone call from J P Nadda (BJP working president) yesterday. Only after the meeting would we be able to comment on our plans."

Calling him "JJP-phobic", Chautala took aim at Congress's Bhupinder Singh Hooda, who Chautala claimed has been vocal about his views against the alliance in Haryana. "It is clear that Bhupinder Singh Hooda has got JJP phobia. He has given statements, not as a member of the Opposition, but as a critic of the JJP." The Deputy CM was in Gurgaon to inaugurate several projects, including a railway over-bridge at Bajghera village.

54 NAMES ON FIRST LIST

Cong makes changes to 42 seats, hopes fresh faces revive fortunes

ASTHA SAXENA

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

FIELDING 17 new faces, the Congress Saturday announced the names of 54 of 70 candidates who will be contesting the February 8 Assembly polls. While some senior leaders and councillors have been given a chance to contest, the party has made changes to 42 seats.

Among the new faces are Delhi Congress chief Subhash Chopra's daughter Shivani Chopra, who will contest from Kalkaji, and Youth Congress leader Radhika Khera from Janakpuri. In the 2015 polls, Khera was looking after the party's campaign on various social media platforms.

Former AAP leader Alka Lamba, who had rejoined Congress last year, has been given a ticket from Chandni Chowk — pushing aside senior leader J P Agarwal's bid to contest from the seat.

Prominent faces in the first list included Haroon Yusuf from



Prominent faces in the first list include Alka Lamba from Chandni Chowk, Arvinder Singh Lovely from Gandhi Nagar and Haroon Yusuf from Ballmaran

Ballmaran; Adarsh Shastri from Dwarka; Rajesh Liloithia from Mangolpuri; Arvinder Singh Lovely from Gandhi Nagar; Krishna Tirath from Patel Nagar; Mateen Ahmed from Seelampur; Dr A K Walia from Krishna Nagar; Poonam Azad from Sangam Vihar; and Abhishek Dutt from Kasturba Nagar.

While leaders like Yadav and



Mateen have been given the same constituency from which they contested the 2015 polls, Dr Walia and Lovely have been given different ones.

Dr Walia, who contested from Laxmi Nagar in 2015, has been fielded from Krishna Nagar constituency this time. Lovely has been fielded from Gandhi Nagar.

Names of several senior lead-



ers such as Kiran Walia, Naseeb Singh, Ajay Maken and Mahabal Mishra are missing from the first list. The party is yet to field a candidate from 16 constituencies, including New Delhi, from where Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will contest.

Ten women candidates have been fielded by the party, including campaign committee chairman Kirti Azad's wife Poonam

Azad, who has been given a ticket from Sangam Vihar.

Following the announcement, senior leaders were upbeat about new faces introduced by the party.

"While keeping its popular leaders, the party has also added some fresh, energetic faces in the fray. The candidates look promising," said a senior leader.

Constituencies where candidates are yet to be announced include Uttam Nagar, Vikaspuri, Mehrauli, Burari, Kirari, Madipur, Tilak Nagar, Bijwasan, Palam, Rajinder Nagar, Badarpur, Okhla, Kondli, Ghonda and Karawal Nagar.

Meanwhile, senior Congress leader and former Assembly Speaker Yoganand Shastri resigned from the party over differences with city unit president Subhash Chopra. He alleged tickets to contest the election were on "sale" by party leaders. Shastri, who contested from Malviya Nagar in 2015 polls, has been denied a ticket this time.

When contacted, Chopra said he was not aware of the move.

Over 21,000 voters
aged over 80 added
to rolls in past year

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

IN THE Assembly polls this time, Delhi will see a rise of more than 21,000 voters aged 80 and above. While there were around 1.8 lakh octogenarian voters last year, the number has crossed 2 lakh this time. As per data with the Delhi CEO's office, the total number of voters aged 80 and above this year is 2,05,035. Last year, there were 1,83,579 such voters.

The five constituencies with the most number of octogenarian voters are Greater Kailash (6,349), Vishwas Nagar (5,910), Matiala (4,963), Malviya Nagar (4,798) and Janakpuri (4,739). Those constituencies with the least number of 80+ voters are Badli (697), Delhi Cantt (843), Sangam Vihar (971), Tughlakabad (1,050) and Kondli (1,376).

The constituency which has seen the biggest rise in the number of 80+ voters is Vishwas Nagar, where 716 octogenarians have been added to the list since last year. In 66 of the 70 Assembly constituencies, the population of 80+ voters has grown.

The four constituencies where the number has reduced

include Badli, Madipur, Rajinder Nagar and R K Puram. The biggest fall of these is in Rajinder Nagar, where the number of 80+ voters has fallen by 692.

What will help these elderly voters this time, is the option of voting through postal ballot which has been introduced for the first time. "If someone is 80 or above, the Returning Officer will go to their home and give them form 12 D which enables postal ballot. After they apply, the political party will come to their home and they can vote. This facility was earlier available only to Army personnels. This is the first time in Delhi that it's being allowed for this age bracket," said Special CEO Satnam Singh.

"It was tested first in the Jharkhand elections, as many elderly voters don't end up voting because it is inconvenient for them. But there, it was tried only in some areas. At the entire state level, it's happening for the first time in Delhi," he said.

Besides this new move, the earlier facilities provided to the elderly — including pick up and drop facility, as well as provision of wheelchair and ramp at the polling stations — will also be provided by the CEO office.

Lunches to crowdfunding, how AAP
poll picks are raising campaign money

MALLICA JOSHI

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

AMID THE traditional lunches and small community meetings, AAP candidates are running campaigns to crowd fund their elections.

Senior AAP leader and Kalkaji candidate Atishi launched her crowdfunding campaign on an online portal Friday night. By 10 pm on Saturday, she had managed to raise a little over Rs 7 lakh. According to the rules of the EC, a legislative assembly hopeful is allowed to spend Rs 28 lakh on their campaign, which is the target amount of the campaign.

This is not the first time Atishi has sought money for her campaign online. Last year when she was campaigning for the Lok Sabha polls from the East Delhi constituency, she raised Rs 70



Atishi, who is contesting from Kalkaji, and Saurabh Bharadwaj, who is contesting from Greater Kailash, have launched crowdfunding campaigns. Archive



lakh. She has centred her campaign around "Delhi's transformed education model".

Five top funders of the campaign have donated Rs 50,000 each and several others have donated Rs 100. Around 237 people have supported her campaign so far.

AAP's national spokesperson and Greater Kailash candidate

Saurabh Bharadwaj also launched a crowdfunding campaign earlier this year. He has received Rs 7 lakh from 125 supporters, with the top supporter donating Rs 2.5 lakh.

"When AAP was contesting for the first time in 2013, volunteers would go around with a chaddar (sheet) to collect money, but we did not want to

accept cash and shifted to crowdfunding. It enables people to give small amounts as well and is documented," said Abhinandita Mathur, who is managing Atishi's campaign.

Deputy CM Sisodia also started a crowdfunding campaign, managing to reach his Rs 28 lakh target in 48 hours.

According to Pankaj Gupta, the party's campaign director for the upcoming polls, more people are planning to start their crowdfunding campaigns after nominations.

"The party is also looking at the traditional forms of securing funding, such as community-specific meetings and fundraising lunches and dinners. We got close to Rs 1.5 crore at a recent meet with traders and almost 1 crore from restaurant associations. Smaller meetings of 40-50 people each are also taking place," he said.



AAP leader Raghav Chadha with his mother at Rajinder Nagar Saturday, before he filed his nomination to contest the Assembly polls from the constituency. Praveen Khanna

Hopes high in Rajinder Nagar
as Chadha files nomination

SUKRITA BARUAH

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

AAM AADMI Party leader Raghav Chadha filed his nomination from Rajinder Nagar — where he was born and continues to live with his family — on Saturday, amid high expectations from him in the area.

Chadha is contesting the Delhi Assembly polls for the first time, and was given a ticket from the constituency in place of current AAP MLA Vijender Garg Vijay.

His first electoral outing was in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, when he was AAP's candidate from South Delhi. He was among only two AAP candidates to come second in their constituencies, behind BJP's candidates — the other being Gagan Singh,

who has since rejoined the BJP. In all other seats, AAP was placed behind both BJP and Congress.

In this election, he is entering his home base for the first time as an electoral face.

"He has grown up here. I've heard his name and see him, but have never interacted with him. I heard a lot about him during the Lok Sabha elections. He is young and educated. It is good, the young should get more opportunities," said Vikas Maggo, a local businessman from New Rajinder Nagar.

On him replacing the existing MLA, he said, "Garg has not done exceptional work here. Work needs to be done on the sewage system and roads. Since Raghav hails from here, it is expected he does something to resolve these issues," he added.

His young age and qualifica-

tion as a Chartered Accountant also adds to his perception as a favourable candidate.

"Garg has done decent work in the area, but Chadha is an equally good candidate. He is young and dynamic, and people have many expectations from this new face. It's a good change," said Sudhir Mahra, an electric engineer from the area.

But another narrative, heard in other constituencies also, is that the candidate does not matter here. "It doesn't matter who the candidate is. Anybody can stand from here, but all votes will go to AAP for the work it has done. The MLA is just a medium to get the party to power — just like how everyone voted for Modi and his personality in the Lok Sabha polls," said Kishor Malik, a school van driver from Old Rajinder Nagar.

Speculation lingers on remaining BJP seats,
SAD may get 4, no call yet on New Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

WITH NAMES of 13 candidates yet to be announced by the BJP, sources in the party said four seats — Hari Nagar, Rajouri Garden, Kalkaji and Shahdara — are likely to go to the Shiromani Akali Dal.

On Friday, *The Indian Express* reported that the BJP is trying to accommodate three allies — JD(U), JJP and SAD — in the remaining seats. The SAD had contested from these four seats in 2013 and 2015. While the party won three seats in 2013, it lost all seats in the 2015 polls, but went on to win the bypoll from Rajouri Garden in 2017. It is learnt that the SAD wants two more seats this time, Moti



Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari had announced 57 candidates on Friday

Nagar and Rohtash Nagar.

The BJP is also yet to pick a candidate for the high profile New Delhi constituency, from where Chief Minister Arvind

Kejriwal will contest.

"The party is discussing names of an MP, a celebrity with political background and youth wing head Sunil Yadav among the probable candidates against Kejriwal. The party also wants the candidate to have a big social media following, who could pose a challenge to Kejriwal on the ground," said a senior leader, adding that no final decision was arrived at till late Saturday evening.

According to a senior leader, the decision on remaining seats such as Kasturba Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Seemapuri, Krishna Nagar, Mehrauli, Kalkaji, Hari Nagar, Burari and Nangloi is expected to be finalised by Sunday night.

"For some seats, there is pressure from senior leaders...

or the survey report of people seeking tickets is poor, leading to the decision being postponed," said the leader.

A SAD MLA also said there are talks with AAP rebel MLA Jagdeep — who quit the party on Saturday — but no final decision has been taken.

Meanwhile, protests were held by party workers in many constituencies Saturday, with one group from Delhi Cantonment demonstrating outside party working president J P Nadda's residence demanding a ticket for their leader.

The party played down the protests, saying it is a "natural reaction" and asserted that its leaders and workers will fight the election unitedly.

(with PTI inputs)

Dropped from AAP list, sitting MLA joins
Cong, slams party over ticket distribution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

AFTER BEING dropped by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) from the candidate list for the Delhi Assembly polls, the sitting MLA from Dwarka and grandson of Lal Bahadur Shastri, Adarsh Shastri, joined the Congress Saturday.

Slamming Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for "belittling the self-respect of AAP MLAs", Shastri claimed that he changed his opinion about AAP after it "sold tickets to two Rajya Sabha



Adarsh Shastri (centre) has been fielded by Congress from Dwarka constituency

MPs", instead of giving them to committed AAP volunteers.

"There was corruption in the

AAP's ticket distribution for the MCD elections," he claimed.

Shastri reportedly quit AAP after it denied him a ticket to seek re-election from the Dwarka constituency. He has now been fielded by the Congress from the same seat.

Previously, he held the posts of national spokesperson and co-convenor of overseas affairs cell of AAP. Shastri had won the Dwarka seat with 59.08% votes in 2015.

Vinay Kumar Mishra, son of former Congress MP Mahabal Mishra and who had joined AAP on Monday, has been given

the ticket to contest from Dwarka.

Welcoming Shastri into the Congress fold, Delhi Congress chief Subhash Chopra said that it was a "ghar wapsi" for the leader.

Taking aim at AAP, Shastri accused CM Kejriwal of flouting all democratic norms to "sell" tickets. He alleged that the AAP government in Delhi has failed on all fronts by indulging in corruption and being indifferent towards the people of Delhi.

AAP did not respond to the allegations made by Shastri.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

DEPUTY CHIEF Minister Manish Sisodia Saturday challenged the BJP and the Congress to name "even one state where they can show that excess fee charged by private schools was refunded or they were prevented from increasing fee".

The AAP, whose poll plank for previous two Assembly polls was education, had promised in 2015 that private schools will not be allowed to raise fee without clearance from the government.

As per a High Court order, the fee was to be refunded to parents of children studying in those schools which had raised fee without a go-ahead or a financial rationale.



Sisodia at Saturday's press conference. Amit Mehra

According to the Delhi State Education Rules, schools built on institutional land given on lower rates to school trusts have to ratify fee hikes by the government, which has the power to audit their accounts.

"As compared to government schools, private schools managed to maintain quality education,

but the biggest complaint has been that private schools keep increasing fee arbitrarily.

"There are many private schools in Delhi and many of them are doing really good. I acknowledge and salute them for bridging the gap as for many years in between, government schools had been completely ignored. But some schools were nothing more than profit-making machines," he said.

He also alleged that in other states, governments do not use their powers to cap fee charged by private schools.

Recently, both BJP and Congress hit out against AAP, saying it has been presenting a partial picture of Delhi's schools and many are still working in dilapidated conditions, without adequate infrastructure and teachers.

5 GOVT & POLITICS

Yogi ex-aide joins SP, Akhilesh says BJP's days numbered

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 18

FORMER STATE president of Hindu Yuva Vahini (HYV) Sunil Singh, who was once considered a confidante of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, joined the Samajwadi Party (SP) on Saturday in presence of party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav and party president Akhilesh Yadav at the SP headquarters in Lucknow.

Singh also merged his break-away faction HYV (Bharat) into the Samajwadi Party.

Singh, who faces two dozen criminal cases at Harpur Budhat police station in Gorakhpur, was sacked from Hindu Yuva Vahini before the 2017 Assembly polls for defying HYV founder Adityanath and declaring candidates against the BJP nominees.

In May, 2018, Singh floated a splinter group HYV (Bharat) at a "national executive meeting" held at a VVIP guesthouse in Lucknow. Immediately after the announcement, the government suspended the then officer in-charge of the guesthouse, R P Singh, because only MPs, ministers or guests of the state are authorised to stay there.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha election, he contested the Gorakhpur seat against BJP candidate Ravi Kishan.



Sunil Singh with Akhilesh Yadav and other SP leaders at the party office in Lucknow. *Express*

Akhilesh said the BJP's days are numbered. "Now, they (government) do not have much time as the countdown has begun... They only want to create differences so that they can get political benefits... Those who were snatching the citizenship of others, their own citizenship will now be in danger as people from Hindu Yuva Vahini have joined us," he said.

Mulayam said, "I am happy that youths have arrived here in a large number... Now the party is yours."

Meanwhile, BSP leader CL Verma, who had contested the Lok Sabha election from Lucknow's Mohanlalganj seat, has also joined the SP.

Those opposing CAA are anti-Dalit: Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, JANUARY 18

THOSE OPPOSING the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 are anti-Dalit since the majority of refugees who fled Pakistan during Partition were Dalits, Union Home Minister and BJP president Amit Shah said at a rally in favour of the new citizenship law in Hubballi on Saturday.

Those opposing the CAA were also against Mahatma Gandhi's advice to give citizenship to those who did not want to live in East or West Pakistan, said the BJP leader. Shah also accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and his party of misleading Muslims into believing the CAA is anti-Muslim.

"Lakhs of people came to India (during Partition). They began living in Bengal. Nearly 70 per cent of those who came are Dalit (Scheduled Caste) brothers and sisters. Those who oppose CAA, I want to ask them what they gain by opposing Dalits who come to India from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. Those who oppose CAA are anti-Dalit. Please understand this," the BJP national president said. "When the coun-



Amit Shah with Karnataka CM BS Yediyurappa at an event organised by Vedanta Bharati at Palace Grounds in Bengaluru. *PTI*

try goes to polls, Dalit society will call to account those who have attacked Dalits and Lord Buddha. Who are you supporting?" he said.

Shah said that the protesters were not listening to the words of Mahatma Gandhi. "It is the duty of the Indian government to give them citizenship, jobs and honour," Shah said quoting Gandhi. "Now, tell me, will you not listen to Mahatma Gandhi too? If you do not listen to Mahatma Gandhi, then who will you listen to," the Home Minister said.

Congress leaders promised

refuge for people fleeing Pakistan but the party has not done anything to fulfil those promises despite being in power for the last 55 of 70 years, and the Narendra Modi government is now fulfilling it, Shah said.

Shah said the CAA will not snatch the citizenship of Muslims in the country and the minority community has been misled by the Congress, leading to protests and violence.

Shah did not make a single reference to the NRC or NPR in his speech.

NPR nothing but NRC in disguise: Chidambaram

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JANUARY 18

ASSERTING THAT the National Population Register (NPR) is nothing but "NRC (National Register of Citizens) in disguise", Congress leader P Chidambaram said on Saturday said all political parties fighting against the National Population Register (NPR), CAA and NRC must come together.

Addressing mediapersons after holding a leadership training camp with state party leaders at Bidhan Bhawan here, Chidambaram said, "We are fighting against NRC and CAA. Sometimes together, sometimes differently. The important thing is that we are fighting. It is possible that in Bengal and many other states there are some domestic factors at play. But one should not miss the larger picture, which is the fight to save the Constitution. All those fighting for values must eventually come together on a single platform. I am confident they will," he said.

The former finance minister said that the Narendra Modi government has changed gears and is now only talking about the NPR following the fiasco in Assam over the NRC. "Our purpose is to fight the sinister purpose of the



P Chidambaram

CAA and NPR and mobilise public opinion against them. Our stated position is that we will not agree to NPR being rolled out from April 2020," he said.

He said that states are justified in opposing the implementation of the NPR and CAA as the Constitutional validity lies with the Supreme Court.

Reacting to opposition-ruled states participating in the January 17 meeting on the NPR, Chidambaram said participation does not mean acceptance. "It is about knowing what the other side thinks about it. The Census commissioner called the meeting, inviting officers of state governments. The states sent their officers to find out and place on table their views. Several chief secretaries attending the meeting

found pitfalls in the NPR," he said.

"Participation does not mean acquiescence. The Centre invites the officers of the state government to state its case as to why NPR should be rolled out. The officers of the state government go and attend the meeting to find out what the views of the Census Commissioner are. They place on the table why they are opposing the NPR. That's the correct thing to do," Chidambaram said.

Except the Trinamool Congress government here, all state governments took part in the NPR meeting on Friday in Delhi. "And I have no doubt in my mind that the Congress chief ministers will take a position consistent with the Congress Working Committee's resolution (opposing the NPR rollout from April 1). There is no constitutional issue involved (in states opposing the CAA). CAA is an issue before the Supreme Court now. Therefore, the states are perfectly justified in saying what they feel, the states are entitled to," he said.

Chidambaram also said that the Narendra Modi government will not do something foolish like penalising crores of people who won't cooperate in the NPR exercise, scheduled to start from April 1, 2020.

PM's ex-principal secy Misra named NMML chairperson

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

FORMER PRINCIPAL secretary to the Prime Minister, Nripendra Misra, has been appointed chairperson of the executive council of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML).

Sources in the Culture Ministry said that Misra (74), who resigned as PM Narendra Modi's principal secretary last August, has been appointed through a January 14 order.

The eight-member NMML executive council, which is the highest decision-making authority of the institution, has also been re-constituted, with ASuryaPrakash, the chairperson of the Prasar Bharati board, replacing former minister MJ Akbar as the council's vice chairperson.

The main objective of the newly-reconstituted NMML would be to oversee the building of the museum of the Prime Ministers of India.

In November last year, the government reconstituted the NMML society and removed Congress's Mallikarjun Kharge, Jairam Ramesh and Karan Singh as members. Journalist Rajat Sharma and ad man Praseon Joshi were among those inducted. According to an order issued in November, Modi is the president of the NMML society and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh its vice-president.

Sources said that with Misra's appointment, both the reconstitution of the NMML society and the executive council is complete.

Union ministers Amit Shah, Nirmala Sitharaman, Ramesh Pokhriyal, Prakash Javadekar, V Muraleedharan and Prahlad Singh Patel are among the members.

Nadda set to lead BJP — under Shah's shadow

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

WHILE J P Nadda is set to take over as the national president of BJP, the development is not likely to alter Amit Shah's stamp on the party in near future, as there seems to be not many changes in the organisation — at least the internal elections so far indicate so.

Almost all major states have retained state unit chiefs appointed during Shah's term as party chief.

The party has reelected state chiefs in politically and ideologically crucial Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka and Jammu and Kashmir. Sources in BJP said state presidents of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra could also be retained.

In Uttar Pradesh, OBC leader Swatantra Singh has been re-elected; Dilip Ghosh in West Bengal and Nalin Kumar Kateel in Karnataka, both considered hardliners, will continue, as will Rainder Raina in J&K. In Assam, another key state, Ranjeet Kumar Das has been re-



BJP working president J P Nadda with immigrants from Pakistan at the party headquarters on Saturday. *PTI*

pointed state unit chief.

Sources in BJP said even changes made over the last two days were primarily Shah's choices. While the Uttarakhand unit has Bansidhar Bhagat as its new leader, Odisha has Samir Mohanty, Meghalaya has Ernest Mawrie, and Tripura appointed Manik Saha as president of the state unit. In Arunachal Pradesh, Tapir Gao has been replaced by Biyuram Wahge. In Punjab, the party leadership refused to give a second term to Shwait Malik

and opted for Ashwani Sharma.

A party leader said, "While party presidents in several key states, chosen by Shah, are retained, the new ones are also elected after consultation. Yes, one can say the choices are predominantly that of Shah."

Nadda, party leaders say, is unlikely to take any big decision on

EXPLAINED
Naidu, too, took time

WHEN HE took over as the BJP chief at a time when the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-L K Advani duo held sway over the party, it took a while for M Venkaiah Naidu to take some decisions with his "stamp" on them, party leaders say.

his own for some time. A senior BJP leader said, "It will take at least six months to see how Nadda is going to play his cards. One has to wait and see whether he will try to emerge as a different power centre, or will only implement Shah's decisions in the party. Whatever it is, the party will be under the shadow of Amit Shah."

This leader maintained that even party cadres do not want any leader, including Nadda, to "forget that the BJP in its current might is the hard work of Amit Shah and Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

The BJP has reached a new electoral high under Shah over the last more than five years, expanding its footprints across the country. While the party has faced electoral setbacks in some states, a leader said that does not affect its ideological growth. "Nadda will have to walk in the footsteps of Shah if he has to get continuous backing of RSS," another BJP leader said.

Nadda is expected to be elected BJP national president formally on Monday.

As party chief, Nadda would be working closely with B L Santosh, general secretary (organisation), also a choice of Shah, who shares the image of an aggressive doer and a disciplinarian — like Shah.

Gorakhpur expressway to be backbone of development: Yogi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GORAKHPUR, JANUARY 18

UTTAR PRADESH Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said the Link Expressway, which connects Gorakhpur to the Purvanchal Expressway, will become the backbone of development in the region once the road is opened for traffic this year.

Adityanath felicitated farmers who gave their land for the road project at a function on the Gorakhpur Industrial Development Authority (GIDA) premises. He also unveiled a 'Make In Gorakhpur' booklet, published by The Indian Express Group, on the investment possibilities in Gorkahpur.

"The farmers will also have satisfaction that good work is being done on their ancestors' land. They will be delighted to know that they are also contributing in the development of Uttar Pradesh and the country," he said.

He announced that an industrial corridor along the expressway would create more land banks for GIDA.

Adityanath also praised farmers for giving 3,000 hectares of land for Jewar airport. "After construction of the airport, revenue of Rs 1 lakh crore will be generated and lakhs of youth will get employment through this."

Two years ago, there was no air connectivity to Gorakhpur, but today eight flights operate from here, Adityanath said, reiterating that his government was committed to ensuring that farmers get compensation in a time-bound manner.

The chief minister also stressed that work on the Bundelkhand Expressway will start from this month.

UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UP-EIDA) CEO Avaneesh Awasthi, Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner Alok Tandon and GIDA CEO Sanjeev Ranjan, among others were present at the event.

The function was organised by the UPEIDA and GIDA, and two MoUs, related to Gorakhpur Link Expressway, were signed with APCO and Dilip Buidcon, a road company.

India pledges \$50 mn assistance to Sri Lanka

New Delhi: India pledged \$50 million assistance to Sri Lanka on Saturday as National Security Advisor Ajit Doval called on President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and discussed a range of bilateral issues, including strengthening co-operation in defence, intelligence sharing and maritime security.

"A very cordial discussion was held with National Security Advisor of India, Ajit Doval today. Strengthening of bilateral cooperation on national security, intelligence sharing, maritime security & fostering of regional collaboration, were some of the key points of discussion," Rajapaksa said in a tweet.

Lankan President's office said Doval pledged that India will provide USD 50 million to Sri Lanka to help the country purchase equipment for its security forces. **ENS**

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Government of India
Farogh-e-Urdu Bhawan-FC-33/9, Institutional Area,
Jasola, New Delhi-110026. Ph: 49539000

Extension Time for Submission of offer of 3rd party Evaluation

In continuation of this notice published on 23.12.2019, the submission date is extended from 20.01.2020 to 31.01.2020 at 05.00 PM. All other entries in the notice will remain unchanged.

Director, NCPUL

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग
उद्योग भवन, हरिद्वार- 249404

पत्रांक :- 202/17/दीक्षा/सेवा-02/2012-13 दिनांक: 17 जनवरी, 2020

विज्ञापित

एतद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि उत्तराखण्ड शासन के अन्तर्गत राजकीय औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थानों में प्रधानाचार्य श्रेणी-2 पद के संबंध में मा० उच्च न्यायालय, नैनीताल में योजित रिट याचिका संख्या-271/2017 (एस/बी) शिष्टा धर्मस्थित नाना उत्तराखण्ड राज्य एवं अन्य में दिनांक 19 नवम्बर, 2019 को मा० उच्च न्यायालय, नैनीताल द्वारा परित निर्णय के अनुपालन में सामान्य/उत्तराखण्ड महिला श्रेणी के अन्तर्गत आयोग द्वारा चयन परिणाम घोषित कर दिया गया है। उक्त चयन परिणाम आयोग की वेबसाइट www.ukpsc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

(राजेश कुमार) सचिव।

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
OF CENTRAL GOODS & SERVICES TAX, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
BLOCK 'C' & 'D', NEW C.G.O., COMPLEX, NH IV, FARIDABAD (HR)

"PENSION ADALAT"

Central GST Commissionerate Faridabad, Government of India will hold "Pension Adalat" on 28.1.2020 (Tuesday) at 03:00 P.M for redressal of grievances of pensioners of erstwhile Central Excise & Service Tax Commissionerate, Faridabad - I & II (Now Central GST Commissionerate, Faridabad) if any.

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Presided by
Smt. Mohini Hingorani
Vice-Chairperson, Sindhi Academy

Participating Poets:

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- Ashok Jhamnani
- Dholan "Rahi"
- Dilip Sachanandani
- Hiro Thakur
- Haresh Karamchandani
- Jaya Jadwani
- Khiman U. Mulani
- Laxman "Dubey"
- Meghraj Gurnani
- Mohini Hingorani
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Himanta Biswa Sarma with Assam BJP president Ranjeet Dass, Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal in Guwahati on Saturday. *Dasarath Deka*

Himanta: Will win with 100 seats against new party

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, JANUARY 18

IF A new political party is formed under the leadership of the All Assam Students' Union (AASU), the BJP will contest polls against it with courage and defeat it, Assam Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Saturday.

Sarma's remarks come days after the AASU leadership talked about a new political alternative to take the anti-CAA movement forward in the state. Massive protests continued across Assam against the CAA on Saturday with large gatherings at several locations, including Duliiajan, Dhekiajuli and Dharapur. The gatherings saw participation of student and youth leaders, and cultural demonstrations by different artistes against the contentious law.

"Whether the Congress supports the new party or not but just like Arjun looked only at the bird's eye while shooting the arrow, we will only look at the seats to win, irrespective of who the opponent is. With people's blessings, we will win with 100 seats," Sarma said.

Sarma said that the beneficiaries of CAA will be less than 5 lakh in Assam. "After the rules are framed, those who have been saying 1 crore people [will get citizenship through CAA in Assam] will have to apologise to the people of

Assam," he said.

Sarma ruled out the need for applicants to give proof of "religious persecution". "What proof do you need for religious persecution? Do they have to show photos of wounds they suffered on their back," the minister asked.

Sarma's remarks come a day after he told the media that the applicants will have to submit "three proofs" - of their religion, of their entry to India before 2014 and documents showing their citizenship prior to entering India. The minister said that the Assam government has suggested to the Centre to also include evidence that the applicant had applied for inclusion in the NRC.

Meanwhile, the BJP-led government in Assam inducted two new ministers of state with independent charge — Jogen Mohan and Sanjoy Kishan. Mohan is from Mahmor assembly constituency while Kishan is the MLA from Tinsukia. "We will work together with the spirit of #TeamAssam and take our state to greater heights of progress and development," Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal tweeted.

BJP chief re-elected

Ranjeet Dass, the incumbent state unit BJP president, was re-elected to the position on Saturday. Under the leadership of the Sorbhorh MLA, the party had swept panchayat and Lok Sabha elections in the state.

Now indefinite sit-in in Lucknow: 'Had no choice'

AVANEESH MISHRA
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 18

TAKING A cue from the protests at Delhi's Shaheen Bagh and Prayagraj's Roshan Bagh, hundreds of women and children from the old city areas of Lucknow have launched an indefinite sit-in against the new citizenship law and the proposed NRC at Ghanta Ghar near Rumi Gate since Friday.

Heavy police force is deployed near the area.

The protesters claimed that they all are from Lucknow and said that women had to come out to protest as they had seen "how brutal the police and administration can be towards men raising their voices". "Those sitting here are working women, homemakers and students and we had no choice but to come out to protest because we all saw what the police did on December 19 to the men protesting against the CAA-



At Ghanta Ghar in Lucknow on Saturday. *Express*

NRC. When there are women, at least we have hope that police will not attack us the way they did to men," said Fauzia Rana, daughter of Urdu poet Munawwar Rana.

Lucknow Joint Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Naveen Arora said

men are not allowed at the spot as requested by the women protesters. They have told the police that they can guarantee a peaceful protest only if it is limited to women, Arora said.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Yashwant Sinha defies Sec 144, takes out march

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, JANUARY 18

FORMER FINANCE minister Yashwant Sinha, who was in Ahmedabad on Saturday, took out an impromptu march without police permission from Law Garden to Gujarat College, in defiance of the repetitive imposition of CrPC Section 144 in the city to mark the completion of the Gujarat leg of his Gandhi Shanti Yatra.

Stating that he wished to pay his tributes to Vinod Kinariwala, whose memorial is on the Gujarat College campus, Sinha said that walking together while violating Section 144 would be a statement in itself. Scores of people left in the evening from Thakorbhai Desai Hall, where Sinha addressed a public gathering, and accompanied him for the less-than-a-kilometre walk. No person was detained, though heavy police force accompanied the rally.

Sinha observed that the state appears to be in a perpetual state of "martial law". "I hope the Gujarat government will take a lesson from the SOrder in the Jammu & Kashmir context (Anuradha Bhasin vs Union of India) that made observations on how section 144 cannot be misused."

TMC holds workshops to train youths, women on CAA, NPR, NRC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JANUARY 18

THE Trinamool Congress has been organising workshops since the beginning of this year across the state with a focus on the next generation to prepare leaders who will be able to speak eloquently on the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), National Register of Citizens (NRC) and National Population Register (NPR).

The party has also decided to make the CAA, NRC and NPR key issues for the upcoming civic body elections. For this, TMC is also training the members of its women's wing, who will reach out to the voters at the grassroots level to fight the BJP.

A senior TMC leader said, "We have two targets — first, to strengthen the party at the grassroots level to fight the RSS vistaraks (members); and second, to make people understand why we are opposing CAA and NRC. People have a lot of questions and BJP is trying to mislead them. So, we ourselves have to thoroughly understand what are the issues of CAA and NRC. Or else, we will fail to explain them

to people."

According to senior TMC leaders, the party's women's wing has already launched workshops at each booth across the state. Around 15 to 20 cadres are selected from each booth for the workshop and lessons on CAA, NRC and NPR are imparted to them. They are also taught why CAA is an "anti-people" move. The participants are also trained to improve their oratorical skills and how to communicate with people, they added.

A senior leader of TMC said, "The trained members of our women's team are going to every house to explain why people should oppose CAA and NRC. They are also directing people to not share any information for the NPR exercise. At present, people are already the citizens of this country. But after the NPR exercise, they may become foreigners, as it is the first step towards NRC." Workshops have also started at the Assembly constituency-level to prepare new leaders and orators.

A senior TMC leader said, "From every constituency, we are choosing 45 people who will be trained."

Dilip Ghosh says BJP workers lathicharged at pro-CAA rally

ENS & PTI
KOLKATA, JANUARY 18

STOPPED BY the police from visiting Nandigram, in West Bengal's Purba Medinipur district, where he was scheduled to address a rally in support of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, Lok Sabha MP from Medinipur and state BJP chief Dilip Ghosh accused the police of baton-charging BJP workers while they were holding a "peaceful rally" on Saturday.

Sharing a video of the incident, Ghosh tweeted, "Witness the dismal state of democracy in Paschim Banga. The police is pulling the collar of the district president and is busy with lathicharge on our party members in order to stop a peaceful procession at Nandigram."

Around noon, the police stopped Ghosh, who tried to enter Nandigram through Chandipur, at Tengua More, following which there was a scuffle between BJP workers and security personnel. Police officers told PTI that they were provoked to baton-charge.

Amid the commotion, BJP's state general secretary Sayantan Basu began addressing party workers from his car. Police stopped him, leading to further trouble, officials said.

"We follow rules and laws, that's why we are leaving today. But I will come back and go to Nandigram," Ghosh said.

He said, "I have seen the police beating up our party workers for doing no wrong. There were thousands of party workers with us; we could have broken the barricade if I wanted to. But that was not our aim... We want to break the autocratic, undemocratic government ruling West Bengal."

"Around 15 days back, we had written to the Superintendent of Police seeking permission. We had also written to the officer-in-charge of the local police station... Even after that, they did not give us permission. Police baton-charged our party workers for no reason," Ghosh was quoted by PTI.

A senior police officer, however, denied receiving any letter from the BJP seeking permission for the rally in Nandigram, PTI reported.

Ishrat encounter case: Trial judge transferred

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, JANUARY 18

SPECIAL CBI judge RK Chudawala, who was presiding over the trial of the alleged fake encounter of Ishrat Jahan at Ahmedabad, was transferred as registrar of recruitment and finance division at the Gujarat High Court on deputation.

Judge Chudawala has presided over the trial following the transfer of the earlier judge, JK Pandya, as an industrial court member at Rajkot in May 2019. Judge Pandya discharged two key accused — DG Vanzara and NK Amin — the same month, thereby dropping all criminal proceedings against the two in the case.

Judge Chudawala's transfer comes at a time when the remaining accused in the encounter — GL Singhal, Tarun Barot and Anaju Chaudhari — had filed discharge applications. In the first few hearings, Judge Chudawala expressed his dissatisfaction with adjournments being sought by either side. With the transfer, the discharge pleas will have to be argued again. The court can proceed with the trial only after deciding on the discharge pleas.

The Registrar General of Gujarat HC, HD Suthar, will begin his tenure as principal district judge in Sabarkantha district at Himmatnagar, on January 21.

PROTEST WATCH

TAMIL NADU



A protest against CAA, NPR and NRC in Chennai. *PTI*

GUJARAT

Students lodge silent protest at convocation

Ahmedabad: In a silent protest against the CAA, scores of students graduating from the CEPT University wore black armbands at the 14th convocation ceremony of the varsity on Saturday. The bands were also to express solidarity with students assaulted in several campuses across the country. Geet Sethi, billiards and snooker champion and Olympic Gold Quest founder, was the chief guest at the convocation where 484 students were given their degrees in management, design, technology, planning and architecture courses.

"We had informed the college administration via email and the authorities responded positively keeping in mind our individual right while also stating that the convocation is a solemn ceremony... As being part of the educated thinking society, we are in solidarity with all the students who have been assaulted. We are also opposing the Citizenship Amendment Act because it is discriminatory, not only along religious lines, but it is bound to affect everyone," said Fahad Zuberi, an MArch graduate. **ENS**

NAGALAND



A protest against the CAA in Dimapur. *PTI*

'Unite against CAA; duty to stop illegal immigration'

Dimapur: Thousands of people led by students from different colleges gathered in the Supermarket area in Dimapur district of Nagaland on Saturday to protest against the CAA. With banners and placards saying, "We stand united against CAA", "Save Dimapur — Listen to peoples' voice" and "CAA — Modi Shah vote bank", people from all walks of life joined the protest rally. Addressing the gathering, the students urged people to unite and fight until the Act is re-

voked. They said it is their duty to safeguard the state from the influx of illegal immigrants. Dimapur District Gaon Burahs (village chieftains) Association president Khehovi V Choply said that outsiders will not be allowed to take away the rights of indigenous people. He said it's time to identify illegal immigrants and deport them. Lima Jamir, a member of the North East Indigenous Peoples' Forum, said the CAA is a draconian law. **PTI**

RAJASTHAN



A protest in Jaipur on Saturday. *Rohit Jain Paras*

MADHYA PRADESH

Sit-in enters Day 4, BJP slams govt over transfers

Indore: An indefinite sit-in against the CAA and NRC in Badwadi Chowki area entered its fourth day on Saturday. In the intervening night of Thursday and Friday, police had lathicharged some of the protesters, after which a probe was initiated by the Congress-led government and two officials were

transferred. However, on Saturday, the BJP claimed the move against the two officers was unfair. "Police were trying to control protesters... but the Kamal Nath government took action to appease a community," said MP BJP spokesperson Umesh Sharma. **PTI**

Pune indefinite sit-in enters Day 9

Pune: A protest against the CAA, NPR and NRC in Pune which organisers are calling 'Shaheen Bagh in Kondhwa' entered its ninth day on Saturday. Pune's protest, outside Konark Mall in Kondhwa, has been organised under the banner of Kul Jamaat-e-Tanzeem. "We started the protest after being inspired by what is happening in Shaheen Bagh... women from all walks of life have joined," said first year Poona College student Zakiya Khan. **PTI**

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI

4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act. 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993). In the matter of: OANO.204/2019

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA Applicant

Versus

MR. JASVINDER SINGH CHAWLA & Ors. Defendants

(D-1) MR. JASVINDER SINGH CHAWLA, WZ-48, New (Old WZ-54A), Ground Floor, Chaukhandi Extension, Near Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018.

(D-2) SUPREET KAUR, W/o. Jasvinder Singh Chawla, WZ-48, New, (Old WZ-54A), Ground Floor, Chaukhandi Extension, Near Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018.

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal on 03.03.2020 at 10:30 A.M.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 21st Day of December, 2019.

By Order of the Tribunal
Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI

4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act. 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993). In the matter of: OANO.655/2019

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA Applicant

Versus

M/s. Fortress Packaging Pvt. Ltd. & Ors. Defendants

(D-1) M/S. FORTRESS PACKAGING PVT. LTD., Through Its Director, Shri Deepak Kumar Mehta, Regd. Office at: T-3, Third Floor, St. Soldier Tower, PVR Complex, Vikasपुरी, New Delhi-110018. Also at: Factory at Khasra No.873/2, Ground Floor, Near Devi Mandir, Rithala Industrial Area, Delhi-110085.

(D-2) SHRI DEEPAK KUMAR MEHTA, S/o. Shri Ram Chandra Mehta, Managing Director of M/s. Fortress Packaging Pvt. Ltd., R/o. House No.346, Sector-14, Ward No.5, Gurgaon. (Now Gurugram), Haryana-124002.

(D-3) SHRI AJAY SHARMA, S/o. Shri Jagat Singh, M/s. Fortress Packaging Pvt. Ltd., WZ-255/1, Madipur Village, Delhi.

(D-4) SHRI HARSH KUMAR MANCHANDA, S/o. Shri Dharamvir, Director / Guarantor of M/S. FORTRESS PACKAGING PVT. LTD., R/o. House No.144/5, Near Shori Cloth Market, Rama Colony, Rohtak, Haryana

(D-5) SHRI MANOJ KUMAR MANDAL, S/o. Shri Kailash Pati Mandal, Director / Guarantor of M/S. FORTRESS PACKAGING PVT. Ltd., R/o. 451, First Floor, Pocket-I, Sector-6, Avantika, Rohini, New Delhi-110085.

(D-6) SHRI VIPIN KUMAR GUPTA, S/O. SHRI JAI KISHAN GUPTA, Guarantor of M/s. Fortress Packaging Pvt. Ltd., R/o. B-51A, Shankar Garden, Vikasपुरी, New Delhi-110018.

(D-7) M/S. LOTUS FLORICULTUE LLP, Through its Partner Shri Manoj Kumar Mandal, At 19, Road No.33, Punjabi Bagh Extension, Delhi-110026. GUARANTOR

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal on 06.03.2020 at 10:30 A.M.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 11th Day of December, 2019.

By Order of the Tribunal
Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

For Mechanical Work year 2019-20
NIT 11/2019-20 (C&W/JU):

1. Name of work, location & Period : Operation & Maintenance of ACWPV with effluent treatment plant for three years. 2. Approx. cost of the work : Rs. 32.17,752/- 3. Earnest money to be deposited : 64,400/- 4. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender : On 14.02.2020 till 15.00 hrs through E-tendering online submission on IREPS. Tender will be opened soon after. 5. Website particular and notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen etc. : http://www.ireps.gov.in Sr Section Engineer (C&W) NWR, Jodhpur's notice board. NOTE :- The offer can only be accepted through E-Tendering on the website of www.ireps.gov.in. Offer in any other form will not be accepted. The Tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be register on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate on e-Tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-Tendering. 62-C7/20

Contact help line no. 138 for general complaints

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

DRM (S&T) NWR, Ajmer on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender for the following work up to 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. Tender No. : 1. DRM-S&T-32-2019-20 Name of work : 1. Ajmer Division : Provision of BG- "A" Class ART at Udaipur Station of Ajmer Division NWR. (Signalling - Items) Approximate cost of work : 1. Rs. 4747660.33 Earnest Money : 1. Rs. 95000.00 Tender No. : 2. DRM-S&T-37-2019-20 Name of work : 2. Ajmer Division :- Annual Maintenance of D.G. sets installed in MD-PNU, GSD-UDZ Section & NDT Station of Ajmer Division NWR for One Year. Approximate cost of work : 3. Rs. 961731.25 Earnest Money : 3. Rs. 19200.00 Date & Time of opening E-Tender : 20.02.2020 at 15.30 Hrs. The details of above E-Tender are available on website www.ireps.gov.in 68-C7/20

Contact help line no. 138 for general complaints

Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd.,

Victoria Park, Meerut

TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE The Date of opening of tender specification no. PVVNL-MT/COM/17/19-20 for supply of 1,50,000 nos. Single Phase Two Wire Electronic energy meter (5-30) Amp. (Along with pilfer proof box & Seals) is hereby extended from 18.01.2020 to 28.01.2020. Time of opening tender and other terms & conditions shall remain unchanged. For detailed information please log on www.pvvnl.org & E-Tendering website www.etender.up.nic.in till the date of submission of bids. Superintending Engineer (Commercial) "Help line Numbor for Information of Theft of Electricity "1800-180-3002 (Meerut), & 9412207451" Remark:- www.etender.up.nic.in "SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" Sd/., Superintending Engineer (Commercial) For Managing Director पत्रांक: 714 दिनांक: 18.01.2020.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

GURU HARGOBIND THERMAL PLANT, LEHRA MOHABBAT

DISTT. BATHINDA (PUNJAB)-151111

Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813

e-Tendering website: https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Through E-tendering)

Tender Enquiry No. 508/GHTP/EMC/GMMC-27/Vol-30 Dated: 13.01.2020

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Periodical, preventive, breakdown & shut-down maintenance and annual overhauling of 2x210 MW & 2x250 MW Turbogenerator (Electrical Works). HT & LT Motors in main plant area, 16.50 KV, 15.75 KV, 6.6 KV & 415 V Bus ducts, EOT Cranes/ Hoists (Electrical Works), etc. and operation & general cleanliness of Lifts/ Elevators of Stage-I & II, GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat, District Bathinda, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications for a period of one year on lump sum basis.

EMD: Rs. 3,00,000 (Fixed Rs. Three Lakhs).

Last date & Time for bid submission : 05.02.2020 upto 11.30 hrs. Date & Time of opening of Fee stage bid : 12.02.2020 at 12.00 hrs.

Detailed NIT and specification can only be downloaded from PSPCL website: https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from dated: 15.01.2020 onwards.

Note:

- The prospective bidders can obtain clarification regarding tender specification from this office. For Registration of Digital Signatures and uploading of tender information may be sought from M/s. GePNIC Contact No. 91-(120)-4001002/5.
- It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no Corrigendum will be published in News papers. Details regarding Corrigendum may be seen on PSPCL Official website i.e. https://pspcl.in.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Electrical Mtc. Circle, O&M, GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat-151111, Distt. Bathinda (Punjab)

GHTP-01/2020

Government of Uttar Pradesh

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

Tehri Kothi, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Pin code : 226001 Email: tc-up@nic.in

e-TENDER CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

Date : January 15, 2020

In continuation of Tender No. 631_RS/2019-08RS/2018 & Tender No. 632_RS/2019-08RS/2018 uploaded on etender.up.nic.in on 23-05-2019 regarding Operation And Maintenance of Automatic Driving Testing Track At Kanpur Nagar And Bareilly, respectively, and Corrigendum thereon uploaded on 09-08-2019, and in response to some other queries received by the Department, further changes have been made in the tender document as listed in the Additional Corrigendum now uploaded on e-tender.up.nic.in.

Please do visit etender.up.nic.in from time to time before 07-02-2020, which is the last date of submission of bid, for any possible amendment/ corrigendum/ addendum. For any query/clarification regarding submission of e-tender vendors may call on following helpline numbers of NIC:-

(1) 0522-2286809/808 (2) 0522-4130303/2298813 (3) 09935149327

Transport Commissioner Office

(1) 0522-2621904

UPID-147755 Dt. 17.01.2020

www.up.gov.nic.in

Sd/- Additional Transport Commissioner (Road Safety)

U.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि. निविद विस्तारोकरण सूचना पर्याप्त निविदाकर्ताओं द्वारा प्रतिभाग न लेने के कारण निविदा संख्या टी- 161/ 19-20, टी- 162/ 19-20, टी- 170/ 19-20 एवं टी- 171/ 19-20 दिनांक 27.01.2020 तक विस्तारित की जाती है। हस्ता./- अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत परेषण मंडल, उ.प्र.पा.ट्रा.का.लि., 400 के.वी. उपकेंद्र, पाली, ग्रेटर नोएडा। "राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें"। कृपया वेबसाइट etender.up.nic पर सभी सूचना अन्य संशोधन/ विस्तार हेतु निविदा खुलने के तिथि तक लोग ऑन करें। पत्रांक 36, वि.पा.सं. ग्रे.नो./ T-161, 162, 170 & 171/2019-20 दिनांक:- 16.01.2020

Sd/- Additional Transport Commissioner (Road Safety)

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY

Prof held for ‘Maoist links’, HC questions manner of arrest

RAHUL V PISHARODY
HYDERABAD, JANUARY 18

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY associate professor Chintakindi Kasim was arrested on Saturday in connection with a case related to alleged Maoist links, filed four years ago under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). The Telangana High Court came down heavily on the police over the manner of the arrest and asked them to produce Kasim before them on Sunday morning.

The court directed the police to produce Kasim before them on Sunday morning at the Chief Justice's Bungalow in Banjara Hills. The court said such arrests are unwarranted. "We want to hear from him how he is treated, and want to record his statement," the court said.

Siddipet police, in a statement, said a search warrant was taken from Gajwel court before conducting a search at Kasim's quarters at the university campus on Saturday morning. During the search, police said they found literature of the banned CPI (Maoist) party, CDs and electronic gadgets. Subsequently, Kasim was arrested and his wife Snehalatha was informed of the same, the police stated.

The police also said they found incriminating evidence against

the professor for his "strong links" with Maoist leaders, and that he has been a coordinator for funding, among other things.

However, Snehalatha told *The Sunday Express* that they have not received a notice or summons from the police in connection with the case or investigation to date. She claimed that Kasim was falsely implicated, and that the police claimed he was absconding. "He is going to university every day. We have not received a notice or warrant or summons to date. How can he be arrested? We demand the false case be withdrawn immediately," she said.

Kasim's advocate Verose Raghunath said a house motion was moved before the Telangana High Court on Saturday morning and a two-judge division bench of Chief Justice Raghuvendra Chauhan and Justice Abhishek Reddy heard the case.

"We placed all facts before the court — how the police entered the house breaking the rear door and terrorised the family, how the grounds for arrest were not informed and all mobile phones were forcibly taken away. We informed the court that Kasim is a professor and writer," Raghunath said.

He said Chief Justice Chauhan first asked police if they had taken the permission of the university vice-chancellor before entering the campus and faculty quarters.

Citizenship isn't just about rights, but also about duties: CJI Bobde

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NAGPUR, JANUARY 18

CHIEF JUSTICE of India S A Bobde said on Saturday that citizenship was not only about people's rights, but also about their duties towards the society.

Speaking at the 107th convocation of the Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University (RTMNU) here, Bobde said, "Today, education is proliferating. Unfortunately, there are some institutes - I am not talking about universities - which have become extremely commercially-minded. I say this from my personal knowledge of



CJI at Saturday's event. PTI

certain institutes which profess to teach law," he said.

"The most important question we should address is what is the purpose of university education. Universities are not about brick and mortar certainly.

Universities aren't supposed to function like an assembly line of a production unit," the CJI said.

"Most importantly, the idea of university reflects what we want to achieve as a society. Universities should re-orient themselves and ensure that they stay true to the compass and march towards the basic goal of the society, which undoubtedly changes at different times," he added.

The CJI said, "It is equally important, if not more, for the graduating students to realise what is expected from them by the society. It must be realised that in the society, interdependence is as important as independence."

"You all have a responsibility

to be active citizens and citizenship isn't only about rights but it is equally about duties towards society," he said.

"What you are today is of course the outcome of your rigour, but it is important to realise that you also reap benefits created by others. Therefore, we can't remain oblivious to the well-being of others," said CJI Bobde.

Calling the RTMNU his alma mater, he said, "It is now that one realises the true meaning of why it is called an alma mater. University is indeed like a mother. It nourishes its children with knowledge, skills and protects them throughout their lives," he said.

Cong, Sena debate over honour for Savarkar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 18

HOURS AFTER senior Congress leader and former Maharashtra chief minister Prithviraj Chavan said that the party is opposed to conferring the Bharat Ratna on Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Saturday said those opposing the honour for Savarkar should be made to spend two days in Andaman's Cellular Jail.

Raut said, "If someone opposes it, it could be their stand. (Prithviraj) Chavan knows the sacrifice of Savarkar for the country... Those who are opposing giving Bharat Ratna to Savarkar — and they may be from any party or ideology — should be put for two days at the same cell in Andaman Cellular Jail. They will then realise his sacrifice and contribution for the nation."

The Congress maintained that the issue will not have any impact on government. Party spokesperson Sachin Sawant said: "Hundreds of people have served their sentences in Andaman Cellular Jail. So considering their sacrifice and contribution, they should also be given the Bharat Ratna."

BEHMAI MASSACRE CASE

Original diary missing, court defers verdict

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 18

ASPECIAL court in Kanpur Dehat, which was supposed to pronounce the verdict in Behmai massacre case, in which 20 people were killed allegedly by Phoolan Devi's dacoit gang in 1981, on Saturday postponed the matter and directed the court staff to produce original documents related to the case before it.

Special Judge (dacoity) Sudhir Kumar fixed January 24 as the next date of hearing.

Denying that the case diary was missing, government counsel Raju Porwal said the court office staff will get the case diary from the record room and produce it before court on the next hearing. "The court has now fixed January 24 for pronouncement of judgment," he added.

Porwal said, "We were using photocopies of original documents of the case during the proceedings. Since it is an old case, original documents, which are huge in number, were kept in the court's record room. The court, which was to pronounce the judgment today, held that the original case diary should be present in court during pronouncement of the judgment."

Since the case diary was not in courtroom on Saturday, Special Judge Sudhir Kumar issued notice to the sessions clerk and directed that it be produced on January 24, he said.

An advocate of the complainant later said they will move the Allahabad High Court in view of "undue delay in pronouncement of judgment" in the case and "mysterious disappearance" of the original case diary, PTI reported.

The special court for hearing dacoity-related cases was expected to deliver the verdict in the 1981 Behmai massacre case on January 6, but it allowed the defence counsel to submit written arguments by January 16. Defence



Phoolan Devi surrendered in 1983; joined politics after bail, became Lok Sabha MP

counsel Girish Narain Dubey had appeared before the court on January 6, seeking more time to submit written arguments and was granted 10 more days, PTI reported, quoting Porwal.

The case dates back to February 14, 1981, the day 20 people were killed and six others injured, allegedly by Phoolan Devi's gang. It was alleged that the incident was a fallout of the killing of dacoit Vikram Mallah and the sexual assault on Phoolan Devi. The court is likely to give its verdict on four accused: Poshha, Bhikha, Vishwanath and Shyambabu. While Poshha is still in jail, the others are out on bail.

Another accused, Ram Singh, who was out on bail, died around two years ago. Three others — Man Singh, Ram Ratan and Ashok — are absconding.

Initially, 35 people, including Phoolan Devi, were named as accused in the case. Eight of them were reportedly killed by police in separate encounters. Three others are reportedly absconding.

Two years after the incident, Phoolan Devi surrendered to Madhya Pradesh police in 1983. She joined politics after being released from jail, and became a Lok Sabha member, representing Samajwadi Party.

She was shot dead near her Delhi residence in July 2001. WITH PTI INPUTS

Shirdi bandh today to protest CM remark on Sai Baba birthplace

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 18

A TUSSELE between two towns in Maharashtra, about 270 km apart, over the origins of 19th century spiritual figure Sai Baba has culminated in a bandh being called in the temple town of Shirdi on Sunday.

"While the protest is for tomorrow (Sunday), if a solution is not found we will go in for an indefinite bandh," senior BJP leader and MLA from Shirdi, Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, said on Saturday.

The local MLA, and others from various protesting groups, said the bandh will not affect pilgrims and only business establishments in Shirdi will be asked to down shutters. Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has called a meeting of representatives from both the sides in Mantralaya on Monday to put an end to the controversy.

The conflict between Shirdi in Ahmednagar district and Pathri in Parbhani district has been simmering for quite some time over claims of where Sai Baba was born. While residents of Shirdi claim there is no concrete proof of his origin, people of Pathri claim they have proof that he was born in their town.

The issue first came to prominence in 2017, when President Ram Nath Kovind stated in October 2017 that Sai Baba was born in Pathri. The controversy found further life after Uddhav

EXPLAINED Booming temple town

BESIDES FAITH, many believe it is also an economic tussle. A one-horse town during the 1900s, Shirdi now gets average Rs 35,000 each day, and up to Rs 1 lakh on occasions such as Guru Purnima. Also, increasing offerings made by devotees has increased the kitty of Shirdi Saibaba Sansthan Trust from Rs 200 in 1922, when it was set up to manage the temple, to investments of nearly Rs 2,237 crore in 2018-19.

Thackeray, soon after taking over as CM, promised to allot funds of up to Rs 100 crore for Pathri, which he described as the town where Sai Baba was born. Irked by the CM's statement, locals in Shirdi called for a bandh from Sunday.

Vikhe Patil said: "It is the CM's prerogative on how to allot development fund. However, if the funding to Pathri is being made with the assumption that it is the birthplace of Sai Baba, then it is a problem. There is no proof that Pathri was the place where Sai Baba was born."

Residents of Pathri claim to have 29 pieces of documentary proof to show that Sai Baba was born in their town.

Shabana Azmi hurt in accident

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE,
MUMBAI, JANUARY 18

VETERAN ACTOR Shabana Azmi was injured after her car rammed into a truck on the Mumbai-Pune Expressway on Saturday evening.

Azmi was returning to Mumbai from Pune in a Tata Safari car when her driver overtook the vehicle ahead of him from the left-most lane and crashed into a truck.

Azmi, who was bleeding from the head and face, was rushed to MGM Medical College at Kamothe in Navi Mumbai by other motorists, said Inspector



Shabana Azmi

Vishwajeet Kaigade of Khalapur police station. The driver escaped with a few abrasions. Police said Azmi's husband, lyricist Javed Akhtar, was also traveling in the same direction in another car.

Azmi was admitted to the hospital at 4.45 pm. She underwent CT scans and X-rays of the head, neck and chest, and ultrasonography of the abdomen, said Medical

Operation Sahebrao: Procedure to give tiger prosthetic limb fails due to 'natural reflex'

VIVEK DESHPANDE
NAGPUR, JANUARY 18

AN OPERATION to fix an artificial limb on a tiger failed on Saturday with the big cat easing its foot out of the limb minutes before regaining consciousness. Doctors have claimed that it was the first-ever procedure of its kind across the world.

A team of doctors, led by Peter Giannoudis of the University of Leeds, managed to fix the limb successfully after applying anaesthesia to nine-year-old Sahebrao's front left limb. The limb was amputated in 2012 after gangrene due to injury caused to the tiger by a poacher's trap near Gondmohadi village in Chandrapur district, from where the feline was rescued.

However, Sahebrao's natural



In 2012, Sahebrao's limb was amputated due to injury caused by a poacher's trap

reflex to shrink skeletal muscles — found exclusively in the cat family — came into play minutes before the tiger regained consciousness and the prosthetic

limb was separated, according to Sudhir Babbhulkar, noted orthopaedic surgeon from Nagpur, who has adopted the tiger since 2016 and has been spearheading the campaign with international collaboration.

"We couldn't anticipate the possibility of skeletal muscles shrinking. Sahebrao was about 95 percent out of the anesthetic effect when he suddenly started striking the prosthetic limb on the ground. Cats have the ability to shrink their skeletal muscles to be able to wriggle out of any trap. Sahebrao apparently used that even before he could stand up," Babbhulkar told the media. "But as we had previously stated, the success of the operation always depended heavily on how much Sahebrao was willing to accept the foreign object on his body. Today certainly wasn't the day," he said.

However, Babbhulkar said,

"We would explore another possibility of osseointegration of the limb with the tiger's leg bone in the near future so that he can't shake it off."

Osseointegration involves interlocking between artificial and natural limbs. Giannoudis called it a "learning experience". "It was a very difficult project. We need to pay attention to all details. Natural reaction of the animal is to reject foreign body. It's very much possible in future," he said.

"We had half won the battle in October last year when we had relieved him of neuroma that had set in in his affected limb, causing him excruciating pain. To that extent, Sahebrao is much happier," Babbhulkar said. The prosthetic limb weighing nearly 1.8 kg was manufactured by Nagpur-based Saket Ortho Rehabilitation with inputs from across the world.

Bengal governor seeks minister's apology

Kolkata: West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar on Saturday slammed Education Minister Partha Chatterjee for questioning why he was accompanied by his wife to official events.

Speaking to reporters, Dhankhar said, "The honourable minister is terribly wrong. That's a perverted concept... The CM is a woman. She must learn the sensitive aspects of this. The first lady (his wife) graces occasions when invited... we will appeal to him personally... I am sure he will he will publicly apologise."

On January 15, Chatterjee had said, "I have never seen former Governors Gopal Krishna Gandhi, M K Narayanan and Keshari Nath Tripathi doing this. This goes to show what they want to do here," he had said. ENS

Cricketer, editor, MP — he played many innings

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 18

A CRICKETER to media baron to Member of Parliament, Ashwini Kumar Chopra, a.k.a. Ashwini Minna, played several innings in different fields of his life. On Saturday, he breathed his last at a private hospital in Gurgaon after prolonged illness.

He was 64. Chopra was diagnosed with cancer in 2018. Wife Kiran Chopra and sons, Arjun, Aakash and Aditya survive him.

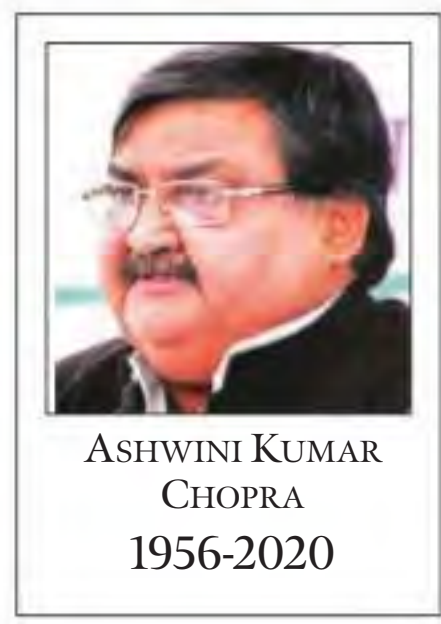
Chopra represented Karnal, Haryana, in Lok Sabha from 2014 to 2019. The BJP had offered to renominate him in 2019 Lok Sabha polls too, but Chopra refused, citing ill-health.

In 2014, his maiden Lok Sabha election, Chopra had de-

feated Congress's Arvind Kumar Sharma by a margin of over 3.6 lakh votes.

Chopra belonged a family of victims of terrorism in Punjab. His grandfather Lala Jagat Narain, former Punjab minister, Member of Parliament and owner of Jalandhar's 'Hind Samachar' group of newspapers, was killed by terrorists in 1981. Not yet 30 then, he soon received another jolt. In 1984, terrorists gunned down his father, Ramesh Chander, in Jalandhar. Chander was editor of the family-owned Hind Samachar group of papers, which also published leading Hindi daily 'Punjab Kesari'.

After graduating from DAV College, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Chopra completed a diploma course in Journalism from Panjab University, Chandigarh.



ASHWINI KUMAR CHOPRA 1956-2020

According to close aides, Chopra wanted to pursue his passion — cricket — as a career, but imposition of Emergency in 1975 changed his life and he joined the family's newspaper business.

After Emergency was lifted in 1977, Chopra went to the United

States to study journalism and worked at the 'San Francisco Chronicle' for a brief while.

Before stepping into full-time journalism, where he also headed 'Punjab Kesari' as its editor-in-chief in New Delhi, Chopra represented Punjab in Ranji Trophy cricket — he played 25 first-class games between 1975 and 1980. A leg-spinner, he had played with the likes of Sunil Gavaskar, Vivian Richards and Bishan Singh Bedi, among other cricketers.

The last rites will be performed at Nigambodh Ghat, New Delhi, on Sunday morning, according to the family.

As a politician, Chopra got into a rift with BJP soon after he was elected an MP in 2014. In the Haryana Assembly polls in October that year, Chopra had reportedly expressed resentment

at not being consulted by the party in ticket distribution in his own constituency. He was reportedly also against Manohar Lal Khattar being made the chief minister.

Chopra, who was known for his front page editorials in 'Punjab Kesari', had reportedly irked the party's leadership for praising the Congress and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra in one editorial.

During Khattar's first tenure, he faced frequent criticism from Chopra over his style of functioning and apparent lack of control on the state's bureaucracy.

Chopra was known for his friendship with politicians across party lines. On Saturday, leaders from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Congress president Sonia Gandhi, and Haryana CM Khattar to Punjab CM Capt

Amarinder Singh and Akali Dal president Sukhbir Badal, among many others, expressed condolences to the bereaved family.

Modi tweeted, "Anguished by the passing away of Shri Ashwini Kumar Chopra ji. He will be remembered for his contribution to the media world. He worked diligently as a public representative and undertook many community welfare initiatives..."

In her condolence message, Sonia said Chopra's long and distinguished innings as an editor, and also as a social worker and MP, will be long remembered. Amarinder tweeted, "...A big void has been created in the field of journalism, which will be difficult to fill..."

Khattar tweeted, "...Your life as an able politician and a successful journalist will continue to guide us all."

DRI seizes Rs 19.67 lakh in FICN, four held

New Delhi: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has busted a racket that was pumping in Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) smuggled in from Bangladesh through Malda in West Bengal to Maharashtra. The agency has recovered a total of Rs 19.67 lakh in FICN in Nagpur and arrested four people. DRI sources said the notes recovered from the accused are of very high quality.

Sources said DRI arrested a man named Lalu Khan in Nagpur on January 13. The agency found Rs 13.67 lakh of fake Rs 2,000 notes from him. Based on his interrogation, the agency arrested three more people, all hailing from Madhya Pradesh. A further recovery of Rs 6 lakh in FICN was made from them. ENS

Gujarat CID to probe Modasa rape-murder case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, JANUARY 18

GUJARAT DGP has set up a Special Investigation team (SIT) and transferred the investigation into the alleged gangrape and murder of a 19-year-old Dalit woman in Modasa to Criminal Investigation Department (CID) - Crime.

DGP Shivanand Jha has also suspended police inspector NK Rabari, who was accused of delaying the registration of complaint by the woman's relatives when she went missing. He was

transferred from Modasa town police station to Isari police station in the district on January 12.

The three-member SIT headed by DIG Gautam Parmar will also probe allegations against police officers of derailing the probe and delaying registration of complaint.

The woman's body was found hanging from a tree in a village of Modasa taluka on January 5, within days after she went missing. The family of the deceased alleged that she was kidnapped, gangraped and murdered. Three out of four accused

persons have been arrested. The fourth accused is still on the run. All the four have been booked under various provisions of the IPC and Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocity) Act.

The FIR, filed on the basis of a complaint by a family member, states that police inspector Rabari had told the family that their daughter had married a man of her community and that he would produce her along with a marriage certificate. However, on January 5, her body was found hanging from a tree.

CBI raids over irregularities in BSF's exam

New Delhi: The CBI conducted searches at various locations in Delhi-NCR on Saturday in connection with a case of alleged irregularities in the BSF constables' recruitment exam.

The searches follow the registration of an FIR by CBI against Ravi Kumar, a resident of Murad Nagar in Ghaziabad, and Patparganj Industrial Area-based C S Datamation Research Services Pvt Ltd, besides unidentified others, sources said.

Sources said the irregularities were related to evaluation of OMR sheets, which led to ineligible candidates being called for medical tests by BSF.

POCSO case: Victim's uncle killed accused, say police

Thiruvananthapuram: An accused in a POCSO case was stabbed to death by uncle of the victim in Malappuram, after the victim was allegedly threatened.

Police said the 58-year-old man was found dead at a farm near his house on Thursday. The probe led to the arrest of his 35-year-old neighbour, the uncle and guardian of the victim.

"He was looking after the girl ever since the father abandoned her. The trial in the POCSO case was slated to begin next month," police said.

"Recently, the accused allegedly threatened the victim. Since the trial is nearing, the accused may have tried to intimidate her," police said.

Father 'molests' minor daughters, held

Malappuram: In a shocker, a 47-year-old man who allegedly sexually abused his four minor daughters for years was arrested at Valancherry here, police said on Saturday. The girls were aged between 10 and 17 years, police said.

The crime came to light after one of the children revealed to her school teachers about the ordeal that she and her sisters had been undergoing at home.

Charred body recovered in Bijnor, police suspect rape

EXPRESS NEW SERVICE
MEERUT, JANUARY 18

BIJNOR POLICE on Friday recovered the charred body of an unidentified woman, tied to a cot, in a mango orchard, 5 km from Bijnor Kotwali police station, on Friday evening.

The woman, in her late 20s, was shot dead before being set ablaze by unidentified assailants, said police, adding that the possibility of rape cannot be ruled out.

"Though she is yet to be identified, it seems that she belonged to a well-to-do family as she was wearing gold earrings and also a gold bangle on her right hand. The body has been sent for post-mortem. We have

also recovered one bullet and one cartridge near the remains of the woman," Ramesh Chand Sharma, in-charge of Bijnor Kotwali police station told *The Sunday Express* over phone.

The police said that the body was spotted on the Gajraula-Shiv Jhalra village link road by a person heading to a tubewell in his mango orchard.

"After being informed, we rushed to the spot and took the body in our possession. It is difficult for us to know whether she was burnt by petrol, diesel or kerosene. It appears that she was raped before being killed, but we cannot say anything with certainty yet. We have sent her details to police stations to see if any missing report has been filed," said Sharma.

HIMACHAL PRADESH IRRIGATION CUM PH DEPARTMENT
e-Procurement Notice
NOTICE INVITING E-PROCUREMENT BID

The Executive Engineer, I&PH Division Sadwan, PSMIP, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, India on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, invites the online Item Rate Contract bids from the eligible Bidders/Firms. Bidders should be registered with Central Govt. or State Govt. or Central Govt. or State Government under takings. The Bidders/Firms who have experience in construction of similar work and have established organization for taking up such work and who satisfy the qualification criteria of bid document need only apply through online bidding system on or before _____ on the site <https://hptenders.gov.in>.

Sr. No.	Description	Estimated Cost	Bid Security	Time	Cost of Form
1.	C/O Phina Singh Medium Irrigation Project in Teh, Nurpur Distt. Kangra H.P. (SH-Pump house cum chowkidar quarter Raising Main Supplying/Erection of Pumping Machinery, Providing Laying & jointing Ductile iron Pipe for distributory D3 from Rd 5150 Main Canal/O-3815 to cover the CCA= 350 Hectare under lifts scheme).	Rs. 4,56,13,840/-	Rs. 4,88,700/-	36 Months (including all season)	Rs. 2500/-

Before submitting the bidder/ firm shall visit the site physically.

- Bid documents and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal <http://hptenders.gov.in>, by the Bidders registered on the website which is free of cost.
- The bids submitted shall be sustainable and responsive to standard norms as stipulated.
- Accordingly, the bidder/firm must make all necessary provision for required qualified resource personnel, their time and other costs, and appropriate engineering/ technical considerations in design, construction, erection, execution, commissioning process; including necessary documentation and inspections.
- Bidding shall be conducted in accordance with "Single Stage Two Envelope" Bidding Procedure. Eligibility Information and Financial Bid should be uploaded online as per procurement method. The bids shall be submitted online electronically only.
- Bid evaluation criteria- Eligible lowest evaluated bidder (L1) shall be considered as a successful bidder. However, the acceptance of the proposal shall rest with the EMPLOYER/Department who does not bind itself to accept the lowest proposal, and reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the proposals received without assigning any reason.
- As the bids are to be submitted online, are required to be encrypted and digitally signed, the bidders are advised to obtain Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from suitable vendors or from any authorized agency at the earliest.
- KEY DATES SHALL BE AS UNDER:-**

a.	Date of Online publication	18.01.2020
b.	Downloading of e-bid Documents	From 18.01.2020 at 5.00 P.M. to 30.01.2020 upto 4.00 P.M.
c.	Date of submission of e-bid	From 18.01.2020 at 5.00 P.M. to 30.01.2020 upto 4.00 P.M.
d.	Date of opening of bids:	31.01.2020 at 11.30 A.M.
e.	1) Cover-1 Eligibility Criteria	31.01.2020 11.30 A.M.
	2) Cover-2 Financial Bid	Shall be intimated separately
e	Pre-Bid Meeting	On 27.01.2020 at 11.00 hrs. IST (GMT) 5.30 hrs. in the Office of Superintending Engineer IPH Circle, Nurpur.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-

- The e-bid documents shall be uploaded online in 2 (two) covers:-
 - Cover -1** shall contain Scanned copies of "Eligibility Information".
 - Cover-2** shall contain "Financial Bid" on the prescribed form
 - Cover-1** shall contain scanned legible copies of following "Eligibility Information" (Scanned legible copies to be uploaded in pdf file).
 - The Bid Security/ Earnest Money amounting to Rs. 4,88,700/- (Rs. Four Lac Eighty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred & Thirty Eight Only) shall be Deposited through e-payment in ICICI Bank authorized by the Govt. of H.P as per online payments gateway on www.hptenders.gov.in. Exemption of Bid Security shall not be allowed.

Or

The bidder may submit bid security through offline mode in shape of Bank guarantee National saving certificate/Fixed Deposit Receipts duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer I&PH Division, Sadwan
 - The cost of bid form as shown above shall be Deposited through e-payment in ICICI Bank authorized by the Govt. of H.P as per online payments gateway on www.hptenders.gov.in. Exemption of cost of bid form shall not be allowed.

Or

The bidder may submit cost of bid through offline mode in shape of demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer, I&PH Division Sadwan
 - Copy of Certificate of registration with I&PH Department or any other state/central Govt. department or Govt Undertakings in appropriate class. The successful bidder should get himself registered in appropriate class with HP I&PH Department before award of work.
 - Copy of Certificate of EPF registration. If not registered then the successful bidder should get registered within one month after acceptance of the bid by the Department/employer.
 - Copy of GST and Income Tax Registration.
 - An Affidavit that the Firm/ Bidder has not ever been black listed by any Government/ Semi-Government/ Board/ Corporation/ Private Organization.
 - Experience in execution of works of similar nature for each of the last Seven years, and detail of work in progress or contractually committed with certificate from the concerned officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent from government department or public sector under taking a list of clients with their contract detail shall also be provided
- (3A). Eligibility criteria shall be as under:-**
- Average annual financial turnover during last 3 years, ending 31 st march of the previous financial year, should be at least 30% of the Estimated Cost.
 - Experience of having successfully completed/ commissioned similar works during last 7 years ending last day of the month previous to the one in which applications are invited should be either of the following:-
 - Three similar completed/commissioned works costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of the Estimated Cost.
 - Two similar completed /commissioned works costing not less than the amount equal to 50% of the Estimated Cost.
 - One similar completed /commissioned work costing not less than the amount equal to 80% of the Estimated Cost.
- B). Definition of "Similar Work" shall be as under:-**
- "Similar work means "Water Related Project" which include at least two of the following components:
 - Headwork/ Percolation Well/Tube Well.
 - Pumping system including all electric and mechanical components.
 - Pre settling tank / desilting tank ..
 - Piping work or water conveyance system/drainage system.
 - Water Storage/retaining structures.
- C). Requirements of the Experience Certificate:-**
- To demonstrate experience of the Similar work as per Eligibility Criteria, the Bidder/Contractor shall submit the certificate of completion/ or commissioning of project/work (completed work should not be less than 90%) as the case may be, issued by an officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer. The tender inviting authority may also ask for the Award letters or related agreements to corroborate the experience certificate submitted by the Bidder/Contractor.
- Joint venture is not allowed.
 - PAN (Permanent Account No.), GST registration and EPF registration (if EPF not registered then before award of work).
 - Work done, Experience Certificates as per qualification criteria.
 - The authorization letter regarding digital signature certificate (DSC) of the person authorized by the registered bidder to upload the bid, be uploaded along with the other documents online.
- Note:** The documents submitted online shall only be considered to evaluate the eligibility on the bidder, therefore bidders are advised to check that all the relevant documents are uploaded on website. Any document / information found false / fabricated during scrutiny or later anytime, the bid is liable to be cancelled immediately. In such case 'Bid Security' shall be forfeited.
- Cover-2 shall contain "Financial Bid" which shall be opened at a later date to be notified separately & shall be opened only of those Bidders /Firms whose documents as per Eligibility Information "Cover-1" will be found in order. The Financial Bids shall contain only Financial Bid /Offer on departmental schedule of quantity/BOQ where bidder /firms shall quote his offer for each item.
 - Rates quoted must be in INR (Indian Rupee) and shall be inclusive of all taxes applicable at the time of opening of bids.
 - The bidder shall not be permitted to bid for the work in the HPIPH Circle (responsible for award and execution of the contract) in which his near relative is posted as Divisional Accountant or as an officer in any capacity between the grades of Superintending Engineer & Assistant Engineer (both Inclusive). He shall also intimate the name of the persons who are working with him in any capacity or are subsequently employed by him who are near relative to any gazetted officer in the I&PH department. Any breach of this condition by the bidder would render him liable to be removed from the approved list of bidders of this department.
 - Bid security of L1, L2 and L3 shall be retained till the finalization of the offer of the lowest bidder or 120 days whichever is earlier.
 - No subletting of work by the bidder is permissible.
 - In case, opening day is a holiday, the bids shall be opened on next working day at the same time.
 - The validity of the bid shall be kept open for 120 days or till the finalization of the offer/ the lowest bidder.
 - Ambiguous/telegraphic/ Conditional bids or bids by Fax/E-mail shall not be entertained/ considered in any case.
 - Conditional bids are liable to be rejected without assigning any reasons.
 - The Executive Engineer, reserves the right to reject/cancel any or all the /bids without assigning any reason(s).
 - Any enquiry regarding bids can be obtained on e-mail of the divisional officer under e-mail address ie.ephinasinghmip@gmail.com
 - Rates should be quoted both in figure as well as in words in Indian Rupee (INR).

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
IPH Division Sadwan PSMIP
Dated:- 18.01.2020

U.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED E-TENDER NOTICE AGAINST SPECN. NO. ESD-

8/148 E-Tenders in Two Parts. Part-I and Part-II valid for six (06) months are invited for Supply of 10 Nos. 420 KV SF-6 Circuit Breakers for 400kV substations as per details given in the following table. Part-I of the bid shall contain Tender Cost and EMD BG as per details given below in acceptable form. Pre-Qualification details, technical & commercial terms and conditions etc. Part-II shall contain price bid only. In case of public holiday on 20.02.2020, the opening date will be on the next working date: - **Sl. No. 1, Item Description** 420 KV SF6 Circuit Breaker (220 V DC Operated), **Qty. (nos.)** 10, **Specn No.** ESD-8/148, **Earnest Money (Rs.)** 1,52,000.00 (Rupees One Lac Fifty Two Thousand Only) [to be submitted on a non-judicial stamp Paper of Rs. 760.00 in favor of SE Electy 765/400KV S/S Design Circle, Lucknow as per Prescribed format given in the bid document], **Schedule Date & Time of Submission** 18.02.2020 16.00 hrs., **Schedule Date & Time of Opening** 20.02.2020 16.00 hrs. **Cost of Tender document including 18% GST charges (Rs.)** 9,440.00 Complete E-tender documents against this Bid specification can be downloaded from e-procurement website U.P. Govt. etender.up.nic.in and tenderer will require to pay a non-refundable fee of Rs. 9,440/- (inclusive of 18% GST) towards cost of E-tender documents through RTGS/ NEFT in "UPPTCL SBI A/C No. 30231982762 (IFSC Code: SBIN0033477)". E-tenders can be submitted only on e-procurement website etender.up.nic.in up to schedule date & time. Tenderer (s) are requested to get themselves registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation so as to obtain digital signatures for participation. The bid of the firm without E-tender document fee, against the purchase of document, and without EMD will not be opened. E-tender document fee will be deposited through RTGS/ NEFT in the UPPTCL account mentioned above and a proof of such deposit e.g. UTR No. Name of Account, Scanned copy of pay-in slip countersigned by the tenderer should be uploaded along with E-tender documents. Earnest money deposit (EMD) will be deposited through RTGS/ NEFT in UPPTCL account mentioned above and a proof of such deposit e.g. UTR No. Name of Account, Scanned copy of pay-in slip countersigned by the tenderer, should be uploaded along with E-tender documents or in the form of Bank Guarantee in favour of Superintending Engineer, Electricity 765/400kV Substation Design Circle, UPPTCL, Lucknow. If EMD is deposited in the form of Bank Guarantee, scanned copy of EMD B.G. alongwith a scanned copy of mail in confirmation of the same from the bank issuing the B.G. will be uploaded with the E-tender document. The original copy of the same bank guarantee will have to be submitted by the bidder to the office of Superintending Engineer, Electricity 765/400kV Substation Design Circle, within 7 (Seven) days of opening of e-tender bid part-I or before opening of e-tender bid part-II, whichever is earlier. In case of non-submission of EMD bank guarantee in original, the part-II of the e-tender submitted by bidder shall not be opened. One copy of tender document including tender fee, EMD B.G. and other commercial papers are required to be submitted in hard copy or through messenger before the date of bid opening. Part-II containing price bid shall be opened separately at a later date and bidders shall be informed accordingly. Undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason. Please visit our web site www.upptcl.org as well as e-procurement website www.etender.up.nic.in for any other corrections/ amendments/ modifications/extensions till the date of submission of tender. **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, ELECTRICITY 765/400KV SUBSTATION DESIGN CIRCLE, 11TH FLOOR, SHAKTI BHAWAN EXTENSION, 14 ASHOK MARG, LUCKNOW-226001.** E-mail: se400sdsc@upptcl.org UPPTCL website - www.upptcl.org E-Procurement website- www.etender.up.nic.in "SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION" सँ - 36 ई. एस. जी.- 8/148/II दिनांक: 18 जनवरी, 2020

Uttar Pradesh Police Technical Services Head Quarter, Lucknow
8th Floor, 4th Tower, Police Headquarter, Amar Shaheed Path, Gomti Nagar Vistar, Lucknow-226002 e-mail: tsqh@up.nic.in

No: TS-05/2019-01/02 Re-e-Tender Notice Dated: January, 16, 2020

Online Re-e-Tenders of the following instrument for Forensic Science Laboratory, Ghaziabad UP is invited by Additional Director General of Police A.T.S. HQ, Lucknow:

Sl. No.	District	Tender No.	Instrument Name	Qty.	EMD (INR)	Tender Cost with 18% GST (INR)	Duration of Work
1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Ghaziabad	TS-05/2019(1)	System for HID (8 Capillary) Accessories	01	2,30,500/-	29,500/-	Conditions Apply
2.	Ghaziabad	TS-05/2019(2)	DNA profiling System for HID (24 Capillary) with accessories	01	3,50,500/-	29,500/-	Conditions Apply

Bid documents are available on the website <http://etender.up.nic.in>, <http://eprocure.gov.in> and <http://uppolice.gov.in> from 23.01.2020 to 07.02.2020 E-Bids can be upload upto at 12:00 noon. Technical bid will opened on 07.02.2020 at 14:00 Hrs.

All information regarding Re-e-Tender are available on website <https://etender.up.nic.in>, <https://eprocure.gov.in> and <https://uppolice.gov.in>

Sd/-
(D.K. Thakur)
Additional Director General of Police
A.T.S. HQ, Lucknow
(Phone: 9454400191)

UPID-147875 DATE- 17.01.2020
WWW.UPGOV.NIC.IN

Government of Maharashtra
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION
AURANGABAD
e-Tender Notice No. 58 of 2019-2020

e-Tender for the following works in 'B-1' form for the 04 (four) works is invited via Online e-Tendering System from company of eligible class by Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Aurangabad (Ph. No. 0240-2331174) on behalf of Public Works Department of Government of Maharashtra. Dates 20/01/2020, time 11:00 to 15/2/2020, time 18.00

All details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Maharashtra e-Tendering portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> on sub portal of Public Works Department also on www.mahapwd.com portal as per online tender schedules.

Sd/-
- Executive Engineer,
Public Works Division, Aurangabad

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
AGRA CIRCLE, P.W.D AGRA
Short Term Notice inviting E-Tender

Letter No. 92/14M-A/C/2019 Date:- 01-01-2020
1. The Superintending Engineer Agra Circle, U.P.P.W.D. on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the percentage rate bids online from the eligible and approved registered Contractors. As The work Comprises of specialized **Road work**, hence contractors bidding for this work must be registered in **Road work** with UP P.W.D. Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 4 of the Instructions to Bidders to qualify for the award of the contract.

Sl. No	District	Name of Work	Estimated cost (Rs. In Lac)	Bid Security (Rs. In Lac)	Cost of Documen (In Rs.)	Times of Completion	Address of Executive Engineer executing the work	Address of Superintending Engineer	Address of Chief Engineer	Category of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Mathura	Repair work of Govardhan road to Bakapur link road in distt. Mathura	45.00	4.25	Rs. 2000.00STC + 300.00TC = 36,000GST = 2336.00	2 Months	Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D., Mathura	Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D., Agra	Chief Engineer, Agra Zone, P.W.D., Agra	Class A, B, C

- Time allowed for completion is including Rainy Season.
- Bid document with detailed terms and conditions will be available online on website <http://etender.up.nic.in> from 20.01.2020 upto 27.01.2020 upto 12:30 Hours. Bids must be submitted online only at e-tendering portal of <http://etender.up.nic.in> on or before 12:30 hours on 27-01-2020. Technical Bid received online will be opened on 28-01-2020 at 12:30 P.M.
- The prospective bidders who do not possess Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) must get the same issued from approved agencies before submission of bids.
- Contractor should Quote their rates without G.S.T. which shall be paid extra as per applicable at the time of payment.
- Labour Cess @ 1.00% will be Deducted from contractors bill at the time of payment.
- The bidders are required to submit Original receipt of Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account as per G.O. No. 742/78-2-2018-42 I.T./2017 T.C., I.T. & Electronics Section-2 Dated- 03-12-2018 follows as:
 - Online Tender Cost towards the cost of bid document (As per Column 6) by Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account (Non Refundable).
 - Online Bid Security (As per Column 5) in favour of designation of Column 8 by Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account.
 - Original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 (Bii) of ITB as per G.O. No. 3070/78-2-2018-42 I.T./2017(22)I.T. and Electronics Section-2 Dated- 03-01-2018

Sd/- (Sanasveer) Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D., Mathura
UPID-147782 DATE 17.01.2020
WWW.UPGOV.NIC.IN
Sd/- (Yogesh Panwar) SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER AGRA CIRCLE PWD, AGRA

कानपुर विद्युत आपूर्ति कम्पनी लिमिटेड 14/71, सिविल लाइन्स "केसा हाउस" कानपुर

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना
अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा मुहरबन्द निविदायें प्रथक-प्रथक दो भागों में प्रतिष्ठित व कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेशन कार्य में दक्ष अनुभवी श्रम विभाग, ई.पी.एफ. कमिश्नर चैन आयाकर प्रमाणपत्र एवं जी.एस.टी. विभाग में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों तथा सरकार द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त संस्थाओं से आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदायें अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा निविदा खुलने की तिथि को 12.00 बजे तक प्राप्त की जायेगी तथा उसी दिन 15:00 बजे से 17:00 बजे तक सार्वजनिक रूप से खोली जायेगी। उक्त तिथि को अवकाश घोषित होने पर निविदायें अगले कार्यदिवस में निश्चय समय पर खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदा धनराशि का भुगतान ऑफ लाइन, एन.ई.एफ.टी./आर.टी.जी.एस. (खाता सं. 628805018266 आई.एफ.एस.सी.- ICIC0006288) के रूप में, केस्को कानपुर के पक्ष में देय होगी। ई-निविदा प्रपत्र निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर दिए गए समय से दो घंटे पूर्व तक वेबसाइट से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रपत्रों के साथ यू.टी.आर. की स्कैनड प्रति अपलोड करना अनिवार्य है। ई-निविदा के प्रथम भाग में धरोहर धनराशि का भुगतान ऑफ लाइन, एफ.डी.आर./बैंक गारन्टी के रूप में स्वीकार किया जायेगा जो कि केस्को कानपुर के नाम पर देय होगी एवं निविदा प्रपत्र के प्रथम भाग में निर्धारित पी.ब्यू.आर. एवं तकनीकी अभिलेख होंगे तथा निविदा के द्वितीय भाग में दरे एवम् व्यवसायिक शर्तें होंगी, बिना धरोहर धनराशि के तथा सशर्त निविदाएं खोली/स्वीकार नहीं की जायेगी। ई-निविदा सं. 23/19-20, विवरण केस्को मुख्यालय एवं इसके प्रशासनिक नियंत्रण में आने वाले निर्माण खण्ड, जानपद खण्ड, भण्डार खण्ड एवं कॉल सेंटर में स्थापित कम्प्यूटरों पर कम्प्यूटर सम्बन्धी समस्त कार्यों हेतु 122 नग कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर, 08 नग सुपरवाइजर एवं 01 आर्टिफिकल इंटेलिजेंस करायें जाने के कार्य हेतु। धरोहर धनराशि (रु.) 200000/-, निविदा धनराशि रु. में (जी.एस.टी. के साथ) 5900/-, ई-निविदा अपलोड करने एवं खोलने की तिथि 17.02.2020 उपरोक्त ई-निविदा की पूर्ण प्रक्रिया केस्को की ई-टेंडरिंग वेबसाइट www.kesco.co.in / <https://etender.up.nic.in> के माध्यम से की जाएगी। तकनीकी योग्यता पूरा न करने वाले निविदादाता के निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा। सामग्री क्रय की मात्रा घट बढ़ सकती है। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के पास बिना कोई कारण बताए किसी एक अथवा समस्त निविदाओं को स्वीकृत/अस्वीकृत करने का पूर्ण अधिकार सुरक्षित होगा। राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाएं, हस्ता./- (मनीष कुमार गुप्ता) अधिशासी अभियन्ता (भण्डार क्रय) संख्या: ST/P-A-11/एस.टी.जी./997/19-20 दिनांक 18/01/2020

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, JATINDER Singh S/o Harjinder Singh R/o BE- 351, Upper 1st Floor Street No-06, Hari Nagar, New Delhi-110064 have changed my name from Jatinder Singh to Jatindera singh for all future purpose 0040527877-1

I, Kethireddy Swetha, W/o Kethireddy Sreedhar Reddy, R/o-224 Salariya-Officer's Enclave, Sector-21, Dwarka New-Delhi-110077, have changed my name, from Kethireddy Swetha to Chittiyala Sweetha. vide Affidavit dated-16/01/2020. 0040527893-2

I,Sandeep Kumar S/o Veer Singh R/o-H.No.220,Surajpur Greater Noida,U.P, have changed my name to Sandeep for all future purposes. 0040528155-2

I,Nishant And Prachi Gaur R/O-13-Ba-Block, Phase-I Ashok-Vihar, Delhi-110052.Changed My Minor Child Name,Aryaman To Aryaman Dixit. 0040528156-2

I,Kapoor Chand Gupta S/O Tara Chand Gupta R/O-64,II-Floor,Vasudha Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034.Changedmy Nameto Kapur Chand Gupta. 0040528164-5

I,Jagat Singh Bhati S/o late Hareram Bhati R/o village-Fazayalpur distt-Gautambudh Nagar declare that Jagat Singh Bhati and Jagat Singh are one of the same person and in future I may be known as Jagat Singh Bhati only. 0040528146-1

I,Bimla Grover w/o Suresh Kumar Resident B-4/23 Paschim Vihar Delhi 110063 have changed my name to Bimal Grover 0040528178-1

I, Anjna Chhabra W/o Late.Anup Kumar Chhabra and D/o Late Chiran Jeev Lal Grover R/o -C-590, Vikasपुरi, New Delhi-110018, Do hereby declare that my father name Chiran Jeev Lal Grover, Chiranjeev Grover and Chiranjiv Lal Grover all are of the one and the same person. 0040528164-2

I, Yashika Paswan,D/o Ashok Paswan R/O-C-87,Z/F,Flat No.2,Paryavaran-Comlex, Saket,Saidul Azaib, South-Delhi, Delhi-110030, declare that the name of mine and my mother has been wrongly written as Yasika/ Yashika and Manju Paswan in my 10th and 12th school certificate.The actual name of mine and my mother are Yashika Paswan and Anjali Paswan respectively. 0040528164-10

I, Vishal S/o Sh.Nand Lal R/o-B-6, Pusppanjali Enclave, Pitam pura Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Vishal Madan. 0040528148-5

I, Vijay Kumar S/o Bhupal Singh Bisht R/o-226 Sector-2 R.K.Puram Delhi-110022.Have Changed My Name To Vijay Kumar Bisht. 0040528147-8

I, Vijay Alagh S/o Harbans Lal R/o-101 (Top-Floor), Pocket-6,Sector-24,Rohini, Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Vijay Kumar Alagh 0040528164-7

I, Vijai Nair S/o-Ramachandran R/o-102 Mahagun-Mosaic Ph-1,Sector-4, Vaishali,Ghaziabad, have change my name to Vijai Ramachandran Nair,for all purposes. 0040528148-9

I, Valsamma Jose, wife of Jose Joseph Kottuvellithara residentof 127-BJ&K Pocket Dilshad Garden, Shahdara, Delhi-110 095have changed my name from Valsamma Jose KottuvellitharaJoseph to Valsamma Jose for all future purpose and will becalled as Valsamma Jose. 0040528118-1

I,Ujjawal Singh S/o Puran Singh R/O U.S.159B Uttavli School Block-VTC Mandawali Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Ujjwal Singh. 0040528107-1

I, Twinkle D/o Shri Rajkumar Jagyal, R/O Flat no-D-75, Devi Dayal Apartment,NearIME Institute, G.T. Road Sahibabad, Ghaziabad U.P.-201005, have changed MyName from Twinkle to SANYA JAGYA for all future purposes. 0040528100-1

I,Suneela Nair W/o-Vijai Ramachandran Nair,R/o-102, Mahagun-Mosaic Ph-1,Sector-4,Vaishali,Ghaziabad,have change my name to Suneela Vijai Nair,for all purposes. 0040528148-10

I, Sonal Charnalia D/o-Joginder Kumar R/O-O-167, Vani-Vihar, Uttam-Nagar, N.Delhi-59have changed my name to Sonal permanently. 0040528156-5

I, Seema, R/O: H.No. 4086, Upper Ground Floor, IP Extn. II, Sainik Colony, Sector-49, Faridabad, Haryana 121001, changed my name to Seema Baghel 0070692597-1

I, Sayeeda Tajwar Hasan W/O-Syed Mohammad Sajid Hasan,H.No-96a, ZakirBagh MaulanaMohammed Ali Jouhar-Marg Delhi-110025.Changed My Name To Tajwar Hasan. 0040528148-2

I, Jyoti W/o Vijay Kumar Bisht R/O-226 Sector-2-R.K.Puram Delhi-110022.Have Changed My Name To Jyoti Bisht. 0040528147-7

I, Nazma W/o Mohammad Ismail R/O-N-80 Gali No-14&15 Brahmapuri Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Nazma Begum. 0040528107-4

I, Jyoti D/o Sant Ram R/O-A-445, Gali-No.10, Mandoli-Extn., Delhi-110093.have changed my name to Jyoti Rani. 0040528156-10

I,Israr Khan S/O Aljaz Khan R/O 174-B J-Extension Laxmi Nagar Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Israr Khan. 0040528095-5

I,Hemender Goyal S/O Ram Avatar Goel R/O-D-12/84,Pkt-12,Sec-8, Rohini,Delhi-85,have changed my name to Hemender Goel. 0040528148-3

I, Ghuni Bai W/o Bhawanideen R/O C-326 GP-Block Pitampura Delhi-34 changed my name to Jamna for all purposes. 0040528147-4

I,Faisal Ahmad S/O Gulzar Ahmed R/O 1st Floor, N-56A, Near Jagat Ram Park, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi- 110092, have changed my name to Faisal Ahmed for all future purposes. 0040528090-1

I,Faheem Ahmad Khan,S/O-Shamim Khan,R/o-E-87/2, 2nd-Floor, Shaheen-Bagh, Abul-Fazal-Enclave-Part-2, Jamia-Nagar,New-Delhi-110025,changed my name,from Faheem Ahmad Khan,to Fahim Ahmad Khan,for all purpose. 0040528175-1

I,Dhruv Goyal S/O-Hemender Goel R/O-D-12/84, Pkt-12, Sect-8,Rohini,Delhi-85,have changed my name to Dhruv Goel. 0040528148-4

I,Bhawani Din S/O Prasad R/O-C-326 GP-Block Pitampura Delhi-34.changed my name to Bhawanideen for all purposes. 0040528147-3

I, Rachana Sikarwar,W/O Mr.Jawahar Singh Tomar R/O-Flat.No.375,Pocket-F, Third-Floor, Sarita-Vihar, New-Delhi-110076,Have Changed My Name To Rachna,For All Purposes. 0040528156-9

I, Prityanka Maharjan, R/O F-9, Vinayak Apartment, Khasra No.762, Main Road Sant Nagar, Burari, Delhi- 84, have changed my name to Prityanka Sharma for all future purposes. 0040528181-1

I, Prachi Verma R/o M-515 Second Floor Orchid Island Sector-51 Gurgaon have changed my minor daughter's name from Anaya Verma to Presha P Verma 0040527988-1

I, Poonam Dhand & Sonia D/o Amrit Lal R/O Samrala, Punjab both are same and one person. 0040528147-1

I, Poonam Devi W/o-Ajay Thakur R/OH.No.03, Kheri-Road, Ward.No.23, Hanuman-Nagar, Faridabad,Haryana-121002,have changed my name to Kamni Devi. 0040528147-5

I,Ms Shagaf Naaz W/o Mohammad Rehan R/O N-1/3 Gali No-15 Brahampurj Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Shagaf Naaz. 0040528107-3

I,Manoj Thakur,S/o Yoganand Thakur R/O-127 Sarai-Kalekhan Hazrat-Nizamuddin,New Delhi-110013,have changed my name to Madhav Thakur,for all purposes. 0040528173-4

I,Manoj Singh S/o Chandra Singh R/o-RZH-820, Street-No.13, Rajnagar,Part-2, Palam, N.Delhi-110077,have changed my surname to Singh 0040528155-3

I, Malka Chaudhry W/o Sabih Ahmad, R/O Flat No. 203,1st Flr, 332, Ashiyana Building, Hauz Khas Village, New Delhi-110016, havechanged my name to Malka Sabih but now finally to Malka Chaudhary for all practical purposes. 0040528163-1

I, Madan Thakur S/o Ganesh Thakur R/O-C-32,Paryavaran Complex, Saket,New Delhi-110030,have changed my name to Mohan Thakur for all future purpose. 0040528155-4

I, Kishan Lal Singhal,S/o Sh. Hardwari Lal,R/o-L-118, Shastri-Nagar, Delhi-110052, have changed my name,from Kishan Lal to Kishan Lal Singhal,for all purposes. 0040528164-9

I, Kanika Batra D/o Kishan Chand Batra W/o Shyam Chopra R/O H.No-B-16A Gali -1,Old D Road, Inderpuri, Sonipat, Haryana -131001 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Aarti for all purposes in future. 0070693477-1

I, Kamal Anand R/O-E-464 Greater Kailash-2 Top-Floor New-Delhi-110048.Changed My Minor Child Name,Bhavika Anand To Bhavika Anand. 0040528156-4

I, Kalpana Tiwari D/o Sh. Ram Ratan Tiwari W/o Dr Vishal Kumar R/O Flat No-1102, A Wing, Maple Leaf Apartment, Raheja Vihar, Near Bombay Scottish School, Chandivali, Powai, Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Maharashtra-400072, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kalpna V Kumar. 0070693479-1

I, Ashok Kumar S/o-Om Dutt R-O Gali.No.5 Wazirabad-Village Delhi-110084,have changed my name to Ashok Kumar Tyagi. 0040528148-7

I, Om Prakash S/o Sh. Munshi Ram R/O B-110, Ramprastha Colony Chander Nagar Ghaziabad U.P. 201011 have changed my name to Om Prakash Sharma for all future purposes. 0040528091-1

I, Aashna Ohri,W/o Madhav Rajpal and D/o Sanjeev Ohri,R/O-E-494 Ground-Floor,Greater-Kailash-2,New Delhi-48,have changed my name to Ashna Ohri Rajpal,for all purposes. 0040528173-1

I,Sharwan Kumar Dewal S/O, Shiv Swaroop R/O C-54 Bhagat Singh Colony New Usmanpur Delhi-53 have changed my name to Shrawan Kumar Dewal for all purposes. 0040528141-1

I,Shaikh Suhail Ahmad Mohamed Maroof Alias Suhail Ahmad Mohammed Maroof Shaikh Alias Shaikh Suhail Ahmad Alias Suhail Ahmed Mohd Maruf Shaikh S/o Mohammad Maroof Hafizullah Shaikh R/O Flat No-606, Laxcon Plaza, Nerul East, plot No-20, 21, Sector-29, Navi Mumbai, Nerul Node-3, Thane, Maharashtra-400706, have changed my name to Suhail Ahmed Mohammed Maroof Shaikh 0070693476-1

I,Salma Siraj D/o Abuhorara Siddique W/o Sirajuddin R/O E-602, Saraswati Apartments, A Bridge For Their Clean Shaven Son January 91 Born., 510" Diploma In Business Administration Cast No Bar Call 9822024493 Call Vijay Singh 9822024493 0050160876-1

I,Ranbir Singh Jakhar S/O Sh. Ratibhan Singh R/O B-1/50A,Sewak Park, Dwarka More,Uttam Nagar,New Delhi-110059 is also known as R.S. Jakhar. Both names are of one & the same person. 0040528095-5

I,Rajinder Kumar Alias Raj Kumar S/o Sh. Ram Nareyan R/O G-8/35, Ground Floor, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110089 have changed my name to Raj Kumar for all purposes. 0040528095-2

I,Rajinder Kumar S/O Sh. Ram Nareyan R/O G-8/35, Ground Floor, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110089 have changed my name to Raj Kumar for all purposes since December 2017. Both names Rajinder Kumar & Raj Kumar are of one & the same person. 0040528095-3

I,Nippun Agarwal S/O,Nishu Aggarwal R/O House No.7, Block-A2, First Floor, Model Town-1, NearJheel, Gtb Nagar, North West Delhi-110009 have changed my name to Nippun Aggarwal for all purposes 0040528175-1

I,Neeru Bala,W/o Anoop Malhotra R/O-H.No.78 Gali.No.4,Model-Town Bahadurgarh Dist. -Jhajjar(Hr) inform that name of mine and my minor daughter wrongly-written as Neeru & Vinee in my minor daughter aged-14years birth certificate.The actual name of mine & my daughter is Neeru Bala & Vibhuti. 0040528198-3

I,Narinder Singh S/o Sh. Gurdev Singh R/O Sindhi Colony Kh.584/9, Gali No.9, H-Block, Swaroop Nagar, Delhi-110042 have changed my name to Narender Singh for all purposes. 0040528129-1

I,Munkesh Kumar S/O-Ghanshyam Prasad Jaiswal R/O-Plot.No-A-13 Block R-3/A Mohan-Garden Delhi-110059.Changed My Name To Mukesh Jaiswal. 0040528147-10

I,Mukesh Kumar S/O, Gian Chand R/o 809, Sector-7 Extension, Gurgaon-122001 have changed my name to Mukesh Kumar Chhabra for all purposes. 0040528099-1

I,Gaurav Aggarwal S/o Late Rakesh Aggarwal R/O G-43, Masjid Moth, Greater Kailash-III, New Delhi-110048 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Ayesha Aggarwal to Ishani Aggarwal for all purposes. 0040528095-1

LOST & FOUND

I, NEERAJ Kumar S/o-Mahendra singh R/o-A-3/318, Amar-colony east-gokulpur Delhi-94have lost my original-certificate class-10th year-61316751 CBSE-Delhi. 0040528173-9

I, PRAVEEN Kumar S/o-Kailash chand R/O-M-171,172 Raghubir-nagar,Delhi-27.have lost my original-certificate class-10th,year-2010 Rollno-8719940 CBSE-Delhi. 0040528173-7

I,Iram Ameer D/o Ameeruddin R/O-B-2,Bhaskar Compound, Abul Fazal Enclave, New Delhi-110025 have lost my original 10th class marksheet, year 1997, Roll No. 6100704 issued from Indian International School Jeddah. If found, please contact above address. 0040528109-1

I, KUNAL GOGIA, S/o Surinder gogia R/O-E-173 Ashok-vihar phase-1 Delhi-52,have lost my original-certificate Class-10th(2004) Rollno-6134392Class-12th (2006) Rollno-6224550 CBSE-Delhi. 0040528173-8

I,Usha Kumari D/o Sh. Akhil Chandra Jha R/O House No.1, Second Floor, Gali No.2, Sarojini Naidu Park, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110031 have lost Agreement to Sell, Affidavit, Receipt, Possession Letter & Will executed on 05-11-2008 by Sh. Charanjit Lal Narang in favour of Rashmi Jain of Property No. 1-C, Sarojini Naidu Park, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110031. Finders may contact at Mobile No. 9871223317. 0040528095-6

MATRIMONIAL

My client, Ashok Kumar Jain S/o Atar Sain Jain and his wife Rite Jain both at R/O 143 2nd floor, Block-F, Ashok Vihar Phase-I Keshav Puram Matro estate Ashok Vihar, Delhi-52 has debarred/dissolved their son Hitesh Jain and his wife Heena Singla from their all movable-immovable properties and severed all relations with them due to their disobedience. If anybody deals with her will do so at his/her own risk, cost and consequences. My clients shall not be responsible for any acts. 0040528095-6

My client, V.K. Chikara S/o M. G. Chikara and Suman Lata Chikara W/o Sh. V. K. Chikara both R/o Flat no.2, Priyadarshin Apartment, A-4, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063, have debarred their son Sahil Chikara from all their movable and immovable properties and severed all relations with them due to their disobedience. If anybody deals with her will do so at his/her own risk, cost and consequences. My clients shall not be responsible for any acts. 0040528095-6

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I,Manoj Barawal S/O, Satyaveer Singh R/O Wz-156 (top Floor), Gali No.2, Sadhnagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045 have changed my name to Manoj Kumar for all purposes. 0040528097-1

I,Jai Bhagwan,S/O Sh. Ramesh Singh R/O-H.No.149, Surya-Nagar Phase-2, Sector-91,Faridabad,Haryana.Have Changed My Name,From Jai Bhagwan To Jai Bhagwan Suhag,For All Purposes. 0040528164-6

I,Shubham Kumar Rajak S/O-Ram Das Rajak R/O.108, Lumshiyap-Nongmensong, East-Khasi Hills,Shillong,Meghalaya,have changed my name to Shubham Kumar Rajak. 0040528173-6

I,Indrawati W/o Balwan Singh R/O-H.No.816/9Village-Chhara Tehsil-Bahadurgarh Dist.Jhajjar(Hr.)Have Changed my name to Indira wati. 0040528147-9

I,Himanshu S/O Dharamveer kaushik R/O-450, Chirag Delhi -new Delhi 110017 Have Changed my name to Himanshu kaushik . 0040528164-1

I,Gurdeep Singh S/O-Mohinder Singh R/O-2055, Outram-Lines, Gtb-Nagar,Delhi-110009.Have Changed My Name To Gurdeep Singh,For All Purposes. 0040528148-6

I,Durgesh Kumar Giri S/O Uday Narayan Giri R/O-A-151/1, Vrindavan Garden, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Up-201005 Have Changed Name Durgesh Giri 0130014416-1

I,Darpreet Singh Alias Darpreet Singh S/O-Hardev Singh R/O-G-20, Wz-23, 1st-Floor, Street-No.4, Harinagar, Delhi-110058,Changed My Name To Darpreet Singh. 0040528173-2

I,Avish R,S/O P S Rajeev R/O.RZ-F2/153A,F2-Block, Gali.No.5, Mahavir-Enclave Palam-Village Delhi-110045 have changed my name to Avish Rajeev. 0040528148-8

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large are informed that my client Shri Yash Dev Kapoor S/o Shri Hans Raj Kapoor R/o H. No. 13177, 1st Floor, Gesta Colony, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi has entered into an Agreement to Sell with Shri Naveen Soni S/o Shri Subhash Soni R/O F-12/10, Model Town, Part I, Delhi for purchase of one Shop R/12 on GI part of property No. 1966/40, Nalwala, Karol Bagh, New Delhi. If any person has any objection regarding the sale of above said property then said party may contact to my client within 15 days after that my client shall not be responsible for that objection. N.C. SHAHI (Advocate) Ch. No. B-11, B.G.S. Block, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to public at large that my client Shri Kunal Rana S/o Sh. Pankaj Rana R/o 136, Panna Palam, Badli Pur Thakran, New Delhi-110028 has agreed to purchase the Plot measuring 550 sq. Yards, Kharsa No. 127, New La Dora, Village Majra, Delhi from Shri. Kavita W/o Late Sh. Manoj Kumar & Deependra both s/o Late Sh. Manoj, free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of said plot, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the undersigned, within Ten days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claim, and the claims if any shall be deemed to have been given up or waived. HINU MAHAJAN (Advocate) 165A, Pocket-J and K, Dilshad Garden, Delhi-56

PUBLIC NOTICE

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL CONCERNED THAT MY CLIENT SMT. PARVATI W/O LATE SURAJ BHAN R/O MASED, PHEM NAGAR UTTAM NAGAR NEW DELHI-110059 HAS SEVERED ALL HER RELATIONS IN ALL RESPECTS WITH HER TWO NO DAUGHTERS IN LAW NAMELY SMT. RENU W/O ANIL AND SMT. POONAM W/O HARBANS LAL DUE TO THE MENTAL & PHYSICAL TORTURE AND MISBEHAVIOUR WITH MY CLIENT BY THESE TWO SINCE LAST MANY YEARS. DUE TO CONTINUOUS TORTURE TO MY CLIENT & DISPUTE OF THESE TWO WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE HUSBANDS, MY CLIENTS HEATH GOT DEGRADED AND HENCE CONSIDERING IT MY CLIENT HAS ALSO BROKEN THE RELATIONSHIP WITH HER FORESAID SONS. DUE TO SUCH REASONS MY CLIENT HAS ALSO DISOWNED & DEBARRED ALL THE FOUR ABOVE FROM ALL HER MOVEABLE & IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES/ ASSETS WHATSOEVER. Smt. HIMANSHU KUMAR (ADVOCATE) 27/3, SECTOR-15, ROHINI DELHI

PUBLIC NOTICE

Know all general public that my client Chander Prakash Khurana, S/o Har Ram, R/O-A-215/7, Ground Floor, Pratik Apartment, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi has debarred his daughter-in-law Neeta Khurana, W/o Late Vijay Prakash Khurana and her children Sahil Khurana & Aashu Khurana, R/O A-42, Manav Apartments, Block-A-3, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi from his all movable & immovable properties and severed all relations from them & only my children namely Ajay Khurana & Shami Khurana shall become the owners of the same. VINET JAIN (Advocate) Ch.No. P-1, Post Office Lane, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

Public Notice

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Public Notice

My client, Ashok Kumar Jain S/o Atar Sain Jain and his wife Rite Jain both at R/O 143 2nd floor, Block-F, Ashok Vihar Phase-I Keshav Puram Matro estate Ashok Vihar, Delhi-52 has debarred/dissolved their son Hitesh Jain and his wife Heena Singla from their all movable-immovable properties and severed all relations with them due to their disobedience. If anybody deals with her will do so at his/her own risk, cost and consequences. My clients shall not be responsible for any acts. 0040528095-6

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, V.K. Chikara S/o M. G. Chikara and Suman Lata Chikara W/o Sh. V. K. Chikara both R/o Flat no.2, Priyadarshin Apartment, A-4, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063, have debarred their son Sahil Chikara from all their movable and immovable properties and severed all relations with them due to their disobedience. If anybody deals with her will do so at his/her own risk, cost and consequences. My clients shall not be responsible for any acts. 0040528095-6

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform the public at large that my client Mr. Karu Ram S/o Sh. Chaga Ram & his wife Mrs. Vinodhini R/o H No- 773, Cal No-15, Lakshmi Colony Part-2, MJPuram Extn., South Delhi-110044, do hereby declare and state that our namely Suniti aged about 25 years and Daighan in Law namely Mrs. Rachna W/o Sh. Sanku from all their movable & immovable properties/ assets due to their ill- behaviour towards and attitude which is prejudicial & detrimental to the reputation of the family of my clients. Anybody dealing with her shall do so at his/her own risk, cost & consequences & my clients will not be responsible for any kind of dealings by any person with their above said son & Daighan in Law in future, in any manner whatsoever. M. ISHTEYAZAHMED (Advocate) Ch. No. 175, Saket Courts, New Delhi-57

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC at large with the fact that Sh. Pradeep Uberoi, S/O Sh. K.K. Uberoi is the owner and in possession of the property bearing Property No. 1300, Block-B, Pocket-U&V, Shalimar Bagh (Delhi-110088) (Property). That original Papers i.e. Allotment Certificate, Possession Letter and NOC documents of the property in favour of Sh. Pradeep Uberoi has been missing somewhere. As per NOC to the effect has already been issued to Crime Branch, Delhi Police vide LR No. 200933/2019 on 18.12.2019. Any person(s) dealing in any way with the said property shall do so at his/her/their own peril as the same shall be considered illegal by null and void. Anybody aware of any such person(s) claiming a right, interest, title based on the above said papers, or being involved in the possession of the same, may please write to contact Sh. Davinder Hora Advocate, at his office/Chamber No. 169, Mansarovar Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054 and on his Mobile No. 9810081063 (davinder@hotmail.com) within 15 days from the publication of this notice. Sd/- DAVINDER HORA ADVOCATE & SOLICITOR EN NO. 884102

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform the public at large that my client Mr. Karu Ram S/o Sh. Chaga Ram & his wife Mrs. Vinodhini R/o H No- 773, Cal No-15, Lakshmi Colony Part-2, MJPuram Extn., South Delhi-110044, do hereby declare and state that our namely Suniti aged about 25 years and Daighan in Law namely Mrs. Rachna W/o Sh. Sanku from all their movable & immovable properties/ assets due to their ill- behaviour towards and attitude which is prejudicial & detrimental to the reputation of the family of my clients. Anybody dealing with her shall do so at his/her own risk, cost & consequences & my clients will not be responsible for any kind of dealings by any person with their above said son & Daighan in Law in future, in any manner whatsoever. M. ISHTEYAZAHMED (Advocate) Ch. No. 175, Saket Courts, New Delhi-57

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Walk-In-Interview on 29/01/2020 at 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Chairman

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify that M/s Jaden Partners is purchasing Basement and Ground Floor of Cottage No. 9A (41/9), West Patel Nagar, New Delhi - 110008. In case anyone has any objection and/or any right, title or interest in the said portions of the property,

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IDEA EXCHANGE

NEWSMAKERS IN THE NEWSROOM

“Internal debate has literally vanished... Last time Congress had a vigorous debate was the historic 1991 budget. Over 350 MPs opposed it, only two backed it, Nathuram Mirdha, Mani Shankar Aiyar”

MANOJ C G: Before your recent book on V K Krishna Menon, you authored a book on Indira Gandhi and P N Haksar. Why are you resurrecting these characters from the past at a time when the Congress should be looking ahead?

Well, they are very consequential personalities, they had a profound influence on the course of Indian history in the '50s, '60s, and because of Krishna Menon, going back to the '30s. Also, Mr P N Haksar (former prime minister Indira Gandhi's principal secretary) and Mr Krishna Menon, and certainly Indira Gandhi, left behind huge amounts of primary material, which are available in the archives and were waiting to be excavated, waiting to be written about. These are very important personalities, very colourful in their own right, very controversial. By no means are they inconsequential people and certainly not forgotten.

MANOJ C G: What can the present Congress learn from the past?

One of the things that struck me was how the Congress parliamentary party would meet. (In one meeting) Mahavir Tyagi gets up in the meeting at Central Hall and tells Pandit Nehru on November 6, 1962, 'Panditji agar ap ye istifa nahin sweekarte hain toh aapko hee jaana padega (If you don't accept the resignation, you will have to go)'... In one of the selected works of Nehru there is a wonderful two-page letter that Tyagi writes to him saying, 'Panditji what are you doing? Why are you making your daughter president of the Congress party?' Nehru sent him a two-page reply. It was an extraordinary exchange... It's remarkable. The parliamentary party meetings were raucous affairs where people were shouting, people were raising all sorts of questions, people were disagreeing with Mr Nehru. It was not as if he was having an easy path within the Congress party. Well, that's one lesson certainly that the Congress party can learn.

We have to revive the culture of internal debate. A difference of opinion does not mean you are against the person. Nehru had his critics, adversaries and opponents, but he did not have enemies. That's what we have to learn both within the party as well as in the overall political environment, which has become very toxic.

MANOJ C G: Why have such frank discussions vanished now?

It has literally vanished... Last time the Congress party had a vigorous debate was when Manmohan Singh presented his budget. It was in July 1991. There was tremendous criticism. Narasimha Rao thought that the best way to defuse the situation was for the MPs to congregate in the Central Hall. Over 350 MPs gathered and everyone berated Manmohan Singh's budget. There were only two people who supported it. One was Nathuram Mirdha, and you will be surprised to know that the second was Mani Shankar Aiyar. For three days, the Congress parliamentary party ripped the budget apart, the historic 1991 budget. At the end of three days, the budget was passed. The only change was that the fertiliser price hike was rolled back; that was the concession that Manmohan Singh had to make. That culture of debate has vanished in not just the Congress party but in all political parties.

MANOJ C G: Is it because of the overbearing presence of the family?

Do you find anyone criticising Mr Modi in his party, or (Naveen) Patnaik in the BJD or anyone talking back to Sukhbir (Badal, president, Shiromani Akali Dal)? If you raise some questions, motives are attributed. If I say something critical of the Congress, the immediate reaction will be that he is headed for the departure lounge, that he is going to join the BJP. Paradoxically, the only party in which the culture of internal debate and discussion is alive is the CPI(M). They have this great culture which none of the mainstream parties do. There is no debate at all in the BSP. At least in the Congress party we have meetings, different points of view. We need to now go back to the internal debates that we had earlier.

ABANTIKA GHOSH: Do you think the Congress is making enough noise about the economy or the Citizenship (Amendment) Act? The mantle of the Opposition seems to have been taken over by university students.

Three years ago, the Congress walked out when the CAB was introduced and debated in the Lok Sabha. But subsequently, our view was crystallised, there was a group formed by the Congress president, of which I was a member. We went to the Northeast and firmed up our position after discussing the issue with our colleagues. It was a firm position. We spoke against the CAB in the

WHY JAIRAM RAMESH



After reflecting on the working relationship between Indira Gandhi and her chief adviser P N Haksar in *Intertwined Lives*, Jairam Ramesh has explored the close relationship between Jawaharlal Nehru and former Union minister V K Krishna Menon in *A Chequered Brilliance* — his seventh book in the past five-and-a-half

years. The former Union minister played a key role in formulating the Congress's strategy and campaigns in previous general elections, and continues to be one of its most prominent leaders. Recently, he challenged the Citizenship (Amendment) Act in the Supreme Court and his plea is set be heard on January 22



“BJP is programmed to be an opposition party, like Congress was programmed to be party of governance. Now, we have to learn to be in the opposition... I am sure this will happen with BJP also, if in power for long

‘Not sure if state resolutions on CAA, NPR can stand scrutiny... Modi can exploit it if Cong linked to protests’

Congress Rajya Sabha MP Jairam Ramesh on why he chose to write about Indira Gandhi and Nehru, and the reason NDA govt's NPR is different from UPA's; says there is no vacancy for Cong president as of now; and warns against the lack of political outreach in Kashmir



Congress leader and former Union minister Jairam Ramesh with Deputy Associate Editor Manoj C G in *The Indian Express* newsroom. Renuka Puri

Lok Sabha and voted against it; we didn't walk out. That's the important thing. We voted against the Bill in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. And we lost, the numbers were against us. Two days after the Bill was gazetted, I filed a petition in the Supreme Court. It's going to be heard on January 22. These are the two things we could do within the confines of the Constitution.

I think the protests you are seeing, it would be wise for the Congress not to be seen to be orchestrating them. These are spontaneous expressions of anger, frustration, fear... I think one should recognise that there is a space for spontaneous protests by ordinary citizens, students and political parties, but on an issue like the CAA there is a dangerous potential for it to be exploited by Mr Modi and Mr Amit Shah — to convert a genuine issue into an issue of communal polarisation. You are already seeing this happen in different parts of the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh. So, we need to be careful, (the reaction) is going to be nuanced.

Also, people are frustrated as things are not moving the way they were claimed to be moving. There is an economic link to it. There is a disenchantment with Mr Modi. As a historian, I always draw a parallel... Indira Gandhi won a two-thirds majority in 1971. But in 1973, things were beginning to unravel with the oil price hike, double-digit inflation etc. It took two-and-a-half years for things to unravel. In the case of Modi 2.0, it has begun to unravel in less than a year, in six-seven months. I think, perhaps, we underestimated the degree of unravelling. Removal of Article 370, the CAA, the NRC, on top of an economy that is literally moribund...

LIZ MATHEW: But why is the Congress not in control of the narrative? It only seems to be reacting to what the government is doing.

The BJP is the party in power, it controls the government's agenda. In a way, it is inevitable for any political party, big or small, to be reacting to what the government in power is doing. Earlier, the people were reacting to what the Congress was doing during its long years in power, and now the people are reacting to what the BJP is doing.

But the (agenda) on the economy is certainly not being set by the government... The Congress has been very much at the forefront, not only here (in Delhi), not just in Parliament, but also in different states. So, I don't see what gives you the idea that the Congress is sleeping on the economy. But certainly, the CAA, NRC, Article 370, these were not issues that the Congress brought up. The BJP brought up these issues, and so we have to react to it.

LIZ MATHEW: But we have how it was when the BJP in the Opposition...

The BJP has been genetically programmed to be an opposition party, like the Congress was genetically programmed to be the party of governance. There is no doubt about it. Now, we have to learn to be in the opposition... If you spoke to any Congress leader, they would say give me a draft. That comes after being a minister for years. So the spontaneity gets lost with being in government for long years. I am sure this is going to happen with the BJP also, if they are going to be in power for a long period. That is the nature of power.

VANDITA MISHRA: Is this the culture of entitlement the Congress has, even when they are not in power?

Any party that remains in power for long will inevitably get a certain sense of entitlement. Any party. Do you think the BJP doesn't have the culture of entitlement? It is obvious, power tends to give you certain conveniences, which you have to make do without when you are not in power. (While out of power) you tend to think more on your feet. You end up being a little more spontaneous. I am beginning to see this (entitlement) in many of my friends in the BJP in their second term.

AAKASH JOSHI: The Chief of Army Staff General Bipin Rawat spoke about the anti-CAA protests. What is your view on his remarks?

...I think there's a Lakshman *rekha* there. Just as politicians should be careful about weighing in on matters of military strategy — this is the great lesson of the 1962 war, that military decisions are military decisions — issues that are political in nature, which go beyond the confines of military matters, are best left to politicians. I don't think Generals should wade into this. But

General Rawat, I am sorry to say, has on more than one occasion expressed his views, which I am sure everybody is entitled to in private, but he has spoken out in public. It gives the impression that the line between what is clearly military and what is political is getting blurred. I hope that doesn't happen. I think Chidambaram said it best — he's wading into issues which are not his core competence.

HARISH DAMODARAN: But it is also true that P Chidambaram was a hawk when it came to issues such as the National Population Register (NPR)? He was very clear that one needs citizenship, that everybody has to be identified.

The NPR was never envisaged as an instrument for determining citizenship. The NPR was envisaged by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, who was reporting to Mr Chidambaram, as an alternative instrument for determining identity... When were your parents born? Who are your parents? What are these (new) questions meant for? Determining citizenship. And, what was the NPR earlier? The NPR was, have you been living in this place for six months, and will you be living here six months later. That was the only purpose of the NPR. Mr Amit Shah's NPR bears no resemblance to Mr Chidambaram's NPR.

MANOJ C G: Both Mamata Banerjee and Pinarayi Vijayan have said that they won't allow NPR in their states. Why aren't Congress governments stopping the exercise?

Well, that's a tricky issue. Citizenship comes under the Central list of the Constitution. It's interesting. When the land acquisition law was passed by Parliament in 2013, Mr (Arun) Jaitley actively encour-

aged states to pass legislation to override the law passed by Parliament. Now, Mr Ravi Shankar Prasad says no state government can pass laws overriding the Parliament law... Strictly speaking, that's not true because, in the last five years, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana have all passed laws overriding the 2013 land acquisition act (LAA). Now the difference is this: LAA is a concurrent subject. Article 254 (2) says that on matters in the concurrent list the state government can pass a resolution... I am not so sure whether state governments saying that we will not implement CAA will stand judicial scrutiny. I know that the Kerala government has passed a resolution but it's a political resolution. Whether it will stand the test of judicial scrutiny, I am not 100 per cent sure.

The NPR is an executive action. You are sending out state government employees to gather the information. Now the state governments can say that we will not depute our officials, teachers, local revenue officials... The state government can say that we will not have NPR in our state. I'm not 100 per cent sure what the legality is... CAA is a clear violation of certain articles of the Constitution. Constitutionally that is very clear. But whether a state Assembly passing a resolution negating CAA will pass constitutional scrutiny, I'm not sure.

MUZAMIL JALEEL: One of the responses of the BJP to the Congress on every issue has been that your party has done the same, whether it is the NRC or revoking Article 370. If the Congress were to come back to power, would you bring back Article 370?

The party's official position is that we stand against the abrogation of Article 370... Also, we were against demonetisation per se but weren't against the GST. We were only against the manner in which it was designed and implemented. Similarly on Article 370, the view of the Congress party was articulated in the working committee as well. The Congress as a party doesn't support the abrogation of Article 370, but individuals can have their views. But once a decision is taken, you go along with it and that's what happened with Article 370. I don't see that as a sign of weakness in a party.

MUZAMIL JALEEL: But what is your view on chief ministers of J&K, and former MPs being kept in jail for the past six months?

It's atrocious. I mean not only have they (the Abdullahs) been CM multiple times, they have also been allies of the BJP. Mr Omar Abdullah was minister of state for commerce, minister of state for external

affairs... Mr AS Dulat (former R&AW chief) has said in his book that Atal Bihari Vajpayee was thinking of offering the vice-presidency to Dr Farooq Abdullah. Mehbooba Mufti was in alliance with this government... They (the BJP) have completely choked and clogged up the political process and, frankly, it's learning by doing. They don't have a game-plan except bludgeoning people into submission.

MUZAMIL JALEEL: So what do you think is going to happen there?

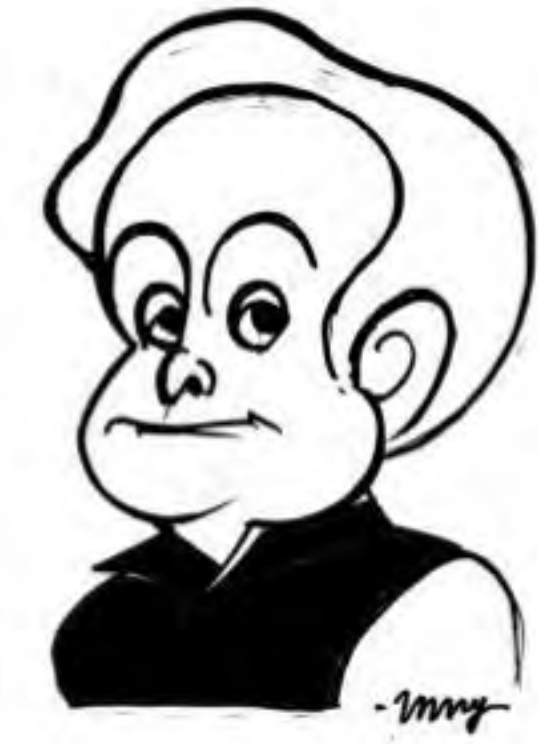
I don't know what's going to happen. I know a lot of my friends, officers who have worked with me, who are going every other day to Jammu as a part of some delegation or the other, and have told me privately that we are doing what a politician should be doing. You don't need a bureaucratic outreach, what you need is a political outreach, which is completely dead.

RAVISH TIWARI: After the general election defeat last year, Rahul Gandhi resigned and since then there has been a churning within the party. Is there a scope of a non-Gandhi ever leading the Congress party?

We work for whoever is the Congress president. Mr Rahul Gandhi resigned on a matter of principle, no doubt about it, and I think that was an admirable stand. I was not part of the process that led to the re-emergence of Mrs Gandhi as the Congress president. I see her as an interim full-time president, and there's no vacancy as of now. People can hope... I am not his (Rahul Gandhi's) conscience keeper or gatekeeper or advisor, and so I am not privy to what he wants or doesn't want. All I know is that he took a decision after the election results, which I think was a very brave. Now I am watching how the Labour Party (in the UK) is dealing with the transition with a great deal of angst... That should answer your question.

MANOJ C G: Are the Gandhis a stumbling block in Congress revival?

No. If you look around the Congress party you will find a large number of people who carry a lot of credibility. But yes, we are not being able to match up to people's expectations. There's a gap between people's expectations from us and our capacity to deliver on those expectations. I think that's very clear. Without getting into individual A or individual B, I think wherever I go, people are asking me when is the Congress going to get its act together. I think India has changed, people's expectations, aspirations have changed... It's a post-'91 India, and I think the sooner we recognise this, the better it is for us.



SUNDAY STORY

‘I told myself, what’s all this? Let me just end my life. Then I saw photos of my *phool jaise bachche* and turned back’

Richard Hadlee talked about it, Virat Kohli briefly mentioned it. Now former medium-pacer Praveen Kumar breaks a big silence, opening up to DEVENDRA PANDEY & SRIRAM VEERA on his fight against depression, and his search for a way back to the game



ON A chilly winter morning in Meerut, a couple of months ago, as the rest of his family slept, Praveen Kumar put on a muffler, took his revolver, got into his car and sped to the highway to Haridwar. It had been eight years since the pacer with a magical swing had last played for India. The anger of being so easily forgotten had given way to creeping emptiness and loneliness, the seconds adding up to insurmountable hours. As he sat in his car on the dark road, the revolver next to him, Kumar says, “I told myself, ‘*Kya hai yeh sab? Bas khatam karte hain* (What’s all this? Let me just end it).’”

Then his eyes fell on the photo he kept in the car, of his smiling children. “I realised I can’t do this to my *phool-jaise bachche* (innocent children), put them through this hell. I turned back.”

Then, the 33-year-old did something unthinkable for sportstars like him, especially cricketers, the length of whose careers depends as much on their image off-field as on it. Kumar dragged himself to therapy. Diagnosed for depression, ‘PK’ — who mixed his guile with the dying art of swing bowling to stump the world’s best batsmen, who was valued by his team mates for his “*mast-maula* (freespirited)” nature — is now on medication.

While rare in India, the private struggle of sportspersons with mental ailments is now coming out in the open. After his international retirement in 1990, New Zealand legend Richard Hadlee talked of having contemplated suicide at the peak of his cricketing career. Recently, Australia’s Glenn Maxwell took a break from the game to recover. His coach Justin Langer spoke about how Maxwell would mask his mental illness by being this overly jovial person. Late last year, prompted by Maxwell’s decision, India captain and mega-star Virat Kohli shared his own vulnerabilities at the end of the 2014 England tour. While a drought of runs had made him feel “like the end of the world”, Kohli said he hadn’t been in a position to admit he “was not feeling great mentally” and so just got on with the game.

■ ■ ■

The signs were already there towards the end of his career, around 2014, when he was dropped from the Indian team and later couldn’t get an IPL contract, Kumar says.

Post retirement, things had escalated. There was no mental rest. The thoughts kept churning. Mostly negative. The churn would tire him out, he wanted it to stop but it wouldn’t. As he retreated into the recesses of his new Meerut home — a faraway world from the glory of cricket stadiums and the glamour of IPL — the despair kept growing. He stopped going out, stayed locked in his room, watching his bowling videos on an endless loop, seeing himself take out Australian cricketer Ricky Ponting or getting the ball to curve away wildly in England.

At times, he would lie through the night staring at the fan. Kumar’s family — wife, son and daughter — suspected something was up but he blocked all queries. One reason, says the bowler, was that he didn’t understand what was happening himself. “*India mein* depression concept *hee kahan hota hai* (Who understands depression in India)? Nobody knows about it and in Meerut, certainly not.”

Once his sessions with the doctor

started, Kumar told him he felt a cloud gathering since he had shifted home to an independent space, away from a large joint family set-up. “I had no one to talk to, felt almost constant *chid-chidapan* (irritation). As a fast bowler, I had to do a lot of thinking (to out-smart batsmen). I told the counsellor I was unable to switch off thoughts.”

The sudden disappearance of fame was one part of it. A deeper vacuum was left by the loss of dressing-room camaraderie, the adrenaline-charged universe, the high of playing in front of huge crowds. Kumar told the doctor that the one thing that would make him feel alive again was returning to the cricket ground.

Like most cricketers, it was the only world PK knew. A lucky few return to their comfort zone through commenting or coaching or administration. It might not come close to what they did before as players but it’s the closest they can get. At least they are in the same universe.

Speaking about this once, one of the game’s greats, Viv Richards, had said, “When you are retired, you are retired for a very, very long time. It’s like being dead to some degree.”

Like other former cricketers, Richards keeps a connect to the game alive — be it as a commentator, coach or administrator. Nadeem Omar, the owner of the PSL (Pakistan Super League) team who got Richards to coach it, spoke to this newspaper once about his involvement still, at the age of 67 years. “Viv is so emotional, we had no clue. He smiles and cries at players’ success or failures.”

Admitting he longs for some cricket work, Kumar says, “I have nothing to do, I want to do something but I just can’t.”

■ ■ ■

The one-time ‘Swing King’, after all, has breathed cricket since he moved to an Uttar Pradesh sports hostel as a boy, living on endless cups of *chai*, and cricket talk. About four years after moving into the hostel, he was picked to play first-class cricket in 2005. Raising hell with his late in-benders delivered from close to the stumps, he was noticed quickly. In 2008, Manoj Prabhakar, who knew a thing or two about swing bowling, described Kumar as a “magician”.

The international call came in 2007 and, for a while, everything went like a dream — whether it was India’s first-ever tri-series final win against Australia in 2008, where he took the wickets of Adam Gilchrist, Ricky Ponting and Michael Clarke, or even 2011, the year Kumar stood out as the most-impressive pacer in the last Test series of his career in England. In between were 68 ODIs and six Tests, with 104 international wickets in all.

During IPL 2009, England batsman Kevin Pietersen walked up to Kumar, his Royal Challengers Bangalore team-mate, at a hotel in South Africa. After sharing a few words with Kumar, Pietersen turned to the journalist who was with Kumar and said, “Tell him please, all he has to do is get fitter, increase his speed by 5 to 10 kmph. He would be absolutely unplayable. Tell him not to fear losing his swing, he won’t. PK, you are a terrific bowler... go for it.”

While pleased, Kumar told the journalist he wasn’t ready for the advice. “If I lose my swing, what is left in my game?”

How good was he? At his best, and if you just take his skill to get that little round thing to curve, he was better than Bhuvneshwar

A lonely game: It’s time to talk

FOR A team sport, cricket can be a lonely game. Professional cricketers routinely go on long international tours that last months. Even on match days, they have to endure long periods of wait — either sitting in the dressing room watching others bat or being on the field without being in the thick of action. In a game where sportsmen are encouraged to ruminate and introspect their every action, retirement comes with its problems. For one, the sudden switching off of the spotlight. Two, post-retirement, cricketers often fail to

shake off their habit to be over-critical in their self-assessment. In Britain, statistics show that Test cricketers are 75 per cent more likely to commit suicide as compared to the rest of the UK’s male population.

Former *Wisden* editor David Frith’s book *Silence of the Heart* deals specifically with cricketers and depression. While the international players’ body, Professional Cricketers’ Association (PCA), has been educating cricketers about the possible risks of depression, in India, it still remains a taboo topic.

EXPLAINED



Praveen Kumar (centre) was at his best during the England tour of 2011; (top) at his home in Meerut. AP/Devendra Pandey

‘WILY PACER WITH SUBTLE WRISTS’

INTERNATIONAL CAREER SPAN: 2007 TO 2012

TESTS	6	WICKETS	27
ODIs	68	WICKETS	77
T20I	10	WICKETS	8

HIGHS

HE WAS India’s most dangerous bowler in the tour of England in 2011, where he snared 15 wickets in three games, including a five-for in Lord’s. No bowler since Kapil Dev had swung the ball as prodigiously as Kumar did in that series, troubling the best of their batsmen like Kevin Pietersen and Alastair Cook

WITH INDIA defending an under-par total of 259 in the second of the best-of-three CB Series final against Australia in Brisbane, he picked the vital scalps of Adam Gilchrist, Ricky Ponting and Michael Clarke with the new ball before coming back to eject Brett

Praveen Kumar, the wiliest of 24-year-olds, was never mastered as the ball swung both ways from his subtle wrists. Eoin Morgan appears to be haunted by him as at Lord’s, he was dispatched for a duck by Kumar and yet again, seemed none too sure how he had been dismissed.”

VIC MARKS, former England bowler and *The Guardian*’s cricket writer, on Kumar’s bowling in the 2011 series

Lee, who is handful with the bat

KUMAR WAS the cornerstone of Uttar Pradesh’s maiden Ranji Trophy triumph in 2006. He picked 41 wickets besides scoring 369 runs, most of those coming as a counter-attacking opening batsman

Kumar. But that doesn’t tell the full story, about Bhuvneshwar constantly evolving, adding more weapons to his arsenal, increasing his pace, replacing Mohammad Shami in the World Cup semi-final and for Tests abroad.

Always known for his quick temper — yanking out stumps at the nets once to threaten a bunch of unruly fans — Kumar, on the other hand, slipped. In 2011, a bout with dengue kept him from the World Cup that India famously won at Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai. The body recovered, Kumar’s career didn’t.

In 2014, Kumar, who had the previous season played for King’s XI Punjab, went unsold at the IPL auction. Says Kumar, “I had been bowling so well. In England, everybody praised me. I was dreaming about a Test career. Suddenly, *gaya sab kuchch* (it was all gone).”

Trying to put a philosophical spin on it, the World Cup-winning pace bowler and now retired Munaf Patel, known for his easy-going approach to the game, had said once, “*Kya hai cricket, bhai?* One injury and it’s all over. Then what do you do? *Apne aap ko sambhaalna aana chahiye* (You must know how to handle yourself).”

Fellow cricketer Rohit Sharma helped Kumar get an IPL deal with Mumbai Indians as replacement for injured pacer Zaheer Khan in 2014. But that uplift was brief, and soon, even coaching work dried up.

Last year, Kumar had the opportunity to get back to his world when he was appointed U-23 bowling coach of Uttar Pradesh but he had to end the stint due to circumstances out of his control. He admits he is “expecting too much”.

It was around then, after he had spent a night tossing and turning, that he headed out that winter morning at 5, ready to end it all.

■ ■ ■

We are sitting at the restaurant Kumar runs on the Meerut-Haridwar Highway, among the city’s most popular. Opened seven years ago, it is mostly let-out for parties and weddings.

Literally a pale version of himself, Kumar has lost 15 kg in his depressive phase. As we talk, he often comes close to tears. But in light with PK’s spirit, the determination pops up every now and then.

The memory of things past also hangs over Kumar’s lavish, well-equipped two-storey home on the outskirts of the city. The Meerut boy misses the friendship of neighbours from where he lived earlier, in a house full of family members — parents and his brother’s family. Besides, people from around kept dropping in for a chat.

Sitting in a living room adorned with his bowling photos and trophies, Kumar mutters how the house feels empty, “*khaali-khaali*”. “How much can one speak to your own family? Since birth, I have been surrounded by people. Someone walking on the road would say hello, *salaam dua ho gayi*. Now, if I have to speak to someone, I have to go to my restaurant. There is no communication at all here,” he says.

In these parts of Uttar Pradesh, often described as the ‘wild, wild west’ for the streak of violence that underlines life, recent news reports about Kumar have been about him chasing a doctor with a rifle, or jostling with a man in his neighbourhood, accompanied by a hint of his alcohol troubles.

Kumar admits he drinks, but says that of-

ten, things are “blown out of proportion”, his image coloured by his on-field brawls. “Mostly my scraps have been about friends, like the case when fans abused Rohit Sharma.”

“Please tell me who doesn’t drink,” Kumar adds. “People have spread this perception, I don’t know why. No one will speak about the good things I have done. I sponsor young children, I have arranged marriages of 10 girls, I help cricketers financially. *India mein bas sab ek hawa banate hain log. Meri hawa galat banayi gayi. Hawa toh hawa hai, ek baar chal gayi toh* one can’t do anything (In India, a perception is created. A perception was created about me too. Once that happens, one can’t do anything).”

Kumar attributes his rough, blunt talking style to Meerut. “That’s how I am, that’s how I have always been. I come from an area where people talk straight. *Seedha aadmi kisko pasand hai* (Who likes a straight-shooting man)?”

As Kumar spills his heart out, he also lets out a secret. Like how he is partially blind, and was even so during his playing days. “I can’t see properly with my right eye. I was hit by a ball while playing junior cricket. I underwent treatment at a Delhi hospital. The doctor said they could do a transplant but could not guarantee return of vision and that things might become worse.” His father decided against the operation.

Kumar continues, “If you have noticed my batting dismissals, I often got bowled by slower balls. It’s because I couldn’t see the ball. I faced the same issue with bouncers. I never had a problem playing length balls.”

Apart from his family, only Rohit Sharma, who remains a friend, knew about his disability.

Kumar holds his performance with the ball, despite this, as a badge of honour. And again expresses his wish to be “kept busy”. “I got the feeling everybody thought PK was retired, not free. Does no one know the Uttar Pradesh Ranji team doesn’t have a bowling coach? I should be with the team and not be sitting here in Meerut.”

He wants to give back to the state, he adds. “UP cricket gave me everything, it’s my home.” Which is why he ignored friends who advised him to look elsewhere, like old teammates Mohammad Kaif and Piyush Chawla. “*Apna maarega, phir bhi chaaon mein daalega. Doosra maarega toh pata nahin kahan faink de* (If our own people hit us, they will at least throw us in the shade. Others can throw me anywhere). I told my friends that I have played all my life in UP, and I want to be the bowling coach of UP. I have the skill and passion to teach youngsters... I can do it,” he says.

He wants to coach for free, Kumar adds. “Money has never been priority. I was lucky to see fame. All I want is to get back to cricket. That’s the only thing I know and love. Some said get into politics, but I can’t handle politics at home, what will I do outside?” he jokes.

As part of his treatment, Kumar makes an effort to go out more, talk to people, attend community functions in and out of Meerut.

And, he feels, he is turning the corner. “I used to fear myself a few months ago, *apne aap sey darr tha*. That’s what bad time does. If someone didn’t answer my call, I would feel terrible, neglected. It killed me inside. Thankfully, that dark phase is behind me. *Koi nahin, PK phir waapis aayega* (Don’t worry, PK will come back).”

12 BIG PICTURE

A JAYENCE WOH bhi... in-shallah (They will come too, inshallah)," says Tara Chand Bhil, 40, referring to his brother and his family who live in Sindh province of Pakistan. A moment later, realising what he just said, he smiles awkwardly. "Bhaijaan is still not used to the language here. We said in-shallah so often in Pakistan," says younger brother Dilip, himself using a term for brother unusual for these parts.

It was only two months ago that Tara Chand and Dilip along with seven other family members arrived from Pakistan, to Anganva Basti in Jodhpur district. The brothers don't want to reveal where they lived in Pakistan, scared for their relatives there; most residents here are from Mirpur Khas or Sanghar district of Sindh. They crossed the border through Wagah, bringing only their clothes with them.

As a settlement of at least 250 migrant Hindu families from Pakistan, most of them Bhil tribals along with Koli community members, Anganva Basti was well known to them. As was the border district of Jodhpur, which has more than 15 such settlements.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, speeding up the process of citizenship for migrants like them, has sent a wave of cheer through the camp—including residents who came here in 2013, to those who arrived 45 days ago. None is as yet an Indian citizen.

In 2016, Jodhpur was among the 16 districts in the country whose collectors were empowered by the Centre to grant Indian citizenship to legal migrants from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities (the same group that CAA covers as well). Union Home Ministry data shows that since then, most citizenships in Rajasthan have been granted in Jodhpur (ahead of Jaipur and Jaisalmer).

Those like Tara Chand and his brother, living in camps in dismal conditions, are now counting on CAA to see them through.

As per Rajasthan Additional Chief Secretary, Home, Rajeeva Swarup, 17,574 non-Muslims and 331 Muslims from Pakistan are staying in the state on Long Term Visas (LTVs) currently.

Chasing papers

Spread over four-odd acres, Anganva Basti is an ad-hoc expanse of row upon row of *kuchcha* shanties, broken by a few *pucca* huts. The tarpaulins on the roofs provide the only colour.

The adjacent hilllock is overrun with the desert's thorn bushes as well as human excreta. The residents defecate in the open as there is no water connection or sewerage system. By evening, it's hard to escape the smell. Hours later, with no power supply, it's difficult to find one's way around.

The residents here hold either LTVs or pilgrim visas, that they took to visit mostly Hardwar and never went back. Intelligence agencies and police keep constant watch, and they are required to pay frequent visits to the Foreigners' Registration Office.

On December 20, nearly 50 of them participated in the BJP's pro-CAA rally in Jaipur. Sadoro Bheel, 53, is among the earliest residents of Anganva, having migrated in 2013. His makeshift home made of stones is located at the centre of the settlement. He came with his wife and four children (now 16, 12, 12 and 9), with the eldest, 19, who works as a driver, choosing to stay back in Sanghar in Pakistan. Sadoro drives a tractor for a local businessman, transporting agricultural produce, earning Rs 8,000 a month. His wife Shabu works as a daily wage, making Rs 200 on best days.

With no gas connection, Shabu cooks on firewood. Their daughter Ganga, 16, goes to a school run by an NGO, while the other three are in government schools. Back in Pakistan, they didn't go to school, Sadoro says.

There are approximately 400 children at the camp, of whom around 300 go to government schools. The rest study in classes held by the NGO at the camp. The nearest government school is 1.5 km away; the nearest health centre around 5 km.

With the Thar Link Express between Bhagat Ki Kothi in Jodhpur and Munabao in Barmer, onward to Karachi in Pakistan, discontinued since India-Pak relations deteriorated after the August 2019 scrapping of Jammu and Kashmir special status, travelling to Pakistan has become difficult.

Sadoro and his wife have not been to Sanghar since coming here, and stay in touch with their eldest son on phone.

Admitting he doesn't know exactly what CAA is, Sadoro says he has heard "it might give us citizenship". Having migrated in 2013, much before the cut-off date of December 31, 2014, mentioned in the Act, Sadoro and family are entitled to speedy citizenship. But others at Anganva too hope to benefit, with residents claiming they had been told that everyone belonging to the six religions listed would get citizenship in five years.

Sadoro brings out the entire sheaf of papers he lugged from Pakistan in a tin case. He says he left, taking a pilgrimage visa, because he often ended up working and not getting paid. Now, the family is staying on an LTV.

"There's so much talk. I don't know what to believe on CAA and what not," Sadoro adds. "But I get worried about the future. I want to make a house... Our stone home is very cold."

Chasing promises

Over the years, both BJP and Congress state governments have vowed to take care of Pakistani Hindu migrants. Just before the 2018 Assembly elections, the BJP government relaxed a rule allowing Pakistani migrants with citizenship to purchase land at concessional rates anywhere in the state. However, again there is little information about this at Anganva, with residents not daring venture into the Jodhpur office with



Residents of Anganva Basti prepare for dinner as the day comes to an end



Of approximately 400 children at Anganva Basti, around 300 go to government schools. The nearest is 1.5 km away

visa restrictions.

The Congress manifesto talked about "holistic development" of Pakistani refugees. With protests against CAA spreading, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has said his Congress government will not implement the Act and that persecuted refugees should be granted citizenship irrespective of religion.

In Rajasthan, the protests, including in Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer and Bikaner, have been largely peaceful. Gehlot and Deputy CM Sachin Pilot were part of one such protest.

Pilot told *The Sunday Express*, "Anybody who feels they are being persecuted, we will stand in their support. We don't want to seg-

regate individuals on the basis of religion... Whatever needs to be done from the government's side will be done."

Says Rajasthan BJP president Satish Poonia, "On principle, all governments thought of granting these migrants citizenship, but they have been staying as refugees, deprived of facilities such as health, education, government schemes... Given the Rajasthan government's stand on CAA, there is fear and insecurity among them."

One of the residents, Jagdish Chouhan, says there is nothing wrong in CAA leaving out Muslim migrants. "Suppose two sides have quarrelled and a third gives one of them refuge. What will happen if both are given

asylum? Once again there will be fighting," reasons the 20-year-old who attended the December 20 BJP rally.

Chouhan says increasing harassment of Hindus caused him, his parents and three brothers to leave Mirpur Khas in Sindh in November 2014. They came on pilgrim visa.

More than four years later, they barely make ends meet stitching shirts and trousers for nearby factories, like most others in Anganva Basti, operating out of a one-room shanty.

Lal Chand, who arrived in 2015 with his uncle as a 16-year-old, says they mostly get shirt orders, earning around Rs 13-15 a piece. A science student, he is preparing to take his



Bhurji shows the government identity card issued to him in Pakistan

CITIZENSHIP: THE NUMBERS

■ In 2016, the Centre empowered district magistrates and state home secretaries of seven states, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Delhi to grant citizenship to minority migrants. The states were selected as their border districts have a large number of persecuted minorities

■ In July last year, MoS, Home, Nityanand Rai told the Lok Sabha that since 2016, 1,310 'minority' migrants (Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi or Christian) had been granted citizenship in Rajasthan by district collectors of Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Jaipur. 1,113 of them were granted citizenship by the Jodhpur collector

■ They were given citizenship either by naturalisation (having spent at least 11 years in India) or by registration (for persons of Indian origin who have been in the country at least seven years)

■ Under citizenship rules, a district collector forwards the application to the state government within 60 days and the latter is required to forward the application to the Home Ministry within 30 days

■ Citizenship (Amendment) Act cuts time limit for migrants who came to India up to December 31, 2014, to become eligible for citizenship by naturalisation to five years. This covers Hindus, Christians, Sikhs, Parsis, Buddhists and Jains from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, leaving out Muslims

■ Mirkan is among the few residents of Anganva to have an Aadhaar card. Proudly showing his copy of the Bhagwad Gita, which is in Sindhi written in Urdu script,

wrapped in a yellow cloth with Islamic art-work, the 70-year-old says it was among the few things he brought with him. For his Aadhaar card, he had to submit identity proofs of his local guarantor. So, he welcomes the citizenship promise, and is scathing in his criticism of the anti-CAA protests.

"Modiji and Amit Shahji are like gods to us for giving us CAA. But look at the protests... If this goes on, India will become Pakistan," says Mirkan, as others around him nod.

Asked about what the law would mean for Muslim migrants like Rohingya, Mirkan says Rohingya are infiltrators and "child-molesters". "We are Hindus who have taken refuge in this country. It's good our wellbeing



Lal Chand, a tailor, arrived in 2015 with his uncle. Working for a nearby factory, he mostly gets shirt orders, earning around Rs 13-15 a piece; a 70-year-old Hindu migrant shows a copy of the Bhagwad Gita, which is in Sindhi written in Urdu script, one of the few things he brought from Pakistan

Class 11 exams through open schooling.

Chand, who too was at the BJP rally, says he misses his parents in Pakistan but is relieved to be in India. Once he has his citizenship, Chand plans to move to Banaskantha in Gujarat, where most of his relatives live since before Partition.

Another resident, who refuses to give his name scared for his relatives back in Pakistan, says he decided to leave after a woman he knew was kidnapped and converted forcibly to Islam.

Mirkan is among the few residents of Anganva to have an Aadhaar card. Proudly showing his copy of the Bhagwad Gita, which is in Sindhi written in Urdu script,

being thought of by the government."

Word is trickling in about Nita Kanwar, 36, who migrated from Pakistan in 2001, winning panchayat elections from Natwara in Tonk district, five months after being granted citizenship.

Arown creates the sunburnt face of Rewo Bheel, 83, as he talks of the change wrought by Partition in his native Tando Alaiyar in Sindh. "First the Sikhs fled, then the Sindhi businessmen. When my family decided to leave for India, our Muslim neighbours said don't worry... We thought we were landless, didn't have any property, what

is the worse that could happen?" says Rewo. Sixty years later, in 2005, Rewo migrated with wife Neyan. Son Goverdhan says they feel increasing persecution following the demolition of Babri Masjid in 1992. "Living in Pakistan is like having a house near the sea. It could sink or be washed away at any moment," Rewo says, sitting outside his one-storey house in Jodhpur's Radha Beel Basti.

Larger than Anganva, the settlement too has around 250 migrant families, with only 50-odd among them citizens. The walls of most houses are semi-pucca, with saffron flags atop. The residents largely work as labourers or dye clothes at home.

Rewo and Neyan got citizenship in

As UP begins enlisting, cheer in a Pilibhit village



Bishuka Bishwas, 35, at the house she shares with her family of six in Ramnagra village. Vishal Srivastava

ASAD REHMAN

ON A rainy Friday afternoon, a group is huddled around a 21-inch TV at a dimly lit tea shop in Ramnagra village, 3 km from the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve. As Virat Kohli scores a boundary against the Australian cricket team, the shop erupts in loud cheers.

That's not the only reason for celebration in Ramnagra these days. With Uttar Pradesh picking this village as among those where refugees would be given citizenship, the group at the stall expects their fortunes to change.

Sarpanch Prashant Sana says that of Ramnagra's population of around 4,500, "1,989" will get citizenship. "We have done a survey. We are feeding the data into an excel sheet, which will be sent to the district administration."

Subal Das, who owns the shop, migrated in 1964 from then East Pakistan with his wife; her jewellery their only possession. Serving tea, Das, now 77, says, "The situation in East Pakistan was not good. We were not safe." His son Sameer, 30, adds, "I was born here. Then, how am I a refugee?"

Sana confirms that most of the refugees in the village are Bengali-speaking, while some are from Punjab. According to District Magistrate Vaibhav Srivastava, a "preliminary survey" has determined where all people who migrated from East Pakistan in the 1970s are settled in the district. "Till now, we have identified around 37,000 people. This number may increase or decrease as it is a preliminary survey," said Srivastava.

The DM says it is going to be a long process. "Documents will be collected, checked. The rules for CAA are being formulated and we will follow them once they are in place."

Anita Roy, 36, who rolls beads in her *kuchcha* house for a living, is among those hoping citizenship will change life at least for her three children, aged between 13 and 16. Roy's name figures in Sana's list. "I have no education, this is the only job I can do. But my children might be able to continue studies. They

had to drop out as I could not afford the fees, now maybe they can get scholarship. Some people told me about this."

Roy, who was born in Ramnagra, says. Living in the same lane as Roy, Shujitra, 51, runs a small general store plus repairs clothes. Praising the Modi government, she says, "We will get our due after more than 50 years. Till now, we could not buy land, get subsidised fertilisers or apply for a loan. It is only because of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit Shah... How long could we live like this in India, where most people are Hindu?"

Madhav Das, 32, whose family also came from then East Pakistan, is helping Sana compile the list into an excel sheet at the local Jan Sewa Kendra where he works. "We have recorded names with Aadhaar numbers, voter ID details, when they came to India, the reason for their migration and if it was due to religious persecution." Das admits that he never thought of asking his own parents their reason for leaving East Pakistan.

Prasanjit, 16, says he only got to know recently that his ancestors came from there. "I always thought we belonged to Bengal... Now they tell me I am a refugee," he says, adding that he does not understand "big words like *nagarika* (citizenship)". The teenager, who claims he was forced to quit school after Class 4 due to "financial issues", now helps his father at the farm where the latter works as a daily wage.

With more than three decades separating them, Prashad Sarkar, 48, a father of three, is as perplexed. "Shouldn't I be Indian if I am born here? I have heard anyone who is born in America is an American. Is it true?"

It also worries him that he "only has Aadhaar and voter ID". "I just hope we can prove we have been here more than 50 years," Sarkar, who also went to school till Class 4, says.

Asked about the anti-CAA protests, Sarkar insists they are "sponsored". "I heard on TV that opposition parties are behind the protests and they are creating misconceptions as they can't take on Modiji."

Sitting at their two-room house, Kajal speaks little about the delay in her wedding. The house these days is full of friends and relatives who have arrived from Pakistan with plans of settling down in India.

Narrating a family lore passed down generations, 63-year-old Gul Chand says, "My great-grandfather migrated to Pakistan long before Partition. There was heavy drought that year in Jaisalmer where we lived and so he moved to Punjab. He couldn't return as he didn't have Rs 5 needed to hire a camel."

Son Sunder Lal says now the lack of livelihood is killing them in Jodhpur. "We try to find menial work. It is difficult to even pay the house rent of Rs 5,500."

What keeps them going, he says, is "the hope that one day we will become citizens". "That is why people here burst firecrackers when CAA was passed".

Chasing dreams

At 4:30 pm, a long line, mostly comprising women, makes its way towards a temple 400-odd metres from Anganva Basti. They are carrying buckets, plastic containers, tin cans, anything to bring water back from a reservoir at the temple.

With dark falling suddenly in winter, they must return early, navigating the rocky terrain and thorn bushes. Among them is an elderly Jaini Devi. Balancing her buckets, she says it is the last time they can relieve themselves for the day.

Along the way, they cross a few public toilets, choked and useless with waste, bearing the mark of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Admitting there are issues, Suresh Kumar Ola, the Jodhpur Municipal Corporation Commissioner, says the Anganva camp area falls under the Jodhpur Development Authority (JDA). "It is their responsibility to develop road, sewerage and other facilities... We will check if the residents have any requirements and make them available. We will also write to the JDA."

Back in a shanty at Anganva, Bhurji, 48, has put his concerns behind for now. The family is not done celebrating the birth of his grandson five days ago.

He and six other family members arrived from Kot Ghulam Muhammad in Pakistan in 2017. His grandson will not face "the loot, robbery and harassment passed by Hindus there", Bhurji says.

Bhurji's son Motilal proudly shows the baby's birth registration form. He has decided to name him "Deepak", Motilal beams. It is on evenings like that that Bhurji, 40, feels the pain most acutely of having left his infant son behind with relatives when he came to India with his wife and five children in 2015. "I was sad but couldn't get a visa for him. How does one get visa for a 15-day-old?" says Bhurji, a daily wage.

In some huts around, low-power solar lamps have lit, mostly to finish stitching assignments. "These can last till midnight if we don't use them in the morning," explains Karanshi.

In some distance away, the two bamboo shoots Tara Chand Bhil has placed parallel to each other, 12 feet apart, are becoming indiscreet. But not to the 40-year-old. "The shoots will form the base of my family's new home," he smiles.

500 km away in Sriganaganagar.

"We will take permission for her to live in Sriganaganagar. We can't fix a marriage date before that," says brother Nawab Chand, who runs a roadside stall of snacks and takes up embroidery work.

Kajal migrated with father Gul Chand, three brothers and their families from Rahimarkhan in Pakistan's Punjab province in 2015. In November, she and seven others of the family almost got deported after the Union Home Ministry sent a letter to the state government, saying Pakistanis had been found living in Nachna village of Jaisalmer, which is a restricted area for foreign nationals.

The members of the family were said to be involved in "suspicious activities", including hawala. After the family threatened to commit suicide if deported, the ministry deferred the notice.

Gul Chand, who was among those served the notice, says they had gone to Jaisalmer looking for work and didn't realise they were breaking a law. "Since the order is only deferred, we live in fear," says son Kishore Das, who taught in a school in Pakistan and now repairs mobile phones for a living.

On the hawala charge, Gul Chand says, "One of our relatives had sent around Rs 2 lakh after selling some of our property in Pakistan. The money was sent through Oman, where the relative lives."

Breaking down, Nawab's wife Parmeshwari says, "Two of my daughters were born in India... Does the government not understand what would happen to us if half our family is sent back to Pakistan?"

The Additional Superintendent of Police, Intelligence, Jodhpur, Kailash Sandhu, says there is status quo in the case. "As per law, foreign nationals cannot go to restricted areas," he adds.

In August 2017, Chandu Bheel, 80, had been deported from a migrant camp in Jodhpur to Pakistan along with nine other Hindu migrants on the same charge, of flouting visa norms and visiting an area off-limit to foreigners. The Rajasthan High Court ordered a stay, but officials claim that by then, the Thar Express with Chandu and others had already entered Pakistan.

Hindu Singh Sodha, president of the Seemant Lok Sangathan, which has been working for the rights of Pakistani Hindu migrants for more than three decades, says, "The Foreigners' Registration Office, Jodhpur, submitted in the court that we sent back 1,165 Pak migrants in 2014-17. Isn't it ironic that on one hand there is talk of sheltering persecuted minorities, and on the other the people who left their belongings to seek refuge in India are being deported?... After return, they face worse harassment."

Sitting at their two-room house, Kajal speaks little about the delay in her wedding. The house these days is full of friends and relatives who have arrived from Pakistan with plans of settling down in India.

Narrating a family lore passed down generations, 63-year-old Gul Chand says, "My great-grandfather migrated to Pakistan long before Partition. There was heavy drought that year in Jaisalmer where we lived and so he moved to Punjab. He couldn't return as he didn't have Rs 5 needed to hire a camel."

Son Sunder Lal says now the lack of livelihood is killing them in Jodhpur. "We try to find menial work. It is difficult to even pay the house rent of Rs 5,500."

What keeps them going, he says, is "the hope that one day we will become citizens". "That is why people here burst firecrackers when CAA was passed".

With dark falling suddenly in winter, they must return early, navigating the rocky terrain and thorn bushes. Among them is an elderly Jaini Devi. Balancing her buckets, she says it is the last time they can relieve themselves for the day.

Along the way, they cross a few public toilets, choked and useless with waste, bearing the mark of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Admitting there are issues, Suresh Kumar Ola, the Jodhpur Municipal Corporation Commissioner, says the Anganva camp area falls under the Jodhpur Development Authority (JDA). "It is their responsibility to develop road, sewerage and other facilities... We will check if the residents have any requirements and make them available. We will also write to the JDA."

Back in a shanty at Anganva, Bhurji, 48, has put his concerns behind for now. The family is not done celebrating the birth of his grandson five days ago.

He and six other family members arrived from Kot Ghulam Muhammad in Pakistan in 2017. His grandson will not face "the loot, robbery and harassment passed by Hindus there", Bhurji says.

Bhurji's son Motilal proudly shows the baby's birth registration form. He has decided to name him "Deepak", Motilal beams. It is on evenings like that that Bhurji, 40, feels the pain most acutely of having left his infant son behind with relatives when he came to India with his wife and five children in 2015. "I was sad but couldn't get a visa for him. How does one get visa for a 15-day-old?" says Bhurji, a daily wage.

In some huts around, low-power solar lamps have lit, mostly to finish stitching assignments. "These can last till midnight if we don't use them in the morning," explains Karanshi.

In some distance away, the two bamboo shoots Tara Chand Bhil has placed parallel to each other, 12 feet apart, are becoming indiscreet. But not to the 40-year-old. "The shoots will form the base of my family's new home," he smiles.

SUNDAY PROFILE

AMULYA PATNAIK

His Police Story

Known for his reserve, inclination to play safe, Amulya Patnaik winds down his term as chief of Delhi Police stained by its crackdown in Jamia and inaction in JNU

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL & SOMYA LAKHANI

PEOPLE WHO have worked with him often say he's a good man, a thorough gentleman... but is he a good leader? No," says a senior IPS officer about Delhi Commissioner of Police Amulya Patnaik, the reticent leader of an 89,000-strong force

Under Patnaik, the force has in recent times come in for strong criticism for its handling of at least two incidents — for allegedly forcing its way into Jamia Millia Islamia on December 15 and its alleged inaction during the violence at Jawaharlal Nehru University on January 5.

On January 31, Patnaik, 60, is set to retire after a three-year tenure which, besides the cloud cast by the recent violence, has been marred by rebellion within the ranks, the most recent being the Tis Hazari clash between lawyers and police early November, which led to a protest by police personnel against the CP.

Patnaik, who did his graduation from Odisha and is an MA in Political Science from Delhi University, is from the 1985 AGMUT cadre of the IPS, and was first posted as Assistant Commissioner of Police (Najafgarh sub-division). For someone who has always shunned the limelight, Patnaik has enjoyed key postings in the Delhi Police — DCP (East), DCP (South), Joint CP (southern range), Joint CP (Crime) and Special CP (Vigilance) — a run his well-wishers attribute to his "integrity and clean image" and his detractors to his "connections". He was posted as Inspector General of the Special Protection Group and in 2003, managed the security of then PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee when he undertook a train journey that year. Patnaik has also served as SSP, Law & Order, Puducherry, and as ADGP of Mizoram.

Despite several attempts by *The Sunday Express*, Patnaik did not agree to participate in an interview for this story.

In 2017, Patnaik was made chief of Delhi Police — an announcement that surprised many since he superseded at least two officers.

Talking about how the "dark horse" pipped others to the top job, a senior IPS officer told *The Sunday Express*, "At that time, Alok Verma, who went on to become CBI Director, was retiring as Delhi CP after a one-year stint. In the running were top officers Dhamendra Kumar and Deepak Mishra, both one batch senior to Patnaik. But Verma lobbied hard for Patnaik, as he didn't get along with Kumar and Mishra."

The officer said Patnaik, who "drowned himself in paperwork and avoided social gatherings", is part of a "strong Odiya circle", one that "possibly influenced the decision (to appoint him to the top job) too".

Those close to Patnaik say that since he took over as CP, the soft-spoken officer has become even more reserved. Patnaik has two children, one of whom teaches at a private university.

A retired senior IPS officer told *The Sunday Express* that after Patnaik was named CP, he

had said that "his real test will be when there is a crisis". His detractors say that going by some of the biggest "tests" during Patnaik's tenure, he hasn't fared too well. Each of these crises over the last three years were followed by calls for his removal and rumours of an imminent transfer, but he proved a doughty survivor, which his supporters attribute to his "distinguished service record".

DGP (Arunachal Pradesh), R P Upadhyaya, who worked with Patnaik when he was Special CP (Crime), says, "We handled all the crises situations in a tactful manner. Patnaik sir always guided and motivated us."

He is also credited with launching "Pratidhi", a counselling programme for victims of traumatic crimes, in 1995.

Retired JCP Alok Kumar, who was his junior in the Vigilance and Crime units, says, "He was a meticulous officer who gave time to his colleagues to discuss important issues, and remained calm in situations of crisis."

As police chief, however, his unflappability came in for test on several occasions. On November 5, the unthinkable happened — hundreds of police personnel and their families protested against Patnaik outside the Delhi Police's old headquarters at ITO, some even raising slogans when he addressed them. Their allegation: that the CP had failed to stand by them after lawyers beat up over 20 police personnel and manhandled senior

officers at the Tis Hazari Court.

Many senior officers say the outburst was not a one-off incident, that it was the result of pent-up frustration against the chief for allegedly not standing up for his force.

"When the court gave immunity to the lawyers, we expected our leader to fight for us... It would have been okay if he had fought and lost, but at least he would have fought," says a senior IPS officer.

They also talk about his propensity for "unfair dismissals and hasty transfers" of officials — from the Mukherjee Nagar incident last July, where a clash between a tempo driver and a police team resulted in the dismissal of lower-level staff, to the transfer of a Special CP-rank officer to Delhi Prisons after the incident of

On November 5, the unthinkable happened — hundreds of police personnel and their families protested against Patnaik outside the Delhi Police's old headquarters at ITO, some even raising slogans when he addressed them



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

vandalisation of a temple in Old Delhi led to a communal flare-up the same month. More recently, after the Tis Hazari incident, Additional DCP Harendra Singh and Sanjay Singh, Special CP, Law and Order (Northern Zone), were transferred.

A senior IPS officer says, "In many cases, the personnel don't even get a chance to explain themselves. The image within the force is that dismissals and transfers are done to please the government."

After taking charge, whenever Patnaik has found himself in a spot, he has turned to some of his "trusted officers". But as some of them retired or got transferred, he seemed to be losing grip.

"After the retirement of a JCP-rank officer from the Crime Branch, he appointed two Additional CPs. But as the recent spate of chain snatchings and muggings in the Capital revealed, the performance of the Crime Branch wasn't up to mark. That was one instance when Patnaik turned to the Special Cell, a specialised anti-terror wing, to arrest petty thieves and robbers. What does this tell you about the chief of a force?," asks a senior police officer.

The CP's insistence that Joint CP- and Special CP-rank officers be present at key crime spots has not gone down too well either. Says a Joint CP, "We have a supervisory role. He wants us to be field officers but that's the job of DCPs. There is less faith in DCPs... The

responsibility has shifted to the seniors and, in fact, we have to ask the headquarters even before holding a press conference. We also have to go through press releases."

But it's the JNU incident that has been the most damaging for Patnaik. As his police force came in for severe criticism for not acting while masked goons wreaked havoc inside the campus on January 5, Patnaik was in Odisha, his hometown, on a two-day break.

By the time he returned the next morning, the damage had been done. Disturbing visuals of bloodied faces of students had flooded social media within minutes.

Over 12 days after the incident, no arrests have been made, and a hasty press conference by senior police officers, blaming Left-affiliated students for the violence, raised many questions. A senior IPS officer said, "The Delhi Police is undergoing a media policy paralysis. There was no need for such an under-prepared press conference."

About zero arrests in the JNU case, the officer says it cemented the impression that the force was being run by the government. "Of course, in the past too, the Home Ministry of different governments would have exerted some unreasonable pressure on the Delhi Police but this time, we have truly ceded. The next CP will have to undo a lot of damage done already. We are leaderless," he says.

TAKE 5

FACES ON THE FRINGES OF NEWS

SUMIT AGRAWAL, NATIONAL SECY, THE CONFEDERATION OF ALL INDIA TRADERS (CAIT)

'My business has gone down by 40% in 6 months'

Citing losses in their business, traders across "300 cities" have been protesting against e-commerce retailers Amazon and Flipkart for offering deep discounts to customers. CAIT, which represents 70 million brick-and-mortar retailers, has been leading the protests



'Government woke up late, but better late than never.' Express

1 What business are you into? I have a mobile and electronics business in Karol Bagh.

2 Why are you protesting? Retailers such as Amazon and Flipkart offer steep discounts because of which many of our customers have shifted online. With their deep pockets and foreign funding, they can finance such discounts. Also, brands such as OnePlus, Realme, Samsung have exclusive tie-ups with these firms. They are violating e-commerce rules. They are meant to connect the customers with the sellers, not control inventories, have exclusive arrangements with brands, sell their private labels and give special treatment to some major brands.

3 How much loss have you incurred? In the last six months my business has gone down by around 40 per cent, though I have been incurring losses for years. During the festive season, from September to November 2019, Amazon and Flipkart had particularly aggressive campaigns. The worst affected is the mobile and electronics business. Around 50,000 such retailers have shut shop across India.

4 Have you reached out to the government? We filed a petition at the Competition Commission of India. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal is with us. He even snubbed Amazon recently. However, it is unfortunate that the government woke up so late. We reached out to them in 2018. But better late than never.

5 Amazon Chief has said that the firm will invest \$1 billion in digitising Small and Medium Businesses in India... This offer shows that they are trying to cover up for the past and future losses. They stand exposed.

ANANYA TIWARI

Mountain of a Kapala hill

A dispute over a proposed Jesus statue in a Karnataka village has Hindus rallying around their Christian neighbours. "Why listen to outsiders," they ask

AMRITA DUTTA

"SOME OUTSIDERS come and say they don't want a Jesus statue to come up. But we are Hindus and we say we want it," says Chikkaswami, as he sits on the steps of the Holy Rosary Church in Harobele village in Ramanagara district. "Their leader comes from Mangalore. He is Tulu. He doesn't even know how to speak proper Kannada and gives a speech no one here even understands. Why should we listen to him? Next time, if they create problems, we Hindus will go and rally against them. If they get 5,000 people, we will get 55,000," scoffs the 60-year-old silk farmer, as other farmers join in agreement.

Three days after RSS leader Kalladka Prabhakar Bhat led a rally in the nearby Kanakapura town against a proposal to construct a 114-ft statue of Jesus Christ at Kapala Betta, the hill that overlooks this picturesque

village, there is both bewilderment and anger at the disruption of a way of life, which, by some accounts, is centuries old.

"We have a history of around 400 years of Christianity. The first church came up in Arrobele (as Harobele was called then) in 1662," says Chinnaraj, an advocate from the village, quoting from *Kanakapura Suttamuttaninalli Khraista Dharmada Ugama* (The Birth of Christianity in Kanakapura and Surrounding Areas), a book written by I Antappa, a priest who has researched Christianity in Karnataka.

Harobele is a tiny Christian-majority village, with about 3,500 members, surrounded by a cluster of villages, where mostly Hindus live. "A Jesuit priest, Father Leonard Cinnami, came here in the 17th century and set up the church. He was working under the aegis of the Mysore Mission. He and his fellow priests drew people to the religion... People have been living in this faith for generations now — very amicably with people from other religions,"



Vokkaliga farmers Chikkaswami (right) and Devaraj support the statue. Amrita Dutta

says Father Chinappa, the parish priest. "Every Friday, you will find people of all religions on top of the hill. If they have had a good silk-worm yield, they go and put a garland there. If their illness or ill-fortunes have been reduced by praying there, they make offerings."

The dispute arose a day after Christmas, when D K Shivakumar, seven-time Congress MLA of Kanakapura, handed over a cheque of Rs 10.8 lakh to the Harobele Kapala Betta Avibruddhi Trust as his contribution for the statue. "It is wrong to say that he is funding the statue. For that, we are mobilising funds from the village. We just went to him for a contribution," says Chinnaraj.

Organisations affiliated to the Sangh Pari-

var have since accused the Congress leader of "appeasement" and alleged that by sponsoring the statue, he was supporting "large-scale conversions" by Christian missionaries. They also allege the statue is being planned at the site of a Munishwara (Shiva) temple on top of the hill. "There is great fear among the Hindus there... How can a small minority, some 800 Christian families, be allowed to build such a massive statue on our hill?" says Jagannath, the BJP general secretary of Kanakapura.

"If we were trying to convert people, would the people of the area have kept quiet?" counters Father Chinappa. It is a view echoed through the village. "Show me one Hindu from this area who has complained to them.

These are all lies. This is just political targeting of DKS," says Chikkathimaiah, a gram panchayat member who is also a Vokkaliga Hindu.

Kanakapura is considered an electoral bastion of D K Shivakumar and his brother D K Suresh, who is the MP of Bangalore Rural. The RSS has had a negligible presence here.

Chikkaswami, who lives in the adjacent Krishnaidoddu village, is among the Hindus who dispute that the Kapala Betta is the site of a temple. "The Munishwara betta is different. It is 8 km away. For generations, from the time of my father and grandfather, we have known this as Jesu Betta (the hill of Jesus). I was a child, grazing our animals on the hill, and the *silve* (cross) was there even then."

Before this wrangle pitched it to headlines, Harobele's fame came from its annual Easter festival, held in great reverence by Catholics of the state, as well as people from other faiths. The Kapala Betta is at the centre of that pageant. "On Good Friday, thousands of people go up the hill, following the Way of the Cross," says Father Chinappa. Along the way, they cross 14 stations, representing the steps on the way to Christ's resurrection — "how he was punished, judged, and crucified". This is followed by a 'Passion Play' held on the church premises, directed by local residents. "Of course Hindu children also take part. All children love to dance, *ma!*" says Maria, a former English teacher at RC Vidya Sansthe, a Kannada-medium school run on the church premises.

"Records show that this Easter celebration has been going on from at least 1906," says Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Bangalore Peter Machado, who recently met Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa. "My request is that

the government does not take a narrow political view of the matter. The Constitution is inspired by the tenets of all religions," he says.

According to members of the trust in charge of building the statue, the first request for land was made to the state government in 2001. While there was no response then, the plan to build a large statue was revived in 2016, given the increasing popularity of the shrine. "On February 26, 2018, the state government granted 10 acres of grazing land on the hill for the statue. It is within the government's power to convert such land," says Chinnaraj. He denies that the government has sent any notice to stop the construction of the statue.

For now, though, the hill is watched over by CCTV cameras, as villagers rally around the shrine. "Are these outsiders that they can't get land for their statue? Are they not from Karnataka? Was the Mysore Maharaja wrong in letting the famous Philomena church come up?" asks K C Devaraj, 60, a Vokkaliga farmer.

While Archbishop Machado asserts that he has faith in the Chief Minister to do the right thing, there is a worry that this might be the RSS's opening gambit in the area. "This is how they started in Baba Budangiri," says a resident, referring to the shrine in Chikmagalur. Worshipped by Hindus and Muslims alike, the Bajrang Dal led an agitation to turn it into an exclusively Hindu shrine in the late 1990s.

"If there had been a temple here, we would have given up. But truth should prevail. The government should be prudent. Just because it is not a Hindu issue, they should not act in haste. Just because we are Christians, people cannot tell us, 'Go to Vatican'," says Chinnaraj, echoing many others in Harobele.



16 Books



(Above) Hari Dang and his team, with Mrigthuni in the background (Suman Dubey); and Dang at Jaonli Base Camp

Because It’s There

Hari Dang’s book, published posthumously, rings with his extraordinary love for the Himalayas

SUDHIR SAHI

BETTER LATE than never! Those who were familiar with his affection for and affliction by the high mountains would not be surprised by Hari Dang’s mammoth Himalayan legacy (plus colour photographs), now published more than half a century after it was written, by his sons Himraj and Rupin Dang. It’s like a second coming.

One remembers Hari Dang’s response to the call of the Himalayas, the “familiar fortissimo of departure for the high mountains, recalling only the separate notes as part of one bar; the shrieking crescendos of the brain-fever bird, the blossom of laburnum and jacaranda splashing gold and violet against the blue vacancy of the sky; the house overflowing with crates and canisters, Holdie’s dogs...”

If memory doesn’t fail me, my introduction to these delights dates to February 1959, in my first term at the Doon School when Hari Dang, freshly taken on board by headmaster John Martyn, mentored our tutorial group. One cold winter weekend, our spirits soared as ‘Holdie’ (popular schoolmaster RL Holdsworth) and Hari rushed us before the crack of dawn to Khara, the Jamuna logging camp and one of the mightiest mahaseer runs.

Forever responsive to nature’s evolving moods, Hari renders them effortlessly: “The sudden elevation to the spring snowline left us in no doubt why we climbed each summer: for here a man’s warmth might do him some good, his vigour bring him some return other than frustration.” Or, on Nanda Devi: “Return to camp was jubilant, as the Sherpas serenaded the camp with their flutes, and smoke from the fragrant juniper fires rose against the mountain — blue without a cloud.



HIMALAYAN RAPTURE
HARI DANG
Published by Himraj Dang, Rupin Dang
327 pages , ₹ 750

Scraggy vegetation marched up the valley, and a lone splash of gaudy magenta marked a flowering rhododendron bush on a sun-washed ledge, incredibly remote from the proximate world of villages below it.”

And then, “Mountaineers are somewhat like the archetypal seeker for they, too, rise on clouds of effort, if not of thought, and see the world below as sensible and harmonious. But they can and do go back, till the walls become too high, and close again, and shut out the view from the mountains. Happily, this road to the mountains is eminently both ways, and the traffic on it unrestricted.”

What a litany of climbs is recounted in the first chapters — Bandarpunch, Chiring We, Nanda Devi, Everest, Jaonli and Black Peak, and trekking excursions with friends and pupils besides. In the course of Hari Dang’s



visits to the mountains, he grew “into the mountaineering tradition when the golden age of mountaineering had passed its zenith in the European Alps and was in its heyday in the Himalaya.” And now, that age has given way to the reality of unsustainable visitor footprint — the Neverest dilemma.

In February 1965, the hiking club of St Stephen’s bade godspeed to the third Indian Everest expedition, which became the first to reach the summit. Our guests included “Guru” (much-loved and respected schoolmaster Gurdial Singh), modest supremo of many accomplishments at Doon, who characteristically stepped aside within reach of the summit “to give a younger man the chance,” having earlier declined to lead the expedition, preferring the challenges of the route to the “dreary desert sands of admin-

istration”.

By then, mountaineering in India had already suffered the loss of Nandu Jayal (the “Marco Polo of Indian mountaineering”) in 1958 on Cho Oyu, and John Dias had succumbed to cancer soon after leading the second Indian Everest Expedition in 1962. The 1962 expedition and John Dias’s uncommon leadership is recounted in great detail in this book.

This year’s summit queue photo, showing a line of climbers waiting for their turn on the Everest summit, is now the commonplace story of the Third Pole, as Everest is sometimes known. The mystique is gone and for novelty, we must wait for someone to climb it upside down or, better still, reduce the traffic jam by streaking up the Lho-la, the lowest point on the West Ridge, gain the route of the 1963 American expedition of Tom Hornbein and Willi Unsoeld, and exit the top via the North Col to complete the Everest traverse... and no baggage, ensuring breezy walk-through formalities at Thyangboche and Rongbuk!

What options remain? In Ladakh, there is a case for sustainable tourism as a response to climate change. India’s northernmost region forms a substantial part of the drainage basin of the Indus, with mountain tributaries including the Zaskar, Nubra and Shyok. The Great Himalayan Range forms its broad southern perimeter while the Karakoram is the predominant feature to its north. The land is littered with signs of the ethnocultural cauldron that it once was, from the very earliest migrations and the arrival of Buddhism. With a tempered visitor footprint and an equitable local share in the gains from sustainable tourism, Ladakh could be a model worth emulating. Hari Dang would have loved to see that happen.

Sahi is an international tourism consultant

CHAPTER 1, LINE 1

The Himalayas: the highest and loveliest mountains in the world ! To us they were a dream unattainable, and therefore always to remain a dream and then an expedition was agreed on and equipped and we were asked to take part in it.

— *Annapurna* (1951), Maurice Herzog

Of Gandhian Frames

How Bollywood engages with romance and what Gandhism has to do with it



A still from the 1957-film *Naya Daur*

SHALINI LANGER

HOWEVER hard it may remain to capture him, from Dandi to Howdy, it’s hard to escape Mahatma Gandhi. Journalist Sanjay Suri’s *A Gandhian Affair* acknowledges this timing upfront, calling the book “a history of India through the preoccupations of its cinema under the spell of the Mahatma”, to mark his 150th anniversary last year.

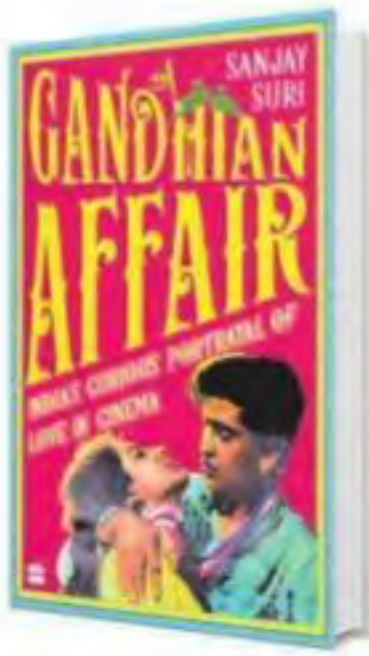
It’s an interesting premise, and what better prism than Bollywood to render reality into any colour you want it to be? It’s not the first instance of the world’s largest film industry’s movies or songs being analysed to reflect the times they belonged to. Suri looks hard and long, and eventually harder and longer, to decipher Gandhi in them.

In the immediate years after Independence, this is an easy sell, with Bollywood’s protagonists invariably poor, morally upright, and consciously sacrificial — vowing off both wealth and sex, as Suri underlines. But as the years pass, the argument is stretched thin and frays, even over the book’s slim length of 200-odd pages — a fact Suri too seems to realise, rushing through what he calls the “Mahatma-to-Mannohan (as in Singh, not Desai)” transition.

Suri builds his case laboriously, sometimes marking the evolution of Bollywood in decades, sometimes in heroes, sometimes in songs, sometimes in politics, but more or less coming back repeatedly to its treatment of wealth and sex. As Suri observes, rather sharply, the films on which Gandhi loomed the largest, given their proximity to 1947, are more concerned with his moral message than his political message. Hence, the disdain for money and intimacy. Films like *Naya Daur*, in their conflict of the machine in the form of the bus versus the human factor in the form of the tonga, explore the Nehru vs Gandhi dichotomy on the question of the economic path the country should take.

It’s only with the 1970s and the emergence of Amitabh Bachchan’s angry young man, Suri argues, that Bollywood engages with Gandhi at a more political level — interpreting that even he justified violence over tolerating injustice. After the forgettable 1980s, come the 1990s, and Shah Rukh Khan. Here, by now comfortable with wealth and even some amount of sex and desire, Bollywood clutches Gandhi by reiterating the hero’s intrinsic “Indianness”, especially if he happens to be an NRI.

It’s when he is not trying to justify the ti-



A GANDHIAN AFFAIR: INDIA’S CURIOUS PORTRAYAL OF LOVE IN CINEMA
SANJAY SURI
HarperCollins India
256 pages, ₹ 499

tle of the book that Suri makes his most acute points: about how India has never really cared for its abject poor but made heroes out of those who “give up” wealth to embrace poverty; about nothing announcing “worse than average poverty” as an unshaven look; about Bollywood producing “the most accident-prone heroes”, “the largest number of orphans”, rich-poor swaps and bathrooms with unlatched doors; about its heroes often being more “forward”, but ending up being around only to show up the heroism of the men in giving them up; about Guru Dutt being both “personification of idealised defeat and defeated ideals”; and about Bollywood finding its way around censors through songs and their risqué lyrics.

Of the last, while a description of Geeta Bali’s ensemble as “concentric circles from the pinnacle of her blouse carry the print, and the point, of her seductive sexuality” demands a quick search through Google images (Suri is bang on), another elaboration, “The hero preserves his resistance to wealth like a hymen” may have you wincing.

Any which way, you are guaranteed never to see many of your beloved songs the same way ever again. Or to forget that if on one side was Gandhi, on the other, in many of these films, stood Pran. His villainous run lasted approximately from 1942 to 1991. Some would argue Gandhi died long before.

LOOKOUT NOTICE

HIGHLANDER’S PLAIN SPEAK

by Taradatt (Gyan Publishing House): An IAS officer of the 1983 batch, Taradatt presents an account of his 33 years in service. He states that this is not his autobiography but the first pages are, perhaps, the most interesting. He recounts his childhood in a remote hamlet in Pithoragarh, where he was born to poorly educated parents, and his expedition to Varanasi in search of work, with only a matriculation certificate — he had learned of the examination at the last moment, while cutting grass, and had run about 15 km to catch a bus to sit for it.

Despite that slender beginning, Taradatt earned a PhD from BHU and entered the steel frame in Jeypore, Koraput, in what he discovered was regarded as a punishment posting. He rose in the state administration, worked for the centre, and retired from Odisha’s apex training institute for IAS officers. It is a remarkable account — administrators usually focus on the high points of their careers and their relations with those in high places. Few depict the reality of life in the field, fewer still have the confidence to tell us clearly where they came from.

Where the Line Dips

Anthony Atkinson’s final book is a competent account of the metrics of poverty, why they matter

UDIT MISRA

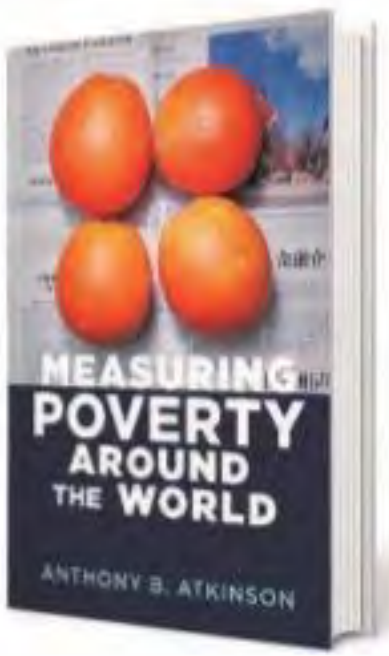
WHAT IS the crying need for the average well-off Indian to bother — or read — about how to “measure” poverty. After all, poverty is far too endemic in our country. The richer the city, the more poor people it seems to have. Most Indians might not even consider poverty to be an exceptional state meriting a voluminous book on it.

The late Anthony B Atkinson, the author of this book, dispenses with two key questions on the very first page of the first chapter: Why he wrote this book and why you should read it. For the former, he says that 50 years after he wrote his first book, *Poverty in Britain*, he “remains deeply concerned that, in countries that are many times richer than in the 1960s, poverty has become more, rather than less, entrenched. One of the main aims of the book is to highlight the lack of progress in tackling poverty and to hold our governments to account for their failure.” On the latter, he says: “The simple answer... is indeed that poverty is one of the two great challenges facing the world as a whole today, along with climate change,

with whose consequences poverty is intimately connected.”

Though he died in January 2017, Atkinson remains a leading light in the economic study of how people live, whichever way one may measure it — either by poverty levels, inequality, health conditions or consumption levels. He has written several books on related topics, none better than *Inequality: What can be Done?* (Harvard University Press, 2015).

Atkinson started work on *Measuring Poverty Around the World* in October 2016, immediately after he finished the report of the Commission on Global Poverty, set up by the World Bank in 2015, which he chaired. That report, titled ‘Monitoring Global Poverty’, was published in 2017. But Atkinson, who was a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford University, set out with an even more ambitious agenda for this book. Instead of being limited to just “extreme poverty” or other set definitions, Atkinson wrote this book “to address how one should measure poverty across the world, starting from scratch, and then discuss what the available data actually reveal.” Another unusual aspect of the book is the integration of



MEASURING POVERTY AROUND THE WORLD
ANTHONY B. ATKINSON
Princeton University Press
464 pages
₹ 1830

international and national measurements of poverty. Atkinson also wanted to look at the causes of poverty across 60 countries across continents, for which he collected data.

Unfortunately, the book remained only half-finished. But even in this incomplete version, Atkinson’s work is hugely instructive. That is why a month before his death, he requested two friends and long-time collaborators John Micklewright (of University College,

London) and Andrea Brandolini (of Banca d’Italia) to bring the book to publication.

The volume has 10 chapters plus two additional essays on the main threats — highlighted by Atkinson — to poverty eradication. The first five chapters are the most complete part of the book. They provide an in-depth understanding — couched in accessible language — of what it means to measure poverty, what the key definitions are, and, perhaps most importantly, the role of data in measuring poverty. Chapters 6 through 9 remained largely unfinished. They look at poverty in different regions and countries of the world. Chapter 10 provides the results, but this too is largely unfinished.

The first essay by François Bourguignon explains the interrelations between economic growth, inequality and poverty, and how each of these affects the others. The second essay by Nicholas Stern examines how climate change exacerbates poverty. Both Stern and Bourguignon are former chief economists of the World Bank and these essays lift the book’s worth, especially since the second-half of the book is largely unfinished. The first five chapters, as well as the two essays at the end, are then the strongest elements.

To be sure, by themselves, the first five chapters alone are good enough to make up a book. In a nutshell, they help readers develop an understanding of how to think about poverty. For example, Atkinson explains how and why even the basic definition of poverty is highly contested and differs across countries. Defining poverty is also

a highly “political” issue. Each definition is also closely related to the data captured to arrive at an estimate.

Should one look at household consumption expenditure or household income? For that matter, should one look at household or individual data? Should one measure only the extent of poverty or also its depth? Moreover, should one only consider monetary measures or also look at non-monetary indicators such as the state of health? Should one account for multiple non-monetary variables such as health and education? Should one look at their overlap as well? How can one make comparisons across countries where people may have very different consumption patterns? Atkinson lucidly explains the various approaches and what they have to offer.

But, is the book still worth reading, since it has been published two years after the death of its author, in a field where active research is throwing up new results every few years? It is true that from the perspective of what Atkinson originally imagined, the book is incomplete. Nothing underscores this as powerfully as the blank spaces under sub-heads that Atkinson had decided upon.

The book is akin to a potentially series-defying knock that one’s favourite batsman almost played in a crucial Test match. That knock may have had the makings of the greatest-ever innings, but even though that goal was not fully realised, one still found it immensely worthwhile to watch. Reading *Measuring Poverty Around the World* is something like that.



TOP OF THE WORLD



Perviz Musharraf

PAKISTAN SC to only hear Musharraf plea 'after surrender'

Islamabad: Pakistan's Supreme Court has returned the petition of self-exiled former dictator Perviz Musharraf against his conviction and sentencing by a special tribunal with objection that he is not allowed to appeal without surrendering to the law, according to a media report. On Thursday, 74-year-old retired general, now based in Dubai, approached the court to challenge the ruling of the special tribunal that had handed him death sentence on charges of high treason. Barrister Salman Safdar, counsel for Musharraf, submitted the petition in the top court.

SRI LANKA Ban on drones after Easter attacks lifted

Colombo: Sri Lankan authorities have lifted a ban on drones imposed after the Easter Sunday attacks that left 263 people dead in the Indian Ocean island nation. The lifting of the ban comes amid a growing demand for flying drones from media institutions, foreigners, wedding videographers and photographers and commercial advertising companies. However, drone operations will continue to be restricted in dangerous and restricted flying zones. All civil operators will be required to obtain approval from Defense Ministry to fly drones, the ministry said.

USA White extremist trio arrested for anti-govt plot

Washington: Three alleged members of a US white supremacist group were arrested on charges of plotting to overthrow the government and conspiracy to murder two anti-fascist activists. Police said the trio were members of The Base, which US prosecutors have described as a network of white nationalists who discuss "committing acts of violence against minority communities." "The group was involved in recruiting new members online, meeting to discuss strategy and practicing in paramilitary training camps", Floyd County police said.

IRAQ Two killed in violence during protests

Baghdad: Two protesters were killed and over a dozen wounded in central Baghdad on Friday in renewed violence between anti-government demonstrators and Iraqi security forces, activists and officials said. Riot police fired tear gas and hurled sound bombs to disperse crowds on the strategic Sinak Bridge after protesters attempted to breach cement barriers previously erected by security forces, causing the casualties, activists and medical and security officials said. Two protesters were killed and at least 20 wounded, three activists and a security official said.

FINAL DAY OF XI'S TWO-DAY VISIT

Myanmar, China ink deals to speed up BRI as Xi courts isolated Suu Kyi

AGENCIES NAYPIDAW, JANUARY 18

CHINA AND Myanmar inked dozens of deals on Saturday to speed up infrastructure projects in the Southeast Asian nation, as Beijing seeks to cement its hold over a neighbour increasingly isolated by the West.

Xi and Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi signed 33 agreements shoring up key projects that are part of the flagship Belt and Road Initiative, China's vision of new trade routes described as a "21st century silk road".

They agreed to hasten implementation of the China Myanmar Economic Corridor, a giant infrastructure scheme worth billions of dollars, with agreements on railways linking southwestern China to the Indian Ocean, a deep sea-port in conflict-riven Rakhine state, a special economic zone on the border, and a new city project in the commercial capital of Yangon.

They did not address a controversial \$3.6 billion Beijing-backed mega dam, where work has been stalled since 2011.

Holding talks with Xi on the final day of his two-day visit, Suu Kyi slammed the western countries for criticising Myanmar

over the handling of the Rohingya issue. Some countries intend to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries with such excuses as human rights, ethnicities and religions, and Myanmar will never accept such interference, she said. Suu Kyi said Myanmar hoped China would continue to maintain justice for middle and small countries including Myanmar, state-run *China Daily* reported.

The silence of Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace prize winner, over the Rohingya crisis has come under intense global criticism. The International Court of Justice, where Gambia has filed a case of genocide against Myanmar, on Wednesday said it will deliver its decision next week on whether emergency measures should be imposed on Myanmar.

Xi, in his remarks, said China was a trustworthy friend of Myanmar and always respected the development paths of other countries by upholding the principle of non-interference in other countries' affairs.

China will continue to maintain justice for Myanmar on the international stage, and it supports Myanmar in safeguarding its national sovereignty and legitimate interests, the *Daily* report quoted Xi as saying.



FROM LEFT: Chinese President Xi Jinping, Myanmar President Win Myint and Myanmar State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi in Naypyidaw. Reuters



EXPLAINED E. Needed ally, but distrust remains

AT A time when many global powers have condemned and isolated Myanmar for its treatment of Rohingyas, it has become closer to China, which could act as a valuable ally. This is in contrast to the past, especially prior to 2017, when their ties were far less cordial. Many in Myanmar continue to be distrustful of the influence Beijing could wield in their country via investments and projects. Xi's visit is likely to act as an icebreaker, though it may take time before the two nations announce any potentially contentious projects.

PHILIPPINES: SHROUDED IN ASH



Police and military personnel walk along a road covered in volcanic ash at a village beside the Taal volcano on Saturday. AP

■ Decimated fish, scarred coffee plants and vanished tourists: the Taal volcano eruption in the Philippines has inflicted significant damage on the livelihoods of tens of thousands.

■ The agriculture agency said Friday it estimates so far the volcano caused about \$59 million in damage to the industry, which is just about four per cent of what the region produced in 2017.

■ The volcanic ash is being mixed with plastic waste to make bricks in an inventive response to the persistent problems of pollution and natural disasters. PTI

China reports 4 more cases of mystery virus

ASSOCIATED PRESS BEIJING, JANUARY 18

FOUR MORE cases have been identified in a viral pneumonia outbreak in the central Chinese city of Wuhan that has killed two people and prompted countries as far away as the United States to take precautionary measures.

The latest cases bring to 45 the number of people who have contracted the illness, the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission said Saturday. Five are in serious condition, two died and 15 have been discharged. The others are in stable condition.

The cause of the pneumonia has been traced to a new type of coronavirus. Health authorities are keen to avoid a repeat of SARS, or severe acute respiratory

syndrome, another coronavirus that started in southern China in late 2002 and spread to more than two dozen countries, killing nearly 800 people.

The US announced Friday it would begin screening passengers at three major airports arriving on flights from Wuhan. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said it would deploy 100 people to take the temperatures and ask about symptoms of incoming passengers at the Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York City's Kennedy airports.

At least a half-dozen countries in Asia have started screening incoming airline passengers from central China. The list includes Thailand and Japan, which have together reported three cases of the disease in people who had come from Wuhan.

AMID TRUMP IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS

Pompeo breaks silence on 'threat' to envoy in Ukraine, Democrats release more evidence

AGENCIES WASHINGTON, JANUARY 18

SECRETARY OF State Mike Pompeo on Friday broke nearly 72 hours of silence over alleged surveillance and threats to the former US ambassador to Ukraine, saying he believed the allegations would prove to be wrong but that he had an obligation to evaluate and investigate the matter.

In interviews with conservative radio hosts, Pompeo said he had no knowledge of the allegations until earlier this week when Democrats released documents from an associate of President Donald Trump's personal attorney suggesting that Marie



I suspect that much of what's been reported will ultimately prove wrong, but our obligation, my obligation as secretary of state, is to make sure that we evaluate, investigate. — MIKE POMPEO

Yovanovitch was being watched.

Pompeo, who was traveling in California when the documents were released, had been harshly criticized by lawmakers and current and former diplomats for not addressing the matter.

"We will do everything we need to do to evaluate whether there was something that took place there," he said in a radio interview with Tony Katz, an Indianapolis-based broadcaster.

More evidence released

Meanwhile, House Democrats released another round of information on Friday that raised questions about elements of the impeachment inquiry, including allegations

RARE COIN AUCTIONED FOR \$1.3 MN

One of the world's rarest coins, a gold piece bearing the image of Britain's King Edward VIII before his abdication, has sold for 1 million pounds (USD 1.3 million), setting a new record for a British coin. The historical oddity shows Edward, the uncle of Queen Elizabeth II, before he relinquished the throne in 1936 to marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson

Be careful with your words, Trump tells Khamenei

REUTERS WASHINGTON, JANUARY 18

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump said Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei should be very careful about what he says after Khamenei harshly criticized the United States in a Friday prayers sermon in Tehran.

"The so-called 'Supreme Leader' of Iran, who has not been so Supreme lately, had some nasty things to say about the United States and Europe," Trump said in a tweet. "Their economy is crashing, and their people are suffering. He should be very careful with his words!"

Meanwhile, the top US envoy for Iran said threats made by the country will only further isolate it. He made the remark after Khamenei said Iran's fight could move beyond its borders. "As long as the regime threatens the world it will become more isolated," Brian Hook, US Special representative for Iran, told reporters. "Until Iran behaves like a normal nation its isolation will only deepen," he said.

In his first Friday prayers sermon in eight years, Khamenei told worshippers chanting "Death to America" that the elite Revolutionary Guards could take their fight beyond Iran's borders after the U.S. killing of a top Iranian commander.



Protesters near the US embassy in Seoul. AP

BLACK BOX TO UKRAINE

Dubai: Iran said it was sending to Ukraine the black boxes from the passenger plane that the Iranian military shot down this month.

The authorities were prepared for experts from France, Canada and the United States to examine information from the data and voice recorders of the Ukraine International Airlines plane, said sources.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who has been pressing for a full investigation into the plane downing, said on Friday Iran should send the black boxes to France.

Europe will face terror threat if Tripoli govt falls, says Erdogan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ISTANBUL, JANUARY 18

TURKISH PRESIDENT Recep Tayyip Erdogan has warned Europe it could face new threats from terrorist organisations if Libya's UN-recognised government in Tripoli were to fall, in an article published in *Politico* on Saturday.

In the article, which was published on the eve of a Libya peace conference in Berlin, Erdogan said the EU's failure to adequately support the Government of National Accord (GNA) would be "a betrayal of its own core values, including democracy and human rights". "Europe will encounter a fresh set of problems and threats

HAFTAR FORCES 'BLOCK' OIL EXPORTS	
FORCES LOYAL to military strongman Khalifa Haftar on Saturday blocked oil exports from Libya's main ports, the National Oil Company said, raising stakes on the eve of peace talks.	500,000 barrels and cause losses of \$55 million a day, the firm warned.
THE CLOSURE of Libya's oil crescent will cause daily crude production to plunge from 1.3 million barrels to	THE STRING of export hubs along Libya's northeastern coast has been controlled by Haftar — who is at war with the UN-recognised Government of National Accord (GNA) — since 2016

if Libya's legitimate government were to fall," Erdogan wrote. "Terrorist organisations such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda, which suffered a military defeat in Syria and Iraq, will find a fertile ground

to get back on their feet." Turkey and Russia have brokered a ceasefire but Haftar walked away from talks in Moscow this week aimed at finalising the truce agreement.

Seven missing, 140 rescued in Nepal avalanche

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE KATHMANDU, JANUARY 18

AT LEAST seven people were missing and 140 others were rescued on Saturday after an avalanche blocked an Expedition route along Annapurna mountain range.

Of the seven missing, four are Koreans and three are Nepali, siad police. They were last located closer to Deurali, 25 km before the base camp of the mountain.

Rescue operations were launched, in which over 140 people were rescued. "All we can say is that about 100 are foreigners while the rest are Nepalis," a Home ministry official said, adding, "we want to ensure that everyone is rescued safely."

'THESE PINES OUTLIVED THE DINOSAURS... WE HAD TO DO EVERYTHING WE COULD TO SAVE THEM'

In Australia, firefighters save world's only 'dinosaur trees'

ASSOCIATED PRESS CANBERRA, JANUARY 18

SPECIALIST FIREFIGHTERS have saved the world's last remaining wild stand of a prehistoric tree from wildfires that razed forests west of Sydney, officials have said.

Firefighters winched from helicopters to reach the cluster of fewer than 200 Wollemi Pines in a remote gorge in the Blue Mountains a week before a massive wildfire bore down, National Parks and Wildlife Service Director David Crust said.

The firefighters set up an irrigation system to keep the so-called dinosaur trees moist and pumped water daily from the gorge as the blaze that had burned out of control for more than two month edged closer.

Firefighting planes strategically bombed the fire front with fire retardant to slow its progress. "That helped just to slow the intensity of the fire as it approached the site," Crust told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

"The Wollemi Pine is a particularly important species and the fact that this is the only place in



Government personnel inspect the Wollemi pine trees. AP

the world where they exist and they exist in such small numbers is really significant," he added.

New South Wales state Environment Minister Matt Kean said the operation had saved the stand, although some plants had been singed.

"These pines outlived the dinosaurs, so when we saw the fire approaching we realised we had to do everything we could to save them," Kean said on Thursday.

The Wollemi Pine had only been seen in its fossilized form and was thought long extinct

before the stand was found in 1994.

The fire that threatened it was brought under control this week after razing more than 510,000 hectares (1.26 million acres). The fire also destroyed 90 per cent of the 5,000-square-kilometer (1,930-square-mile) Wollemi National Park, where the rare trees grow, Crust said.

The exact location of the stand remains a closely guarded secret to help authorities protect the trees. The Wollemi's survival is one of the few positive stories

to emerge from the unprecedented wildlife crisis in south-east Australia.

The fires have claimed at least 28 lives since September, destroyed more than 2,600 homes and razed more than 10.3 million hectares (25.5 million acres), mostly in New South Wales state. The area burned is larger than the US state of Indiana.

But the fire danger has been diminished by rain this week in several areas. The first green buds of regrowth have already emerged in some blacked forests following rain.

18 ECONOMY

TOTAL DEPOSITS SEE 25.2% RISE, TOTAL ADVANCES UP 19.9% OVER DEC 2018

Q3: HDFC Bank posts 32.8% growth in net profit, marginal rise in gross NPAs

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 18

HDFC BANK, India's most valuable lender, has posted a net profit of Rs 7,416.5 crore for the quarter ended December 2019 as against Rs 5,585.85 in the same period last year — an increase of 32.8 per cent.

Net interest income (interest earned less interest expended) for the quarter ended December 2019 grew to Rs 14,172.9 crore from Rs 12,576.8 crore a year ago, driven by growth in advances of 19.9 per cent and a growth in deposits of 25.2 per cent.

The net interest margin for the quarter remained stable at 4.2 per cent.

Other income (non-interest revenue) at Rs 6,669.3 crore was 32 per cent of the net revenues for the recently ended quarter, as against Rs 4,921 crore in the cor-

EXPLAINED

Banking still under pressure, PSU lenders worst hit

THE BANKING sector is yet to regain strength as credit growth has slowed to 7.2 per cent in November 2019 from 13.8 per cent in the year-ago period. Driven by the fall in credit growth and slow resolution of NPAs, profits of public sector banks have come under pressure.

Further, PSU banks' return on equity and return on assets numbers also remain weak when compared to their private sector counterparts. Even after many PSU banks have either been merged or are set for merger in the coming months to make their operation smoother and economic, the NPA pressure still mounts on their balance sheet and is projected to increase further.

responding quarter ended December 2018.

The main component of other income — fees and com-

missions — rose by 24.1 per cent to Rs 4,526.8 crore for the quarter under review.

Gross non-performing assets

(NPAs) were at 1.42 per cent, or Rs 13,427 crore, of gross advances as on December 2019 (1.2 per cent excluding NPAs in the agricultural segment), compared with 1.38 per cent as on December 2018 (1.1 per cent excluding NPAs in the agricultural segment).

Total provisions — comprising specific, floating, contingent and general provisions — were 119 per cent of the gross non-performing loans.

Provisions and contingencies for the latest quarter were Rs 3,043.6 crore (consisting of specific loan loss provisions of Rs 2,883.6 crore and general provisions and other provisions of Rs 159.9 crore), as against Rs 2,211.5 crore for the quarter ended December 2018.

The specific loan loss provisions in the current quarter include one-offs of approximately Rs 700 crore, primarily relating

to certain corporate accounts.

Total deposits were Rs 10,67,433 crore, an increase of 25.2 per cent over December 2018. Total advances were Rs 936,030 crore, an increase of 19.9 per cent over the year-ago period, HDFC Bank said.

According to the lender, domestic advances grew by 20.9 per cent over December 2018. As per regulatory segment classification, domestic retail loans rose by 14.1 per cent and domestic wholesale loans increased by 29.3 per cent.

The domestic loan mix as per Basel II classification between retail and wholesale was 52:48. Overseas advances constituted 2 per cent of total advances, the private lender said.

On Friday, shares of HDFC Bank declined by 0.76 per cent to Rs 1,277.85 on the BSE. The bank's market capitalisation was at Rs 6.99 lakh crore on Friday.

GST ministerial panel on gold holds meeting, raises concerns on evasion

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

CONCERNS OVER unchecked tax evasion on gold under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime were raised at the first meeting of the 'Group of Ministers (GoM)' on movement of gold and precious stones' held on Saturday.

The panel, which has six state finance ministers, has decided to call representatives from MMTC and other gold importing agencies, along with representatives from the Income Tax Department and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs in its next meeting to suggest measures to curb the revenue leakage on gold.

Separately, the GoM on IGST settlement, headed by Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi, also met Saturday. Puducherry and Delhi had raised issues about Integrated GST (IGST) settlement since it was given as per devolution formula, but since the Union Territories are not covered under finance commission, they didn't get the IGST share.

"Discussions were held on what would be the formula to re-

TO CHECK E-WAY BILL FEASIBILITY

■ The GoM on movement of gold and precious stones was formed last November to examine feasibility of implementation of e-way bill requirement for movement of gold and precious stones, which are exempt from e-way bill as of now

■ Separately, the GoM on IGST settlement also met Saturday

store it. Those would continue in the next meeting. Law department would also explain the legal position of the fund settlement," a state finance minister said.

The GoM on gold and precious stones, headed by Kerala Finance Minister Thomas Isaac, was formed in November 2019 to examine feasibility of implementation of e-way bill requirement for movement of gold and precious

stones, which are exempt from e-way bill as of now.

Two state finance ministers, who attended Saturday's meeting, said that e-way bill generation for gold and precious stones may have security concerns from traders because then any such consignment can be easily tracked. Further, it has been learnt that states such as Gujarat and West Bengal said such a system won't be practical since many gold traders transport jewellery on foot or through railways or bus and not necessarily trucks.

"Even a small stone could be worth lakhs of rupees. So, security concerns about e-way bill generation are there which need to be looked into. But more importantly, there was consensus that there is GST evasion on gold," a state finance minister said.

It has been learnt that Kerala emphasised on the gold evasion, saying the state used to earn Rs 600 crore from gold before GST, which has now come down to Rs 300 crore after the GST rollout. "Pre-GST and post-GST revenue trend of gold and precious stones will now be analysed in the next meeting," the minister said.

Forex reserves rise by \$58 mn, reach \$461.21 bn

The country foreign exchange reserves rose by \$58 million to reach a life-time high of \$461.21 billion in the week to January 10, according to the Reserve Bank of India data

\$461.15 bn: Forex reserves as of week ended January 3, having increased by \$3.689 billion

\$427.582 bn: FCA as of week ended January 10, having decreased by \$367 million

\$28.492 bn: Gold reserves during the reporting week, showing rise of \$435 million

\$1.442 bn: Special drawing rights with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as on week

ended January 10, down by \$5 million

\$3.697 bn: The country's reserve position with IMF in reporting week, also declining by \$5 million

RESERVES RISE DESPITE FALL IN FCA:

In the week ended January 10, the reserves rose despite a decline in foreign currency assets (FCA) — a major component of the overall reserves

IMPACTED BY NON-US CURRENCIES:

Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound sterling and Japanese yen held in the forex reserves

Source: RBI/PTI

BRIEFLY

M&M arm to acquire Fifth Gear Ventures

New Delhi: Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M), in a regulatory filing Saturday, said its subsidiary Mahindra First Choice Wheels Ltd (MFCWL) has signed a share purchase agreement to fully acquire Fifth Gear Ventures Ltd (FGVL), which operates an e-commerce market platform, for up to Rs 30.45 crore. Upon acquisition of the stake, FGVL would be a subsidiary of MFCWL, it added. Acquisition is to be completed by March, 31, 2020, the auto major said.

Lupin facility gets 5 USFDA observations

New Delhi: Lupin Saturday said it has received five observations from the US health regulator after inspection of its Vizag facility in Andhra Pradesh. The inspection of company's Vizag API manufacturing facility by the United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) has been completed, Lupin said in a filing to BSE. The inspection was carried out between January 13, 2020 and January 17, 2020, it added.

Chalet Hotels inks pact to buy Belaire Hotels

New Delhi: Chalet Hotels on Saturday said it has signed a share purchase agreement (SPA) to acquire Belaire Hotels Pvt Ltd — owner of Novotel Hotel in Pune — and its affiliate entity SHPL for an aggregate enterprise value of around Rs 290 crore. **PTI**

Facebook must disclose app records for Massachusetts probe, judge rules

REUTERS
NEW YORK, JANUARY 18

FACEBOOK INC has been ordered by a Massachusetts judge to turn over material to the state's attorney general about thousands of apps that the social media company suspected may have misused customer data.

In a decision made public on Friday, Massachusetts Superior Court Justice Brian Davis said Attorney General Maura Healey had demonstrated a "substantial need" for the material, as she investigates Facebook's privacy practices. Healey began her probe in March 2018, following news that Facebook had let British political consulting firm Cambridge Analytica access data for as many as 87 million users.

Cambridge's clients had included US President Donald Trump's 2016 election campaign.

Davis said Facebook did not show that most of the material Healey sought, including the identities of developers behind sus-

In a decision made public on Friday, Massachusetts Superior Court Justice Brian Davis said Attorney General Maura Healey had demonstrated a "substantial need" for the material, as she investigates Facebook's privacy practices

pect apps, was protected by attorney-client privilege or an attorney "work product" that did not need to be disclosed.

"Only Facebook knows the identity of these apps and developers, and there is no other way for the attorney general to obtain this information on her own," Davis wrote.

Facebook said it was reviewing its options and may appeal.

"We are disappointed that the Massachusetts Attorney General and the court didn't fully consider our arguments on well-established law, including the work product doctrine," it said.

According to court papers, the Menlo Park, California-based company's own probe led it to suspend 69,000 apps last

September, mostly because their developers did not cooperate.

About 10,000 of these apps were found to have potentially misused user data. Healey welcomed Davis' decision, which is dated January 16.

"Facebook simply telling its users that their data is safe without the facts to back it up does not work for us," Healey said in a statement. "We are pleased that the court ordered Facebook to tell our office which other app developers may have engaged in conduct like Cambridge Analytica."

The judge gave Facebook 90 days to turn over the material Healey sought. Healey's probe is one of several by state attorneys general regarding Facebook's ability to protect user data.

NITI Aayog's Saraswat says allowing Huawei for 5G trials will make India 'vulnerable again'

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
GANDHINAGAR, JANUARY 18

ALLOWING CHINESE telecom major Huawei to participate in 5G trials will make India "vulnerable", said VK Saraswat, member of NITI Aayog, on Saturday. He felt the recent move by the government is going to be major "set-back" for indigenous players.

"The worst thing that has happened ... India has now given permission to Huawei — which is one of the major Chinese companies — to do the trials of 5G in this country. Now that is going to be a major setback, because today technologically speaking China leads the 5G technology in the world. The moment they will do the trials in India, they will obviously score over indigenous manufacturers who are engaged in 5G equipment development. The service providers will have no

"The moment (Huawei) will do the trials in India, they will obviously score over indigenous manufacturers who are engaged in 5G equipment development"

VK SARASWAT
MEMBER, NITI AAYOG

other option but to buy the Chinese technology and hence we will be vulnerable again," Saraswat said during an interaction with mediapersons at the Dhruv Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology, where he was the chief guest at the 16th convocation.

He added the Centre's decision has come at a time when India is struggling to deal with cyber security issues related to electronic goods being imported from foreign countries, including China.

"Our imports of electronics is next to our imports of fossil fuel. In fact, it is going to overtake now ... Whatever is coming from foreign countries, including China,

we do not know what is the kind of malware ... embedded there," Saraswat said, talking about Indian telecom networks that are prone to cyber attacks.

"I personally believe, that there should be a movement in the direction that we should ensure that more companies, educational institutions and national laboratories, ... quickly start developing 5G equipment and bring it into the market," he said, pointing out that Indian players will also end up paying licence fee to Chinese players who have developed the software for 5G.

"We will be draining out our foreign exchange and so it is important that software agencies

'Trump, EU chief to meet in Davos as US tariffs loom over digital tax'

ANDREA SHALAL & ALEXANDRA ALPER
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 18

DONALD TRUMP is expected to meet with EU leader Ursula von der Leyen in Davos, Switzerland, next week, three sources said on Friday, as tensions mount between the allies over tariff threats and the US president faces an impeachment trial at home.

Just days after Trump scored big victories by inking a partial trade deal with China and passing a revamp of the North American Free Trade Agreement, he will travel to the World Economic Forum where he is expected to discuss deepening trade disputes with the European Commission president. The White House and the European Commission did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Among the raft of trade issues dividing the allies, Washington's most immediate concern is France's plan to impose a 3 per cent digital services tax, which

the US government believes would harm US technology giants like Alphabet Inc's Google and Amazon.com Inc, with a host of other countries poised to follow suit.

In retaliation, the US trade representative last month threatened to impose a 100 per cent tariff on French Champagne, handbags, cheese and other goods and services. Trade experts say those tariffs could hit as soon as late January, given the lack of progress in negotiations. "Things are not really going anywhere," said one of the sources, a European official, despite frequent talks between French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire, US Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and top US trade negotiator Robert Lighthizer.

European Union Trade Commissioner Phil Hogan on Thursday, ended a round of talks with senior US officials in Washington, saying that negotiations were off to a "good start" but there was more work to do.

Iran will also likely be high on the agenda, after Britain, France

and Germany triggered a dispute mechanism in the 2015 nuclear pact with the country, following Tehran's decision to begin scaling back its compliance with the agreement.

The pact offered Iran sanctions relief if it curbed its nuclear work, but Trump withdrew from the deal in 2018 and reimposed US sanctions, saying he wanted a tougher deal. Tensions in the region have heightened after the US killed Iran's most powerful military commander in a drone strike. Iran's foreign minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, canceled plans to attend the forum.

Trump and von der Leyen, Germany's defense minister, know each other well after sparring over Berlin's failure to reach NATO's 2 per cent defense spending target. In a December 2016 interview, von der Leyen defended her shocked reaction to Trump's election, saying, "I am not a political machine, but a human being ... and I heard exactly what he said during the campaign, also as a woman." **REUTERS**

Gadkari: \$5-tn economy goal difficult, not impossible

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
INDORE, JANUARY 18

UNION ROAD Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Saturday that the goal of making India a \$5-trillion economy by 2024 was "difficult but not impossible". It can be achieved by increasing domestic production and reducing dependence on imports, the minister said at the 29th International Management Conclave of the Indore Management Association here.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other BJP leaders have often spoken about the goal of turning India into a \$5-trillion economy by 2024. "Strong political will is very important to achieve any goal. Manifesting the same will, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set ourselves the goal of making the country a \$5-trillion economy," he said.

PLANNED CREW DRAGON CAPSULE TEST IS COMPANY'S FINAL MILESTONE TEST BEFORE FLYING NASA ASTRONAUTS FROM US SOIL

Bad weather forces delay of SpaceX simulated rocket failure test

JOEY ROULETTE
CAPE CANAVERAL, JANUARY 18

BAD WEATHER forced Elon Musk's SpaceX to delay until Sunday a test in which it will destroy one of its own rockets in a trial of a crucial emergency abort system on an unmanned astronaut capsule. The test, the company's final milestone test before flying NASA astronauts from US soil, had been planned to take place on Saturday.

SpaceX said in a Twitter post it was standing down from the Crew Dragon capsule test because of high winds and rough seas in the recovery area.

It was now looking at carrying out the test on Sunday, with a six-hour test window starting at 8 am ET (1300 GMT).

Less than two minutes after liftoff from a launchpad in Florida, the Crew Dragon will fire on-board thrusters to eject itself off a Falcon 9 rocket mid-air, simulating an emergency abort scenario that will prove it can return astronauts to safety.

The test is crucial to qualify SpaceX's astronaut capsule to fly humans to the International Space Station, which the National Aeronautics and Space Administration expects to come as soon as mid-2020.

It follows years of develop-

ment and delays as the United States has sought to revive its human spaceflight program through private partnerships.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) awarded \$4.2 billion to Boeing and \$2.5 billion to SpaceX in 2014 to develop separate capsule systems capable of ferrying astronauts to the space station from US soil for the first time since NASA's space shuttle program ended in 2011.

The space agency has since relied on Russian spacecraft to hitch rides to the space station.

In the test, the Falcon 9 rocket's boosters will shut down roughly 12 miles (19 km) above



The SpaceX Crew Dragon atop a Falcon 9 booster rocket at Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida. *Reuters*

the ocean, a mock failure that will trigger Crew Dragon's so-

called SuperDraco thrusters to jet itself away at supersonic

speeds of up to 1,500 miles per hour (2,400 kph).

The capsule will deploy three parachutes to slow its descent to water, carrying aboard two human-shaped test dummies dressed in motion sensors to collect valuable data on the immense g-force — the effect of acceleration on the body — imposed during abort.

The booster will free-fall and tumble back uncontrollably toward the ocean, SpaceX's Crew Mission Management director Benji Reed said. "At some point we expect that the Falcon will start to break up."

"Our Falcon 9 recovery forces will be standing by ready to go

and recover as much of the Falcon as we can as safely as possible," Reed said.

The in-flight abort test was originally scheduled to take place in mid-2019, but the timeline was delayed by nine months after one of SpaceX's Crew Dragon capsules exploded in April last year on a test stand just before firing its launch abort thrusters, triggering a lengthy investigation.

SpaceX zeroed in on a previously unknown explosive reaction between a titanium valve and the capsule's rocket fuel. Reed told *Reuters* SpaceX had completed the investigation within the last week. **REUTERS**

BRIDGE

You have a balanced hand with 15 HCP so you open 1NT. Partner, with 12 HCP and no four-card major, raises you to game. In this case you will have to Lose tricks to the safe hand.

NORTH
♠ 42
♥ A75
♦ AJ952
♣ KQ86

SOUTH
♠ AK10
♥ 42
♦ K86
♣ AJ953

WEST **NORTH** **EAST** **SOUTH**

1NT 3NT All Pass

Pass 3NT All Pass

West leads the HQ. How do you plan to take nine tricks?
THE WEST HAND: ♠ QJ3 ♥ QJ 1098 ♦ 43 ♣ Q 107
THE EAST HAND: ♠ 9875 ♥ K63 ♦ Q107 ♣ 42

You have seven winners so you need to find two more. The diamond and club suits are possible sources of extra tricks. The queen is missing in both suits.

First of all you would like to exhaust one opponent of hearts, so you duck the opening lead. West continues with the HJ which you also duck. East overtakes the HJ with the HK and leads a third round of hearts, which you take in dummy with the HA, discarding the S10 from your hand. It seems that West led from a five-card suit and now East has no more hearts. You now have a choice of finessing for the DQ or finessing for the CQ. Which finesse will you take?

This is a deal where you need to recognise the "danger hand" and try to avoid giving that hand the lead. West's opening lead was a heart and it was probably from a five-card suit because East over took the second round with the king to unblock the suit, before lead ing a third round. If West has only four hearts you can afford to lose a trick to either hand, so assume the worst: West started with five hearts and has two winners ready to cash.

Lead a small diamond to the DK in your hand then lead the D6 and play the DJ from dummy. East will take the trick with the DQ but can not hurt you because he has no hearts left to lead. Fortunately the diamonds are split 3-2, so you can take four diamond tricks, bringing your total to nine. You are South, declarer in 3NT

NORTH	WEST	EAST	SOUTH
♠ J3	♠ K9	♠ AQ8765	♠ 1042
♥ AK876	♥ J1094	♥ Q2	♥ 53
♦ Q62	♦ 108543	♦ -	♦ AKJ97
♣ J54	♣ 98	♣ 107632	♣ AKQ
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1NT			
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West leads C9, and you are relieved to see nine top tricks. But can you find a way to trick West into giving you an extra diamond trick for a top board?

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.

Remember that _____ is a way of travel - not a destination - Roy M Goodman (9)

MZAEI **ADORN P**

SHULS **ERSUHP**

SOLUTION: MAZAEI: JAMBAZ, PARADISE, PUSHER
ADORN: LAMENT, ROYALTY, SUNDAY
SHULS: LUNDS, SHIP, SHUTTER
ERSUHP: SHIP, SHUTTER, SHUTTER

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2251

QUICK CLUES ACROSS

- Sudden fear (6)
- Impartiality, justice (8)
- Substandard (8)
- Opposites of "consonants" (6)
- Be by chance (10)
- A single time (4)
- Remittances ? (8)
- Indian state bordering China (6)
- Mental pictures (6)
- Speaking (8)
- Greek portico (4)
- Vitamin B (10)
- College's annual function (6)
- Everlasting (8)
- Worried intensely (8)
- Tell positively (6)

DOWN

- One of the Fab Four ____ Starr (5)
- Welcome or receive (5)
- Payment for instruction (7)
- Very angry (7)
- Buy shares (7)
- Resident of the Big Apple ? (3,6)
- Choice (9)
- Neil _____: first man on the moon ? (9)
- Migratory movement (9)
- Excess amount (7)
- Not attached (7)
- Lustrous material (7)
- Yellow fever bug (5)
- Not external (5)

CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS

- Loan shark certain to be found in old city (6)
- Drinks for the passengers ? (8)
- Adjust a model within a standard unit of measuring (8)
- Happen to appear before court (4,2)
- A film character who will not come clean ? (5,5)
- Fellow notions such fashions (4)
- Danced on the snow nude (8)
- Drones seen from Barrie's window? (6)
- One with much experience boards on the right (6)
- Around fifty one may get out of breath doing the groundwork (8)

SOLUTIONS TO 2250

QUICK CLUES Across: 8 Sangli, 9 Vladimir, 10 Pair, 11 Headstrong, 12 Jars, 13 Unbearable, 17 Kimi, 18 Tones, 19 Alph, 21 Blundering, 23 Yoda, 24 Cryptogram, 28 Tags, 29 Answered, 30 Nagged. **Down:** 1 Varanasi, 2 Aggression, 3 Silhouette, 4 Uvea, 5 Cars, 6 Tier, 7 Lionel, 14 Bondi, 15 Assignment, 16 At any stage, 20 Pedigree, 22 Larynx, 25 Pawn, 26 Cars, 27 Red.

CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 8 Binim, 9 In league, 10 Hint, 11 Tudor Kings, 12 Mash, 13 Arbitrator, 17 Wear, 18 Glare, 19 Outs, 21 Stay at home, 23 Trap, 24 High-handed, 28 Owls, 29 Re-enters, 30 Unhand. **Down:** 1 Mitgate, 2 Dirty Harry, 3 Distraught, 4 Rind, 5 Slur, 6 Raki, 7 Gung ho, 14 Beano, 15 Tremendous, 16 Apostrophe, 20 Thailand, 22 Toller, 25 Hunt, 26 Alex, 27 Dust.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday January 19
There'll be times next year when you're a real live dynamo with your electrifying ideas and irreverent attitudes. New enterprises stand a chance of succeeding if you take care over every fundamental detail.

Monday January 20
There are surprises in the air and whatever happens over the next few days could be repeated over the coming months, although in a more positive and productive manner. .

Wednesday January 22
As the days pass, intensity and passion will be replaced by a laid-back feeling that you can just relax. That's OK. After all, you do sometimes take life a little too seriously.

Thursday January 23
If you've been keeping certain secrets recently, then get ready for the bright light of publicity, for some of them are about to come into the open.

Friday January 24
You're on a positive path and you need to be straight with partners and colleagues. If you do decide to pry and probe, be sure not to inadvertently offend people who trust you.

Saturday January 25
You could find yourself the centre of attention today, but what's really significant is the way in which you may be under the spotlight over the next twelve months. Make sure that everything you do is for the good.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
It's difficult to know where your priorities lie - a familiar dilemma, perhaps. while the planets are so favourably disposed, there is nothing you can't achieve if you set your mind to it. And you'll be even better off if you get friends on your side. After all, you can be a team player.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
If you're contemplating any domestic expenditure or, better still, a property transaction, the indications could not be more perfect later in the week. And that goes whether you're buying, selling or renting. But rather than choosing just one option you may be able to have your cake and eat it.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
The Sun's relationship with Mercury, your ruling planet, crystallises all that is best about a positive time in your life. One word of warning, though - your judgment will be just a little too personal. At work, you must take detailed notice of what colleagues are doing, not what they are saying.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The Moon passes through a series of friendly regions of your chart, which is all very well for your peace of mind, but on Saturday and Sunday, when life becomes more dreamy and imaginative, you can expect to strike it rich romantically. By then, your stars will be increasingly nostalgic and sentimental.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
By all the ancient and traditional rules of astrology, Leo is now basking under unprecedented beneficial planetary alignments, but only if you let partners have their say and their fair share. The only question is, are you big enough to rise to the challenge? Get spending plans sorted out before fate lends a hand.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
You may put all vague fears, suspicions and inadequacies to one side and avoid people who are gossiping, plotting and conspiring. Honesty is the only policy. If education is important, it now looks as if you, or a very close relative, are past the worst. Pay more attention to younger relations. Their spontaneity could inspire you.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
It's difficult to know where your priorities lie - a familiar dilemma, perhaps. This time you have two considerations - self-interest on the one hand and ethics on the other. Find a middle way. Money matters will come under some strain towards the end of the week, so keep an eye on all developments.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
You are normally much too self-effacing, perhaps because you lack confidence or imagine that other people will laugh at you. My advice at the moment is to be unashamedly egotistical, and to look after number one, within reason.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
You tend to idealise anything which is unattainable. Romantic Sagittarians are likely to fall in love with a distant image, or to be susceptible to fleeting glances. Let your dreams take over. Around midweek you may receive a windfall, although just how much is another question. It may be that the benefits are purely emotional.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
At the very least, you may expect a minor bonus. At best, you can hope to scoop the top prizes. If you don't experience at least some financial luck this week you've done something radically wrong. You can look forward to interesting and heartening family news around the beginning of the week.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
Romantic and emotional opportunities are but the tip of an iceberg of personal growth and happiness which is promising to overwhelm you. Surrender to your passions, because if you don't you won't understand them. And, having understood them, you'll work out how you can fix it in the future.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
You're in a sociable phase, but a serious one. Such is your desire for purposeful activity and meaning that I doubt whether you will have much time for relaxation beyond whatever is necessary to recharge your delicate Piscean energy systems. All in all, this is a time for steady professional progress at the moment.

HARYANA TOURISM

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE (Revised)

Offline Bids are invited for the following items/activities:-

- Purchase of Mementos/Gifts items for 34th Surajkund International Crafts Mela-2020.
- Hiring of Agency for Providing Walkie- Talkie/ Wireless sets.
- Hiring an Agency for Planning Publicity Campaign in Print and Electronic Media (Indoor and Outdoor).

On or before 23.01.2020 at 2.30 P.M. and same will be opened on same day i.e. 23rd Jan, 2020 at 3.00 P.M. in the O/o Managing Director, Haryana Tourism Corporation, SCO 17-19, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh. The detailed scope of work can be viewed from the official site of Haryana Tourism Corporation i.e. haryanatourism.gov.in. The Office will remain open on Sunday also, from 9.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M., for receiving/ submission of bids in the Tender box.

Issued by Director, Tourism, Haryana.

विश्वेस्वरय्य तांनत्रिक विज्ञप्तिद्वारलय, बिहारा

Visvesvaraya Technological University

"Jnana Sangama", Belagavi - 590 018, Karnataka State

Prof. A. S Deshpande B.E., M.Tech., Ph.D.. Phone : (0831) 2498100

REGISTRAR Fax : (0831) 2405467

NOTIFICATION

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR "VTU ELIGIBILITY TEST FOR RESEARCH" (VTU-ETR) 2019-20.

:-For admission to full time/Part time Research Programs in:-

- 1.Ph.D./M.Sc.(Engg) by Research in the Faculty of Engineering.
- 2.Ph.D./M.Sc.(Engg) by Research in the Faculty of Science.
- 3.Ph.D./M.Sc.(Engg) by Research in the Faculty of Architecture.
- 4.Ph.D./M.Sc.(Engg) by Research in the Faculty of Management Studies.

For detailed Notification visit website: www.vtu.ac.in.

Sd/-Registrar

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1408/MCA/2019-20

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION, SRINAGAR, NEAR J&K BANK (ZALDAGAR)

Tele Fax No. 0194-2503195, E-mail ID: xenmidrsrinagar@gmail.com

Sub: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Pumps at Beigh Mohalla Watlar and Dar Mohalla Patishalbugh Ganderbal.

Ref:

1. This Office Extension Notice 2 issued vide No.: 3947-51, Dated: 07.01.2020
1. This Office Corrigendum/Extension Notice issued vide No. MIDS/Ts/3455-59, Dated: 26.12.2019
3. This Office e-NIT No. 09 of 2019-20, Dated: 04.12.2019

EXTENSION NOTICE 3

Due to Poor response to this office above referred e-NIT for the subject work, the critical dates are once again extended as under:

Pre-Bid Meeting Date	25.01.2020 at 14.00 hrs.
Clarification End Date	27.01.2020 at 14.00 hrs.
Document Download/Sale End Date	28.01.2020 at 12.00 hrs.
Bid Submission End Date	29.01.2020 at 16.00 hrs.
Date and Time of Bid Opening	31.01.2020 at 14.00 hrs.

Rest of the terms and conditions shall remain un-altered as laid down in the original e-NIT.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Srinagar.

No. MIDS/Ts/4035-39 Dated: 15.01.2020

DIPK-NB-2048/M

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender Notice No. KR-CO-PD-NTPC-KDG-MW-02 dtd. 16/01/2020

Konkan Railway Corporation Limited invites Open Tender in Two Packet System through e-tendering on IREPS portal for the work of Construction of miscellaneous works like RCC Drains, Approach Road, Stone Pitching of Embankment Slopes, Height Gauge to Bridges, Vard Drainage, Main Drain, Concrete Inspection Pathways, Ballast Less Track, for Railway Siding Project, from Ch 2/850 to Ch 10/200 at STPP, Kudgi-Vijayapur District, Karnataka State. The Closing Date & Time: 07/02/2020, up to 15:00 hrs. for submission of online offer/bids. Manual offer shall not be accepted. **Total Estimated Cost of Tender is ₹ 26.71 Cr (Excl.GST).** Please visit www.ireps.gov.in website for details/participation & Corrigendum/Addendum will be hosted on this website only.

Government of India Department of Atomic Energy Bhabha Atomic Research Centre Technical Services Division North Site, Trombay, Mumbai-85

Notice Inviting e-Tenders

The Chief Engineer, Technical Services Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, North Site, BARC, Trombay, Mumbai - 400 085, on behalf of the President of India invites online item rate tenders on two bid system for following work :-

NIT No. BARC/TS/D/82/2019-20. Name of work - Preventive and Corrective Maintenance works for EHT, HT & LT switchgears and miscellaneous works at minimum 25 Sub-stations, BARC, Trombay, Mumbai 400 085. ; **Estimated cost** - ₹1,75,00,000/- ; **Earnest Money** - ₹3,50,000/- ; **Period of completion** - 24 months; **Last date and time of submission of bid** - 04.03.2020 (23:59 Hrs.).

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the Website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE or www.barc.gov.in

Changes if any, in the above scheduled date etc. will be notified only on the website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE

Contact for assistance / clarifications 24x7 @ 9969395522 Shri Rudresh, e-mail: rudresh.tenderwizard@gmail.com

Chief Engineer

MANIPUR UNIVERSITY
CANCHIPUR, IMPHAL-795003
MANIPUR

TENDER NOTICE

Dated, 18th January, 2020

No. MU/14/ACS/Lib/BKS/2019 :

Manipur University invites sealed tenders. Details available at the University website www.manipuruniv.ac.in

Sd/-
Purchase Officer
Manipur University, Canchipur

S. E. RAILWAY TENDER

Tender No. : ADEEG-Repl GM CACP- 20-01, Dt. 16.01.2020. e-Tender is invited by the Dy Chief Electrical Services Engineer, South Eastern Railway, Garden Reach, Kolkata-700043 for and on behalf of The President of India for the following work before 15.00 hrs. on 20.02.2020.

Description of Works : Garden Reach-Replacement of 2x50TR Capacity Old Central AC Plant by 2x75-80TR Capacity Central AC Plant at Main Administration Building. **Tender Value :** ₹ 2.24 82,600/- including of GST as applicable. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 2,62,400/- **Cost of Tender Document :** ₹ 10,000/- **Date of Closing :** At 15.00 hrs. on 20.02.2020. **Completion Period of Work :** 12 (Twelve) months from the date of issue of LOA. Interested Tenderers may visit website www.ireps.gov.in for full Details/Description/Specification of the Tenders and submit their bids online. **NB : Prospective Bidders may regularly visit www.ireps.gov.in to participate in all Tenders. (PR-1253)**

कार्यालय नगर परिषद्, रामगढ़।

अल्पकालिन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या – NIT/RGH/NP/11/2019-20

1.	निविदा निकालने वाले पदाधिकारी निविदा वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशन की तिथि	कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, नगर परिषद् रामगढ़।	दिनांक : 18.01.2020
2.	निविदा वेबसाइट भरने की तिथि	निविदा वेबसाइट भरने की तिथि	दिनांक : 24.01.2020
3.	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन भरने की अंतिम तिथि	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन भरने की अंतिम तिथि	दिनांक : 31.01.2020
4.	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन जमा करने का वेबसाइट	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन जमा करने का वेबसाइट	अप्रराहन 03:00 बजे तक।
5.	वेबसाइट पर अपलोड किया गया दस्तावेज की मुल प्रति जमा करने की तिथि व समय	वेबसाइट पर अपलोड किया गया दस्तावेज की मुल प्रति जमा करने की तिथि व समय	01.02.2020 अपराहन 04:00 बजे तक। (रामगढ़ नगर परिषद् कार्यालय में।)
6.	निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय	निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय	07.02.2020 नगर परिषद्, रामगढ़ सभागृह में पूर्वाहन 11:00 बजे तक।
7.	कार्य मद का नाम	कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, नगर परिषद् रामगढ़।	नगरपालिका सुबुधि

क्र० सं०	वार्ड नं०	योजनावर्क का नाम	प्रयोजित राशि	अग्रघन की राशि	विनय का मूल्य	कार्य करने का समय
01.	वार्ड-20	A. जेलिया पत्रा कमिश्नराल में रोज एवं बायाफल का निर्माण। B. जामोदर नदी के किनारे सेव और बायाफल का निर्माण। वार्ड नं० 20	1541900.00	30838.00	50000.00	02 माह
02.	वार्ड-21	A. शाय केलुवा पत्रा के बायाफला में मयुलवा निर्माण। वार्ड नं० 21 में दरी मयुल वर आगकडी केन्द्र तक पक्की नाली निर्माण।	2708600.00	54172.00	10000.00	03 माह
03.	वार्ड-22	A. शारा संध मयान (1B) में रोज निर्माण। B. बया संध मयान (1C) में रोज निर्माण।	792400.00	15848.00	5000.00	03 माह
04.	वार्ड-23	वार्ड नं० 23 में विपदवृत्ती नदी के तट पर सौन्दर्यकरण सीढ़ी खाद का निर्माण।	5472500.00	109450.00	10000.00	08 माह
05.	वार्ड-25	वार्ड नं० 25 में विपेयर महता के घर से हरीचंद महता के जमीन तक पक्की नाली निर्माण।	3349300.00	66986.00	10000.00	08 माह

नोट:-

- केवल ई-निविदा ही स्वीकार की जाएगी।
- संबेदक द्वारा ई-निविदा में अपलोड किया गया सभी दस्तावेज तथा संबेदक का निवेदन प्रमाण पत्र, जायकर रिटर्न (निवेदन तीन वर्षों का), पैन कार्ड, जीओएफडी रिटर्न (विगत तीन माह) निवेदन प्रमाण पत्र, जीओएफडी, खसका प्रमाण पत्र, वित्त प्रमाण पत्र, UCN, अग्रघन राशि, निवेदन प्रपत्र शुल्क व अन्य दस्तावेज दिनांक 01.02.2020 को अपराहन 04:00 बजे तक नगर परिषद् कार्यालय में जमा करना अनिवार्य है।
- नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग में समुचित श्रेणी में निवेदित संबेदकों से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।
- निविदा की शर्त एवं अन्य जानकारीयें <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर एवं नगर परिषद् कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर कार्य दिवस में 11:00 बजे पूर्वाहन से 04:00 अपराहन तक देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी नगर परिषद्, रामगढ़।

PR 224030 District(19-20)D

कार्यालय नगर परिषद्, रामगढ़।

अल्पकालिन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या – NIT/RGH/NP/10/2019-20

1.	निविदा निकालने वाले पदाधिकारी निविदा वेबसाइट पर प्रकाशन की तिथि	कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, नगर परिषद् रामगढ़।	दिनांक : 17.01.2020
2.	निविदा वेबसाइट भरने की तिथि	निविदा वेबसाइट भरने की तिथि	दिनांक : 24.01.2020
3.	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन भरने की अंतिम तिथि	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन भरने की अंतिम तिथि	दिनांक : 31.01.2020
4.	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन जमा करने का वेबसाइट	निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन जमा करने का वेबसाइट	अप्रराहन 03:00 बजे तक।
5.	वेबसाइट पर अपलोड किया गया दस्तावेज की मुल प्रति जमा करने की तिथि व समय	वेबसाइट पर अपलोड किया गया दस्तावेज की मुल प्रति जमा करने की तिथि व समय	01.02.2020 अपराहन 04:00 बजे तक। (रामगढ़ नगर परिषद् कार्यालय में।)
6.	निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय	निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय	07.02.2020 नगर परिषद्, रामगढ़ सभागृह में पूर्वाहन 11:00 बजे तक।
7.	कार्य मद का नाम	कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, नगर परिषद् रामगढ़।	नगरपालिका सुबुधि

क्र०सं०	वार्ड नं०	योजनावर्क का नाम	प्रयोजित राशि	अग्रघन की राशि	विनय का मूल्य	कार्य करने का समय
1.	वार्ड-1	निलेता में डेमलाल बीदा का वर रू बुन्नी काराखला नाल तक पक्की बर्लिक एवं नाली निर्माण।	8465900.00	169318.00	10000.00	08 माह
2.	वार्ड-2	एन्गएन्ग-33 में लेकर दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	6352300.00	127046.00	10000.00	08 माह
3.	वार्ड-3	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	8451500.00	169030.00	10000.00	08 माह
4.	वार्ड-4	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5871900.00	117438.00	10000.00	08 माह
5.	वार्ड-5	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5218100.00	104362.00	10000.00	08 माह
6.	वार्ड-6	एन्गएन्ग-33 में लेकर दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	10933900.00	218678.00	10000.00	08 माह
7.	वार्ड-7	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	8091700.00	161834.00	10000.00	08 माह
8.	वार्ड-8	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5184600.00	103692.00	10000.00	08 माह
9.	वार्ड-9	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	6981200.00	139624.00	10000.00	08 माह
10.	वार्ड-10	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	9240400.00	184808.00	10000.00	08 माह
11.	वार्ड-11	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	8726200.00	174524.00	10000.00	08 माह
12.	वार्ड-12	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	7759200.00	155184.00	10000.00	08 माह
13.	वार्ड-13	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	7684300.00	153686.00	10000.00	08 माह
14.	वार्ड-14	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5472500.00	109450.00	10000.00	08 माह
15.	वार्ड-15	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5392600.00	107852.00	10000.00	08 माह
16.	वार्ड-16	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	9465800.00	189316.00	10000.00	08 माह
17.	वार्ड-17	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5564700.00	111294.00	10000.00	08 माह
18.	वार्ड-18	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	9056700.00	181134.00	10000.00	08 माह
19.	वार्ड-19	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	7632500.00	152650.00	10000.00	08 माह
20.	वार्ड-20	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5806100.00	116122.00	10000.00	08 माह
21.	वार्ड-21	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	6014900.00	120298.00	10000.00	08 माह
22.	वार्ड-22	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5916000.00	118320.00	10000.00	08 माह
23.	वार्ड-23	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5063600.00	101272.00	10000.00	08 माह
24.	वार्ड-24	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	9163000.00	183260.00	10000.00	08 माह
25.	वार्ड-25	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	5472200.00	109444.00	10000.00	08 माह
26.	वार्ड-30	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	7975500.00	159510.00	10000.00	08 माह
27.	वार्ड-32	निलेता में वर रू रू दुली डर ना नोदर तक कासीकरण एवं पक्की निर्माण।	12179300.00	243586.00	10000.00	08 माह

नोट:-

- केवल ई-निविदा ही स्वीकार की जाएगी।
- संबे

20 SPORTSLINE

Hello boys

Fuelled by their blazing ambition, 15 youngsters travel to South Africa, braced to defend the U-19 World Cup crown. SANDIP G pens the brief profiles of these talented young cricketers from diverse backgrounds and geographical divide. Meet the boys who could be household names soon.

RAVI BISHNOI
LEG-SPINNER
PLACE: JODHPUR
WOW FACTOR: HAS A LETHAL GOOGLY
STORED IN Ravi Bishnoi's smart-phone is a footage of him bowling to Jos Buttler in the Rajasthan Royals nets. There's nothing apparently breathtaking in the two-minute clip, no ripping leg-breaks or whizzing googlies. Nonetheless, he keeps it close to his heart.
The tall leggie, with a diagonal run-up, has a fizzing googly that often turns more than the leg-break. "It's his most dangerous weapon, because batsmen don't expect the googly to turn big. But I tell him not to over-use it," says his coach Pradyot Rathore.
When Rathore first saw him, Bishnoi was around nine and was bowling medium pace. But one evening, he began bowling leg-breaks and the coach was impressed. Pocketed by Kings XI for a whopping sum of Rs 2 crore—a relief for his family of eight—he would hope running into Buttler again, this time in an actual match.

SHUBHANG HEGDE
MIDDLE-ORDER BATSMAN, SPINNER
PLACE: BANGALORE
WOW FACTOR: A DEVIOUS ARM-BALL, STABLE BATSMAN
A COUPLE of years back when India reached Bangalore for the second Test against Australia, after being harassed by left-arm spinner, Steve O'Keefe in Pune, they wanted to face as many left-arm spinners as possible in the nets. Hegde was promptly drafted in. After watching Ravindra Jadeja and Nathan Lyon from close quarters, he would pen down his observations and discuss it with his father Samarth, a former Karnataka U-23 batsman.
"What has impressed me the most is his composure under pressure," says coach Irfan Sait.

AKASH SINGH
LEFT-ARM FAST BOWLER
PLACE: BHARATPUR
WOW FACTOR: TOOK ALL 10 WICKETS IN A LOCAL T20 MATCH
Akash Singh once took all 10 ten wickets without conceding a single run in a T20 match. Eight of them, his coach at the Aravalli Academy in Jaipur, Vivek Yadav, says were in-swingers. "He has beautiful wrists," the coach says proudly.
He was only 15 when he ran through the side. Three years before that, he was just a street cricketer in Bharatpur, 180-odd kilometres from Jaipur. But a few scouts took him to Jaipur, despite reluctance from his parents who were worried about his academics. Akash has only one quibble: He has failed the Class 10 board exams four times. But he believes he can pass the World Cup test with flying colours.

KARTIK TYAGI
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM PACER
PLACE: HAPUR
WOW FACTOR: DEADLY IN-SWINGER
THERE IS scant footage of his bowling on the web. But the few available videos project a remarkable testament to his skills. First is a vicious in-swinger, that cuts the batsman into two and disfigures the stumps. The next is pitched around the spot—on the fifth stump—the batsman reaches for it, only for the ball to hold its line. On the back of his impressive Ranji debut, he got picked by Rajasthan Royals for Rs 1.3 crore.
SUSHANT MISHRA
LEFT-ARM PACER
PLACE: RANCHI
WOW FACTOR: CONSISTENCY
In his 10 outings for India colts, only twice has he gone wicketless, has picked 21 wickets at 14 including a hat-trick against Afghanistan. Coach Manish Vardhan says, "He can be deceptive on flat tracks too. He has grown up on such surfaces only."

SHASHWAT RAWAT
LEFT-HANDED TOP-ORDER BATSMAN
PLACE: BARODA
WOW FACTOR: DYNAMIC FIELDER
THE STYLISH batsman with a fine technique and a penchant for leg-side has been a little off-colour of late, but Dravid has seen enough of his quality to keep him in the World Cup squad. What compelled his case might have been his exemplary fielding skills. Batting-wise, he struggled to cope with the bouncy South African surfaces last year, so he shelved his plan to visit his family in Haridwar and began practising the short-pitch stuff. "I was in good touch, but was playing too many reckless shots. I got starts in most games, but couldn't score a big hundred. So I have worked on those aspects during the break," he told a local television channel.

PRIYAM GARG
RIGHT-HANDED BATSMAN, CAPTAIN
PLACE: MEERUT
WOW FACTOR: ONLY ONE IN HIS TEAM TO HAVE FIRST-CLASS HUNDREDS
THERE IS a clear chasm between Priyam Garg and his teammates—he has played twice as many first-class games as the entire team put together. He averages 66, scored a century on debut and rattled a double hundred against Tripura. He also bagged an IPL contract worth Rs 1.9 crore with Sunrisers Hyderabad.
Behind his comeuppance is the heart-wrenching story of a father doing odd jobs such as selling milk, driving school vans, newspaper distribution and loading goods to make ends meet as well as keep his son's cricket dreams burning. He would also accompany his son every day in the 20-km journey in buses from village Parikshitgarh to coach Sanjay Rastogi's academy in Meerut, ensuring he didn't miss his mother, who passed away when he was only 11.

DHRUV JUREL
RIGHT-HANDED MIDDLE-ORDER BATSMAN, WICKET-KEEPER
PLACE: AGRA
WOW FACTOR: CRISIS MAN
THE DAY before India's final against South Africa in the quadrangular series, Dhruv Jurel was you-tubing the best of MS Dhoni's knocks. His mind kept whispering that he would have to play a Dhoni-like knock the next day. The foreboding came true, as he walked in with the side tottering at 3/13. How the rest of his innings unfurled was vintage Dhoni stuff. But what impressed coach Parvinder Singh the most was that when he buzzed him next morning, he was still ruing the reckless stroke he played to get out. "He was almost crying over the phone. That showed his hunger and determination," he told Amar Ujala.

***CLT RAKSHAN**
Part of team for South Africa series, he didn't make the World Cup cut.



DIVYAANSH SAXENA
LEFT-HANDED OPENER
PLACE: MUMBAI
WOW FACTOR: ADAPTABILITY AND AGGRESSION
THE SWASHbuckling southpaw loves to make grand first impressions. He marked his U-14 debut for Mumbai with a double hundred. The year before, he thought his career was over when he was dropped from eleven in a Cooch Behar Trophy game though he was the skipper. But rather than getting dispirited, he drew inspiration from the snubbing to hit a double hundred against Punjab next game. The output was enough to catch Dravid's attention. Once in the team, he overhauled his diet and began spending more time in the gym than catching up with friends. The inspiration goes without saying: Virat Kohli.

KUMAR KUSHAGRA
WICKET-KEEPER BATSMAN
PLACE: BOKARO
WOW FACTOR: FINISHER
IN BACKYARD cricket in Bokaro, he was always MS Dhoni without the long tresses. Fast hands and faster brains, his coach Victor Joseph points out. "He's a quality wicket-keeper, both against pace and spin," he says. And he's turned 15 just three months ago, the youngest of the lot.
But his composure belies his age, which he has demonstrated a few times in youth ODIs. Last year, in an U-19 match against South Africa, he scored an unbeaten 43 that set up his team's victory. Usually batting down the order, he's not a Dhoni-clone in his batting style. More of a gritty than dashing batsman, who's extremely good in chasing down totals, is how Joseph describes him. As Bokaro was a cricketing backwater, he shifted to Ranchi last year. So did his family, in pursuit of their son's cricketing journey.

VIDYADHAR PATIL
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM PACER
PLACE: RAICHUR, KARNATAKA
WOW FACTOR: DECEPTIVE BOUNCER
VIDYADHAR PATIL desperately wanted to be a batsman—it's this burning desire that made him pedal 25km from his farming village Chiksugur in Northern Karnataka to a cricket academy in Raichur—but instead he turned out to be the one piling misery on batsmen. The transformation happened under coach Venkat Reddy in the City XI Cricket Club, where he joined when he was around 13. The moment Reddy saw him, he realised he was better equipped to be a fast bowler than a batsman.
Thereafter, he inculcated strong work ethics into him, besides an easy, repeatable action. "For his age, he's a strong and energetic boy. With more experience, he could be quicker and possibly add more variations," he says.

YASHASVI JAISWAL
LEFT-HANDED BATSMAN
PLACE: MUMBAI
WOW FACTOR: YOUNGEST DOUBLE CENTURION IN LIST A CRICKET
FEW CRICKETERS in his batch has endured as many hardships in life as Yashasvi Jaiswal to reach where he's now—the youngest double centurion on List A cricket, an IPL millionaire and one of the batting pillars of the junior side. That he boarded a train from Bhadohi in Uttar Pradesh to live his cricketing dream, used to sleep in municipal tents at the Azad Maidan ground, sell paani puris and fruits are well-chronicled.
All those hardships have forged inner steel in him, and an "extraordinary game sense and unflappable focus", as his Mumbai U-19 coach Satish Samant puts it. All those labours have made him a batsman far more mature than his age. His double century was just another testimony.

SIDDHESH VEER
RIGHT-HANDED MIDDLE-ORDER BATSMAN/OPENER
PLACE: PUNE
WOW FACTOR: A COMPACT, FLEXIBLE BATSMAN
NOT AN original squad member but Joshi injured his shoulder. Though not a like-for-like replacement, he brings utility into the side. In his short youth career, he has batted almost everywhere in the line-up and fared well. Once, he opened against New Zealand and reeled off an assured 71; in the next game, he blasted an unbeaten 48 off 35 balls against South Africa coming in at No 6. Of late, he has improved his off-breaks and enhanced his reputation as a partnership breaker to go with his on-field athleticism.

ATHARVA ANKOLEKAR
LEFT-ARM SPINNER
PLACE: MUMBAI
WOW FACTOR: BIG-MATCH PLAYER
ATHARVA ANKOLEKAR's rags-to-fame narrative is well-storied—raised by a single mother, who's a bus conductor and driven by the singular desire to fulfil his late cricket-mad father's dream of his son representing the country. But it's time his bowling alone started getting more attention. First came his 5/28 in the U-19 Asia Cup final against Bangladesh when India was defending a lowly 106. Then came his 4/31 against South Africa in the quadrangular series final last year.
He is not a big turner of the ball, but spins it enough to trouble the batsmen. The variations are subtle, like clever changes in angle, length, release positions and speed, which makes him a threat on all types of surfaces.

TILAK VARMA
LEFT-HAND BATSMAN
PLACE: HYDERABAD
WOW FACTOR: STROKE-MAKER
WHEN INDIA Under-19 took on their Pakistan counterparts in the Asia Cup last year, his coach Saleem Bayash was nervously checking cricket websites for updates. He had heard from his student that Pakistan had a couple of exceptional quicks. One of them was tearaway Naseem Shah, who made his Test debut against Australia a few months later. A day before the match Saleem had advised him to bat carefully against them. "Play them out," he told him.
Around noon, he learned that Varma had scored 110 off 119 balls. In the evening, he called the coach. "Sir, I played just as you instructed me." Later when he watched the highlights, he realised that Varma was far from being truthful. Naseem was ruthlessly driven through extra covers. "I don't need to advise him anymore. He knows what he needs to do," he says.

In first major test, Reid’s India pass with flying ‘Oranje’ colours

MIHIR VASAVDA
BHUBANESHWAR, JANUARY 18

THERE’S SUCH geniality when India host the Netherlands these days, it’s easy to forget these are competitive matches.

On Thursday, the two chief coaches – India’s Graham Reid, who was Max Caldas’ assistant at the Netherlands – caught up for drinks. This bonhomie goes beyond the coaching staff. On the eve the Pro League match, as the Netherlands exited the ground after training and India checked in, the sound guys actually played – believe it or not – the Bollywood classic from the 1970s, *tere mere milan ki yeh raina*.

These are two sides that are style-soul-mates. For both, playing fast, entertaining hockey is sacrosanct; coached by tacticians who know no other way of making their teams play. There’s little India and the Netherlands don’t know about each other. Their matches follow a pattern: India enthrall, Dutch are efficient; India make errors, Dutch remain clinical; and in the end, the men in Orange win.

On Saturday, though, there was a bit of newness; the kind of stuff that spices up an old, flagging relationship. And it took India, who won 5-2, all of 13 seconds to give a glimpse of what they might be like in the Reid era, however long that lasts.

At the Kotla, it’s Ishant versus Umesh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 18

A DESPERATE Delhi will be getting Ishant Sharma’s services one last time in the season as they face Umesh Yadav’s Vidarbha on a seamer-friendly pitch in a group D Ranji Trophy game starting Sunday.

The New Zealand-bound Test team speedsters will be the star attraction on a track on which Vidarbha’s spin duo of Akshay Wakhare and Aditya Sarwate are unlikely to be as effective as they were on an under-prepared Jamtha track against Bengal.

While Vidarbha, with 17 points from four games, are placed third, Delhi are languishing at the 11th place in the cross-pool table (group A and B) with 10 points. As usual, controversy followed the Delhi team as chairman of selectors Bantoo Singh show caused its administrative manager, Vivek Khurana, for calling off Saturday’s practice session.

“Vidarbha practised on Friday and when I came to Kotla in the evening, I saw that Delhi team’s training has been called off. I have show caused the manager and asked on whose permission the training was called off two days before a game,” Bantoo told reporters on the sidelines of a practice session.

Delhi’s first XI will comprise Hiten Dalal and Kunal Chandel as openers. Dhruv Shorey and Nitish Rana will be coming in at number three and four respectively, while Jonty Sidhu, Anuj Rawat and Lalit Yadav form the middle-order.

All-rounder Kunwar Bidhuri, Ishant, a fit-again Kulwant Khejroliya and Simarjeet Singh will form a four-pronged pace attack. “Pitch is such we won’t go for a specialist spinner. We have Lalit and Nitish, who can bowl part-time off-spin,” Delhi selector Chetenya Nanda said.

Bengal bank on spin

Kalyani: Desperately eyeing a return to winning ways, Bengal will rely on their spinners to do the trick against a struggling Hyderabad in their Ranji Trophy fixture here from Sunday. Bengal suffered a humiliating nine-wicket defeat to Vidarbha inside two days in an away fixture in the last round, slipping to eighth position in the cross pool of Group A and B teams.

With five teams set to make the cut for the quarterfinals, the task for the Arun Lal-coached side has become all the more challenging. Bengal failed to take any advantage of the home conditions, settling for three points in their last two outings, against Andhra and Gujarat at the Eden Gardens.

Bengal have now gone for a spin-friendly track at the Kalyani Stadium, about 70-kms from here, hoping to win a match. “The ball might not turn from the first ball but it can gradually,” Bengal skipper Abhimanyu Easwaran said.

KEY GAMES
Delhi vs Vidarbha, at Delhi
Mumbai vs Uttar Pradesh, at Mumbai
Bengal vs Hyderabad, at Kolkata
Gujarat vs Punjab, at Valsad
Madhya Pradesh vs Saurashtra, at Indore

Gurjant Singh, who has been sparingly used by the previous coaches, stole the ball from a Dutch player seconds after push back, passed it forward without looking up towards Mandeep Singh, who controlled the ball, turned and played a cross that cut open the defence. In the four seconds that Mandeep took to complete that motion, Gurjant sprinted half-way across the field to meet his teammates cross on the far post, and he tapped it into the goal.

It was slick and speedy. But India have, in the past, flattered way too much to ultimately deceive. The question was, could they play like this for the remaining 60 minutes? The Netherlands would find that out in the rudest way possible, barring the second quarter, India were pretty much relentless in the way they pressed and passed.

Reid isn’t the kind of coach who likes protecting a lead. But instead of simply going all out against a dangerous Dutch team, his message to the players was to keep it ‘simple’ - “nice, simple, pass-pass-pass.”

Simple, of course, isn’t how Indians like to play their hockey. Showboating is their game. This, however, was one of those rare moments when they listened to their coach and executed the game-plan. And it worked.

You’d be hard-pressed to think of the last time India passed the ball so much – hockey’s stats system isn’t as sophisticated as most

FINAL SCORE			
India	5	Netherlands	2
Gurjant	1’	J Jassen	14’
Rupinderpal	12’, 46’	J Hertzberger	28’
Mandeep	34’		
Upadhyay	36’		

other sports, else it would have made for an interesting data to analyse. It helped that the passes, most of them crisp and short, found their intended targets and the trapping was surprisingly error-free.

Surprising speed

The style of play meant India’s speed when attacking, or counter-attacking, repeatedly surprised Netherlands. That’s how they scored three of their five goals.

India had briefly reverted to their old ways in the second quarter, which gave Netherlands an opportunity to fight back and level the scores going into half time. Reid had to remind the team of their game-plan during the break, and the players reacted.

In the 34th minute, a long, aerial clearance by a Dutch defender was intercepted by India at the half line. Two passes later, the ball landed at Mandeep’s stick, who slammed home a hit to restore India’s lead. A

couple of minutes later, Manpreet Singh, who created most of India’s plays, started things from the middle of the pitch by passing it to Rupinderpal on the left. The drag-flicker played it along the line towards Harmanpreet Singh. He dodged past a couple of defenders to enter the ‘D’, and squared it towards Lalit Upadhyay, who deflected it past the goalkeeper.

It would have been typical India to concede the two-goal advantage once again, and allow Netherlands a way back into the match. But this time, they did not. Instead, they kept the ball, passing it among themselves and waited patiently to find a gap in the Dutch defence. It was – in Reid’s words – nice, simple, pass-pass-pass.

Instead of running with the ball themselves and tiring themselves out, they let the ball travel, making Netherlands chase it. “It was mental after 10 seconds,” captain Billy Bakker said, gulping down water. “They passed so much... we ran so much.”

India weren’t the genial hosts they usually are; there was a previously-unseen element of ruthlessness in them. But Saturday seemed one of those days when they woke up on right side of the bed. Sunday, as we’ve seen way too many times in the past, could be a completely different story.

TODAY’S GAME: India vs Netherlands, 5pm, Live on Star Sports 1



Rupinderpal Singh (C) scored twice in No.5-ranked India’s 5-2 win over No.3 Holland. The second game of the Pro League is today.

Rahul’s comfort zone

In Bangalore, his adopted home, KL Rahul’s friends’ circle has kept him afloat during tough times

VISHAL MENON
BANGALORE, JANUARY 18

KAUNAIN ABBAS is an entertaining raconteur. The 29-year-old, a Karnataka batsman with 11 First-class matches under his belt, narrates an interesting anecdote that involves the current India Test opener Mayank Agarwal and KL Rahul - his friend and junior at Bangalore’s Jain University. The incident dates back to October 2017 during a Ranji Trophy league encounter between Karnataka and Hyderabad in Shimoga. Karnataka were the runaway winners in that particular game, but Agarwal had bagged a pair (duck in both the innings). “Mayank was dejected. He was under pressure to score runs and was desperate to break into the Indian team. Sensing the situation, Rahul took him out for dinner later that evening. Over the course of the meal, he asked Mayank to take it easy and offered him words of encouragement. Trust me, his mood perked up,” Abbas recounts.

Mayank struck a triple century in the subsequent game against Maharashtra, and since then his fortunes have upturned. Twelve months later, he would find himself at MCG making his Test debut against Australia. “One needs to give credit to Rahul for his turnaround,” Abbas says.

Abbas, who was present with Rahul and Mayank at the dinner table in Shimoga, says that the gist of the pep talk was: “Don’t let one failure define you. You are extremely talented and good enough to play for India.”

For Rahul, these were not empty, hollow words. It’s something he attests. This two-year-old incident gives a peek into Rahul’s mindset. In recent times, Rahul has endured a pretty harrowing time in international cricket. He would get the axe from the Test squad following a disastrous tour to England in the summer of 2018. His form in the shorter formats though never waned. Whenever an opportunity presented itself, he would get rotated from No.1 to the No.4 slot, all in an attempt to maintain the balance and equilibrium in the playing XI.

While there’s no denying that the 27-year-old worked hard at his game in the interim, it’s his large friends’ circle in Bangalore, who would rally behind him and act as a support system. They helped Rahul switch off from cricket. “Rahul hails from Mangalore, but shifted to Bangalore at the age of 18 to complete his graduation and pursue a career in cricket,” Abbas says.

His group in Bangalore is a close-knit unit. Far from nursing bitter ego battles, laughs and banter are recurring themes. Even during his international sojourns, Rahul makes it a point to keep in touch with them on Whatsapp. Apart from Abbas, Rahul also hangs out with Sinan Khader, who like Rahul made the shift from Mangalore to Bangalore to pursue a career in cricket. There are others such as Ronit More and David Mathias. Having a wide range of interests outside cricket is another aspect that has helped Rahul wade through such tumultuous times.



KL Rahul moved from Mangalore to Bangalore at the age of 18. (Top right) With his childhood friend Sinan Khader, who also moved to the capital like Rahul did.

“Before the Rajkot game, I had watched him during the Vijay Hazare tournament. He has quick reflexes and is blessed with quick hands, which was how he managed to effect that stumping (of Finch).”

KIRAN MORE
FORMER WICKET-KEEPER

“Despite hanging around with professional and grade-level cricketers in and around Bangalore, the important thing is that whenever we meet, we hardly talk about cricket. We usually end up watching and discussing shows on Netflix or playing FIFA on our Playstation consoles. Apart from that, he is also an avid follower of Premier

League football and rarely misses a match during his off days. All this has helped him switch off,” Khader explains. Expect more such laughs and banter when Rahul catches up with his close-knit group in Bangalore over the weekend.

Homecoming

It will be a pleasant homecoming for Rahul. He returns to the Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday on the back of a robust all-round performance in the second ODI against Australia in Rajkot. Ahead of that game, he was asked to bat at No.5, a position in which he had batted only once in ODIs. The more daunting task was that he was asked to keep wickets as the incumbent Rishabh Pant was ruled out of the game with a concussion. He would accept these twin challenges gleefully. First-up, he hit a stunning 52-ball 80, before taking two catches and effecting a smart stumping to help India earn a 36-run win and leave the three-match



series tantalisingly poised at 1-1.

Long after he had bagged the Man-of-the-Match award, it was his exploits behind the stumps that had everyone talking. In the days to come, Rahul will be tempted to watch Aaron Finch’s dismissal in Rajkot on loop. The Australian captain, in an attempt to go for a mighty heave over extra cover, was beaten by the clever dip and devious turn of Ravindra Jadeja. Rahul whipped off the bails in a flash - Dhoni-esque glove-work that found Finch’s foot on the line. Rahul is no stranger to demands behind the stumps. He has kept wickets regularly at junior cricket and intermittently in Ranji Trophy. Recently, he was Karnataka’s first-choice keeper in the Vijay Hazare and Syed Mushtaq Trophy as well. But few would have expected him to take up the mantle in international cricket with such refreshing alacrity. Wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav gave thumbs up to Team India’s stand-in keeper.

Kuldeep is not the only one impressed. Former India stumper Kiran More admits he loves watching Rahul as a wicket-keeper. “Before the Rajkot game, I had watched him during the Vijay Hazare tournament. He has quick reflexes and is blessed with quick hands, which was how he managed to effect that stumping (of Finch),” More opines. He believes that his performance in Rajkot gives the team management the option of trying him out more regularly in the future. “I am not aware of their plans. Just like David had done for India in the past, I think KL also has the potential to do the same. Having said that, I have one thing to say: ‘Don’t count Rishabh Pant out as yet,’” he elaborates.

Propping up Rahul as the wicket-keeper opens up a plethora of opportunities for the team management. Buoyed by his pyrotechnics, it gives them the freedom of using Rahul at the No.5 slot, which will go a long way in resolving their middle-order conundrum in the shorter formats.

Going forward, once all-rounder Hardik Pandya returns to the fray, it will give the team two big-hitters who can shift gears towards the fag-end of the innings. Rahul’s presence at No.5 will also provide the option of playing Shikhar as an opener.

Pant is expected to be available for selection in the series finale. However, there’s no denying that in Bangalore, with the form he is in, there’s a fair chance that Virat Kohli might persist with Rahul as the keeper.

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS: 3rd ODI, Ind vs Aus: 1:30 pm

BRIEFLY

Vinesh wins gold, Bajrang in line

Rome: India’s star wrestler Bajrang Punia assured himself of at least a silver medal by entering the final of the 65kg freestyle category at the Ranking Series event here on Saturday. Bajrang had to sweat it out in the first round against Zain Allen Retherford of USA before prevailing 5-4. In the quarterfinal, the Indian sailed past another American Joseph Christopher McKenna 4-2, before getting the better of Vasyil Shuptar of Ukraine 6-4 in the semi-finals. Bajrang will take on another American wrestler Jordan Michael Oliver in the final later Saturday night. Competing in the first Ranking Series event of the 2020 season, Vinesh downed two tough Chinese rivals on her way to the 53kg gold medal bout, in which she overpowered Ecuador’s Luisa Elizabeth Valverde. She won by technical superiority against Ukraine’s Khrystyna Bereza (10-0) and China’s Lannuan Luo (15-5) before getting the better of Qianyu Pang (4-2) in the semifinal. **PTI**

Ricky hands Honda historic win

Riyadh: Ricky Brabec of Monster Energy Honda Team rode his factory CRF450 RALLY to overall motorcycle class victory in the final, 12th stage of the Dakar Rally 2020. His win on Friday gave Honda its first Dakar victory in 31 years. Their last win came in 1989. The 28-year-old American rider rode his first Dakar Rally in 2016 with Team HRC, making 2020 his fifth attempt. After winning stage 3 in this year’s edition, Brabec led the overall race, which he defended through solid riding in the subsequent stages, finally achieving his first overall win at the event. Teammates Jose Ignacio Cornejo finished fourth overall, and Joan Barreda seventh, placing three Monster Energy Honda Team riders in the top 10. **PTI**

Anand draws with Jorden van Foreest

Wijk Aan Zee: Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand was held to an easy draw by Dutch hopeful Jorden Van Foreest in the sixth round of Tata Steel Masters on Saturday. As has been the case throughout the event, Anand has been trying to play very complicated positions and the sixth round was no different. The Indian ace faced the Four Knights opening as black and unleashed an attack in the centre early by sacrificing two pawns. Even though it’s part of theory, it is considered a bit dangerous for both. White’s king was stuck around the centre for a long time while Anand’s pieces tried to make a foray. After the trade of queens, it was a cautious approach by both players. **PTI**

England put Bess foot forward but rain, Quinton quell their march

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PORT ELIZABETH, JANUARY 18

ENGLAND RAN into resistance from Quinton de Kock on a rainy Saturday as the tourists set their sights on a big first-innings lead over South Africa and a pivotal victory in the third Test. England, having racked up 499-9 declared on day two in its first innings for its best-ever Test total in Port Elizabeth, had South Africa 208 for 6 at stumps on the third day. That’s still a hefty 291 runs behind, despite de Kock’s fighting 63 not out.

Dom Bess spun out South Africa’s top order with the first five wickets and only de Kock, stubborn nightwatchman Anrich Nortje, and a 3 1/2-hour spell of rain slowed England’s progress in what might be the series-defining match.

South Africa needs to get to 300 just to avoid the follow on.

There was also the surprising side story of Ben Stokes, the recently crowned world player of the year, dropping de Kock three times. “I was just thinking, ‘Oh, he’s actually human,’” Bess said of Stokes’ misses. “He does drop them. And he will be frustrated by that. But flip that, the real positive is we’re still creating chances.”

The series is level at 1-1 but is now leaning heavily in England’s favor with just one more Test in Johannesburg to come. Victory in Port Elizabeth would put England on the brink of a second straight series win in South Africa and an impressive overseas achievement for Joe Root’s young team.

Off-spinner Bess is one of those youngsters. He took the first two South African wickets the day before and had another damaging spell in the morning on Saturday, removing opener Dean Elgar (35) and South Africa captain Faf du Plessis (8) in successive overs.



Off-spinner Dom Bess took the first five SA wickets to fall. AP

He also won a contest with Rassie van der Dussen, who he bowled for 24 off a bottom edge just before the rain started to fall 13 minutes ahead of lunch. That gave Bess career-best figures of 5-41 at the time and the English players skipped off in the drizzle for an early lunch.

The 22-year-old Bess, playing just his fourth test, became the first England spinner to take the first five wickets in a test innings since Derek Underwood against Australia in 1975. He ended the day with 5-51.

South Africa found its fight through de Kock when the rain stopped late in the afternoon.

He was still there at stumps and the only South African batsman to challenge England’s superiority. He was helped initially by Nortje, the tailender who arrived late on Friday as a nightwatchman. Nortje also was dropped by England twice. The first was an easy chance for Root at slip. The second miss

was very tough at short leg.

Nortje faced 136 balls for his 18 runs before Stokes finally dislodged him. England’s brilliant allrounder, who made 120 with the bat on Friday, forced an outside edge from Nortje to Root at slip to answer his captain’s call.

But Stokes was also guilty of letting de Kock off three times, with all his dropped catches at slip off spin bowlers. The first two were off the bowling of Root.

First, Stokes let a low chance slip through his hands when de Kock was on 30. Then he got hands to but couldn’t hold onto a high edge just after de Kock had passed 50.

Stokes’ last error came off Joe Denly’s bowling right at the end of the day when he couldn’t hold on with one hand down low to his right.

South Africa began the day on 60-2 and was back in trouble almost immediately. Bess broke through when Elgar popped

a catch to close fielder Ollie Pope. Bess dismissed du Plessis in his next over. South Africa’s captain is under heavy pressure for the team’s and his own personal poor form and skipped down the pitch and hit Bess for successive fours in an attempt to make a statement.

Bess reasserted England’s control straight away, removing him two balls later via another close-in catch by Pope.

England erupted in celebration and du Plessis ripped off his gloves as he walked back.

De Kock hit nine fours amid all his re-prieves to avert a complete crisis for South Africa, which was 109-5 when he arrived. Vernon Philander was with him on 27 not out at stumps.

BRIEF SCORES: England 499 for 9 vs South Africa 208 for 6 (Quinton de Kock 63 batting, D Elgar 35; D Bess 5/51)

Like she never left

Ripping forehand, court-craft and experience of six Major titles help Sania win title in first comeback event

SHAHID JUDGE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 18

THE LAST time Sania Mirza stepped on court for a competitive match — in October 2017 — the tennis world was ‘different’. Two-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka was then ranked 62nd in the world, Stefanos Tsitsipas, the current men’s world No 6 had not broken into the top 100, and Andy Murray – who has been contemplating retirement of late, was still the world No 3. Mirza too felt the change when she came back to the tour earlier this week.

“The first practice we were hitting in,” says Nadiia Kichenok, Mirza new doubles partner, in a press conference, “she’s asking me, ‘I heard that tennis has changed.’ But she was unbelievable (in training). It’s like she hasn’t missed a thing. She’s still at that level.”

The Ukrainian refers to Mirza’s ripping forehands, her court-craft and the experience of winning six Grand Slam titles — all of which remain dominant in her return to the sport after a two-year hiatus. And on Saturday, Mirza marked that comeback with a title in her first event after a maternity break. Mirza-Kichenok scored a 6-4, 6-4 win over Chinese pair Peng Shuai and Zhang Shuai in the final of the Hobart International to earn the Indian her 42nd doubles title.

“It means everything,” Mirza says after the match. “I honestly thought I’d be rustier than I am. Luckily I was not as rusty as I thought, but I do think I can improve on some things. But that’s me, even after winning a Grand Slam I’m not happy with the way that I played, so I always want to be better. But to do it after (giving birth to) Ishaan is very special to me.”

When the 33-year-old played at the China Open in Beijing in 2017, her last tournament before the break, she had already been ranked No 1 in the world, stayed at the summit for 91 weeks, and had six majors — three in women’s doubles and three mixed doubles — to her name. The need for a knee surgery though first forced her to take time away from the sport, then the decision to start a family. But during that time, there was an underlying promise that there was more for her to achieve. A comeback after such a long gap almost meant she had to make a fresh start. But with a new partner, and especially with a title now under the belt, she’s managed to pick up the pieces very quickly.

“It’s always great to win a tournament, especially under the circumstances, it’s even better,” she says. “Playing for the first time, after



Sania Mirza lifted the WTA Hobart International trophy with partner Nadiia Kichenok after edging out Shuai Peng and Shuai Zhang in the final. *PTI*

almost two and a half years, post a baby, there’s a lot of things (happening). Probably we didn’t expect to win. We both just came in trying to get a feel of each other and our game, get some matches in and of course, we’re really excited to win.”

And in getting the win, the pair have broken the ice well and started the partnership on a strong note, especially with the Australian Open being the next port of call. Especially Mirza, who is probably still at a stage where she is regaining match sharpness, has gained the much-needed confidence with this win.

“I feel that, when I’m returning at my best, I feel very confident,” she says about the way she played in Hobart. “My return is my biggest strength, especially when I’m aggressive with it. That’s when I feel I’m at my best. I do miss some shots, but more often than not I make them.”

It’s with that aggressive playing style that she became a trailblazer for Indian women’s tennis. She was the first, and still is the only Indian woman to break into the top 100 and win a tour event, the only one to reach the top of the world rankings in doubles and win a

Grand Slam. And now that she’s back on tour, she’s looking to further inspire others.

“The part of the world that I come from, having a baby is like the end of the world,” she says. “The woman is just supposed to give up and take care of the child. I just feel that even if this inspires one woman to follow your dream and do something that she loves, I feel extremely privileged in this position.”

She now joins the elite club of tennis ‘Super Moms’ who are currently on tour, which includes the likes of Serena Williams, Victoria Azarenka, and very soon, four-time singles Grand Slam champion Kim Clijsters (who won three of her majors after becoming a mother).

The win in Hobart has given Mirza a shot in the arm, but her attention now turns toward the Australian Open. “We will not be seeded, to start with. There will be bigger teams there,” she adds. “Today we played against one of the best teams in the world, so this obviously shows that we are there, that we have the level to compete against them. Hopefully my calf is good and (Kichenok’s) hamstring is good. If we are in one piece, then we are good to go.”

Federer blasts lack of communication

Melbourne: Roger Federer demanded better communication about air quality at the Australian Open after smoke from bushfires hit the tournament’s build-up, as officials announced new guidelines on pollution. Federer, the 20-time Grand Slam champion, said a lack of information made matters worse for players who were forced to stay on the courts on Tuesday and Wednesday, when air quality in Melbourne was among the worst on the planet.

“I think communication is key from the tournament to the people, to the media, to the fans, to the players, because you do hear it’s not safe to be outside, keep your pets inside, close your windows,” Federer said. “You have court calls, then you look at the haze and everything, it doesn’t look good. How far are we from that threshold of playing, not playing?”

World number six Stefanos Tsitsipas was another player who was troubled by the smog, saying he had difficulty breathing even after practising indoors in Melbourne. “I was coughing a lot, had troubles breathing for a couple of hours,” Tsitsipas said Saturday, while Canadian young gun Denis Shapovalov claimed “I wouldn’t play” if conditions deteriorated during the tournament. “I’m 20 years old, I don’t want to risk my life, risk my health being out there playing in this condition,” he added. **AFP**

Tennis may be different since 2017, but Mirza is still the same.

Prajnesh in main draw

Prajnesh Gunnewaran on Saturday sneaked into the Australian Open men’s singles main draw as a lucky loser and may run into world number two Novak Djokovic if he clears the first hurdle. The Indian left-hander had lost the final qualifying round to Latvia’s Ernests Gulbis in straight sets but was fortunate to make the main draw as one of the direct entrants withdrew from the tournament. It will be Prajnesh’s fifth straight appearance in the main draw of a Grand Slam.

At Mumbai Marathon, Kipchoge shoes back in the spotlight

SHAHID JUDGE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 18

COSMAS LAGAT walked into the room sporting a flashy lime-green pair of shoes. It didn’t stand out from the rest of his peers, who make up the elite international contingent competing in the Mumbai Marathon on Sunday, but there was something distinctly familiar with the Kenyan’s chosen footwear. Soon enough, the question about the shoes did arise.

Last year, the 29-year-old recorded a time of 2:09:15 hrs to win the 42-km race in Mumbai, just short of the 2:08:35 record set in 2016. Surely these new shoes which resembled the famed Nike Vaporfly – a variant of which Eliud Kipchoge used to cover the distance of a marathon in under two hours – would help Lagat break the course record.

The runner took a few moments to consider the question, then said: “I’m hoping to do well, not the shoe.”

That’s been the common answer for athletes being questioned about the shoe that has been designed in such a way that it has been giving runners better timings. A shoe that is set to change the art of marathon running, a shoe that World Athletics is investigating to see if it should be made illegal.

According to Tim Hutchings, a former Great Britain middle-distance runner who is a regular marathon commentator, the shoe should be “outlawed.”

“It’s a technology that has lifted performances so dramatically that it has actually spoilt the sport of it. People are setting personal bests and breaking national records and breaking course records even setting world records,” Hutchings says. “People are running so fast at all levels. There are good club runners who are buying the shoes for \$250-300 and improving their personal bests by five minutes over a full marathon. It’s getting ridiculous.”

The shoes were first designed as a part of an attempt to enable an athlete to run the length of a marathon in under two hours – a feat that was seemingly impossible. And so with a modified prototype of the Vaporfly, and with all the elements kept in check on a flat and straight course in Vienna in October, Kipchoge clocked 1:59:40 hrs.

“If you look at the stats required, and break down the speed you have to move at over each

mile, it’s insanely quick. A lot of people say Eliud did it in Vienna, but he didn’t. He broke all the rules, and rules are there for a reason and they have been respected by generation after generation of runners, decade after decade,” Hutchings says. “What that group did in Vienna was great entertainment, but they cherry-picked the rules that didn’t suit them, and they picked other rules which did. So it’s an invalid run. It was not a marathon!”

Ripple effect

The record didn’t count. But it did help Brigid Kosgei break Paula Radcliffe’s 16-year women’s world record, when the Kenyan clocked 2:14:04 hrs at the Chicago Marathon (the previous record 2:15:25 was set at the London Marathon in 2003).

By then, the ability of the shoes to boost timings was clear and it created a ripple effect. All of a sudden there has been a sharp demand for the shoes, not just from amateur runners. Even the professionals are desperate for it.

“Apparently some East African athletes have been turning down contracts from other brands because they are so desperate to run in those Nike shoes. That’s how ridiculous it has gotten,” he adds.

“World Athletics have now said that they will look closely at this and that it may get banned. You have to draw the line somewhere. But they’ve possibly been guilty of turning their eye off the technicalities of the rules on equipment, because it’s been so many years that someone has come up with something like this.” The problem that arises with the shoes is that it provides an imbalance between the use of technology and actual talent.

“You’re not denigrating the athlete about how much hard work they’ve put in training, that’s not the point. All generations of athletes have worked very hard. We respect that. But they have to respect the fact that these shoes give them a huge advantage,” Hutchings adds. For now though, until World Athletics says otherwise, the shoes are legal and free to be used in competition. And so it’s up to Lagat to use it, bearing in mind he came within a minute close of breaking the course record in Mumbai last year.

Later on during the press meet, he makes it clear that at that point in time he wasn’t wearing the Vaporfly. But then he adds: “(On race day) yeah, I’ll use it.”

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