



## SC reinstates woman employee who levelled charges at ex-CJI

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE SUPREME Court has reinstated in service a woman staffer who had raised sexual misconduct allegations against former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi. Highly placed sources told *The Indian Express* that she had joined duty and proceeded on leave. All her arrears too have been cleared, the sources said.

The woman, who joined the Supreme Court in May 2014, had claimed victimisation for resisting unwelcome advances when she was posted at the residence office of former CJI Gogoi in October 2018. She claimed she was later transferred and then terminated from service.

An inquiry into her complaint by an In-House Committee, comprising Justices S A Bobde (the current CJI), Indu Malhotra and Indira Banerjee, had, however, "found no sub-



An in-house probe panel had given CJI Gogoi a clean chit

stance" in her charges and given a clean chit to the former CJI.

"The In-House Committee has found no substance in the allegations contained in the Complaint dated 19.4.2019 of a former employee of the Supreme Court of India" a May 6, 2019 notice by the office of the Supreme Court Secretary General had said. It also said that "in case of Indira Jaising vs Supreme Court of India & Anr. (2003) 5 SCC 494, it has been held that the Report of a Committee constituted as a part of the In-House Procedure is not liable to be made public."

The women staffer, who had withdrawn from the proceedings of the inquiry committee on

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## On Azad plea, court modifies order: He can visit Delhi, join poll process

ANAND MOHAN J  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

MODIFYING THE conditions it had imposed in granting bail to Bhim Army chief Chandrashekar Azad, a Delhi court Tuesday allowed him to visit Delhi, observing that "in a democracy, when election is the biggest celebration which should have maximum participation, it is fair that he should also participate".

On January 15, while granting him bail following his arrest last month over protests against the new citizenship law, Additional Sessions Judge Kamini Lau had restrained Azad from visiting Delhi for the next four weeks in view of the approaching Delhi Assembly elections. She had noted he was not a Delhi voter.

Azad moved an application for modification of the bail conditions through his lawyer Mahmood Pracha. On Tuesday, ASJ Lau directed Azad to provide the schedule of his visit to the DCP concerned, and mark his attendance before him wherever he intends to visit Delhi for medical treatment or for the purpose of elections. Azad will have to stay at the address provided by

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## Before London, ED found a Thampi link to Vadra — in Faridabad village

Thampi gave Rs 50 cr to realtor who repurchased land from Vadra: Probe

JAY MAZOOMDAAR & RITU SARIN  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

BEFORE IT arrested Dubai-based businessman C C Thampi in connection with a case of alleged money laundering against Robert Vadra, son-in-law of Congress president Sonia Gandhi, and absconding arms dealer Sanjay Bhandari, the Enforcement Directorate conducted an independent probe into land deals in Amipur village in Faridabad district of Haryana.

Other than Thampi, the banking transactions and alleged role



Records show Thampi bought land from Vadra aide Mahesh Nagar

of a real estate dealer, Harbans Lal Pahwa, were also scrutinized by ED as part of the probe. Pahwa had previously been a director in Real Earth Estates, a company

owned by Vadra.

Thampi, according to ED, is an associate of Vadra and helped him invest in real estate assets in London — he runs Skylight FZE in Dubai which shares its name with a company owned by Vadra in India.

But long before this, there was another link. Land records of 2005, accessed by *The Indian Express*, show Thampi bought land from Vadra's former aide Mahesh Nagar in Amipur village in Faridabad. Nagar pooled and purchased land for Vadra — he has been under the ED scanner since 2016 in connection with land deals in Haryana and

Rajasthan.

Between 2005 and 2008, as reported by *The Indian Express* in 2017, Thampi, his Holiday City Centre Pvt Ltd, Vadra and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra purchased adjacent tracts of agricultural land in Amipur. At least one of these plots was in possession (kashtkari) of Nagar when Thampi's Holiday City Centre Pvt Ltd purchased it.

"I pooled some land for him (Thampi) and helped in a few

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## Coronavirus: Screening of China flights at 7 airports

ABANTIKA GHOSH

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

INDIA HAS started thermal screening of passengers at seven airports to check the possible influx of coronavirus, which has infected over 300 people in China's Wuhan province leading to one death so far.

Thermal screening will be done for passengers arriving from China, including Hong Kong, at the Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Kochi airports, apart from the three identified earlier in Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata.

In a statement, the Ministry of Civil Aviation said: "Thermal screening of passengers to be undertaken. Provision of space at the pre-immigration area with logistics to install the thermal cameras to be made at these airports. Airlines staff to bring the passengers to the health counters before the immigration check."

The Health Ministry has already issued a travel advisory for people travelling to China.

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## ADJUSTED GROSS REVENUE

# Telecom firms get some time on dues to Govt

SC agrees to hear their plea seeking nod for negotiating payment timeline

AASHISH ARYAN  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

IN A reprieve to telecom companies Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea, and Tata Group's Tata Teleservices, the Supreme Court Tuesday agreed to hear their plea seeking permission to negotiate the timeline for payment of adjusted gross revenues (AGR) with the Department of Telecommunications next week.

On Monday, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone had moved the court seeking permission to "work out feasible terms mutually with DoT" to ensure they remained a "going concern". Less than a week before, the court had turned down a review petition seeking an extension in the payment schedule.

The matter will now be listed before the same bench led by Justice Arun Mishra, which had initially ruled on the AGR issue, Chief Justice of India S A Bobde said. Whether the fresh petition filed will be heard in the open

## EXPLAINED Positive for Airtel, Vodafone

THE MOVE by the Supreme Court to admit the modification plea is being seen as a positive for telecom players Vodafone and Airtel. This has raised hope that telecom operators may be allowed to negotiate a sustainable schedule with the department of telecommunications for payment of AGR dues.

court or in chambers will be decided by Justice Mishra-led bench, he said.

Both Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea, which have much larger AGR liabilities than other telecom and non-telecom players, have already provisioned Rs 34,767 crore and

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## Sarpanch to daily wage, many line up in Valley to meet Naqvi with grievances

NAVEED IQBAL  
SRINAGAR, JANUARY 21

FROM A village sarpanch and a daily wage labourer to members of the Tribal Welfare Forum, many turned up to submit memorandums to Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Naqvi Tuesday afternoon and drawing his attention to their concerns including road connectivity, internet, electricity supply and poor salaries.

The first Union minister to visit the Kashmir Valley after



At Harwan near Srinagar, Tuesday. Shuaib Masoodi

Union Home Minister Amit Shah desired his colleagues reach out to the people of Jammu and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Firozabad FIRs same, accused fear will be blamed for deaths



Ahmed, a cancer patient, is among those booked

SHYAMLAL YADAV  
FIROZABAD, JANUARY 21

THE FIROZABAD police registered FIRs against eight people under the Arms Act following the December 20 protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, resulting in seven deaths. FIRs against five mention they were rounded up in an "injured" condition, while six FIRs claim the accused had "confessed" to have fired from illegal weapons. Relatives of the eight accused fear the FIRs could be a way of holding them responsible for the casualties.

Police are still investigating the cause of the seven deaths. Postmortems in case of six failed to recover bullets, as reported by *The Indian Express* earlier.

Thirteen people are in judicial custody for the Firozabad anti-CAA violence, including the

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Amit Shah in Lucknow on Tuesday. Vishal Srivastav

## Protesters can protest but we are not going to withdraw CAA: Shah

MAULSHREE SETH  
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 21

UNDERSCORING THE government's hard line, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said Tuesday that those who wish to protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act can do so but the new law would not be withdrawn under any circumstance.

Addressing a rally in support of the law in Lucknow, Shah said: "Main aaj Lucknow ki bhumi se danke ki chot pe kehne aya hun,

jisko virodh karna hai kar de, Citizenship (Amendment) Bill vapas nahi hone wala hai (Today, I want to say in Lucknow without any hesitation that whoever wants to protest can do so but the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill would not be withdrawn)."

Shah also told the gathering that a sky-high Ram Temple will come up in Ayodhya in the next three months. Targeting the Opposition, Shah said SP chief Akhilesh Yadav can criticise him or his party but if he "speaks

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## THE IDEAS PAGE



IN PURSUIT OF TRUTH AND JUSTICE  
BY RAM NATH KOVIND  
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## BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNNY



## GOVT & POLITICS

SC: RETHINK SPEAKER'S POWER TO DISQUALIFY  
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## Nepal getaway for old classmates from Kerala ends in tragedy, 8 dead

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ANCHOR

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE, SHAJU PHILIP & VISHNU VARMA  
KATHMANDU, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JANUARY 21



At Praveen Nair's house in Thiruvananthapuram

WHEN OLD classmates and good friends decide to get together, it is an occasion to cherish forever. And so it was on Monday night for automobile engineers, Praveen K Nair and Ranjith Kumar A P, as they huddled together with their wives and children in one room of a resort 50 km from Kathmandu.

Until Tuesday morning — when all of them were found unconscious, choked by fumes from the kerosene heater they had kept on through the night

with the windows shut. "They were brought here in a helicopter where doctors declared them dead on arrival," sources at the HAMS Hospital in Kathmandu told *The Indian Express*.

By then, local police had put out a list: Praveen K Nair (39), his wife Saranya (34), their three children, Sreebhadr (9), Aarcha (8) and Abhinav (7), and Ranjith Kumar (39), his wife

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## GULF DREAM ALMOST OVER FOR THE AVERAGE MALAYALI: WRITER BENYAMIN

The 49-year-old writer spoke to *indianexpress.com* on the sidelines of the Kerala Literature Festival in Kozhikode about his process of writing, his affection for the marginalised and the dwindling importance of the Gulf for Kerala. On anti-CAA protests, he said it was the duty of writers to speak courageously.

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President Donald Trump and Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan at the World Economic Forum in Davos on Tuesday. AP

## Trump meets Imran in Davos, offers 'help' on Kashmir issue

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 22

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Tuesday reiterated his offer to "help" on the Kashmir issue, as he met Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan in Davos, Switzerland on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum.

Interestingly, Trump volunteered the US's "help" even before Khan spoke — without any prompting or provocation. Addressing the media with Khan at his side, Trump said, "We are talking about Kashmir and in relation to what is going on with Pakistan and India and if we can help — we certainly will be helping. We've been following that and watching it very very closely."

Khan said it was the US which will be able to help resolve the issue, and said that he had pinned his hopes on the US President.

This is the fourth time that Trump has made such an offer — each time, India has rejected his proposal.

His latest offer comes in the backdrop of talks between Delhi and Washington about Trump possibly visiting India this year, anytime between February and September.

On July 22, 2019, Trump, with

Khan by his side in Washington, said that he would "love to be a mediator" in the Kashmir issue. A month later, Trump stunned New Delhi by claiming that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had asked him to mediate on Kashmir. The US President looked on as Modi made clear that all issues with Pakistan are bilateral, and India doesn't bother any other country about them.

Then in September, Trump said he had discussed Kashmir with the leaders of India and Pakistan during his meetings with them and had offered to help with "arbitration or mediation" to the two "nuclear-armed neighbours" who have to "work it out".

"You look at the two gentlemen heading those two countries, two good friends of mine. I said, fellows work it out, just work it out. Those are two nuclear countries, gotta work it out," he had said.

India has always maintained that Kashmir is a bilateral issue, and no third party has any role in it. Pakistan has been trying to internationalise the Kashmir issue after India withdrew the special status of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, but New Delhi has asserted the abrogation of Article 370 was its internal matter.

## 1984 ANTI-SIKH RIOTS

## SIT seeks to probe 10 cases closed by Kanpur police

MANISH SAHU  
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 21

NEARLY A year after a Special Investigation Team (SIT) was formed by the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh to examine and re-investigate 1984 anti-Sikh riot cases of Kanpur, it will move the court to seek permission to further investigate 10 cases in which the local police had earlier filed closure reports. The SIT has also sent a report to the government seeking permission to file an appeal against the lower court's judgment in five other cases.

The SIT's decision comes days after the state Cabinet gave the status of a police station to the SIT, empowering it to investigate cases and initiate legal

procedures.

As many as 1,251 cases were registered and 127 people were killed in Kanpur during the riots that broke out after the assassination of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1984. Except for 153 cases, police had then filed closure reports in all other cases.

The SIT had earlier identified 39 cases of heinous crimes like murder and dacoity, in which the police had earlier filed chargesheet in 11 and submitted closure reports in the remaining 28, citing various grounds.

"The 10 cases in which 35 people were killed have been initially selected for further investigation as the complainants and witnesses in these cases have agreed to support the SIT," said an officer of the SIT.

## Ex-Union minister Birender Singh resigns from Rajya Sabha

ENS & PTI  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

FORMER UNION minister and BJP leader Birender Singh has resigned from his Rajya Sabha membership, according to an official communique issued on Tuesday. "Chaudhary Birender Singh has resigned his seat in the

Rajya Sabha and his resignation has been accepted by the Chairman with effect from January 20, 2020," the statement from the Rajya Sabha Secretariat said. Birender Singh was a member of the Rajya Sabha from Haryana and his membership was due to end on August 1, 2022. He became a member of the Upper House for the third time on August 2, 2016.

FROM PAGE ONE  
Ex-CJI

the ground that she was not allowed legal representation, had expressed disappointment over the findings.

Soon after the controversy erupted in April 2019, the office of the Supreme Court Secretary General had, in a statement, "denied" the charges, calling them "absolutely false and scurrilous". The woman staffer had also alleged that her husband and brother-in-law, both posted with Delhi Police, were suspended in the months after she was fired from her job.

In June 2019, The Indian Express reported that both her husband and brother-in-law had been reinstated in Delhi Police.

In March 2019, a case of cheating and criminal intimidation was filed against her over allegations that she had taken money from a man on the promise of getting him a job in the top court. The Delhi Police subsequently filed a closure report in the case which was accepted by the court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate.

## Firozabad

eight under the Arms Act. All 13 are facing charges under Section 307 of the IPC, which is attempt to murder, along with crimes like dacoity and damaging public and private property, rioting and criminal intimidation.

Five of the eight Arms Act accused are daily wagers, one is a college student, one a mosque priest, while the eighth is a shopowner suffering from cancer. *The Indian Express* visited each of their families and went through the FIRs against them.

As per police, five of the accused — Mateen, Shoel, Aqib, Imran (actual name Nadeem) and Qasim (the FIRs have only their first names) — were arrested from the Naini Glass roundabout in the town, falling under Rasulpur Police Station. The FIRs under the Arms Act against all are exact copies of each other, mentioning "... (accused told police that) during the incident Hashim, Furqan, Shahjad, Golu, Bhaiye were also with us. They ran away from the spot. Some people are injured from their firing. We can't identify those who are injured among crowd. We fired but we don't know who were hit by our bullets. We are sorry for that... Some people were injured by firing of protesters and those were taken away by some people from the crowd."

The complaints add that the five arrested are "seriously injured", adding, "... they told that they were injured because of stone pelting, firing, running away and falling down". The other three FIRs under the Arms Act were registered at Firozabad South Police Station. The FIR against Ali Shan says he "fired on police with the intention of killing" and was arrested from near the Urvashi roundabout. The FIRs against cancer patient Ahmed, 49, and BSc student Faraz are identical too, each saying the accused was caught with 315 bore "tamancha (countrymade firearm)" and four accomplices carrying iron rods. They have also been booked for looting a police post and destroying property.

Ali Shan's father Hazi Aslam says, "My son had gone to invite a relative for my daughter's nikah but police caught him." Incidentally, the FIR gets both Shan and Aslam's names wrong, calling them Alyan and Aqram respectively. The advocate representing Shan, Mohammed Nagheen, said they had requested police to correct it.

Former Firozabad MLA Asim Bhai, who is helping the families, says, "From the FIR I fear police may hold these poor people guilty for the killing of the protesters."

Ahmed has been receiving

## Telcos buy time on payment of dues

Rs 44,700 crore, respectively, for clearing dues. The apex court's agreement to hear the case, however, could offer the telcos a breather since they were required to clear their AGR dues by January 23, according to the Supreme Court judgment of October 24.

Following the court's decision Tuesday, the Vodafone Idea stock closed the day nearly 22 per cent higher, while that of Bharti Airtel ended marginally higher.

On October 24, the court had agreed with the DoT's definition of AGR, and said the companies, both telecom and non-telecom, must pay all dues to the government along with interest and penalty. Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea had

then unsuccessfully tried to persuade the DoT to relax the deadline for payment of dues. Having failed, the companies then moved the court for a review of the October 24 judgment.

The review petition, which was dismissed by the court last week, did not give any extension on the deadline for paying AGR dues either. With the option of the review petition also lost, both telcos had on Monday sought modification in the supplementary order in which the court had asked all companies to pay AGR dues within three months from October 24, 2019, and file a compliance report.

In its plea, Vodafone Idea had said that it was "facing a huge financial stress and is not

in a position to make either up front payment of the amounts due or provide any financial bank guarantees to securitise the amounts due".

"It is therefore impossible for the appellant (Vodafone Idea) to make the entire payment of the aforesaid dues within the short period of three months," the plea said. The company has also said that a loss of Rs 50,898 crore in the July-September quarter had "eroded the net worth and the cash balance".

Bharti Airtel had, on the other hand, stressed upon the financial viability of the companies and possibility of large scale job losses if no relief was given. "The payment of the due amounts, totaling to over thou-

sands of crores, without proper assessment and financial calculations, and appropriate time period for payment, will not only cause irreparable damage to the appellants (Bharti Airtel), but to the telecom industry at large leading to possible disruption of a public utility service owing to bad financial position of telecom companies," Bharti Airtel said in its plea.

The combined payout by all telecom companies could be as high as Rs 1.43 lakh crore after the dues for spectrum usage charges linked to AGR is taken into account. The court's judgment on AGR had also impacted non-telecom public sector enterprises, such as GAIL, Power Grid, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and RailTel.

## Thampi link to Vadra — in Faridabad village

deals. But he (Thampi) bought most of his land in Amipur through local dealers," Nagar told *The Indian Express* last year. He refused to comment on the nature of the association between Thampi and Vadra. Queries to Thampi and Vadra for comments also remained unanswered.

The ED has found that 42 acres of land were first purchased by real estate dealer Pahwa in 2005-2006 (in three parcels) and, in each case, sold almost at the same price to Vadra within months of the purchase.

The same parcels of land at Amipur, the ED found, were subsequently — between October and December 2010 — sold back to Pahwa by Vadra, at a "substantial profit". For in-

stance, 12 acres bought by Vadra for Rs 32.4 lakh was repurchased by Pahwa for Rs 95 lakh; 20 acres bought for Rs 54 lakh was sold back for Rs 1.55 crore; and, 10 acres purchased for Rs 26.5 lakh was sold back to Pahwa for Rs 50 lakh.

The ED, after scrutinising bank accounts of Pahwa and land records of Amipur, has concluded that the profits were made by Vadra even before the registry of the land parcels, and that Pahwa had repurchased the lands even when he had a negative cash balance in his accounts.

The ED found that around the time the transactions were being done, Thampi made a huge cash payment to Pahwa. This is what the ED has concluded: "C C Thampi who had

financial dealings with Sanjay Bhandari had deposited cash of Rs 50 crores to H L Pahwa which was used for several land dealings and Robert Vadra is admittedly a friend of both C C Thampi and Sanjay Bhandari."

The ED has also connected the Amipur land dealings with agreements signed with the DLF Group for development projects in Amipur. The ED's findings state: "It is a matter of record that Shri Vadra had admitted receiving Rs 5 crores as advance from DLF Group for arranging the land at village Amipur for the company."

As reported by The Indian Express in April 2017, the DLF Group had also confirmed the proposed projects on lands belonging to Vadra but stated that

the deal eventually fell through. The Indian Express had also spoken to Pahwa shortly after the original purchase of lands and he had admitted it was Thampi who asked him to re-purchase the parcels of land from Vadra.

A DLF statement to The Indian Express in 2017 had stated: "In 2008-09, Skylight Group offered us an opportunity to purchase a parcel of land in Faridabad and accordingly, DLF advanced Rs 15 crores in instalments. After concluding the due diligence, we found that there were legal infirmities in the land and decided against the purchase. Accordingly, we requested for refund of our advance which was refunded in totality by the Skylight Group."

treatment for throat cancer at Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital in Jaipur for five years. While the FIR against him makes no mention of an injury, an X-ray conducted on December 23 (two days after his arrest) mentions "tebia & fibula fracture of Rt Leg" and "fracture of left hand" and "bone of 1st metacarpal fracture".

Brother Md Afghani says, "I met him in jail. He told me police had beaten him and his fractures were a result of that."

On January 2, Ahmed was shifted to Agra's S N Medical College, where he was operated upon on January 19. A medical report says he has fractures in the right leg, ulna and a finger in the left hand.

Mateen's father Saleem says, "He had gone to get medicines for me. Police say he was with a countrymade pistol, but it is all a lie. Mateen always kept away from disputes and has no criminal record."

Says Aqib's father Nayeem, "I met him in jail and he had injuries on both hands and legs and a bandage on his head. He told me that police beat him, put a pistol in his hand and clicked a picture."

Akhlaq, the father of Faraz, says, "I have videos that show police entered my shop with some local goons, broke CCTV cameras and set fire to the goods (he sells wood). They then caught Faraz from here."

Incidentally, police post-incharge Rajiv Chitranshi, who booked Faraz and Ahmed, was recently attached to Police Lines as punishment for serving notices under the CrPC against a person dead for six years and against an ailing 90-plus man.

Additional Superintendent of Police Rajesh Kumar, the head of the Special Investigation Team probing cases related to the anti-CAA protests, said, "Nothing new has come out so far. We will in-

vestigate all angles, use the video footage we have."

Of the 13 in judicial custody for the December 20 violence, bail applications of seven have been rejected while pleas of the remaining six are to be heard on Wednesday. Those denied bail have said they would approach the Allahabad High Court.

## Amit Shah

against Bharat Mata", he "will be put behind bars".

Referring to his presence at the rally, Shah claimed that the need was felt for an awareness campaign for the Act because the Opposition was "spreading rumours". "Rumours are being spread across the nation... riots are being carried out, arson is being carried out, these protests, this opposition is the result of rumours spread by the Congress, SP, BSP and Trinamool," he said. Shah said that under the Act, citizenship would be granted and not taken away from any one.

Speaking at the rally, UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath alleged that anti-CAA protesters were being paid to commit arson and that people were being misled.

Adityanath also alleged that "there is a conspiracy" against the country and that Opposition parties, including Congress and SP, were "speaking the language of enemies". "Politics at the cost of the country will not be accepted at any cost," he said.

## Naqvi

Kashmir, Naqvi interacted with almost a dozen delegations after addressing an audience of about 350 people at the Block Development Office in Harwan, on the outskirts of Srinagar.

"*Kahin na kahin, is swarg ko kisi ki nazar lag gayi hai*. Sometimes corruption, sometimes mis-governance, has hindered your progress, needs and development," said Union

Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Naqbi addressing an audience of about 350 at the Block Development Office in Harwan Tuesday afternoon.

Noting that corruption has harmed this 'paradise on earth', Naqvi said, "For many years, the Centre has provided funds in crores for your progress, employment, roads, health, water supply and power development, but it would reach only a few people and you would never reap the benefits of it. Now, those benefits will reach you directly. The is Modi sahab's and the Central government's endeavour."

He did not make any mention of the revocation of Article 370 or J&K being made a UT. "Now, we need to revive this paradise and instil faith among its residents that they are not just equal partners in the development of the country but also stakeholders in this." He listed schemes for scholarships and skill development, the Haj quota and the Hunar hub and other government programmes such as the Jan Dhan Yojana.

Abdul Gani Malik, 60, and sarpanch of Panzinara, a village on the outskirts of Srinagar, said, "The village has poor water supply and urgently needs a hospital. We have repeatedly petitioned for it and we are here to make the same request again."

Mushtaq Ahmad, a daily wage labourer from Faqir Gujri near Harwan, said, "All the other politicians are behind bars. But we still need to take our concerns somewhere. If these ministers come here all the way, then may be they can help us. We hold that hope from them."

During the day, Naqvi inaugurated the Malru bridge at Harwan built at a cost of Rs 16 crore, and a control room for the Forest Department at Bemina. He also laid the foundation for a Higher Secondary School in Dara

to be constructed at a cost of Rs 1 crore. Responding to a media question about Congress criticism of the outreach exercise, he said, "We have come here with a positive approach and mindset, not to critique anyone or respond to criticism. We want to bring positive and effective change in the lives of the people here and that is why we have come here, for outreach and dialogue."

Some eight other ministers are expected to visit different districts in Kashmir through the week.

## Coronavirus

Coronaviruses are a specific family of viruses, with some causing less-severe damage such as common cold, and others causing respiratory and intestinal diseases. The latest outbreak in Wuhan has led to pneumonia-like symptoms in patients.

According to WHO, the situation is still evolving and preliminary investigations suggest links to the seafood market.

## Azad plea

him in the application for modification of bail conditions.

Azad took to Twitter to welcome the order: "I thank the court for giving me permission to enter Delhi. This will embolden people's faith in the judiciary. This is a win for the Constitution. I will come tomorrow to Delhi. I will not allow the BJP which is breaking this country to form their Government in Delhi."

When the prosecution communicated their apprehension to the court that Azad's stay in Delhi could be a threat, Pracha told the court: "He is the only person who has been stopped from protesting in Delhi. In their heart... you will not believe, it is because he is a Scheduled Caste." The ASJ said, "I do not accept

these arguments which are tainted. Do not put words in their mouth."

## Nepal

Indu Lakshmi (34) and their son Vaishnav (2).

And soon, the news of the eight deaths travelled 3,000 km south to Kerala from where the families hailed — Praveen from Thiruvananthapuram and Ranjith from Kozhikode. The only consolation: Ranjith's elder son Madhav (7) had slept in another room of the Everest Panorama Resort last night.

Praveen was working in Dubai, Saranya was pursuing an M.Pharm, and the family was based in Kochi. Friends and neighbours at Praveen's parents' home in Thiruvananthapuram said they disconnected the cable connection as soon as they got the news because his father had recently survived a heart attack.

What added to the trauma, they said, were initial reports that one of Praveen's children had survived before it became clear that the survivor was Ranjith's son.

"Praveen had told me that he would be here for a festival at the local temple that was scheduled to begin on January 29. In fact, he had planned the visit to Kerala keeping the festival in mind," said Aji Dinesh, a neighbour.

Ranjith, who worked at the Technopark in Thiruvananthapuram, had recently launched his own IT venture in Kozhikode. "Indu had recently started working as a clerk with a cooperative bank. The family had been constructing a house and Ranjith was trying to put his new IT venture on track," their neighbour, C P Zakir Husain, told The Indian Express.

According to police in Nepal, the two families were part of a group of 15 from Kerala who had stopped over at Daman while travelling from Pokhara to Kathmandu.

Officials in Kerala said Praveen and Ranjith had graduated together from an engineering college in Thiruvananthapuram in 2004. The 15-member group — families of four engineers — had left Kochi Saturday, they said.

"The two groups of tourists from Kerala checked into two rooms in a hotel in Daman, six in one and eight in another room. All the eight in one room were found unconscious in the morning and immediately flown to Kathmandu's HAMS Hospital. The other six who stayed in a separate room are fine," police in Nepal said.

Officials said the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu is coordinating with families and relatives of the victims. The Embassy said in a statement that it "received information today morning regarding 8 Indian National tourists from Kerala being found unconscious in their hotel room in Daman, Makwanpur District, Nepal".

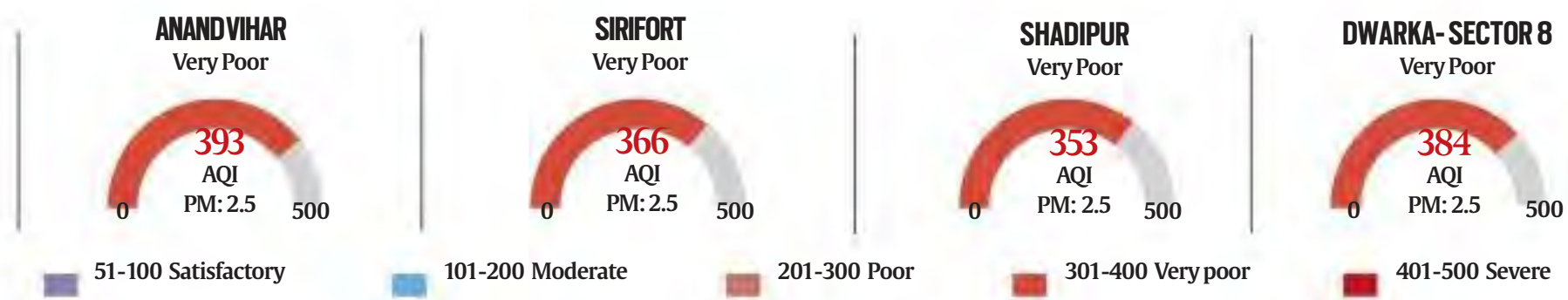
"All 8 were airlifted and brought to a hospital in Kathmandu. A doctor from this mission was also immediately sent to the hospital to check on the welfare of patients and to co-ordinate/ provide necessary assistance. However, we have now been informed that all 8 patients did not survive," it said.

"Our doctor, along with a member of the group, is in the hospital. Other group members and family from India/Dubai are on their way to Kathmandu. Contact details of Mission officials have been shared with family/friends," the statement said. Condoling the deaths, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the state government has contacted the Embassy and steps have been taken for the bodies to be sent as early as possible to Kerala.

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# 3 THE CITY



## Admission process for EWS seats to begin on January 25

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE DELHI government's Directorate of Education announced that online applications against seats reserved for children from economically weaker sections (EWS) and disadvantaged groups (DG), and children with special needs (CWSN) will open on January 25 — well over a month after the process began for open seats in these schools.

The admission process for reserved seats is starting behind schedule. Applications for open seats began on December 15, two weeks earlier than the previous session. At the time, the education department said this was being done to enable the EWS/DG

and CWSN admissions to conclude early so that those children could begin school on time with other students. However, it has ended up beginning over 10 days later than last year, when it had begun on January 12.

A total of 22% of the seats in entry-level classes in all recognised private schools in Delhi are reserved for EWS/DG children, and 3% are reserved for CWSN.

The last date for submitting applications is February 24. The first computerised draw of lots will be conducted on February 29.

The department is yet to issue dates for subsequent draw of lots, in the event that seats continue to remain vacant in schools. In the previous session, the last round of draw of lots for CWSN was conducted in November, eight

months into the academic year.

Any person with proof of residence in Delhi is free to apply to these seats if they fit any of the criteria which include annual income below Rs 1 lakh, scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, other backward classes (non-creamy layer), and disabilities recognised under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, among others.

An education department official said the plan was to start the admission process for these seats on January 11, but the announcement was not made as dates for the Delhi polls were announced and the Model Code of Conduct was imposed. The department had to wait for permission from the Chief Electoral Officer, before putting out the notification.



## R-DAY PREP

Fire department personnel clean the India Gate ahead of Republic Day, Tuesday. *Tashi Tobgyal*

## Khattar says stand by position on law allowing Aravalli construction

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 21

LESS THAN a year after the Supreme Court rapped the Haryana government over a law allowing construction in the Aravalli hills and legitimising past constructions, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar Tuesday said they still stand by their position.

In February last year, the Haryana Assembly, despite stiff protest by the Opposition, passed the Punjab Land Preservation (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 2019.

Addressing a training session for legislators at the Haryana Assembly Tuesday, Khattar said, "A controversy has erupted over the amendment. We still stand by our position on it. It has reached the Supreme Court. Whatever be



**The Haryana Assembly passed the Punjab Land Preservation (Haryana Amendment) Bill last year**

the result, we should at least make our efforts." The BJP argued that the amendment to the Act — which would open up the Aravallis to non-forest activity — was needed keeping in view the "changed circumstances". The party claimed in the absence of an amendment, many constructions would face demolition.

However, the Supreme Court had restrained the state from im-

plementing this, and warned of consequences if "anything" was done to the protected area.

Khattar Tuesday said the changed circumstances had prompted them to bring an amendment in the law. "The PLPA Act was introduced in 1900. There were no roads, rivers and nullahs in the current form that time. The flood water used to flow the sand. To preserve this land from flowing, the Land Preservation Act was introduced so that trees are planted and dams are constructed. Now circumstances have changed, that's why an amendment in the law was introduced," he added.

However, environmentalists said the amendment exposed thousands of acres in the Aravallis and its foothills in Gurgaon and Faridabad districts to mining and real estate developers.

## JNUSU goes to HC, challenges hostel manual amendment

**PRITAMPAL SINGH**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE JAWAHARLAL Nehru University Students' Union Tuesday moved the Delhi High Court, and challenged the Inter-Hall Administration's (IHA) decision to amend the hostel manual which, it claimed, was passed "illegally" in October without prior discussion with the union.

The plea, by JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh and other office bearers, sought directions to the varsity to "allow JNU students to register for the winter session January 2020 as per the old fee structure as existing prior to the IHA minutes issued on October 28, 2019".

## Three women held for posing as transgenders, extracting cash

The plea, filed through their counsel Abhik Chinnai and Aman Shukla, challenged the "minutes of the Executive Council's meeting dated 13.11.2019, ratifying the IHA decision and the high-level committee's decision dated 25.11.2019, further amending the hostel manual". The plea said the "decisions are mala fide, arbitrary and adversely affect JNU students, bringing far reaching changes to the hostel manual's provisions".

Under the fee rules, students were supposed to pay a service charge of Rs 1,700 per month, which was later rolled back. Rent for a single room has been increased from Rs 20 per month to Rs 600 per month, and for a double-sharing room from Rs 10 per month to Rs 300 per month.

**Ghaziabad:** Ghaziabad Railway Police arrested three women for allegedly posing as transgenders to extract money from train passengers. Officers said that over the past few months, several passengers filed complaints with Ghaziabad's Railway Protection Force and Old Delhi Railway Station against several such accused. "The three women pretended to be transgenders and begged money from passengers in the train. If the passengers refused, they created a ruckus and coerced the person to pay," said an RPF Inspector.

Police said the women, aged between 20 and 30, would board trains at night at either Ghaziabad or Old Delhi stations and extract money from people on the way. **ENS**

**'MAY SUFFER MENTAL TRAUMA'**

## Counsel kids in Shaheen Bagh: NCPCR

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE NATIONAL Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) Tuesday issued an order to the District Magistrate of South East Delhi to identify the children involved in Shaheen Bagh protests and send them for counselling. In its order, the NCPCR said the children "may suffer from mental trauma" because of "rumours and miscommunication" regarding the CAA.

"We issued the order Tuesday. This order is based on viral videos, which show children saying things like 'Pradhan Mantri humko desh se nikal denge (if we don't show documents to the Home Minister, he will send us to detention camps)', and 'Home Minister ko kaagaz nahi dikhayenge toh who humein detention camp mein bhej denge (if we don't show documents to the Home Minister, he will send us to detention camps)'." This is the effect of rumours regarding CAA.

For the children to be affected by this and say things like this is extremely worrying. We believe the children are in need of intense counselling. If need be, their parents should also be sent for counselling," said chairperson NCPCR Priyanka Kanoongo.

Kanoongo added that it is apparent the children have suffered from deep trauma because of the "rumours floating around". He said local counselling centres are available to this end. The NCPCR has taken cognizance of the matter under

## L-G BAIJAL MEETS PROTESTERS, CALLS FOR PEACE

**New Delhi:** After parents of school-going children stressed their concerns to Delhi Police about the protests at Shaheen Bagh disrupting their children's commute to school, a delegation of protesters, including five women, met Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal, after being "approached by the administration". A member of the delegation said an alternative route will be provided to school buses passing through the area. In a statement, L-G Bajjal also appealed to the protesters to "maintain peace and order and call off their agitation". **ENS**

Section 13 of the CPR Act, 2005.

"In view of the seriousness of the issue and its impact on the children, you are requested to issue necessary directions to DCP along with Police Child Welfare Officer/SJPW to identify these children and arrange counselling session for them and also for their parents, if deemed fit. Further, if required, these children may be produced before the CWC," states the order.

The District Magistrate is to submit a report to the NCPCR within 10 days.

## Gurgaon: Man gets life term for setting kiosk owner on fire

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
GURGAON, JANUARY 21

EIGHT MONTHS after a man, who ran a kiosk in Gurgaon selling *beedi*, cigarettes and *gutkha* was set on fire by one of his customers, the accused in the case was sentenced to life imprisonment on Tuesday.

The incident took place on May 4, 2019, when the accused, Kanhaiya (21), went to the kiosk owned by Abdul Shakur.

Kanhaiya had visited the kiosk the previous day and taken one cigarette from Shakur, but had refused to pay for it. On the day of the incident, when he again took a cigarette, Shakur asked him to pay. Kanhaiya refused, poured petrol on Shakur and his stall and set fire to both. The victim succumbed to his

injuries on May 13 at Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital. The post-mortem found he had burn injuries covering "about 65% of total body surface area".

The accused was charged under IPC sections 302 (murder) and 436 (mischievous by fire or explosive substance with intent to destroy house, etc.), with the prosecution, led by Public Prosecutor Anurag Hooda, producing 18 witnesses during the trial.

Metropolitan Magistrate Dhonchak held that "interests of justice would be served if the convict is ordered to undergo life imprisonment and pay a fine of Rs 1,00,000 for the offence punishable under section 302 and undergo rigorous imprisonment for three years and pay a fine of Rs 10,000 for the offence punishable under IPC Section 436".

## BRIEFLY

### 2 held for killing, robbing train waiter

**New Delhi:** Police Tuesday arrested two men for allegedly robbing and stabbing to death a 36-year-old waiter on the Bhopal-Shatabdi Express five days ago.

### Bawana gang member held

**New Delhi:** Delhi Police's Special Cell arrested a member of the Neeraj Bawana gang, who had a reward of Rs 1 lakh on him and was wanted in a MCOCA case, police said.

### Woman, son found dead

**New Delhi:** A 36-year-old woman and her minor son were found dead at their home in North West Delhi's Jahangirpuri. **ENS**

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(Formerly known as Swaraj Mazda Limited)

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Email : investors@smlisuzu.com Website address: www.smlisuzu.com

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on 7th February, 2020 (Friday) to consider and approve the unaudited financial results for the third quarter and nine months ended 31st December, 2019. The information is also available on the Company's website [www.smlisuzu.com](http://www.smlisuzu.com) and also on the website of the Stock Exchanges viz. BSE Limited- [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited- [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com)

Dated: 21.01.2020  
Place: Chandigarh

For SML ISUZU LIMITED  
(PARVESH MADAN)  
Company Secretary

Advt. No. 07/2020

**Government of India**

**Public Enterprises Selection Board**

invites applications for the post of  
**CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR**

in  
**CENTRAL COALFIELDS LIMITED**

Last date of receipt of applications in  
PESB is by **15:00 hours**  
on **26th MARCH, 2020.**

For details login to website  
<http://www.pesb.gov.in>

**The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library**  
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The First Nationalist Reconstruction  
of the Revolt of 1857"**

by

**Prof. Bhagwan Josh**  
Formerly at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

**Thursday, 23 January 2020 at 3.00 pm**  
Venue: Seminar Room, Library Building  
Nehru Memorial Museum and Library  
Teen Murti House, New Delhi-110011

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# 210 candidates fielded by 3 parties, 24 women



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

AMONG THE three big political parties, the Bharatiya Janata Party is the only one to have fielded fewer women contestants this time in the Delhi Assembly elections than they did in 2015.

In the last elections, BJP's tally of women candidates was the highest among the three.

Both the Aam Aadmi Party and the Congress have fielded more women candidates this time around, with the latter doubling its numbers.

While in 2015, only five of the 70 candidates were women, this time the Congress has fielded 10—the highest among the main three.

The AAP, which had fielded six women candidates in 2015, has fielded nine this time.

One of them, Preeti Tomar from Tri Nagar, however, was brought in after the Delhi High Court set aside her husband Jitender Singh Tomar's election for giving false declaration regarding his educational qualification in his nomination papers in 2015.



Congress's Alka Lamba, AAP's Sarita Singh and BJP's Kiran Vaidya are among the 24 women contesting the Assembly polls this year.



The BJP, which had fielded eight women candidates in 2015, is fielding five this year.

The Congress has not repeated any candidate from the last elections, when they had

failed to win a single seat.

However, Alka Lamba, who had contested from the Chandni Chowk constituency as an AAP candidate and won, will fight on a Congress ticket from

the same constituency.

Similarly, Krishna Tirath, who had contested unsuccessfully from Patel Nagar on a BJP ticket, will be fighting on a Congress ticket from the same

constituency.

The AAP has some repetitions. Sarita Singh, who had won from Rohtas Nagar in 2015, will be contesting again. Similarly, Bhavna Gaur from Palam, Rakhi Birla from Mangolpuri, Bandana Kumari from Shalimar Bagh, and Parmila Tokas from R K Puram have been given another chance.

The BJP, too, has repeated a few names. Kiran Vaidya from Trilokpuri, who had lost to the AAP candidate in 2015, has been given another chance. Similarly, Rekha Gupta will be fighting again in Shalimar Bagh.

Pooja Bhari, a member of Congress's manifesto committee, said the decision to have more women voters was a conscious one.

"DPCC chief Subhash Chopra had stressed that we would give more chances to the youth and women," she said.

BJP women's wing head Poonam Parashar Jha said the party had given tickets on the "winnability factor". "We gave tickets on two more constituencies than the ones reserved for women," she said.

"We always had a very progressive approach towards women and the party has always encouraged women to take leadership positions. While in government, we cleared the free bus ride policy for women, which is the single biggest tool of empowerment," said Jasmine Shah, member of AAP's manifesto committee.

## AAP fields Preeti Tomar in husband's place at Tri Nagar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE AAP has fielded Preeti Tomar from the Tri Nagar seat, replacing her husband Jitender Singh Tomar, whose election was recently set aside by the Delhi High Court over false declaration of educational qualifications in his nomination paper in 2015.

Tomar held the post of the Law Minister till his education qualifications came under the scanner. A party leader confirmed the move, saying the leadership asked him to step aside after the court verdict. Preeti filed her nomination papers on Monday.

ABJP delegation led by Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri had earlier met Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora seeking the cancellation of Tomar's candidature from the Tri Nagar seat, which he had won in 2015 by a margin of over 22,000 votes against BJP's Nand Kishore Garg.

When contacted, Tomar said, "I don't want to contest the polls. I conveyed my position to the party leadership who accepted my suggestion regarding my wife replacing me. I want to work for the organisation."

ADVERTISEMENT FOR VENDOR'S REGISTRATION

On behalf of President of India, Commanding officer of the 324 Field Hospital invites dealers for registration for supplying medical/surgical/dental and lab items for the financial year 2020-21. During the process of registration the firms must have had an annual turnover worth 75 lakh or more per year. The same must be dully authenticated by a chartered accountant.

Registration forms/pre requisite documents with terms and conditions are available with Adjutant office 324 Field Hospital. They will be available for issue up to 29 Feb 2020. The application form may be deposited by hand or by post to 324 Field Hospital C/O 56 APO. Organisation is not liable for any postal delay.

Last date and time for deposit of application is 20 Mar 2020 by 1400 hrs. No application will be accepted after this any reason what-so-ever

Commanding Officer, 324 Field Hospital

**Government of Odisha,**  
**e-Procurement Notice**  
**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**  
Bid Identification No. S.E. Dkl.(R&B) 08/2019-20  
Email Id-seedklpww@gmail.com

Letter No 125 / Dt. 20/01/2020

The Superintending Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system to be received in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road work as detailed in the table below:-

1. Name of the work	: Bridge work
2. No. of works	: 01 (One) No
3. Estimated Cost	: Rs. 4,99,82,996/-
4. Cost of tender paper	: Rs. 10,000.00
5. Class of contractor	: "A" & "Special" Class
6. Period of Completion of work	: 11 (Eleven) Calendar months
7. Date and time of availability of bid Document in the website	: From Dt. 27.01.2020 to 16.00 hours of Dt. 10.02.2020
8. Date of opening of bid	: Dt. 11.02.2020 at 11.30 hours

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal: [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in). Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/-

Superintending Engineer

Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal

34132/11/0009/1920

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION, LUCKNOW

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

No.RE-Ten-Civ-LKO-G-283-FSC-05 Date. 20.01.2020

Dy Chief Engineer, Railway Electrification, Lucknow acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender for the works mentioned below.

Sr. Name of work - Fabrication and fixing of assembly of G-3/L Type Glazed insulated Rail Joint in situ/On cess/running tracks for broad gauge 60 kg/52kg with all contractors material as per RDSO specification in connection with Railway Electrification of Group No. 280, 281, 283, 284, 243, 302 & 305 etc. under Railway Electrification Lucknow Unit.

1. Tender No.	RE-Ten-Civ-LKO-G-283-FSC-05
2. Tender Type	Open
3. Period of Completion	12 Months
4. Advertised Value (₹)	8915590.00
5. Earnest Money (₹)	178300.00
6. Tender Closing Date Time	12/02/2020 15:00 hrs
7. Validity of Offer ( Days )	45
8. Bidding System	Single Packet System
9. Date & Time for sub-mission of E-tender and opening of tender	Tender may be uploaded upto 15.00 hrs on 12.02.2020 on IREPS web site <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> . The bidder can participate in the E-tender, the tender will be opened after 15.00 hrs on 12.02.2020.
10. Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document	The detailed e-tender notice and tender document is available on <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

wef 21.01.2020 till 12.02.2020 at 15:00 hrs. Above tender document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS web site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) from 29.01.2020 to 12.02.2020. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document.

(V.K.Gupta)

Dy.Chief Engineer, Railway Electrification, Lucknow

For & On behalf of President of India

"Serving Customers with a Smile"

**OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL & HEALTH OFFICER,**  
**DISTRICT SOUTH BASTAR DANTEWADA (C.G.)**  
**Ref.No: CMHO/DMF/2019-20/484 Dantewada, Dt: 17/01/2020**  
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Office of "The Chief Medical & Health Officer, District South Bastar Dantewada, Chhattisgarh" invites Expression of Interest (EOI) Tender for Composite Turnkey Tender. Project at District Dantewada.

Name of Work- Expression Of Interest (EOI) Invited For Supply & Installation of C.T. Scan Machine With Renovation, Designing & Modulation of C.T. Scan Machine Installation Site At Radiology Department of District Hospital Dantewada As Composite Turnkey Project Including Civil, Electrical & Mechanical Course of Works Along With Designing, Renovation And Modulation of Different Works At Work Site.

Date Of Publishing Of Tender	22/01/2020 (Wednesday)
Duration Of Tender	30 Days
Pre- Bid Conference	10/02/2020 (Monday) At 4PM
Last Date Of Submission Of Tender	22/02/2020 (Saturday) At 2 PM
Opening Of Tender	22/02/2020 (Saturday) At 4 PM
Rate Of Tender Document	10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Only)
Website For More Information	<a href="http://www.dantewada.nic.in">www.dantewada.nic.in</a>
Email Id	<a href="mailto:www.cmho.dantewada@gmail.com">www.cmho.dantewada@gmail.com</a>

Note- Information In Website Is Only For Relevancy; Refer To Tender Documents After Purchasing It From Office At Office Hours.

Sd/-

Chief Medical & Health Officer

District South Bastar Dantewada (C.G.)

76275

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJNA

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

The Chief Engineer (SZ) HPPWD Shimla on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for each of the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T/Railways /other State Govt /Central Govt agencies. Non registered bidders may submit bids. However, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Sr. No.	District Division	Package No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs.Lakh)	Total Cost (Rs. Lakh)	Period of Completion of Construction (Days)	Bid Security (Rs. Lakh)	Cost of Form (Non-Refundable) (Rs.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Arki	HP-11-103	L068-C/o Kotla Pujaria (Darla) to Kayari Pipulghat km. 0/0 to 6/150. (SH:- Removal of formation deficiency, C/o retaining structure, M/T, C.D.Work & C/o RCC slab culverts 4.00 mtrs., Span, V-Shape side drain, PCC Parapets, P/F Logo, sign board, i/c five years maintenance and periodical renewal under AMP etc).	595.52	77.42	672.94	510	11.91	5000

2. Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: **10th February, 2020.**  
3. **Cost of Bid Form:** Cost of Bid form in shape of Demand Draft in favour of concerned Executive Engineer in respective Division  
4. **Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website: [www.pmgstyenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyenders.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: [www.pmgstyenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyenders.gov.in) Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.  
\* Non-registered bidders may submit bids; however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.  
5. **Submission of Original Documents:** The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4B(a) (ii) of ITB with Superintending Engineer ,3rd Circle HPPWD, Solan , on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand.  
6. **Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering:-** Last date /time for receipt of bids through e-tendering of above mentioned works are as follows:-

Sr. No.	Package No.	Last date/time for receipt of bids through e-tendering
1.	HP-11-103	11.03.2020 at 10.30 A.M.

2. The site for the work is available.  
3. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore; bids must be submitted online on website [www.pmgstyenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyenders.gov.in). The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened online at 11.00 A.M. Hours on above mentioned date in the office of Superintending Engineer, 3rd Circle HPPWD Solan by the authorized officers. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day at the same time.  
4. The bidder is not required to quote his rate for routine maintenance. The rates to be paid for routine maintenance are indicated in the Bill of Quantities. Further, the payment for routine maintenance to the contractor shall be regulated based on his performance of maintenance activities.  
**All the required materials like Cement/Steel/Bitumen/Explosive etc shall be arranged by Contractor at his own level.**  
5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than ninety days after the deadline date for bid submission.  
6. To qualify for a package of contract made up of this for which bids are invited in the same NIT, the bidder must demonstrate having experience and resources sufficient to meet the aggregate of the qualifying criteria for the individual contracts.  
7. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

(Er. Surinder Pal Jagota)

Superintending Engineer, HPPWD,3rd Circle Solan

Tel 01792-220675, Fax 01792-223802

E-mail [hp-sol@nic.in](mailto:hp-sol@nic.in)

For Chief Engineer HPPWD Shimla

Nirman Bhawan, Nigam Vihar Shimla -171002

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJNA

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

The Chief Engineer (SZ) HPPWD Shimla on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for each of the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T/Railways /other State Govt /Central Govt agencies. Non registered bidders may submit bids. However, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Sr. No.	District Division	Package No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs.Lakh)	Total Cost (Rs. Lakh)	Period of Completion of Construction (Days)	Bid Security (Rs. Lakh)	Cost of Form (Non-Refundable) (Rs.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Kasauli	HP-11-110	T02-C/o Banalgi Chandhi Bhatt-Ki-Hatti road from Km. 0/00 to 12/300 under PMGSY Stage-II in District Solan. (SH:- F.C.& filling, R/wall & B/wall, C/o C.D. Works, M/T,CC Pavement & Interlocked paver block, PCC Drain, PCC Parapets, PMGSY Logo Board,W-Metal crash Barrier and 5yrs maintenance).	971.00	126.33	1097.33	510	21.95	5000

2. Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: **1st February, 2020.**  
3. **Cost of Bid Form:** Cost of Bid form in shape of Demand Draft in favour of concerned Executive Engineer in respective Division  
4. **Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website [www.pmgstyenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyenders.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: [www.pmgstyenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyenders.gov.in) Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.  
\* Non-registered bidders may submit bids; however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.  
5. **Submission of Original Documents:** The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4B(a) (ii) of ITB with Superintending Engineer ,3rd Circle HPPWD, Solan , on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand.  
6. **Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering:-** Last date /time for receipt of bids through e-tendering of above mentioned works are as follows:-

Sr. No.	Package No.	Last date/time for receipt of bids through e-tendering
1.	HP-11-110	02.03.2020 at 10.30 A.M.

2. The site for the work is available.  
3. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore; bids must be submitted online on website [www.pmgstyenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyenders.gov.in). The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened online at 11.00 A.M. Hours on above mentioned date in the office of Superintending Engineer, 3rd Circle HPPWD Solan by the authorized officers. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day at the same time.  
4. The bidder is not required to quote his rate for routine maintenance. The rates to be paid for routine maintenance are indicated in the Bill of Quantities. Further, the payment for routine maintenance to the contractor shall be regulated based on his performance of maintenance activities.  
**All the required materials like Cement/Steel/Bitumen/Explosive etc shall be arranged by Contractor at his own level.**  
5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than ninety days after the deadline date for bid submission.  
6. To qualify for a package of contract made up of this for which bids are invited in the same NIT, the bidder must demonstrate having experience and resources sufficient to meet the aggregate of the qualifying criteria for the individual contracts.  
7. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

(Er. Surinder Pal Jagota)

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For Chief Engineer HPPWD Shimla Nirman Bhawan, Nigam Vihar Shimla -171002



I HEREBY  
DECLAREARVIND KEJRIWAL  
AAP, New Delhi

## MOVABLE ASSETS-2020

₹67.42 LAKH

## IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹2.77 Cr

## TOTAL ASSETS

₹3.44 Cr

## ASSETS IN 2015

₹2.09 Cr

SOMNATH BHARTI  
AAP, Malviya Nagar

## MOVABLE ASSETS-2020

₹42.52 LAKH

## IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹1 Cr

## TOTAL ASSETS

₹1.42 Cr

## ASSETS IN 2015

₹1.39 Cr

SHOAIB IQBAL  
AAP, Matia Mahal

## MOVABLE ASSETS-2020

₹97.76 LAKH

## IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹41.18 LAKH

## TOTAL ASSETS

₹1.38 Cr

## ASSETS IN 2015

₹94.83 LAKH

OMPRAKASH SHARMA  
BJP, Vishwas Nagar

## MOVABLE ASSETS-2020

₹9.66 Cr

## IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹12.01 Cr

## TOTAL ASSETS

₹21.67 Cr

## ASSETS IN 2015

₹19.25 Cr

SHIKHAROY  
BJP, Greater Kailash

## MOVABLE ASSETS-2020

₹2.01 Cr

## IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹5.80 Cr

## TOTAL ASSETS

₹7.81 Cr

## ASSETS IN 2015

₹6.81 Cr

## HE PLAYS DOWN DELAY, SAYS NOMINEES PART OF MY FAMILY

## Kejriwal files nomination after 7-hr wait, AAP says deliberately delayed



Accompanied by his family, Kejriwal filed his nomination at 6.30 pm on Tuesday. Tashi Tobgyal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE DELAY in the nomination-filing process of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal sparked a row Tuesday, with the Aam Aadmi Party alleging that an “organised group” of over 40 people, who also queued up to file nominations from the New Delhi seat, were fielded to “harass” the AAP chief. The District Election Officer (DEO) said the claims are false and no deliberate measure was taken to delay the nomination.

Kejriwal, accompanied by his family, reached the office of the returning officer at Jamnagar House around 11 am. As he was entering the SDM's office, a group raised slogans, accusing him of trying to jump the queue.

On entering, the CM was handed token number 45, which meant there were 44 people before him. The nomination process of every individual takes at least 30 minutes. The CM was supposed to file his nomination Monday. But in a repeat of 2015, he failed to show up on time due to a delay during his road show.

At 2.22 pm, Greater Kailash MLA Saurabh Bhardwaj tweeted, “Around 35 candidates sitting at RO office with CM, with-

out proper nomination papers, without even 10 proposers. They are calling their proposers on phone to come. They are insisting unless their papers are complete and they file nomination, they won't allow CM to file his.”

But the CM sought to play down the delay, saying it's natural for those filing nominations for the first time to make procedural mistakes. “Waiting to file my nomination. My token number is 45. There are many people here to file nomination papers. I'm so glad so many people participating in democracy,” he tweeted.

He also responded to Bhardwaj on Twitter: “Doesn't matter. Many of them are filing for the first time. They are bound to make mistakes. We also made mistakes the first time. We should handhold them. I am enjoying waiting with them. They are all part of my family.”

Bhardwaj also alleged an “organised group” of 50 candidates was showing up daily at Jamnagar House over the last four days, but leaving without filing nominations.

Kejriwal eventually managed to file his nomination at 6.30 pm.

Deputy CM Manish Sisodia alleged the election office had deliberately given 30 minutes to one hour to every candidate, includ-

ing those not having proper documentation or nominees, so that Kejriwal failed to file nomination. “Try as much as you want, BJP, you won't be able to stop Kejriwal from filing nomination, nor will you be able to stop him from becoming CM for the third time. Your conspiracy won't be successful,” he tweeted.

The DEO, in a statement, said: “Nomination of each candidate takes 30-35 minutes, depending on the sets of nomination papers. Although 3 pm was the deadline, there was a huge rush of aspiring candidates... In view of the last day of filing, candidates were allowed to file... the delay is allowed as per law.”

Meanwhile, the final phase of AAP's campaign will be centred around the slogan, “Arvind Kejriwal vs who”. It will be taken to the electorate through a series of roadshows and townhalls, covering all 70 constituencies and featuring the CM. Kejriwal will address two roadshows Wednesday across five constituencies — Burari, Badli, Adarsh Nagar, Krishna Nagar and Shahdara.

AAP Delhi convenor Gopal Rai said Kejriwal will hold eight town hall meetings till January 30, where he will speak about the promises made in the party's ‘guarantee card’.

## In Rajinder Nagar, fight between young Turks: AAP's Raghav Chadha vs Cong's Rocky Tuseed

MALLICA JOSHI  
& ASTHA SAXENA  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

A FORMER BJP bastion that has been voting for change since the past three elections, Rajinder Nagar this time around is seeing two young faces — AAP's Raghav Chadha and Congress's Rocky Tuseed — against BJP's R P Singh, who won the seat in 2013.

The constituency, which has Jat-dominated Dasghara and Yadav-dominated Todapur under it, saw a sea-change in demography in the 1950s and 60s, when thousands of displaced families made it their home after Partition. In recent years, the demography in areas such as Inderpuri, Naraina Vihar and Pandav Nagar has again changed to accommodate Purvanchalis.

On Tuesday, Chadha (31)



Chadha and (right) Tuseed are up against BJP's R P Singh



held a public meeting in Dasghara village, from where Tuseed hails. Shunning the outsider tag, which both BJP and Congress have been quick to pin on him, Chadha said the seat is far from new for him.

“This is not a new seat for me; it is my own seat. My family settled in Old Rajinder Nagar 65 years ago. My maternal grandmother lives in Naraina, I was born at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital.

I have played in the streets of Karol Bagh, Todapur and Naraina. How can I be an outsider?”

Chadha replaced sitting AAP MLA Vijender Garg to bag the ticket. He plans to bring seven area-specific manifestos for the constituency.

“In Rajinder Nagar, parking would be a big issue. In others, water quality and sanitation are major problems. I have divided

the constituency into seven areas and zeroed down on specific problems,” he said. Chadha said his main competition is with the BJP since “the Congress is irrelevant in today's time”.

Tuseed (25), born and brought up in Dasghara village, is a name people know in the area. The former DUSU president (2017-2018) was in the midst of a controversy when he was disqualified from the post in 2017 for not disclosing in his nomination form that disciplinary action had been taken against him for assaulting a student. In August 2018, he was reinstated after the Delhi High Court put on hold its

CONSTITUENCY  
WATCH

single judge order. “AAP has not done any work in the last five years. If we talk about the candidate, Raghav Chadha is an outsider. He doesn't know this area and has come here on a picnic. In Lok Sabha polls, he contested and lost from South Delhi constituency. He doesn't know the people living here and is not aware of their issues,” he said.

Singh, meanwhile, said: “I worked for the past five years despite not being an MLA of the area, and that is why the party showed faith in me. The biggest problem here is dirty water.”

(WITH INPUTS FROM ABHINAV RAJPUT)



AAP volunteers at Karawal Nagar. Express

can afford to do small things for the party,” Shinde said. Both he and Akare have campaigned in

Delhi previously. AAP's national executive member Preeti Sharma Menon

Those in line before  
CM: Owner of local  
TV channel, lawyerJIGNASA SINHA  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

A TOTAL of 66 candidates, mostly independents, filed their nominations Tuesday — the last day to do so — from the New Delhi constituency for the upcoming polls. Candidates waited outside the district magistrate office to get their documents verified and attested.

Before CM Arvind Kejriwal, over 40 people filed their nominations. One of them was independent candidate Yogi Mathur, who owns a local news channel called Prithvi Darshan and lives in Rohini. “I've come here to defeat Kejriwal, he doesn't deserve to become CM again... It's now time for me to prove what a politician can do,” he said.

K Bansal (68), a taxation advocate who claims to be a member of Bhartiya Loktantra Party, said this was his first time contesting any election.

“I've lived in Delhi for decades. Neither the Congress nor AAP have helped us. Kejriwal has not worked on improvement of roads, health institutes, schools and transport. He declares everything for free and tries to attract people. But that's not how the government should work. I recently decided



Advocate L K Bansal; (right) channel owner Yogi Mathur



to contest against him and my family supported me.” Bansal came with his wife to the DM's office at 11 am and waited till 6 pm to file his nomination.

Another independent, Pankaj Kumar, a teacher, said he wants to win the election to change policies for labourers and bus conductors: “AAP promised to give bus conductors a permanent job. They also made fake promises to other daily wagers during their term... It's time someone takes a stand for workers...”

Officials at the District Election Office said over 50 candidates were from a party that wasn't recognised or were independents. “I've been collecting papers from 11 am. After 12.30 pm, over 30 people came to file their nominations. Kejriwal was among them. The candidate from BJP also came late and was issued token number 60,” said an official.

Bagga steps out of  
Twitter shadows to  
political mainstreamABHINAV RAJPUT  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

ASWAYAMSEVAK since his teens, an Art of Living follower and founder of a T-shirt brand, Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga (34) first made headlines when he attacked Prashant Bhushan over a statement by the lawyer, calling for a referendum on Kashmir, in October 2011.

While the attack was at the time condemned by top BJP leadership, Bagga remains unrepentant. “The case is in court so I cannot comment much on it; but even today, if someone says Kashmir should be given to Pakistan, people will do the same to him,” he told *The Indian Express*, a day after he was picked by BJP to fight the Hari Nagar seat in the polls.

A Delhi BJP spokesperson since 2017, Bagga had been seeking a ticket from Tilak Nagar but in vain, party sources said. It was only when the Shiromani Akali Dal snapped ties with BJP in Delhi that Bagga's fortunes turned. Within seconds of the post-midnight announcement, he had posted a rap song on Twitter — ‘Bagga, Bagga Har Jagah’ — to “thank” everyone.

Bagga, who started his political career with the relatively unknown Bhagat Singh Kranti Sena (BSKS), has 6.5 lakh followers on Twitter, where he is often called out for posting virulent, fake or misleading tweets. Most recently, he had rallied his followers to boycott Deepika Padukone's *Chhapaak* after her JNU visit.

In 2011, he barged into India Habitat Centre and disrupted the



Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga is contesting from Hari Nagar

launch of author Arundhati Roy's book, calling her work “anti-Army and pro-Kashmir azadi”. He had also heckled Separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani at an event in 2012. His outfit also defaced walls around the Pakistan High Commission and pasted posters demanding freedom for Balochistan.

In 2015, his Bhagat Singh Kranti Sena launched an online news and opinion blog, *NaMo Patrika*, dedicated to PM Narendra Modi. The same year, he was on the team of BJP's social media influencers who got a chance to meet Modi at his official residence. Two years later, he was appointed as the party spokesperson ahead of the MCD polls.

“I've always taken stand for the country. I sat on a hunger strike for eight days to get justice for the December 2012 rape victim and another hunger strike to demand action against culprits of the 1984 Sikh massacre,” he said.

Party insiders said his “currency within the BJP increased” after he went to West Bengal in 2019 and was among the BJP workers detained by the West Bengal police.

## MOST VOLUNTEERS FROM UP &amp; HARYANA

## Adding to AAP ranks, 800 volunteers from outside the capital

MALLICA JOSHI  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

“WHAT WAS your electricity bill last month?” is the first question Ajinkya Shinde (29) asks Sarita Kumari (56), a resident of Karawal Nagar. A software engineer, Shinde's day starts a little differently now than it did till December.

A member of the AAP youth wing in Pune, Shinde has been in Delhi since January 2, going door to door in Karawal Nagar to canvass for the party. He is part of close to 800 outstation volunteers that have landed up in the capital since the beginning of the month. “When we spoke to people

initially, we realised the one thing they talk about the most are power bills. They appreciate the work done in education and health but what matters most is power and water. That is how we start our conversations now,” said Shinde.

Along with him are six others from Nagpur, most of who have taken leave from work. Krutal Welekar (26) and her husband Piyush Akare (29) came to Delhi three days ago and were quickly sent to Karawal Nagar to help with the campaign. The group is staying in a house owned by an AAP member.

“We eat at another volunteer's home. We also spend our own money. All of us work and



AAP volunteers at Karawal Nagar. Express

can afford to do small things for the party,” Shinde said. Both he and Akare have campaigned in

Delhi previously. AAP's national executive member Preeti Sharma Menon

is coordinating work given to outstation volunteers and their boarding and lodging.

Menon, who lives in Mumbai, has been in the city for over a month and is living with the family of a party member. During Lok Sabha polls, she was in the city for three months and stayed with Assembly speaker Ram Niwas Goel and his family.

The party office at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg is a mix of languages these days. While the highest number of volunteers are from Uttar Pradesh and Haryana,

FROM THE  
GROUND

many have come from Punjab, Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

“Volunteers come straight to the party office, sometimes at 2 am. From there, they are sent to different constituencies, where our volunteer coordinators make arrangements,” Menon said.

Among those who arrived at the party office Monday evening was 31-year-old Moiyad Vora, a mechanical engineer from Pune who lives in Cologne, Germany. “I took leave from office and will be here till January

29. This is the first time I will work in Delhi as a volunteer. I am new to the city and have been asked to contact supporters and recruit booth-level workers for polling day,” he said.

Menon said the primary difference between outstation volunteers and local ones is the time they manage to give. Local volunteers have children to pick up from school and parents to look after, while outstation volunteers are available through the day, she said.

“Many party workers ask for volunteers from Punjab, Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Kerala because the number of voters from these areas are higher in their constituencies, and they want there to be a connect,” she said.



# 6 GOVT & POLITICS



## MENU MATTERS

A CHANGE in the menu of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) left many Keralites infuriated, as it excluded dishes from the state. But a letter from Ernakulam MP Hibi Eden to Railways Minister Piyush Goyal seems to have reinstated the items. Eden wrote to Goyal on Monday, stating that food items such as appam, egg curry, dosa, steam cake (puttu) as well as snacks such as banana fry, which were excluded from the IRCTC menu, are “very important to Malayalees for breakfast” and is creating trouble for customers. Pointing out that the price of South Indian meals was doubled, Eden wrote, “Malayalees are discriminated in trains and railway refreshment rooms by the food, which is the right of every passenger.” On Tuesday, IRCTC announced that “all food items served earlier will be restored”. It added, “In view of the demand from passengers and representations received, IRCTC has fully authorised its local offices in zones and regions to bring more items as per the local taste and regional preferences within one week as snack meals.”

## TRANSFER TROUBLE

THE CBI has recently ordered transfer of hundreds of officials within the agency after it was found that many officers had been at one station, or with one unit, for years. However, a running feud between CBI cadre officers and IPS superiors has meant that many of those transferred have refused to move. A frustrated brass has now issued orders that all those not moving to their new station will face disciplinary action and asked unit heads to ensure this.

## FIT NITI

THE NITI Aayog building on Parliament Street will perhaps be the first government building to have a swanky gym soon. With all the required equipment in place, officials are now trying to finalise the design of a signboard and a punchline to be written on it. The gym on the fifth floor of the building, which was renovated last year. It is learnt that the punchline is being created in the spirit of Fit India movement launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year. The Prime Minister is also the chairman of NITI Aayog.

### ANDHRA GOVT MOVE FOR 3 CAPITALS

## Legislative Council adjourns for day without discussion

### ENS & PTI

HYDERABAD, AMARAVATI, JANUARY 21

THE OPPOSITION TDP on Tuesday blocked the passage of the AP Decentralisation and Inclusive Development of Regions Bill, 2020 in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council adjourned for the day without taking up discussion on the Bill, intended to give shape to the YSRCP government's plan of having three capitals. The division under Rule 71 casts fresh doubts over the fate of the crucial Bill as the motion is primarily intended to reject the proposed legislation.

In the process, however, the TDP suffered a shock as two of its MLCs voted in favour of the gov-

ernment, though it did not make any difference to the final outcome — the TDP secured 27 votes while YSRCP managed 11 when division was taken up at the end of a debate on the motion taken up under Rule 71, after the Council was stuck in a stalemate for over eight hours during the day.

Rule 71 enables the opposition to move a motion “disapproving the policy of the government”. After five adjournments caused by the deadlock over the issue, the House finally took up a discussion on the motion under Rule 71. At the end of it, the TDP sought a division and accordingly a headcount was taken in which the opposition secured 27 votes.

With two TDP members opposing the motion, the YSRCP's vote count increased to 11, including nine of its own.

### PLEAS AGAINST ARTICLE 370 ABROGATION

## Centre move sans concurrence of J&K Constituent Assembly, SC told

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE CENTRE could not have made changes to Article 370 without the concurrence of the Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir, senior journalist Prem Shankar Jha told the Supreme Court on Tuesday while opposing the August 5, 2019 proclamation amending Article 370 and bifurcating J&K into the UTs of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Appearing for Jha, senior advocate Dinesh Dwivedi told a five-judge Constitution Bench headed by Justice N V Ramana that “the legislative assembly cannot be a substitute of the Constituent Assembly of J&K”.

“The Legislative Assembly is the creature of the Constituent Assembly of J&K which was a plenary sovereign authority unlike the Legislative Assembly. Legislative Assembly has only such delegated powers as are conferred by the Constituent Assembly... Besides, one has to

keep in mind that Legislative Assembly is one which is the creation of Constitution of J&K and not Constitution of India where Governor cannot be a substitute,” Dwivedi told the court.

He told the bench, also comprising Justices S K Kaul, R Subhash Reddy, B R Gavai and Surya Kant, that Article 370 was the “tunnel connecting the two Constitutions”. He added that the J&K Constituent Assembly was dissolved in 1957 after the framing of the J&K Constitution, following which Article 370 stood frozen. Hence the August 5 proclamation could not have been made under Article 370, he contended.

He said that after the August 5 move, nothing of Article 370 survived. “Though the dramatics of it show that Article 370 still survives, yet in reality on a deeper look, nothing of substance survives... The sole object of Article 370 was to ensure that people of Kashmir have a say in their own governance through their own Constitution. This guarantee has been wiped out along with Article

### DISQUALIFICATION PLEAS

## Apex court tells Parliament to ‘rethink’ Speaker’s powers

### ANANTHAKRISHNANG

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday asked Parliament to “have a rethink on whether disqualification petitions ought to be entrusted to a Speaker as a quasi-judicial authority when such Speaker continues to belong to a political party either de jure or de facto”.

“Parliament may seriously consider amending the Constitution to substitute the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies as arbiter of disputes concerning disqualification which arise under the Tenth Schedule with a permanent tribunal, headed by a retired Supreme Court Judge or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court or some other outside independent mechanism, to ensure that such disputes are decided both swiftly and impartially, thus giving real teeth to the provisions in the Tenth Schedule, which are so vital in the proper functioning of our democracy,” said a bench of Justices R F Nariman, Aniruddha Bose and V Ramasubramanian.

The bench was ruling on a petition on the March 2017 Manipur Assembly elections. The plea, first filed in the Manipur High Court, had sought a direction to the Assembly Speaker to take a decision, within a reasonable time period, on a petition filed by MLA K Meghachandra, seeking disqualification of Th Shyamkumar, who had contested on a Congress ticket but later moved to the BJP camp and became a state minister.

### EXPLAINED

## What anti-defection law states

THE ANTI-DEFECTION law, referred to as the Tenth Schedule, was added to the Constitution by way of the Fifty Second (Amendment) Act, 1985. The law was to check the trend of defection. The statement of object and reasons of the Amendment Act said, “The evil of political defections has been a matter of national concern. If it is not combated, it is likely to undermine the very foundations of our democracy and the principles which sustain it. With this object, an assurance was given in the Address by the President to Parliament that the Government intended to introduce in the current session of Parliament an anti-defection Bill. This Bill is meant for outlawing defection and fulfilling the above assurance”.

Asking the Speaker to take a decision within four weeks, the Supreme Court said: “In case no decision is forthcoming even after a period of four weeks, it will be open to any party to the proceedings to apply to this Court for further directions/reliefs.”

Earlier, the HC had said that as the issue of whether a Speaker can be directed by courts to decide a disqualification petition within a certain time frame was pending before a five-judge bench of the Supreme Court, it could not pass any order in the matter.

Appearing for the appellant, Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal urged the Supreme Court to issue a writ of quo warranto against Shyamkumar.

Opposing Sibal's contention, Additional Solicitor General Madhavi Divan said the court should await the decision of the five-judge bench.

Writing for the Bench, Justice Nariman said: “We find that this very issue was addressed by a five judge bench judgment in Rajendra Singh Rana vs. Swami Prasad Maurya case... stating that a failure to exercise jurisdiction vested in a Speaker cannot be covered by the shield contained in paragraph 6 of the Tenth Schedule, and that when a Speaker refrains from deciding a petition within a reasonable time, there was clearly an error which attracted jurisdiction of the High Court in exercise of the power of judicial review”.

The court said “the Speaker, in acting as a Tribunal under the Tenth Schedule, is bound to decide disqualification petitions within a reasonable period. What is reasonable will depend on the facts of each case, but absent exceptional circumstances for which there is good reason, a pe-

riod of three months from the date on which the petition is filed is the outer limit within which disqualification petitions filed before the Speaker must be decided if the constitutional objective of disqualifying persons who have infringed the Tenth Schedule is to be adhered to. This period has been fixed keeping in mind the fact that ordinarily, the life of the Lok Sabha and the Legislative Assembly of the States is five years and the fact that persons who have incurred such disqualification do not deserve to be MPs/MLAs even for a single day...”

The SC, however, said it could not accede to Sibal's submission that it should issue writ of quo warranto quashing Shyamkumar's appointment. It agreed with Divan that a disqualification under the Tenth Schedule must first be decided by the exclusive authority, in this case, the Manipur Assembly Speaker.

“It is also not possible to accede to the argument of Shri Sibal that the disqualification petition be decided by this Court in these appeals, given the inaction of the Speaker. It cannot be said that the facts in the present case are similar to the facts in Rajinder Singh Rana... In the present case, the life of the Legislative Assembly comes to an end only in March 2022, unlike in Rajinder Singh Rana... where, but for this Court deciding the disqualification petition in effect, no relief could have been given to the petitioner in that case as the life of the Legislative Assembly was about to come to an end,” said the court.



Former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje's residence at 13, Civil Lines, in Jaipur. Rohit Jain Paras

Ministers' Salaries Act, 1956, was brought by the then Raje government. Within the amendment, Sections 7BB and 11(2) dealt with extending the facilities to former CMs, which the court found contrary to Article 14 of the Constitution, which guarantees equality before law.

The court observed that the state government's move “reminiscent of George Orwell's apocryphal portrayal of a distorted meaning of equality in his much-celebrated Animal Farm — that all

animals are born equal but some are more equal than others”.

The Gehlot government, which assumed office in December 2018 after the Raje-led BJP's defeat in the Assembly elections, filed a Special Leave Petition in Supreme Court against the HC order. Earlier this month, the apex court dismissed the petition, stating that “we see no reason to interfere in the matter”.

Earlier, following the HC order, Dandia had sent a notice to the state government on September

20, 2019. “When there was no response from the state government, we filed a contempt petition with the HC on October 31, 2019,” he said.

When the petition came up for hearing in HC on Monday, the government sought more time for compliance and told the court that it has served a notice to former CM Jagannath Pahadia to vacate his bungalow within 15 days, and that Raje has already surrendered the facilities extended to her, except the bungalow. “We have not taken any decision regarding her bungalow so far,” a top law official said.

The matter has now been listed for February 17.

Among the vocal critics of this bonhomie, BJP ally and Nagaur MP Hanuman Beniwal on Monday said, “Ashok Gehlotji, you are continuously insulting the people of Rajasthan, the Supreme Court, and the High Court. For a particular person you have mortgaged the spirit of administration and democracy. It is height of collusion and public's patience is giving in.”

## In J&K outreach, ministers on launch spree; Oppn says cutting ribbons on old projects

### ARUN SHARMA

JAMMU, JANUARY 21

FROM A link road built under MGNREGA at a cost of Rs 6.86 lakh to upgrading electrical infrastructure of 12 shrines, and from inaugurating an indoor badminton hall to dedicating a permanent ambulance to a primary health centre (PHC), Union ministers inaugurated a series of projects and laid foundation stones of several others over the last three days as part of the Centre's public outreach programme in Jammu and Kashmir.

At a function in Srinagar, Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said the Centre will try to accommodate all Haj applicants from J&K, while Railways, and Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goel announced increase in frequency of Vande Bharat Express trains between Delhi and Katra. He also promised 25 projects would be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 25,000 crore by March 2021. These in-

clude IITs, IIMs, AIIMS, highway and road connectivity projects, railway bridges, etc.

The move, however, faced flak from opposition Congress and Panthers Party, with leaders of the former dismissing it as cutting ribbons and taking credit for old projects, and the latter dubbing the exercise as meaningless and futile.

Former minister and Congress leader Dr Manohar Lal Sharma alleged that a multipurpose hall at Government Degree College, Billawar, which was inaugurated by MoS (External Affairs & Parliamentary Affairs) V Muralaeeharan was sanctioned with an estimated cost of Rs 5.06 crore back in 2011-12, when he was MoS for High Education in J&K. Accusing the BJP leadership of “cutting ribbons and taking credit” for projects initiated and completed by previous Congress government, he said the work was handed over to J&K Projects Construction Company and was finished a few years ago. His party colleague and former state min-

ister Abdul Majeed Wani also accused the NDA ministers of inaugurating projects undertaken by the previous government such as the water-sports park at Pul Doda.

J&K National Panthers Party chairperson and former state minister Harsh Dev Singh called the ministers' visit a “publicity stunt”, while the party's president, Balwant Mankotia, said these projects are too small to be inaugurated by Union ministers. Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Sanjeev Verma said all development projects are of public importance. Moreover, he said, the main purpose of the programme was to reach out to the people in far-flung rural areas of J&K. He said the ministers met and interacted with a cross section of people and listened to their problems.

Some projects inaugurated, or their foundation stones laid: **PIYUSH GOEL, Railways, Industries & Commerce Minister:**

■ Inaugurated ghat along bank of the Chenab at Akhnoor

## ‘Apprehensions’ on BJP: JD(U) leader makes pvt Nitish chat public

### SANTOSH SINGH

PATNA, JANUARY 21

QUESTIONING HIS party's decision to extend its alliance with the BJP “beyond Bihar” and fight the Delhi Assembly elections together, JD(U) national spokesperson Pavan K Varma has sought “ideological clarity” from party chief Nitish Kumar, saying that the Bihar chief minister had expressed “grave apprehensions” in private about the BJP leading the country into a “dangerous space”.

In a two-page letter to Nitish on Tuesday, Varma, who shared screenshots of the letter on social media, accused the BJP of having “embarked on a massive, socially divisive agenda”.

Saying that he was “deeply perplexed” by the party's decision to tie up with the BJP in Delhi, Varma said Nitish had, “on more than one occasion”, expressed “grave apprehensions about the BJP-RSS combine”.

Recalling his first meeting with Nitish in August 2012, Varma said: “You had spoken to me at length and with conviction on why Narendra Modi and his policies are inimical for the country. When you were leading Mahagathbandhan, you had openly made a call for ‘RSS-mukt Bharat’.”

“The cause for confusion arises from the fact that, even after you changed tracks and aligned again with the BJP in 2017, your private apprehensions regarding the BJP did not change. For instance, I remember your confessing to me in private how the current leadership in the BJP party has humiliated you. You maintained on, more than one occasion, that the BJP is leading India into a ‘dangerous space’. It was your personal view, as conveyed to me, that the BJP is destroying institutions, and that there is a need for democratic and socialist forces within the country to regroup, a task for



Pavan Varma

which you actually assigned a senior party official,” Varma said in his letter.

“If these are your real views, I fail to understand how the JD(U) is now extending its alliance with the BJP beyond Bihar, when even longstanding allies of the BJP, like the Akali Dal, have refused to do so. This is especially so at time when the BJP, through the CAA-NPR-NRC combine, has embarked on a massive socially divisive agenda, aimed at mutilating the peace, harmony and stability of the country. Mahatma Gandhi, (Ram Manohar) Lohia and JP (Jayaprakash Narayan) — the icons of our party — would have, I strongly believe, unequivocally renounced this agenda and fought tooth and nail,” he said.

Varma said there was “an urgent need for the JD(U) to harmonise what the party constitution says, what the leader of the party feels in private and what actions the party takes in public”.

This is the third time Varma has written to Nitish. Earlier, he had opposed the party's decision to vote in favour of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Parliament, and to support the NPR exercise in Bihar.

When contacted, JD(U) spokesperson Neeraj Kumar told *The Indian Express*: “We have decided to align with BJP in Delhi in the larger interest of the people of Bihar. The people of Bihar living in Delhi have a greater sense of pride in Bihar now. Moreover, Nitish Kumar does not need a certificate of secularism from anyone. Pavan Varma is looking to side with Lalu Prasad, a corruption convict. Whatever he is saying now may be because of his political unemployment.”

## ADR: Electoral bonds worth over Rs 6,000 crore sold so far

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

A TOTAL of 12,313 electoral bonds worth Rs 6128.72 crore were sold since the inception of the scheme, an analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) states. Of these, 12,173 bonds, worth Rs 6108.47 crore, were redeemed by political parties within the validity period.

According to an RTI query filed by ADR, the highest sale of bonds was in Mumbai — 2,899 bonds worth Rs 1,879.96 crore (30.67%) — followed by 3,478 bonds worth Rs 1,440.337 crore (23.50%) in Kolkata and 1,630 bonds worth Rs 918.58 crore (15%) in New Delhi.

The data also reveals that 12,173 bonds worth Rs 6,108.47

crore were redeemed during the twelve phases and 59.20% of the total value of electoral bonds were redeemed in two months alone — March (phase VIII) and April 2019 (phase IX).

“Highest amount of bonds - 4,607 bonds worth Rs 2,251.32 crore (36.86%), were redeemed during phase IX in April '19, followed by 2,738 bonds worth Rs 1,364.69 crore (22.34%) encashed during phase VIII in March '19 and 1,153 bonds worth Rs 819.26 cr (13.41%) encashed in May '19,” the ADR analysis states.

The data shows that out of the 12,313 bonds sold during the twelve phases, 5,624 bonds (45.68%) were in the denomination of Rs 1 crore while 4,877 bonds (39.61%) were in the denomination of Rs 10 lakhs.

trict **SMRITI IRANI, Textiles and Women & Child Development Minister:**

■ Inaugurated steel footbridge over Junnie nallah, besides Paroh-Ali and Kadmal-Dhanna roads

**ANURAG THAKUR, MoS, Finance and Corporate Affairs:**

■ Dedicated a permanent ambulance to PHC at Nagrota

■ Promised to provide a mobile van health service on 3-month trial to provide basic healthcare facilities to at doorsteps

**MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI, Minority Affairs Minister:**

■ e-inaugurated 5x44-metre truss girder bridge constructed at a cost of Rs 16.53 crore over Jhelum river at Malroo

■ 1223.69-sq-m Forest Protection Force office complex built for Rs 6.62 crore at Bemina

■ e-foundation of high school building at Dara (estimated cost Rs 97.01 lakh).

**FULL REPORT ON**  
**www.indianexpress.com**



PROTEST WATCH

KARNATAKA



A protest against CAA, NRC and NPR at Bengaluru. PTI

UTTAR PRADESH

## Protest at Lucknow’s Old City area enters fifth day

**Lucknow:** The protest against the new citizenship law and the proposed NRC by women and children at Lucknow’s Old City area continued for a fifth day Tuesday. The protesters claimed that their numbers have swelled after three FIRs were filed against them at the Thakurganj police station.

The first FIR, filed early on Saturday, is against 18 named and 100-125 unidentified people, including Urdu poet Munawwar Rana’s daughter Sumaiyya Rana and SP youth

wing leader Pooja Shukla.

The second FIR, also registered on Saturday, has named one Laeeq Hasan and Nasreen Javed — it has been alleged that they incited the people protesting against the CAA, NRC and the state.

The third FIR, registered on Sunday, is against Munawwar Rana’s daughters Sumaiyya Rana and Fauziya Rana along with Rukhsana, Safi Fatiya and 8-10 unidentified others. It is alleged that they manhandled police constables. **ENS**

MAHARASHTRA



Women protest against CAA, NRC and NPR at Mumbai’s at Andheri West. Amit Chakravarty

NORTH-EAST

## University students in N-E to boycott classes today

**Guwahati:** Students of top universities of the North-East have called for a boycott of classes on Wednesday as a protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA). The call for the boycott has been given under the banner of the Northeastern Universities Students Fraternity, consisting of student leaders and activists from Gauhati University, Dibrugarh

University, Cotton University, Tezpur University, Nagaland University, Manipur University, Rajiv Gandhi University and North-Eastern Hill University, among others.

Calling the CAA “unconstitutional and contentious”, the student leaders have said the new law will have “ill repercussions on the indigenous masses of North-Eastern states”. **ENS**

MAHARASHTRA

## Reading of Preamble to Constitution made compulsory in schools

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 21

**STARTING THIS** Republic Day, students in primary and secondary schools in Maharashtra will have to read the Preamble to the Constitution during the morning assembly in schools every day under the programme ‘Sarvabhaumatva Samvidhanache, Janhit Sarvance (Sovereignty of the Constitution, in the interest of all)’.

A government resolution (GR), issued by the state school education and sports department Tuesday, states, “In order to ensure that all citizens understand the scope of the principles of the Constitution, inclusion and the principles of justice, freedom, equality and brotherhood and these values are inculcated in the conscience of the society, it is important that students are fully familiar with the Constitution. The basic principles, constitutional rights and duties under the Constitution are to be imbibed in every citizen. Imparting these on the impressionable minds of children will help in shaping responsible, informed and cultured citizens. It is expected that this should begin during the years of school education for which there should

be a collective reading of the preamble to the Constitution, the decision regarding which was taken in a government resolution of February 2013.”

It states that although the GR to this effect was issued in 2013, the order had not been implemented. Hence, all primary and secondary schools in the state should hold a collective reading of the Preamble to the Constitution every day from January 26.

The GR applies to both government and private schools, both primary and secondary, across the state.

School education minister Varsha Gaikwad said the move was first envisioned in 2009 and it will now be implemented to familiarise school children with the Constitution. The education commissioner has been asked to periodically review the implementation of the GR from divisional officials.

Speaking at Students Against CAA and NRC conference, organised by Chhatrabharati - the students’ wing of Lok Bharati Party - earlier this month, Gaikwad had assured students that her government will try its best to ensure that CAA, National Population Register (NPR) and NRC were not implemented in Maharashtra.

# Cong, CPM fight it out to own anti-CAA space in Kerala

MANOJ CG

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

**AFTER WEST** Bengal, if there is one state which has taken a very strident position against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, it is Kerala, and the reason perhaps lies in the deeply fractious politics of the state.

If the row over entry of women of all ages to Sabarimala temple had shaken and stirred the state’s politics before last year’s Lok Sabha polls, competitive politics is now playing out all over again over CAA, with an eye on next year’s Assembly polls.

In the deeply divided politics of Kerala, it came as a surprise when the ruling CPI(M)-led LDF and opposition Congress-led UDF came together for a joint protest, and then to pass a resolution in Assembly opposing CAA.

Days later, in a rare move by a state against the Centre, Kerala moved the Supreme Court challenging CAA.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has subsequently announced that the state Assembly will pass a resolution against CAA. The comparisons does not end there but in a way reflects the competitive politics at play in both states, particularly in Kerala where the Congress and ally Muslim League and the CPI(M) are leaving no stone un-



CM Pinarayi Vijayan , Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala



turned to tap the sentiment against CAA and NRC.

So while Congress-ruled Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh are yet to pass a resolution against CAA, or take a strong position against NPR, which it argues is the precursor to NRC, the party’s Kerala leadership has been belligerent, as it has to compete with CPI(M) in a state which has a sizeable minority population.

Sources in Congress claim that CPI(M)’s Kerala leadership was initially ambivalent on taking a position on CAA, a contention the Left party’s leaders deny vehemently.

Congress leaders said the Sabarimala temple issue was perhaps the reason for the Left’s initial dithering. “The CPM lost considerable Hindu votes due to its strident position on Sabarimala. So it was initially apprehensive. But the party later realised that the mood in Kerala is against CAA and NRC,” a senior Congress leader said.

## Bengal govt seeks support of Cong, Left for anti-CAA resolution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, JANUARY 21

**A DAY** after West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced that her government will move a resolution against the new citizenship law (CAA) in the Assembly, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Partha Chatterjee on Tuesday sought cooperation of Congress and Left MLAs in passing the resolution on January 27.

While both the CPI(M) and the Congress had welcomed the CM’s decision to pass the resolution in the Assembly against the CAA, on the lines of Kerala and Punjab, the TMC government had earlier thwarted an attempt of the Left Front and Congress to get a similar resolution passed in the Assembly. The government had then said that the Assembly has already passed a resolution against proposed NRC three months ago and therefore, there was no need of a similar resolution being passed by the Assembly. The Congress and the Left had slammed the Mamata government for it.

A special session of the Assembly will be held on January 27, a day after Republic Day, to pass the resolution against CAA.

The BJP has, however, said that such a resolution will be “unconstitutional”.

## Public inquiries into Mangaluru police firing seek judicial probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, JANUARY 21

**TWO SEPARATE** public inquiries into the police firing in Mangaluru during anti-CAA protests on December 19, resulting the death of two people, have sought a judicial probe into the violence as well as compensation for the victims.

An inquiry conducted by a three-member People’s Tribunal headed by the former Supreme Court judge V Gopal Gowda, at the behest of the Indian Social Institute and the Association for Protection of Civil Liberties, has concluded that a judicial inquiry is needed to ascertain the truth.

A second inquiry, conducted by a group of rights activists, has additionally demanded the suspension of Mangalore police commissioner PS Harsha and police-inspector Shantaram Kunder, who was caught on tape asking policemen to ensure that bullets fired by them did not miss those targeted.

# In Wasseypur protest, women take lead: ‘Maa, mulk nahi badla jata’

ABHISHEK ANGAD  
WASSEYPU, JANUARY 21

**SURROUNDED** BY collieries, the Wasseypur region in Jharkhand’s Dhanbad has long been affected by gang violence. However, for the last 20 days, it is the women of the area that have been in the news.

Traditionally limited to their households, women, for the first time in Wasseypur, have taken to the forefront of protests, holding demonstrations against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

On Tuesday, around 500 women gathered at the protest site. Tabassu Khan, in her forties, claimed she votes for the BJP. “We did not say anything when the Babri (Masjid) verdict came. We did not utter a word on the laws on instant triple talaq. But the CAA is completely anti-democratic and discriminatory,” she said. She said her children’s exams are around the corner, but she has not been able give them time.

Among the protesters was Sultana, who holds a placard reading, “Jo mohabbat likhi hai Gita aur Quran mein, phir kaisa jhagda Hindu aur Musalmana mein (With the love that is written in the Gita and the Quran, what conflict will the Hindu and the Muslim have).”

She said: “The Act is second-



The women have protested daily, holding placards and reciting poems of Allama Iqbal or Faiz Ahmad Faiz. Abhishek Angad

ary, we are primary...I feel like going to Shaheen Bagh in Delhi...The Prime Minister should know that it (CAA) is wrong.”

Salma Usmaani, who works with an international cosmetic brand in Dhanbad, said, “We just want to live in peace...the government needs to understand, ‘Maa aur mulk badla nahi jaata’ (The mother and the country cannot be changed).”

She added, “I had to make my husband understand that this is the time women that must come out in the open to protest.”

After a rally on January 7, police booked seven people and around 3,000 unknown accused under sedition laws and sections related to promoting enmity between two groups.

ter the joint protests, the LDF announced it will organise a human chain on Republic Day and later invited the Congress to be part of it. The Congress refused.

The Chief Minister then convened an all-party meeting on December 29. Congress sources claimed its leaders had demanded at the meeting that the Assembly pass a resolution challenging the validity of CAA.

Two days later, a resolution was passed in Assembly.

On January 3, Vijayan wrote to his counterparts in 11 states, urging them to unite against CAA, and on January 14, the state government approached the Supreme Court against the new law.

Sources in both Congress and CPI(M) say their cadre are on the ground, campaigning against CAA, NPR and NRC.

Sources said the strident positions taken by the political rivals in Kerala, and the TMC and CPI(M) in Bengal, is due to electoral compulsions. “Our party in many other states, or our state governments (in Rajasthan, MP and Chhattisgarh), don’t have to compete for the anti-CAA or anti-NRC space. There are no other parties in states (to oppose these moves) where we are in power. That is not the case in Kerala or in Bengal,” a Congress leader from Kerala said.

Consequently, the gloves are off and the two parties are engaged in a war of words.

# Information sought in NPR is voluntary: Govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

**WITH THE** Kerala government declaring that it will not participate in the National Population Register (NPR) exercise slated to begin on April 1, the Centre has said that it will sensitise states to the fact that information being sought in the NPR is voluntary.

Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy on Tuesday said states did not have the legal right to refuse NPR. “States are constitutionally obliged to implement the census and NPR. There should be no objection to it. We will sensitise states on NPR. All information being sought is voluntary,” Reddy said.

While many opposition-ruled states have said they will not participate in NPR, Kerala has officially declared the same. On Monday it issued an official statement to that effect.

“As the NPR is a process that leads to the NRC, there is a sense of fear among the people. If the NPR and NRC are implemented in Kerala, it will lead to widespread anarchy. That is the experience of the state where the NRC was implemented,” said a statement released by the Chief Minister’s Office (CMO).

The West Bengal and Punjab governments too have expressed their displeasure with NPR. In a recently-held meeting of chief Secretaries on NPR on Friday in Delhi, West Bengal was the only state that did not send its representative.

Meanwhile, the Punjab Assembly has passed a resolution to not accept NPR in its current form, and has sought to change questions in the 2020 NPR form.

As far as the information being sought under NPR being voluntary is concerned, there is no clarity within the government. While both Home Minister Amit

# Whether states are bound to implement CAA is an academic question: Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

The Congress on Tuesday said the Citizenship (Amendment) Act was “discriminatory” and accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah of peddling lies on CAA, NPR and NRC.

Speaking at a press conference, Congress leader Kapil Sibal said the issue of whether state governments are bound to implement the CAA was an “academic” question.

“This is an academic issue today...A notification was issued for the NPR process to start on April 1, 2020. That process has not started. What is CAA? It is only an Act. It can only be operationalised if you do a door-to-door enumeration under the NPR. That starts



MoS Home G Kishan Reddy

**EXPLAINED** Legal loophole

**LEGALLY,** STATES cannot refuse to participate in the NPR exercise as it comes under The Citizenship Act, 1955, which is a Central law and comes under the Union list. However, since states provide all the manpower for Census enumeration, states can put roadblocks, and it would be almost impossible to conduct any census without cooperation of the states.

Shah and his deputies in the ministry have repeatedly said that information is voluntary, under the rules that govern NPR, there is punishment stipulated for either refusing to divulge information or willfully providing wrong information.

Census officials with the Registrar General of India, however, say this rule for punishment is rarely invoked. “In so many census exercises, people are unable to provide many details. We do not go on penalising them. In any case, we do not go verifying details provided to us during NPR updation. That is why it is called voluntary,” an official said.



Kapil Sibal in New Delhi PTI

only on April 1,” he said.

He added, “So, today that is not an issue, because nobody is not implementing or implementing the CAA. There is nothing to implement. Before that, there is already a matter pending, its coming tomorrow (on Wednesday) in Supreme Court. The nine judges that matter will be heard. So, all this is academic...and we are trying to create a controversy out of nothing at this point,” he said.

Sibal said that “when the Supreme Court decides the matter, one way or the other that will be the law of the country.”

## In Prayagraj, varsity offers 3-month course on CAA

ASAD REHMAN

LUCKNOW, JANUARY 21

**THE UTTAR** Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University in Prayagraj has introduced a three month certificate course on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act that intends to spread awareness on the new law. The course has been named ‘Awareness Programme in Citizenship (Amendment) Act (APCAA)’.

The university’s vice-chancellor Kameshwar Nath Singh said several students had already enrolled in the course, started this January, which “intends to spread awareness about the CAA.”

“The CAA is a public issue and a law of the country. The course intends to make people aware about it. Students will be made aware about the need for the Act, its impact on national unity and integration... Several students have started taking admission in the course on CAA,” Singh said.



# Republic Day chief guest Bolsonaro to arrive on Friday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT Jair Messias Bolsonaro will on Friday begin a four-day visit to India, primarily as chief guest on Republic Day and also to explore ways to boost trade ties at a time both the large economies are hit by slowdowns.

On his first visit to India after assuming power, Bolsonaro will be accompanied by seven ministers, top officials and a large business delegation.

The Ministry of External Affairs said, "President of Brazil Jair Messias Bolsonaro will be paying a state visit to India from January 24-27 at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He will be the chief guest at India's 71st Republic Day Parade on January 26."

"This visit is expected to further enhance and strengthen the multi-faceted ties between India-Brazil," the ministry said.

The last presidential visit from Brazil was by President Michel Temer in October 2016 on the sidelines of the eighth BRICS summit in Goa. Modi vis-



Jair Messias Bolsonaro

ited Brazil in November to attend the XI BRICS Summit.

Brazilian presidents have graced the Republic Day Parade in 1996 and 2004.

On Saturday, President Ram Nath Kovind will hold talks with Bolsonaro and will also host a banquet for him. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will also call on Bolsonaro.

On January 27, Bolsonaro will address a group of Indian and Brazilian business leaders at the India-Brazil Business Forum, according to the MEA.

India-Brazil ties have been on an upswing in the last few years. The volume of bilateral trade was US \$8.2 billion in 2018-19. This included US \$3.8 billion worth of Indian exports to Brazil and US \$4.4 million as imports by India.

Both the governments feel there is huge potential to enhance the bilateral trade further.

# BJP lets Khattar keep CID, Vij tells Intel he's still boss

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHANDIGARH, NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE BJP central leadership had to wade in to broker a truce between Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and his Cabinet colleague Anil Vij who are involved in a tug-of-war over the ministerial jurisdiction over the CID, which handles the key intelligence function of the state police.

The effort, however, doesn't seem to have had the desired effect with Vij stating Tuesday that "till the day the Home Department is with me, the Intelligence wing's officers will have to send their reports to me".

This comes a day after central leadership summoned Vij to New Delhi soon after he ordered a chargesheet "for major penalty" against incumbent CID chief Anil Rao and issued a directive to transfer ADGP Shrikant Jadhav as the new CID chief. The BJP senior leadership met both Vij and Khattar Monday night.

According to party sources, Khattar first took up the matter with the highest authority in the BJP arguing that all his predecessors had CID with them. Party leadership, it seems, had initially backed Vij with a section of party



Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij

maintaining that the Home portfolio without the CID would be meaningless, something that the six-term. A top leader from the party had spoken to the CM for Vij. However, when both Khattar and Vij met party leaders, including the newly-appointed national president JP Nadda and Home Minister Amit Shah, decision was taken to allow the Chief Minister to keep CID with him.

Vij, however, claimed that "no discussions took place on this issue."

Hammering home the point that he is still the boss of the department, Vij said, "Even after my repeated instructions, the Intelligence inputs are not being sent to me. Unless, I have the prior intelligence inputs, how can I act in a situation? Due to all this, the peace and tranquility and harmony of the state is in grave danger. I am an elected representative and a government functionary. If the officers are not following my orders, I am duty bound to question them. They will have to send the intelligence reports till the day I hold Home portfolio".

The directions issued by Vij to transfer Rao out of the Intelligence wing and appoint Jadhav as ADGP (Intelligence) cannot be implemented without Khattar's approval. "It is for the

CM to act now. If the Intelligence chief is not removed, I will see what to do next," Vij told *The Indian Express*.

Regarding the order for a chargesheet against Rao for major penalty, Vij said, "I have issued the directions. It is for the concerned officers to find how to execute it". The chargesheet for major penalty may lead to reduction in officer's rank, suspension, or, under extreme circumstances, dismissal from service.

The issue has led to a showdown between Vij and the Chief Minister. While Khattar on Monday had told media persons that "it was a technical issue and the matter shall be resolved by holding a mutual discussion", Vij, on Tuesday, said, "I do not have any dispute or rift with the CM. I had always been saying that CM is supreme. He can take away any department from one minister and allocate it to another".

A section of BJP leadership has been miffed with Khattar after the party's not-so-encouraging performance in the 2019 Assembly election. A party leader even pointed out that their disappointment with Khattar, who was handpicked by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014 for the top post, was reflected in the portfolio allocation - the CM who had handled Home portfolio in his last term had to give it away to Vij. This section has backed Vij in his attempts to get CID back with him.

Asked about the issue, Anil Jain, general secretary in charge of Haryana, said the issue was resolved. "Everything is fine now. There is no issue," he said.

# Lokayukta calls for CBI probe against Goa ex-CM Parsekar in mining case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PANAJI, JANUARY 21

THE GOA Lokayukta on Tuesday indicted former chief minister Laxmikant Parsekar and two officers for renewing 88 mining leases in the state, and recommended a CBI probe against the three.

In his order, Lokayukta Justice P K Misra has also asked the two officers — then Mines Secretary P K Sain and then Director of Mines Prasanna Acharya — to resign from their official posts.

The Supreme Court had earlier banned all 88 mining leases, taking note of the scale of renewals.

The Lokayukta order follows a petition filed by NGO Goa Foundation, and the three indicted are now liable to be prosecuted under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

In his order, Justice Misra said the three "have abused their official position, thereby causing loss to the entire state of Goa and benefitting only a few mining lease holders."

"The peculiar circumstances under which there was en masse renewal of the mining leases in a great hurry within a span of about one week is a grave incriminating circumstance against the three respondents which is required to be explained by the respondents concerned," the order read.

In his order, Justice Misra was also very critical of the police action against the three, calling it an "unfortunate tendency" that certain bodies "protect the privileged and the powerful and the ACB (Anti-Corruption Bureau) of the Goa Government is no exception to such a disturbing phenomenon... In several cases, ACB has failed to even register an FIR when the allegations of bribery had been made against public servants and has been most slow and lackadaisical in its approach in investigating matters involving influential persons..."



# ANURAG THAKUR FELICITATED

MoS for Finance Anurag Singh Thakur receives the 'Champions of Change 2019' award for social welfare from former President Pranab Mukherjee. The 'Champions of Change' Awards is organised by the Interactive Forum on Indian Economy (IFIE), a not-for-profit organisation. *Express*

# Rajini refuses to apologise for remarks on Periyar rally

ARUN JANARDHANAN  
CHENNAI, JANUARY 21

ACTOR RAJINIKANTH on Tuesday refused to apologise for his remarks that social reformer and Tamil icon Periyar had led a rally in 1971 in which effigies of Hindu deities were paraded without clothes.

Rajinikanth's remarks had led to a huge controversy, with at least six police complaints lodged against him at different places in Tamil Nadu.

On January 14, speaking at an event to mark the 50th anniversary of 'Thuglak', the magazine founded and edited by late Cho Ramaswamy, Rajinikanth had said that Periyar's Dravidar Kazhagam (DK) party had organised a rally in 1971 in Salem in which "effigies of Ram and Sita were paraded without clothes and garlanded with footwear".

Rajinikanth's clarification on Tuesday came after DK party leaders, including Kolathur Mani, who had attended the 1971 rally, stated that the actor's claims were not true.

Several political parties, including Dalit party VCK, have announced that they will hold

protests near Rajinikanth's residence for refusing to correct what they call is a factually wrong statement defaming Periyar.

On Tuesday morning, the actor spoke with the media outside his residence at Chennai's Poes Garden. Showing a photostat copy of an article that appeared in 'Outlook' magazine, Rajinikanth said: "This is Outlook.. This report... says effigies were paraded without clothes.. This is something I have read. I cannot apologise for it. Let me politely inform you that I cannot apologise, sorry."

Asked about DK leaders who took part in the 1971 rally refuting his claims, Rajinikanth said, "It was not (an incident) to be denied but to be forgotten." Responding to Rajinikanth's statement on Tuesday, Mani, the seniormost DK leader who attended the 1971 rally, said, "If he has basic integrity, he should have brought the original copy of 'Thuglak' from 1971. He is close to the Thuglak team; it will not be difficult for him to get a copy. Instead, raising a photostat copy of another magazine to justify his factually wrong statement is to defame Periyar and the movement he led in Tamil Nadu," Mani said.

# IAS officer in TN opts to retire; Oppn alleges he was being harassed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHENNAI, JANUARY 21

REPORTS OF an IAS officer in charge of the BharatNet rural connectivity project in Tamil Nadu opting for voluntary retirement led the Opposition DMK to question on Tuesday if he was being pressurised due to his position in the project.

Following reports that IAS officer Santhosh Babu — currently holding portfolios of director of the Tamil Virtual Academy and managing director of the Tamil Nadu Fibre Net Corporation in the IT department — had sought VRS, DMK chief M K Stalin on Tuesday issued a statement demanding that the government ensure the implementation of the BharatNet project without any political corruption.

Stating that Babu's VRS request when he was at the helm of the project raised questions, Stalin's statement said, "Was Babu, who was in-charge of the project (BharatNet), under pressure? Is the IT minister behind this? The Chief Minister should reply." While Babu did not respond to calls or messages, a senior government secretary confirmed that he had applied for VRS. "... We couldn't independently verify reports that he was forced to make changes in the tender process for BharatNet implementation. However, the tender procedure was finished and it was uploaded online in early December. So it would have been improper even if there were attempts to make changes in the tender," the official said.

भा.कू.अनु.प.-राष्ट्रीय बीजाय मसाला अनुसंधान केन्द्र  
तमिळी, अजमेर 305206 राजस्थान (भारत)  
दुपचा संख्या :0145-2684413 फोन संख्या :2684417, ई-मेल :aao.ncrs@gmail.com  
फा.सं. : 6-33/2019/Job Cont. दिनांक : 21.01.2020

**“निविदा सूचना”**

निदेशक, भा.कू.अनु.प.-राष्ट्रीय बीजाय मसाला अनुसंधान केन्द्र, तमिळी, अजमेर द्वारा निम्नलिखित हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं:

S.N.	Name	CPMP Tender ID
1	Job Contract for Security Services	2020-DARE-537810-1
2	equipment- Leaf Area Meter	2020-DARE-537803-1
3	Hiring of Vehicle on Call Basis	2020-DARE-537797-1
4	Hiring of Vehicle on Monthly Basis	2020-DARE-537787-1

इस हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदाएं, **CPMP Portal** के माध्यम से भरने की अंतिम तिथि **12.02.2020**, अपराह्न 3:00 बजे तक है तथा प्राप्त हुई निविदाएं तिथि **13.02.2020**, अपराह्न 03:00 बजे ऑनलाइन खोली जायेंगी। इच्छुक निविदादाता, इस संख्य में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं ऑनलाइन निविदा भरने हेतु **CPMP** की वेबसाइट— <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> का अवलोकन करें।

सहायक प्रशासनिक अधिकारी

**VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED**  
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)  
Executive Engineer Office, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited,  
Upper Bhadra Project, Division No.5, Chitradurga.  
Phone No.:08194-230102 E-mail:eeubp.d5cta@gmail.com  
No.EE/UBP/VJNL/DIV-05/CTA/TALYA/2019-20/1480  
Date:17.01.2020

**SHORT TERM e-TENDER NOTIFICATION**  
(Only through E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL)  
Tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, VJNL, Bangalore, from eligible contractor for the Work 'Extension of Holakere tank filling scheme to fill up 6 No's tanks in Talya Hobli under Upper Bhadra Project in Holakere taluk in Chitradurga District INDENT NO: VJNL/2019-20 /IW/ WORK\_INDENT 1363" Amount put to tender is Rs.5168.23 Lakhs, the contractors can submit the tenders in Two cover system through [www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in](http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in) from **22.01.2020 to 24.02.2020 till 16:00**, The Pre-bid Meeting is Scheduled on 03.02.2020, 11.00 AM in the office of Chief engineer, VJNL UBP Zone, Chitradurga. Last date for queries up to 20.02.2020, 5.30PM, Opening of Technical bid is on 25-02-2020, 16:30 onwards in the office of Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP Division No.05, Chitradurga. Financial bid will be opened after the approval of technical Bid.

RO.No.879-DIPR/CTA/MCA/2019-20 Sd/- Executive Engineer

Govt. of Karnataka  
**Bangalore Medical College & Research Institute**  
(An Autonomous Institute of Govt. of Karnataka)  
Office of the Director cum Dean, Fort, K.R. Road, Bangalore - 560 002.  
Tel: 080-26700810, Telefax: 080-26704342  
e-mail: director\_bmcri@yahoo.co.in Website : [www.bmcri.org](http://www.bmcri.org)

No. BMCRI/Sup(21)/38/2019-20 Date: 20-01-2020

**e-TENDER NOTIFICATION**

e-Tenders are invited through e-procurement portal for the purchase of Medical Equipments, Furniture and Other Items required to Regional Geriatric Centre, Victoria Hospital of Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute, Bangalore.

Tender details, E.M.D details and other related details can be viewed, downloaded and applied only through the e-procurement mode only. Website: <https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in> Interested tenders have to register in the e-procurement portal, details of which can be viewed in the said website.

(1) Commencement date for uploading of tenders: **22.01.2020.**  
(2) Pre-bid Meeting Date: **28.01.2020 at 11.30 A.M.**  
(3) Last date for uploading the tenders: **06.02.2020 before 4.30 P.M.**  
(4) Date of opening of tender technical bid: **10.02.2020 at 10.30 A.M.**  
For further details contact Director cum Dean, Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute, Bangalore.

Sd/- Director cum Dean  
BMCRI, Bengaluru

DIPR/DDU/2019-20

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,**  
**BALANGIR (R&B) CIRCLE: BALANGIR**  
**e-Procurement Notice**  
**BID IDENTIFICATION No: SE(R&B) BGR/05/2019-20**  
**No. 183 // Dtd. 18.01.2020**

1. The Superintending Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in **ONLINE MODE** for the construction of works detailed in the table below from B/ A / Special Class Contractors registered with the State Governments and contractors of equivalent Grade/Class registered with Central Government/ MES/ Railways for execution of Civil works. The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the bid.

2. **Nature of Work** : Building/ Road/ Bridges work  
3. **No. of tender** : Building- 01 No, Bridge-3 Nos & Road-2 Nos.  
4. **Tender Cost** : Rs. 10,000/-  
5. **Class of Contractor** : B, A and Special Class.  
6. **Date & Time of sale** : From Dt. 29.01.2020, 10.00 A.M. to Dt. 12.02.2020 up to 05.00 P.M.  
7. **Date of opening Bid** : Dt. 13.02.2020 at 11.00 A.M.  
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <http://tendersorissa.gov.in>. All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE MODE only.

Sd/-  
Superintending Engineer,  
Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir.

34131/11/0007/1920

**WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**GLASS INSPECTION WINDOW AIR BOX**  
Tender Advertisement SMM (DL) SBI on behalf of the President of India invites following electronic open tenders for supply of materials: **Sr. No. 1 Tender No. 72-20-5367 Brief Description of Material : Glass Inspection Window Air Box, Qty.: 120 Nos. Date and time of E-tender box closing : 10/02/2020 11:00 hrs. Regarding detailed tender notice containing purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) Manual offers will not be considered. 353**  
Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

**MANIPUR UNIVERSITY**  
CANCHIPUR : IMPHAL-795003  
MANIPUR

**TENDER NOTICE**  
Dated, 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2020  
**No.MU/FIN/Equip/2019:** Manipur University invites sealed tenders for supply of equipments etc.  
Details may be seen at the University website [www.manipuruniv.ac.in](http://www.manipuruniv.ac.in)  
Sd/-  
Purchase Officer  
Manipur University, Cancchipur

**GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
Buildings (C&M) circle,(Medical Works),Madurai– 625 002.  
**EXTENTION NOTIFICATION NO.15SE/BCMC (MW) /MDU/2019-2020, DATE: 20.01.2020**

Last date for submission of Pre-Qualification application mentioned in the NIT No : 115E/BCMC (MW)/MDU/2019-2020/Dt: 16.12.2019 Extended as follows:  
**Last date for availability of pre-qualification application - upto 13.02.2020, 5.45 PM.**  
**Last date for submission of pre-qualification application - 14.02.2020, 3.00 pm.**  
**pre-qualification opening date - 14.02.2020, 4.00 pm.**

Further details may be downloaded from the following websites  
**[www.dgmarket.com](http://www.dgmarket.com), [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in), [www.intenders.gov.in](http://www.intenders.gov.in) .**

Superintending Engineer,PWD  
Buildings(C&M)Circle, M.W, Madurai

DIPR / 466 / TENDER / 2020

उ.प्र. पावर ट्रान्समिशन कारपोरेशन लि. ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना अनुमोदी फर्मा/ टेन्डरकार कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से विद्युत पारेषण मंडल मेरठ के अंतर्गत निम्न कार्य/आपूर्तियों हेतु मोहर बन्द ई-निविदायें ई-पोर्टल ([www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in)) पर दो भागों में आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। भाग-1 में ई-निविदाओं के प्रपत्र निर्धारित शुल्क आर.टी.जी.एस./ एन.ई.एफ.टी. एवं निर्धारित धरोहर राशि आर.टी.जी.एस./ एन.ई.एफ.टी./बैंक गारन्टी (अलग-अलग) के माध्यम से अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, मेरठ के पक्ष में **State Bank of India, Cantt Branch, Meerut** Account No. 11047201099, IFSC Code SBIN0006080 में जमा करायी जायेंगी। बैंक जमा की साक्ष्य यथा योग्य (यू.टी.आर. संख्या, पे-इन स्लिप मूल की प्रति निविदा के प्रथम भाग के साथ संलग्न किये जायें। ई-निविदा के प्रथम भाग (यू.टी.आर. संख्या, पे-इन स्लिप प्रति, निविदा प्रपत्र, पैन कार्ड, इकनम टैक्स रिटर्न, जी.एस.टी. प्रपत्र की स्वयं प्रमाणित छायाप्रति एवं तकनीकी अनुभव आदि) ई-पोर्टल पर स्कैन प्रतियाँ (PDF format) तथा ई-निविदा के द्वितीय भाग (प्राइजबिड) में दूरे एवं वाणिज्यिक नियम व शर्तें ई-पोर्टल ([www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in)) पर निम्नलिखित तात्कालिक के अनुसार अपलोड की जायेंगी। निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि एवं अन्य व्यवसायिक प्रपत्र हाई कोपी में अथवा व्यक्तिगत संवाहक के माध्यम से इस कार्यालय में प्राप्त नहीं किये जायेंगे। ई-निविदा भाग द्वितीय (प्राइजबिड) खुलने की तिथि हेतु तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। ई-निविदा का प्रथम भाग, तात्कालीन में अंतिम दिनांक एवं समय अनुसार सार्वजनिक रूप से खोला जायेगा। ई-निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर अवकाश होने की स्थिति में ई-निविदा आगे कार्य दिवस पर निर्धारित समय तक स्वीकार की जायेगी एवं निर्धारित समय पर खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदाओं को बिना को बिना कार्य बताये ई-निविदाई-निविदाओं को अस्वीकार/विभाजित करने का अधिकार अधोस्थापककर्ता के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। धरोहर/ई-निविदा राशि रहित व सशर्त ई-निविदायें स्वीकार नहीं की जायेंगी। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउन लोड, अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के सम्बन्ध में कृपया [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर लाँच आन करें। निविदाओं का विवरण निम्न प्रकार है:- क्रम सं. 1 निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी-150/-19-20:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र मेडिकल पर वार्षिक आधार पर अनुसूचक का कार्य। धरोहर राशि 14000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 1770.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.02.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 22.02.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 2 निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी-151/19-20:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-द्वितीय मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र हरिनागपुर के वार्षिक आधार पर परिचालन एवं अनुसूचक का कार्य। धरोहर राशि 22000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 1770.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.02.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 22.02.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 3 निविदा

संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी-152/19-20:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र परतापुर (जागुति विहार) के वार्षिक आधार पर परिचालन एवं अनुसूचक का कार्य। धरोहर राशि 40000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 3540.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.02.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 22.02.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 4 निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी-153/19-20:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ-द्वितीय के अन्तर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र रामराज पर स्थापित विभिन्न उपकरणों पर वॉरिंग से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 5000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 590.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.02.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 22.02.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 5 निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी-154/19-20:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-द्वितीय मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र चरला पर स्थापित मस्लीफानर सिस्टम के की ऑवरहॉलिंग से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 4000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 590.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.02.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 6 निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी-155/19-20:- 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र सी.बी. गन्ज, बरेली पर स्थित 160 एम.वी.ए. परिवर्तक की ट्रेलर पर लादना एवं 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र परतापुर (जागुति विहार) तक लाना, उतारना एवं उक्त परिवर्तक की गैसफिट बदलने से सम्बन्धित कार्य। उपरोक्त कार्य विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत किया जायेगा। धरोहर राशि 19000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 1770.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.02.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 22.02.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 7 निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी-156/19-20:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र परतापुर (जागुति विहार) पर स्थापित 40 एम.वी.ए. परिवर्तक की गैसफिट बदलने से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 5000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 590.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.02.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 22.02.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, 130-डी, "पारेषण भवन" विन्स्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ। "राष्ट्रहित मे ऊर्जा बचाएँ" प्रकां 204 वि.प्रा.म./मेरठ दिनांक 21/01/2020

**Samagra Shiksha State Project Office**  
**gujarat Council of School Education**  
**Sector-17, Gandhinagar-382017**

Bid for Selection of Agency for Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Tools & Equipment and Lab Set up under Vocational Education Programme in Secondary School of Gujarat

**Schedule of E-Tendering**

Tender Publish Date	23/01/2020 to at 12:00 Hrs.
Document Download end date	12/02/2020 up to 12:00 Hrs.
Online Submission of Proposal	12/02/2020 up to 12:00 Hrs.
Submission of all type of forms and Documents in Physical form in sealed envelope	12/02/2020 up to 3:00 Hrs.
Opening of Technical Proposal	12/02/2020 at 4:00 Hrs.

For more details please visit : [www.nprocure.com](http://www.nprocure.com)

Sd/-  
(P. Bharathi, IAS)  
State Project Director  
SSA - Gandhinagar

INF/2102/19-20

**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU - PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - WRD**  
Lower Valgaig Basin Circle, Sivagangai.- 630 562.  
(PRE-QUALIFICATION CUM LUMPSUM CONTRACT ITEM RATE TENDER IN TWO COVER SYSTEM )  
Tender Notice No. 05 /LVB/2019-2020/ Dated 21.01.2020.  
For and on behalf of Government of Tamil Nadu, sealed two cover system tenders are invited by the Superintending Engineer PWD/WRD, Lower Valgaig Basin Circle, Sivagangai, for the following works from the registered contractors in Public Works Department in the appropriate class and the last date of receipt of tender is 26.02.2020 upto 3.00 pm and the Pre Qualification tender will be opened on 26.02.2020 at 3.30 pm.

No.	Name of work	Approx value of work	EMD	Period of completion	Cost of Tender schedule + GST
1.	Repair, Renovation and Restoration of 15 tanks in Paramankudi Bogalur and Thirupullani blocks of Paramankudi and Ramanathapuram taluk in Ramanathapuram District.	Rs.447.75 Lakhs	Rs.2.34 Lakhs	18 Months	Rs.150000+ 18000(GST)
2.	Repair, Renovation and Restoration of 24 tanks in Devakottai, Kankangudi, Kallai and Singaperumal blocks of Devakottai, Karakkal, Thirupathur and Singaperumal taluks in Sivagangai District.	Rs.982.67 Lakhs	Rs.5.02 Lakhs	18 Months	Rs.150000+ 18000(GST)

Qualification of contractor : Class 1 (Above 75.00 Lakhs). State level registered contractors in Public Works Department.  
EMD remitted on behalf of : S.No.1 The Executive Engineer, WRD/PWD, Lower Valgaig Basin Division, Paramankudi.  
S.No.2 The Executive Engineer, WRD/PWD, Mamallapur Basin Division, Devakottai.

Details of EMD to be remitted and all other details such as regulations and Pre qualification details are available in tender document. Tender documents can be downloaded at free of cost from the Government web site [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in) and [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in).  
The tender documents can also be obtained from the Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD/WRD, Lower Valgaig Basin Circle, Sivagangai during office hours from 24.01.2020 to 26.02.2020 upto 5.45 pm by remitting the cost of tender schedule through challan of any nationalized bank.

Special Chief Engineer PWD/WRO., Lower Valgaig Basin Circle, Sivagangai.

DIPR /468 / TENDER / 2







Classifieds

PERSONAL

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

It is for general information that I, SONIYA D/o SHIV KUMAR SHARMA W/o AMIT SHARMA residing at C-479/A, Street No.20, Bhajanpura Delhi-110053 inform that name of mine has been wrongly written as SONIA and SONIA SHARMA in my educational documents and Voter ID Card. The actual name of mine is SONIYA respectively which may be amended accordingly. 0040528357-1

I,Sunil Yadav S/o Late Roop Chand Yadav R/o-A-307, Farkuddin-Apartment, Plot No-18, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75. Have Changed My Name to Sunil Kumar Yadav. 0040528420-1

I,Sindhu G Nair W/o JC-383663A Sub KK Padmakumar R/o-PMO CIDSS DGIS Enclave,Rao Tula Ram Marg,New.Delhi-110010,have changed my name to Sindhu G. 0040528439-1

I,Seema Rani d/o Kuldeep Kumar w/o Jitender Gambhir resident 44/7 FF Ashok Nagar Delhi 110018 have changed my name to Preeti Gambhir 0040528447-1

I,Satendra Pal Singh,S/o-Jai Singh Pal,R/o-A-15,Yadav Park Extn.,Najafgarh Road,Nagloi, New Delhi-110041,have changed my name to Satender Pal Singh,S/o-Jai Singh Pal Singh,for all future purposes. 0040528439-3

I,Reshmi Desgupta W/o-Shymal Ghosh R/o-Diamond Park,4B-5 Diamond Tower,ESI Hospital,Thakurpukur,Joka Kolkata-700104,West Bengal,have changed my daughter's name Ruchhika Ghosh to Ruchhika Dasgupta. 0040528439-9

I,Mukesh Kumar Gupta S/o Late Shivram Kumar Gupta R/o-A-298, Sector-37,(RHO-2),Greater Noida,U.P.,have changed my name to Mukesh Gupta for,all future purposes. 0040528439-4

I,Mohak Masand S/O-Shri.Anil Masand,R/O-F-52,Second-Floor,Old Double Storey,Lajpat Nagar-IV,N.Delhi-110024, inform that in my passport. No.T1540537, my and my, father's name wrongly, written as Mohak Massand instead of Mohak Masand and my,father name Anil Kumar instead of Anil Masand. 0040528394-3

I,Firoj Ahmad S/O Nousad Ahmad R/O-F-162, Gali No-6, Panchsheel Colony Part-2, Amar Nagar Faridabad-121003. Changed My Name To Firoz Ahamad. 0040528446-3

I,Daljit Kaur W/o-Sh.Kuldeep Singh,R/O-10-B,Guru Nanak Vihar,Chander Vihar,Nilothi Extn.,Nangloi, Delhi-110041, have changed my name to Kamaldeep Kaur after marriage for all,future purpose. 0040528439-7

I,Akanksha Singh D/o Ashok Kumar R/o-KA-256, Sector-12,Pratap Vihar,Ghaziabad, have changed my name Aakanksha Singh to Akanksha Singh for all purposes infuture. 0040528439-5

I,Kompal Khanna D/o J.N Khanna R/O-204, State Bank Colony, Paschim Vihar, N.Delhi-110063 have changed my name to Kkompal Khanna. 0040528400-7

I,Umag Jain S/o Shashank Jain R/o-D-1/8 Lane,D-1 Block-D Krishna-Nagar Delhi-110051. changed my minor daughter's name Princee to Akshita For All Future Purpose. 0040528438-4

I,Sweta Ramba W/o Harish Kumar Ramba R/o-O-43, Senior Citizen Home-Complex, P-4, Greater Noida, UP have changed my name to Pooja Sharma. 0040528400-4

I,Swati D/o Krishan Kumar R/O-WZ-5, Gali No.1, Shiv Nagar, New Delhi-110058, have changed my name to Swati Tuteja Permanently. 0040528420-2

I,Shashi Aggarwal @ Poonam Gupta W/o Sh. Ajay Gupta R/O-H-12, New Seelam Pur, Delhi-110053, have changed my name to Poonam Gupta after marriage for all future purpose. 0040528396-1

I,Suman Kumar Das S/O Tara Pada Das R/O-A-1, Main Road, Shardhanand Park, Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi-110042. Changed my Name to Suman Das. 0040528420-5

I,Shahnawaz S/o Mohammad Isa H.No.F-14/1, Ground-Floor, AbulFazal -Enclave Part-2, Shaheen-Bagh, Jamia-Nagar, Delhi-110025, have changed my name to Shahnawaz Navqi. 0040528400-5

I,Amit Lohia S/o Shri Ram Chander R/O 801, Tarla Mohalla, Near Panchayat Ghar, Ghitorni Village, New Delhi-110030. That I inform Amit Kumar and Amit Lohia both are same person. for In Future call Amit Lohia. 0040528367-1

I,Anil Kumar S/o Ramphal Aggarwal H.No.146-C, Model Town-East, Ghaziabad have changed my name to Anil Kumar Aggarwal for all purposes. 0040528400-10

I, Shahid Ali S/o Sughar Ali R/o-RZG-61, F/F, New Balaji-Apartment, Mandir-Marg, Mahavir-Enclave, Palam-Village, Delhi-110045 use Shahid Ali Khan as alternate name and both names belongs to me. 0040528438-8

I,Sayara Khatun W/o Mohd Sarfuddin Ansari H.No.E-12, Sector-B1, Tronica City, Loni, Ghaziabad have changed my name to Saera Khatoun. 0040528400-3

I,Satendra Sehrawat S/o Ravinder Singh Sehrawat R/o B-105, Mayank Apartments, Plot No.-21, Sector-6, Dwarka, Delhi-110075 have changed my name to SATENDER SEHRAWAT. 0040528399-1

I,Sanjeev Kumar R/O H NO - G -191 /4, Street No - 4/26, West Karawal Nagar, Dayalpur, North East, Delhi, 110094 have changed my name to Sanjeev Kumar Lahiri. 0070693777-1

I,Sanjeet Kumar S/o Sant Lal Shah R/o B-90, B-Block, JJ-Colony, Inderpuri, N.Delhi-12 have changed my name to Sanjeet Gupta. 0040528438-7

I, Sanish Mittal S/o Jagminder Kumar R/O B-6/218, Block-B, Pkt-6, Sector-8, Rohini, Delhi-110085. Changed My Name To Sanish Gupta. 0040528420-9

I, Renu Bala Madaan W/o Anil Madaan R/o M-7/C, Gulmohar Apartments, Vikasপুর, Delhi-110018, have changed name to Renu Madaan. 0040528446-1

I,Rahul Kumar Jain S/o Rakesh Kumar Jain R/o-X/2735, Gali No.6B, Raghubar Pura.No.2, Gandhi-Nagar, Delhi-110031. have changed my name to Rahul Jain. 0040528400-6

I,R.Rajesh/Raghavan Rajesh S/O Major Tr Nambiar R/O-RZ-179, Shiv-Block Raghunagar Palam Village Delhi-110045. Changed My Name To Rajesh Nambiar. 0040528446-4

I,Noshad Khan S/O Mohammed Saeed H.No-2906, Gali Shankar Sitaram Bazar Delhi-110006. Changed My Name To Mohammed Noshad. 0040528446-7

I, No- 12964403F, RFN Shabir Ahmad Qureshi, S/O- Basheer Ahmad Qureshi,R/O Nambila, Tehsil-Uri, District-Baramulla. In my service records name of my son has been wrongly mentioned as Amir Shabeer instead of Amir Qureshi. It needs correction. Objections be filed to 161 INF BN TR H&H JAKLI within seven days. 0020400873-1

I,Pinkii Garg W/o Mukesh Garg R/o-SU-49, Pitampura Delhi-34, inform that my name has been wrongly written as Pinky Garg in the record of DIPS(School) Rohini,Delhi, where my minor Son namely Mayank Garg is studying in class-8th A.My correct and actual name is Pinkii Garg 0040528358-1

I,Nitin S/O Sushil Kumar hno.153, Pkt-3, Janta Quators, Paschim Puri, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110063. Changed my Nameto Nitin Kumar. 0040528420-7

I,Neha D/o Vijay Kumar Chaudhary R/o L-56, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Neha Chaudhary. 0040528409-1

I,Naveen Kumar S/O Shri. Prem Chand R/O-D-3/90, Second Floor, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110089, have changed my name to Naveen Garg. 0040528461-12

I,Nafisa W/o Fakhruddin R/O 2082, Katra Chhote Lal, Turkman Gate, Delhi-110006 have changed my name from Nafessa to Nafisa for all future purposes. 0040528398-1

I, Mohd Sarfuddin S/o Sabdul Miyan H.No.E-12, Sector-B1, Tronica City, Loni, Ghaziabad have changed my name to Mohd Sarfuddin Ansari. 0040528400-2

I,Mohd Parvez S/o Mohd. Mursaleen R/O-G-11, Gaffar-Manzil Extension Part-II, Jamia-Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025 that in my passport my and my father name has been wrongly written as Mohammad Pervez instead of Mohd. Parvez and Mohammad Mursaleen instead of Mohd.Mursaleen 0040528461-2

I,Mohammad Vasif S/o Mr. Habibur Rahman R/O-E-12/88, Hauz Rani Malviya Nagar Delhi-110017 have changed my name to Mohd. Vasif Salmani for all future purposes. 0040528380-1

I,Manju Bala W/O Arjun Mehta R/O Q-1/26, Phase-I, Budh Vihar, Delhi-110086. Have Changed My Name To Manju Mehta. 0040528420-8

I,MANJU Spouse of SUNIL KUMAR YADAV resident of H No.RZ-213K, S/F Gali No.09, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, Tehsil: Dwarka, Distt: South West Delhi-110045 have changed my name from MANJU TO MANJU KUMARI vide IN-DL-10912540414080S dated 16/01/2020 NCT of Delhi. 0040528366-1

I,Harshool S/O Inderjit Singh R/O B-1A/56-B, Janak Puri, New Delhi-110058 Have Changed my Name to Harshool Chauhan. 0040528406-1

I, MAHESH KUMAR resident of Vikas Enclave, Greater Noida, Sec-4, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301 have changed my son's name from SWASTIK to SWASTIK SIDHIK vide Affidavit no. IN-DL28832609358503R dated 25/07/2019 NCT of Delhi. 0040528366-4

I,Kiran Malik W/o Late Sh.Umesh Chander R/O-B-12/9, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051 is also known as Kamlesh Malik. Both names are of one & the same person. 0040528360-1

I,Kumari Ritu W/o Ex Havaladar Dal Bahadur R/o Mohd Shapurpur J.J.Colony, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Reetu. 0040528446-2

I,Kanika Sharma d/o Rajeev Sharma r/o 980, Shiv Colony, Old Faridabad, Haryana-121002 have changed my name to KANIKA SHARMA. 0040528407-1

I,KM Shabnoor Jahan W/o Tirok Singh R/o-Flat No.1201 Tower No.A3 KLG-Heights Sector-15, Bahadurgarh Distt.Jhajjar (Haryana) changed my name to Shabnoor Kaur Rathor. 0040528406-7

I,Jyoti Kumari W/o Sh.Poonam Kumar R/o-612/20, Basai Road,Veer Nagar,Gurgaum, Haryana,Have changed my name to Jyoti for all future purpose. 0040528439-8

I,Jyoti Kumari W/o Sh.Poonam Kumar R/o-612/20, Basai Road,Veer Nagar,Gurgaum, Haryana,Have changed my name to Jyoti for all future purpose. 0040528439-8

I, Gobarthan S/o Ramdhan R/o Barwaripur, Kadipur, Sultanpur, U.P.-228145 have changed my name to Baburam permanently. 0040528438-6

I,Dheeraj S/O Rajveer Singh R/O D-22, Gali no.1, Sanjay Mohalla, Bhajanpura, Delhi-110053. Have Changed My Name To Dheeraj Rathore. 0040528420-6

I,Deepti Jain W/o Ekagra Aggarwal R/O No.9, Court Road Civil Lines, Delhi-110054 have changed my name Deepti Jain to Deepti Aggarwal for all future purposes. 0040528359-1

I,Daya Shankar S/o Late Shri Kamta Prasad R/o-MQ-827, Nigahi, Sector-10, Gopad-Banas, Sidhi, Madhya Pradesh-436884 that in the school record and Aadhar Card of my minor daughter aged about 10-Years Her name has been wrongly written as Chandrawati instead of Arushi Bharti. 0040528461-1

I,Sukhvir S/O Amar Singh Add-WZ-16, Jwala Heri Village, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063, changed my name to Sukhvhir. 0040528420-3

I,Shiv Ram Singh S/O, Ram Pratap Singh R/O 231, Batukiji Cnhs Ltd,plot No5b,sector 3, Delhi 110078 have changed my name to Shiv Ram for all purposes. 0040528415-1

I,Shi Prakash Sharma S/o Dinesh Kumar Sharma R/O Gorlgawa, Raepura, Muzaaffarpur, Repura, Mahadeo, Bihar-843107, have changed my name to Sri Prakash Sharma 0070693773-1

I,Shallu Trehan W/O, Rajesh Trehan R/O-D-159, Fateh-Nagar, Jail-road, New Delhi-110018 after marriage have changed my name from Kanchan Dua to Shallu Trehan. Both are one and same person. 0040528438-5

I,Rajeev Sharma S/O Ramesh Chand H.No-136 Ward No-8 Mohalla Farshkhana-Narnaul Mahendragarh Haryana-123001. Have Changed My Name To Rajeev Kumar. 0040528406-9

I,Rajni Priya Bachiraju W/O Satyanarayana Bachiraju H.No-217, Pocket-E, Mayur Vihar Phase-2, Delhi-110091. Changed My Name To Rajani Priya Bachiraju. 0040528446-6

I,Parshant Atri S/O, Mr. Brij Kishor Atri R/O House No. 213/325 F Block Rajendra Park Near Pnb Bank Gurgaon Haryana-122001 have changed my name to Prashant Atri 0040528424-1

I,Mansi Garg W/O Shishir Gupta R/O-C-28, S/F, Mayfair Garden N.Delhi-110016 changed my minor son's name Anubhav Gupta to Rudr Anubhav Gupta. 0040528406-4

I,Km Mohseena Khatoun W/o Anwar R/O-D-24, Shyam-Nagar, Khyla Road, Tilak-Nagar, New Delhi 110018 have changed my name to Mohseena. 0040528406-2

I,Azhar Waris S/O Munna Khan R/O-B-348, Gali No-5, B-Block Near-Sunehri Masjid-Brijpuri Delhi-110094 Have Changed My Name To Azhar Warsi. 0040528420-10

I,Indu Shri W/O Neeraj Mahajan, Hno.326,Top Floor, Rishi Nagar, Ranibagh, Delhi-110034. Changed My Name To Indu Mahajan. 0040528438-2

I,Ashwani Kumar S/o Karam Chand Mahajan R/O-H-82, Shivaji Park West Punjabi Bagh Delhi, have changed my name to Ashwani Kumar Mahajan 0040528446-8

I, Ahmed Shaheed S/o Abdul Karim R/O 2422, Gali No.20, Ravjv Gandhi Nagar, New Mustafabad, Delhi-110094 have changed my name to Ahmad Shaheed 0040528395-1

I,Abhinandan Sethi S/o Ashok Kumar Sethi R/O-C-83, Block-C, Anoopnagar, Bindapur, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi-110059 inform that Ashok Sethi, Ashok Kumar and Ashok Kumar Sethi are the names of one and same person. 0040528461-11

I, Abdul Rashied Naik S/o Sultan Naik R/O-H-133, Kanhai-Colony, Sector-44, Gurgaon, Haryana-122002 Have Changed My Name To Abdul Rashid Naik. 0040528438-3

I,JOHNSON GEORGE SABASTIAN resident of 10/352, Pitrchaya CHS, Subash Nagar, Chembur, Mumbai-400071 have changed my son's name from ARNOLD JOHNSON to MANGALATH ARYAN ARNOLD JOHNSON vide IN-DL109132127133175 dated 16/01/2020 NCT of Delhi. 0040528366-3

I,JAYSHREE JOHNSON spouse of JOHNSON GEORGE SABASTIAN resident of 10/352, Pitrchaya CHS, Subash Nagar, Chembur, Mumbai-400071 have changed my name from JAYSHREE JOHNSON to JAYSHREE JADHAV JOHNSON vide IN-DL10913841200429S dated 16/01/2020 NCT of Delhi. 0040528366-2

I,Ishwar Devi Ahuja W/o Late Shri Madan Lal Ahuja R/O-N-37 First-Floor Sri Niwas Puri, New Delhi-110065,have Changed my name to Ishwar Devi for all purposes. 0040528374-1

I,HIMANSHI alias HIMANSHI GUPTA d/o PAWAN KUMAR GUPTA R/o 769, Subhash Colony, Ballabhgarh, Faridabad, Haryana-121004 have changed my name to AARTI AGGARWAL. 0040528391-1

I, Gunjesh Kumar Singh S/o Bharat Kumar Singh, R/O J-304, Microtek Greenburg, Sector-86, Gurgaon, Haryana-122004. Have Changed My Name To Gunjesh Kumar. 0040528406-8

I, Gobardhan S/o Ramdhan R/o Barwaripur, Kadipur, Sultanpur, U.P.-228145 have changed my name to Baburam permanently. 0040528438-6

I,Dheeraj S/O Rajveer Singh R/O D-22, Gali no.1, Sanjay Mohalla, Bhajanpura, Delhi-110053. Have Changed My Name To Dheeraj Rathore. 0040528420-6

I,Deepti Jain W/o Ekagra Aggarwal R/O No.9, Court Road Civil Lines, Delhi-110054 have changed my name Deepti Jain to Deepti Aggarwal for all future purposes. 0040528359-1

I,Charu Aggarwal D/o Naresh Aggarwal R/O Vikas Aggarwal R/O-C-130, 2ndFloor, Ramprastha-Colony, Ghaziabad U.P.-201011, have changed my name to Priyanshi Aggarwal for all purposes. 0040528406-6

I,Charanjit Singh S/O Mehar Singh R/O-136, 2nd Floor west MukherjeeNagar, Delhi-110009, have changed my name to Charanjit Singh permanently. 0040528400-8

I,Bhavana D/o Shri.Vinod Bhavani R/O-148, Surya-Niketan, Shakarpur, East-Delhi-110092, have changed my name from Bhavana to Bhavna Dubey, for all future purposes. 0040528406-5

I,Bhagwant Kaur W/o Late Shri Kala Singh, R/O-H-16, Shree-Nagar-Colony, Ashok-Vihar, Delhi-110052 inform that KALA SINGH and BALJEET SINGH, is the same and one person. 0040528438-1

I,Baban Kumar S/O Kailash Prasad Singh R/O-A-79, Krishna Enclave, Haroda,Najafgarh, N.Delhi-110072,have changed my name to Babban Kumar. 0040528439-2

I, Archana Maheshwari w/o Rajeev Maheshwari r/o 1345, Mejestic, Mahanagar Mascot, Crossing Republik, Ghaziabad, 201016, U.P. have changed my name to Archana Maheshwari for all future purposes. 0040528439-6

I,Anupam D/O Avesh Ojha R/O-Flat No-162, Plot No-1. Heritage-Tower Aptt Sec-3 Dwarka Delhi-110078. Changed My Name To Anupam Ojha. 0040528446-5

I,Babhan D/o Shri.Vinod Bhavani R/O-148, Surya-Niketan, Shakarpur, East-Delhi-110092, have changed my name from Bhavana to Bhavna Dubey, for all future purposes. 0040528406-5

I,Bhagwant Kaur W/o Late Shri Kala Singh, R/O-H-16, Shree-Nagar-Colony, Ashok-Vihar, Delhi-110052 inform that KALA SINGH and BALJEET SINGH, is the same and one person. 0040528438-1

I,Baban Kumar S/O Kailash Prasad Singh R/O-A-79, Krishna Enclave, Haroda,Najafgarh, N.Delhi-110072,have changed my name to Babban Kumar. 0040528439-2

I, Archana Maheshwari w/o Rajeev Maheshwari r/o 1345, Mejestic, Mahanagar Mascot, Crossing Republik, Ghaziabad, 201016, U.P. have changed my name to Archana Maheshwari for all future purposes. 0040528439-6

I,Mansi Garg W/O Shishir Gupta R/O-C-28, S/F, Mayfair Garden N.Delhi-110016 changed my minor son's name Anubhav Gupta to Rudr Anubhav Gupta. 0040528406-4

I,Km Mohseena Khatoun W/o Anwar R/O-D-24, Shyam-Nagar, Khyla Road, Tilak-Nagar, New Delhi 110018 have changed my name to Mohseena. 0040528406-2

I,Azhar Waris S/O Munna Khan R/O-B-348, Gali No-5, B-Block Near-Sunehri Masjid-Brijpuri Delhi-110094 Have Changed My Name To Azhar Warsi. 0040528420-10

I,Indu Shri W/O Neeraj Mahajan, Hno.326,Top Floor, Rishi Nagar, Ranibagh, Delhi-110034. Changed My Name To Indu Mahajan. 0040528438-2

I,Ashwani Kumar S/o Karam Chand Mahajan R/O-H-82, Shivaji Park West Punjabi Bagh Delhi, have changed my name to Ashwani Kumar Mahajan 0040528446-8

I, Ahmed Shaheed S/o Abdul Karim R/O 2422, Gali No.20, Ravjv Gandhi Nagar, New Mustafabad, Delhi-110094 have changed my name to Ahmad Shaheed 0040528395-1

I,Abhinandan Sethi S/o Ashok Kumar Sethi R/O-C-83, Block-C, Anoopnagar, Bindapur, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi-110059 inform that Ashok Sethi, Ashok Kumar and Ashok Kumar Sethi are the names of one and same person. 0040528461-11

I, Abdul Rashied Naik S/o Sultan Naik R/O-H-133, Kanhai-Colony, Sector-44, Gurgaon, Haryana-122002 Have Changed My Name To Abdul Rashid Naik. 0040528438-3

LOST & FOUND

The Original Allotment Letter No. Prop/BHS13/All/913 dated 11.02.2011 of property Flat No. 215, Block C, Sector XU-III, Greater Noida has been lost. I Vijitendra Kumar Kuril wants to take a Home Loan by mortgaging the said property from SBI RACPC Noida Code 14702. In case any party has any claim towards the said property the same should be lodged with SBI RACPC Plot No. C-03B, Sector -55, Noida - 9968000081. 00405288296

I,Jaameet Kaur have lost my Aadhar Card, Pan Card, Sim Card No.9711072388 and Cheque Book. Finder may Contact: 88601131622. 0040528438-10

I,Aditya Arora S/o Anil Arora have lost my passed 2nd MBBS marksheet.Enrollment No. 1204101993 year and batch 2012 issued from Subharti Medical College, Meerut. Finder contact 9818135189 0040528459-1

I,Ankit S/O Ramesh Kumar H.NO.1124 VPO Bawana DELHI-110039 have lost my original/certificate class-12th Roll no-9151747 year-2013 CBSE- Delhi. 0040528461-9

I,KAVITA Dheer D/o parshotam lai dheer R/o-flat no-1 h.no-227 Arjun-nagar N-D-29.have lost my original certificate and Marksheet for class-10th year-2001 Rollno-6162226 CBSE-Delhi. 0040528461-6

I,MOHIT S/o Nanak chand R/O-D-51 Kondli-colony delhi-96, have lost my original/ certificate class-10th year-2017 Rollno-8301733 CBSE-Delhi. 0040528461-8

I,Neelam Guglani W/o Shri Arun Kumar Guglani R/o Flat No.317-D, Pocket-II, Mayur Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-110091 have inform that I am the owner of Flat No.43-G. BL-B, Pocket SA B7, Kondli, Gharoli Mayur Vihar Phase-III, Delhi. I have lost original Convenience Deed dated 02/01/2001 duly regd. as Document No.29, in Book No.1, Volume No.403 on pages 13 to 14 dated 03/01/2001 in the office of Sub-Registrar Delhi related to the above said flat. 0040528365-1

I,Nirmal Kumar Bhansali have lost my Original Property Documents of C-10 Jhandewalan-flatted Factory-Complex, New Delhi, having documents, Provisional Allotment-Letter, Handling over the Possession-Letter, Physical-Possession Letter, MC- Licence, DPCC-Licence, If anyone finds it, kindly contact- 9899199499. 0040528446-10

I,P.Hari haran S/o P.Perumal R/o-959 sunlight colony-2 ashram new delhi have lost my original/certificate/marksheet class-10th(2013) Rollno-8818474 class-12th(2016) Rollno-9749167 CBSE-Delhi. 0040528461-10

I,Sumeet Kumar Grover S/o Sri. Chand R/O-C-204 Kenwood-Tower Eros Garden-Faridabad-121009, have lost my original/certificate. Class-12th year-1990 Rollno-278733 CBSE, Delhi. 0040528461-7

Lost my DDA original Conveyance Deed against my House No.21/A, Pocket-D-6, Sector-6, Rohini, Delhi-110085. Finder may contact-Sangeeta Mehta at above noted address. 0040528390-1

I,Ajay Gandhi,S/o-Surinder Singh Gandhi,R/o,19-C,DDA MIG-Flats,B-Block,Vivek Vihar,Phase-2,Delhi-10095,have lost my original marksheet cum certificate of secondary examination of year-1987, and Roll.No.-082173, and original marksheet cum certificate of Sr.Secondary Examination of year-1989,And roll.No.-251504,issued by CBSE.Mob:8285880990. 0040528439-6

Lost Original File of Property No.1364, M.I.E., Ph-1, Bahadurgarh. Finder Contact Rakesh Kumar Jindal #9213090153. 0040528406-10

I,Sumet Kumar Grover S/o Sri. Chand R/O-C-204 Kenwood-Tower Eros Garden-Faridabad-121009, have lost my original/certificate. Class-12th year-1990 Rollno-278733 CBSE, Delhi. 0040528461-7

Lost my DDA original Conveyance Deed against my House No.21/A, Pocket-D-6, Sector-6, Rohini, Delhi-110085. Finder may contact-Sangeeta Mehta at above noted address. 0040528390-1

I,Ajay Gandhi,S/o-Surinder Singh Gandhi,R/o,19-C,DDA MIG-Flats,B-Block,Vivek Vihar,Phase-2,Delhi-10095,have lost my original marksheet cum certificate of secondary examination of year-1987, and Roll.No.-082173, and original marksheet cum certificate of Sr.Secondary Examination of year-1989,And roll.No.-251504,issued by CBSE.Mob:8285880990. 0040528439-6

Lost Original File of Property No.1364, M.I.E., Ph-1, Bahadurgarh. Finder Contact Rakesh Kumar Jindal #9213090153. 0040528406-10

I,Sumet Kumar Grover S/o Sri. Chand R/O-C-204 Kenwood-Tower Eros Garden-Faridabad-1



FACT CHECK, GROUND REALITY

## EUROPEAN ROYALS (BESIDES HARRY AND MEGHAN) WHO ‘STEPPED BACK’

OM MARATHE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

BUCKINGHAM PALACE announced on Saturday that Prince Harry and his wife Meghan Markle would no longer be working members of the British royal family, and would no longer use their “Royal Highness” titles. Harry and

Meghan had earlier said they would step back as senior members of the royal family, spend more time in North America, and “work to become financially independent”.

Like Harry and Meghan, royals in other parts of Europe too, have had trouble confining themselves solely to traditional duties, and have tried to pursue professional careers.



### THE NETHERLANDS

King Willem-Alexander is an avid pilot. In 2017, the monarch revealed that he had served as First Officer on KLM flights for 21 years, even after taking over the throne from his mother Beatrix in 2013, all the while balancing royal duties.

His wife Maxima has served as the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development since 2009.



### SWEDEN

When Sweden's Princess Madeleine married British-American financier Christopher O'Neill in 2013, the latter refused a royal title so that he could keep working.

The youngest child of King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia, Madeleine performs royal duties, and is seventh in line to the throne. O'Neill appears with the royal family on major occasions.

### SPAIN

Princess Cristina, sixth in line to the throne and one of King Felipe VI's older siblings, chose to work in the private sector, taking up jobs at the Caixa Bank Foundation and the Aga Khan Trust.

Cristina and her husband Iñaki Urdangarin were embroiled in controversy in 2016 after Urdangarin was convicted of embezzling around € 6.2 million of public funds, and sent to jail. The princess lost her “Duchess of Palma” title during the inquiry, but was herself acquitted of wrongdoing.

### NORWAY

King Harald's oldest child and fourth in line to the throne, Princess Martha Louise, dropped the “Royal Highness” part of her title in 2002, saying she wanted to pursue private interests, and married Norwegian writer Ari Behn that year.

After the couple divorced in 2017, Martha dated self-described American ‘shaman’ Durek Verrett, and the pair organised seminars titled “The Princess and the Shaman”. Following widespread crit-

icism, Martha apologised and promised not to use her royal title in the future.

### BELGIUM

Prince Laurent, brother of King Philippe and 13th in line to the throne, has been dubbed *prince maudit* or “cursed prince” for his unconventional ways. In 2018, the Belgian House of Representatives slashed Laurent's annual endowment of around €300,000 by €46,000 for a year after the prince attended, in the previous year, a Chinese embassy reception in military uniform without government permission.

### UNITED KINGDOM

Queen Elizabeth II's youngest child and Harry's uncle, Prince Edward, ran a TV production firm from 1993 to 2011. His wife Sophie ran a public relations company, and was the target of a sting operation in 2001, in which she told an undercover reporter pretending to be a wealthy sheikh that her royal status could fetch him greater publicity.

The couple have since been devoted to royal duties, and have kept away from private projects.

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### PRANAV MUKUL

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

IN 2017, when Uber Eats launched in India, commentators flagged its late entrance in the online food-delivery business dominated by Naspers-backed Swiggy and Alibaba-funded Zomato. Uber had reasoned then that entering a semi-mature market could possibly save it investments in developing an ecosystem in which people ordered food online. Less than three years later, Uber has sold its food-delivery operations to Zomato in an all-stock deal that gives it 9.99% ownership in Zomato.

#### What is India's food-delivery market like?

Swiggy and Zomato together command nearly 80% of India's online food-delivery market, with smaller players including Ola (which acquired Foodpanda), and various cloud kitchens occupying the rest. According to estimates, more than 3 million orders are delivered by online platforms every day — with a majority of orders being placed in the seven cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Pune, and Chennai. Both Zomato and Swiggy claim a presence in more than 500 cities across the country. Uber Eats was able to establish itself in 40 cities.

Over the past year, both the big players have expanded aggressively to tier-II and tier-III towns on the back of a growing selection of restaurants, and increased preference for online food ordering. Over the past two years, Uber Eats too, while controlling just over 1% of the market, went into smaller cities such as Guwahati, Madurai, Kottayam, Udaipur, Kollam, and Mangaluru.

The expansion, however, has come at a cost. Like other consumer tech sectors, food-tech too, is struggling with losses due to high spends on subsidising orders to acquire and retain customers. Both Zomato and Swiggy offer discounts and services like free delivery to retain customers on their platforms.



Zomato is likely to benefit from getting its hands on Uber's customer data. Archive

#### What does the deal mean for Uber?

Since the company's disappointing public offering last year, it has been taking its hands off loss-making businesses. In November last year, Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi had laid down the company's strategy for the food-delivery business — suggesting that it would operate only in markets where it was able to occupy the No. 1 or No. 2 spot. In line with this strategy, Uber has already pulled out its food-delivery business from the Vienna and South Korea markets.

In fact, Uber had conceded to Zomato and Swiggy as early as in April last year. In filings with the US Securities and Exchange Commission prior to its public offering, Uber had said: “Our competitors in certain geographic markets enjoy substantial competitive advantages such as greater brand recognition, longer operating histories, larger marketing budgets, better localised knowledge, and more supportive regulatory regimes.

“In India, for example, our Uber Eats offering competes with Swiggy and Zomato, each of which has substantial market-specific knowledge and established relation-



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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to [explained@indianexpress.com](mailto:explained@indianexpress.com)

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

# After Zomato eats Uber

Uber has sold its food-delivery operations to Zomato in an all-stock deal. What is the big picture in India's online food-delivery market? How will the Zomato-Swiggy duopoly impact restaurants and consumers?

give Uber more room to invest in other growing businesses. In a statement on Tuesday, Khosrowshahi said Uber will continue to invest in its local Rides business, in which the company claims to be the category leader.

#### What does the deal mean for Zomato?

Zomato has been in a neck and neck battle with Swiggy for the top position in India's online food-delivery business. Acquisition of Uber Eats barely strengthens Zomato's position in the segment, but it certainly gives it an advantage over its rival in terms of the customer data that it acquires from Uber.

Also, the exit of a player from the market will give Zomato greater negotiating power with restaurants, which could translate into lesser cash burn and reduced losses going ahead. Zomato's purchase of Uber Eats also indirectly brings Softbank into India's food-tech space. Earlier, Softbank had been in talks with Swiggy for a significant investment, but it did not come to fruition.

#### What does it mean for consumers and restaurants?

As Swiggy and Zomato continue to expand into newer markets, discounts and subsidised offerings will be their go-to strategy to acquire consumers. Restaurants, which are already at loggerheads with Zomato over its Gold offering for dining out and delivery will, however, lose bargaining power in a duopolistic market.

But unlike other sectors where a duopoly would effectively function like a monopoly, the online food-delivery segment is expected to be competitive even with two players, given that future valuations and fundraising for these companies would depend greatly on the numbers they are able to show to their investors.

Finally, there is the question of Uber Eats' 100-odd employees, whom Zomato is unlikely to take over. Sources said some Uber Eats staff will be absorbed into Uber's other verticals, while the remaining will be laid off.

## THIS WORD MEANS: WUHAN VIRUS

# Mystery virus that has killed 6, triggered worry



At a hospital in Wuhan. Reuters

break constitutes a public health emergency of international concern and what recommendations should be made to manage it”.

#### Why is it called the Wuhan Virus?

The first cases emerged in Wuhan in central China's Hubei province. (PM Narendra Modi met China's President Xi Jinping for their first Informal Summit in Wuhan in April 2018.) On December 31 last year, authorities confirmed that a large number of patients with unexplained pneumonia were admitted in hospitals in the city. The Huanan Seafood Market, which also sold live poultry and meats, was shut down after being identified as the likely source of the pathogen, which was identified early in January as a new coronavirus.

Wuhan remains the epicentre of the outbreak, with China's National Health Commission reporting 270 cases for Hubei as a whole as of Tuesday morning. Guangdong seen 14 cases — and on Monday, Zhong said two patients in the province seemed to have caught the virus from relatives who had travelled to Wuhan.

#### Where else have cases been reported?

The virus was detected in two Chinese women who arrived in Bangkok from Wuhan last week, and in a Chinese man who returned to Japan from the city earlier this month. On Monday, an infected Chinese woman holiday-maker arrived in South Korea's Incheon airport from Wuhan. In Hong Kong, dozens of people returning from the mainland were hospitalised, but no infection was confirmed.

#### What are the symptoms of infection?

According to the WHO, common signs include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Serious infections can lead to pneumonia, kidney failure, and death. Although human-to-human transmission has now been confirmed, the WHO says animals are the outbreak's likely primary source. It is not known yet which animals are responsible.

To prevent the spread of all respiratory infections, the WHO in general asks people to

cover their mouths and noses when coughing or sneezing, and to frequently wash their hands. Direct contact with farm or wild animals should be avoided — similar outbreaks in the past, like the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) emerged from markets where people were in contact with live animals.

#### Why is there concern around the world?

People see a similarity with the SARS outbreak that infected over 8,000 people and killed around 775 in more than 35 countries worldwide in 2002-03. SARS too, was caused by a mystery coronavirus, and started in China. The source of the virus remained unknown for 15 years, until Chinese scientists in 2017 traced it back to a colony of horseshoe bats living in remote cave in Yunnan province. The virus was carried by civet cats which are sold in markets in China.

Fears that SARS could reappear linger, and memories of China misleading the rest of the world on the extent and seriousness of the outbreak have not gone away — even though there has been greater transparency this time, and President Xi has ordered that the outbreak “must be taken seriously” and dealt with every measure possible.

Zhong, who was China's leading SARS expert during the 2002-03 outbreak, is again in charge of the government's response.

# Three capitals for Andhra Pradesh: its logic and the questions it raises

### SREENIVAS JANYALA

HYDERABAD, JANUARY 21

ON MONDAY, the Andhra Pradesh Assembly passed The Andhra Pradesh Decentralisation and Equal Development of All Regions Bill, 2020, paving the way for three capitals for the state. Amaravati, where former Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu had hoped to build his dream capital, will now be only the legislative capital, while Visakhapatnam will be the executive capital and Kurnool the judicial capital.

#### Rationale for three capitals

The YSR Congress Party government says it is against building one mega capital while neglecting other parts of the state. “We do not want to develop one area utilising all our available financial resources while other areas suffer due to lack of funds,” Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy told *The Indian Express*. The government has given several reasons for its “decentralised development” project.

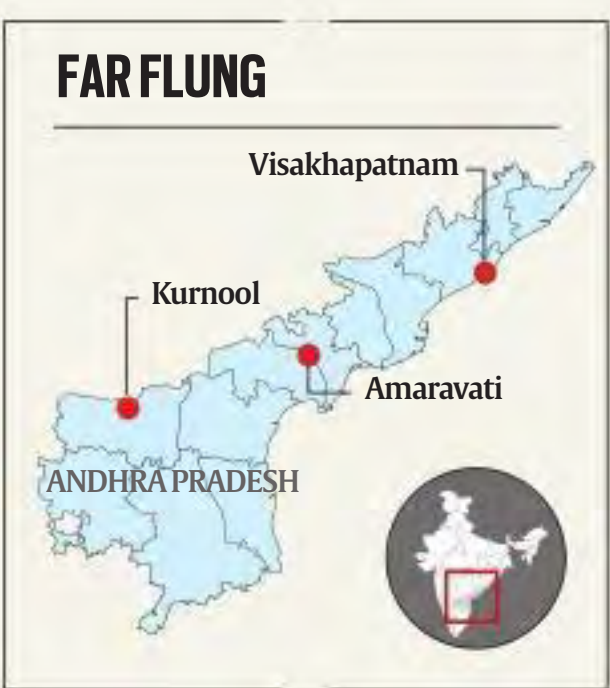
■ **Historically recommended:** According to the government, decentralisation was the central theme in recommendations of all major committees that were

set up to suggest a suitable location for the capital of Andhra Pradesh. Finance and Legislative Affairs Minister B Rajendranath said it had been agreed in the November 16, 1937 Sri Bagh Pact (between leaders of coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema) that two university centres should be established in Waltair (Visakhapatnam) and Anantapur in Rayalaseema, and that the High Court and Metropolis should be in the coastal districts and Rayalaseema respectively.

In December 2010, the Justice B N Srikrishna Committee, set up to look into the demand for a Telangana state, said Rayalaseema and North Coastal Andhra were economically the most backward, and the “concentration of development efforts in Hyderabad is the key reason for demand of separate states”.

In August 2014, the K Sivaramakrishnan Committee appointed to identify locations for the new capital of AP said the state should see decentralised development, and that one mega capital city was not desirable.

■ **G N Rao Committee:** A Committee constituted by the YSRCP government under former IAS officer G N Rao, in its December 2019 report, recommended three capitals for balanced growth, and four regional commissionerates along the lines of Karnataka.



■ **BCG recommendation:** The government sought an opinion from the global management consulting firm Boston Consultancy Group, which on January 3, 2020, recommended that Visakhapatnam should be the seat of the Governor, Chief Minister, and all government departments, and a High Court Bench, and have provisions for a Legislative Assembly for use in an emergency; Vijayawada/Amaravati should have the Assembly and a High Court Bench; Kurnool should have the High Court and tribunals.

■ **High-powered Committee:** A high-power Committee appointed by the government to study the recommendations of the G N Rao Committee and the BCG suggested that the state should be demarcated into zones with separate zonal planning and development boards in order to ensure inclusive development, and that infrastructure projects focussed Rayalaseema and North Coastal Andhra should be prioritised.

#### Major practical problems

The government argues that the Assembly meets only after gaps of several months, and government Ministers, officers, and staff can simply go to Amaravati when required. However, coordinating between seats of legislature and executive in separate cities will be easier said than done, and with the government offering no specifics of a plan, officers and common people alike fear a logistics nightmare.

The distances in Andhra Pradesh are not inconsiderable. Executive capital Visakhapatnam is 700 km from judicial capital Kurnool, and 400 km from legislative capital Amaravati. The Amaravati-Kurnool distance is 370 km. The time and costs of travel will be significant.

The AP Police are headquartered in

Mangalagiri, 14 km from Vijayawada, and senior IPS officers who may be required to visit the Secretariat will have to travel 400 km to Visakhapatnam. Likewise, government officers who may have to appear in the High Court will have to travel 700 km to Kurnool, which does not have an airport.

All officers and Ministerial staff who may have to be at hand to brief Ministers when the Assembly is in session, will probably have to stay put in Amaravati, leaving behind their other responsibilities in Visakhapatnam.

#### Infrastructure requirements

There are no plans to construct new buildings in Visakhapatnam. Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Botsa Satyanarayana has said there is enough vacant government office space available in the city.

Sources said government buildings on Hill 1 and 2 at Rushikonda IT Special Economic Zone have space to house the Secretariat and offices of the heads of departments. The government is considering allotting plots of government land at subsidised rates to over 14,000 state employees who are likely to move from Vijayawada and Guntur to Visakhapatnam.

### Jagan Mohan vs Naidu

After the creation of Telangana, truncated Andhra Pradesh pinned its hopes on N Chandrababu Naidu, who is credited with transforming sleepy Hyderabad into a global Information Technology hub during the time he was Chief Minister from 1995 to 2004. After the TDP swept the 2014 elections with help from its then ally BJP, Naidu focussed on building a world class capital in Amaravati. Through an innovative land pooling scheme, 33,000 acres of fertile land were taken from 29 villages, with landowners being promised developed, highly valuable plots in return, apart from monetary compensation per acre per year.

However, due to lack of funds and support from the Centre, Naidu could not build his dream capital; he did, however, build a plug-and-play Interim Government Complex, a temporary High Court building, and a permanent Legislative Complex; and commissioned several bungalows and apartments for lawmakers, judges, and officers.

Naidu's bitter rival Jagan Mohan Reddy, however, scrapped the project. There is widespread feeling in Andhra Pradesh that the three-capitals plan is essentially intended to deny Naidu credit for building a signature capital after his own style.





The IndianEXPRESS

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RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

SLOW AND SLOWER

India's economic slowdown is largely made of domestic issues. Union budget is an opportunity to address them

IN ITS LATEST World Economic Outlook, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has presented a sobering assessment of the state of the Indian economy. The Fund has not only lowered its expectations of the country's economic prospects for this year, but has also drastically cut its forecast for growth over the next two years. The IMF now expects India to grow at 4.8 per cent this fiscal year, marginally lower than the 5 per cent projected by the National Statistical Office. And while the Fund expects growth to pick up to 5.8 per cent next year, it is still 1.2 percentage points lower than its assessment in its October outlook. Some in India have argued that the country's current economic slowdown is largely due to sluggish global growth and trade. But, the IMF notes, rightly so, that the downward revision in India's growth prospects is more due to domestic issues — domestic demand has slowed down more sharply than expected amid stress in the non-banking financial sector, a decline in credit growth and poor growth in rural incomes. This downward revision in India's growth prospects has pulled down global growth prospects more than the other way around.

To be sure, global trade growth has been subdued. As per the IMF, growth of world trade volume (goods and services) slowed to a mere 1 per cent in 2019, down from 3.7 per cent the year before. Yet, even as India's exports have remained almost stagnant over the last five years or so, Bangladesh's garment exports have surged during this period, as have those of other south-east Asian countries. And while India's economy has slowed down sharply, neighbouring Bangladesh is likely to have grown at around 8 per cent. This is not to deny that global risks to growth exist. Geopolitical tensions in the Middle East could lead to higher crude oil prices resulting in macro-economic instability. Yet, at this moment, India's challenges are largely domestic.

Almost six years ago, the BJP under Narendra Modi came to power on the promise of returning the country to a high-growth trajectory. That promise has bumped up against enormous challenges. Going by the IMF's projections, at this rate, growth is likely to average only around 5.7 per cent in the first three years of this government's tenure. The upcoming Union budget is an opportune moment for the government to review and course correct. With constrained space for a meaningful fiscal stimulus, and with the limits of monetary easing being tested, the government should clearly articulate how it plans to support the economy during this difficult period. At the current juncture, the urgency of focusing on deeper reforms to return to a high-growth trajectory cannot be overstated.

A NEW VIRUS

Mystery flu in China should put health authorities on alert, especially since it coincides with vacation time in that country

ON JANUARY 22, the World Health Organisation will hold an emergency meeting to discuss the situation arising out of the outbreak of a mystery respiratory illness, which has killed at least four people and infected more than 200 in China. With cases also being reported in Japan, South Korea and Thailand, the outbreak has revived memories of the SARS epidemic — caused by a coronavirus — that killed nearly 800 people and infected more than 8,000 others across the world in 2002-2003. Preliminary analysis of the new virus's genetic code reveals that it is more closely related to SARS than any other coronavirus detected in humans in the past 20 years. And, though experts suggest that the new flu may not be as lethal as SARS, there are enough reasons for health authorities around the world to be vigilant.

The infection, initially transmitted from animals, was first detected in Wuhan province in mid-December. Some reports have hinted that the virus spread from a seafood market in Wuhan. But the fact that several people who contracted the flu never visited the market has complicated the search of the disease's origins. Chinese researchers now believe that, given the large number of cases, the likelihood of human-to-human transmission is large. But the failure to isolate the animals that transmit the virus in the first place could compromise efforts to contain the outbreak.

In 2016, the WHO reported that more than 75 per cent of the new diseases that have affected humans over the last decade have been caused by pathogens hosted by animals or from products of animal origin. Population pressure and clearing vegetation, whether for agriculture or urban expansion, is bringing humans, domestic animals and poultry into closer contact with animals known to be carriers of diseases — rodents, primates and bats. And when humans and animals share space, they also share microbiology. The genetic make-up of most viruses allows them to jump from an animal host to humans. It also allows them to adapt to a foreign environment — such as the human immune system — and makes several resistant to drugs. Compounding this public health challenge are the forces of globalisation, especially the speed and volume of global air travel. For example, after originating in China, the SARS virus traversed nearly 30 countries in less than a year. That is why health authorities across the world should be careful in case of the new coronavirus. The outbreak in Wuhan has coincided with the Chinese Lunar New Year — vacation time in China, when millions of Chinese travel across the world.

TARGET MADHYAM

India's PM is part of a lengthening list of global leaders who blame the medium for the message

THIS IS NOT an aphorism. It is an exhortation: Don't shoot the messenger. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has joined the exalted ranks of those holding high office across the world in blaming the medium for the message. Addressing BJP workers in New Delhi on the appointment of J P Nadda as party president this week, the prime minister asked them to forge a "direct connection with the people", bypassing mediums of communication "which are never going to support us". He went on to accuse a section of the madhyam of supporting the Congress and "spreading lies" against the government.

First, a little code-breaking. Madhyam refers to the media, that holdall term that covers everything from the belligerence on prime time television, to listicles that hold forth on such topics as "Puppies vs Babies — who's ruling the internet?" and even the humble written word, slapped on newsprint, delivered to your home. Within this vast space, particularly in plural democracies, there is every shade of opinion, objectivity and bias, and varying degrees of rigour, ethics and competence. This plurality also makes the media as a whole an easy scapegoat: Donald Trump cries "fake news" every time another one of his improprieties is exposed, Prince Harry holds the media responsible for the pressures that have forced him to leave the hard life of a royal and seek employment just like a commoner.

Perhaps the medium is not the message, after all. And an uncomfortable message is not the medium's fault. Certainly, the media is all too easy to target and attack. Listening to it would be a lot harder.



SANJIB BARUAH

WHAT IS REMARKABLE about statements by ruling party politicians on the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) is that they attribute the purported persecution of non-Muslim religious minorities in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan to a fixed and unchanging reality. At all times in their recent history, the three countries have presumably been alike. This ideologically laden narrative defines the three neighbouring countries in essentialist terms — they are Muslim majority countries; that's all there is to know about them. There is no need to understand history, and the dynamics of political change. The ideological predilections of governments in Muslim-majority countries make no difference to the way religious minorities are treated. The implicit contrast is with Hindu-majority India, which by definition, is inclusive and tolerant — no matter the actual treatment meted out to minorities.

Thus, in neighbouring Bangladesh — if one follows the logic of this perverse revisionism — the persecution of religious minorities has occurred under all governments: The first post-liberation government led by Mujibur Rahman, the military regimes of Ziaur Rahman and Hossain Mohammad Ershad, the democratically elected Bangladesh National Party (BNP) government led by Khaleda Zia, or the Awami League governments led by Sheikh Hasina Wazed.

But was life for the Hindu minority really the same in the Bangladesh of the early 1970s, when "Joy Bangla" dominated political life, as in the 1990s, when "Allahu Akbar" and "Bismillah" became popular election slogans? Was the removal of secularism in 1977 as one of the four fundamental principles of the Bangladesh Constitution, or the declaration of Islam as the state religion in 1988, of no consequence to the situation of the Hindu minority in that country?

India's new official narrative is, of course, at complete variance with the understanding that has informed Indian foreign policy so far. If Hindus were equally persecuted in East Pakistan/Bangladesh both before and after it broke away from Pakistan, why did India even bother to intervene in the war of liberation? Was India's decision to intervene in Bangladesh's war of liberation, where Hindu Bengalis were both major players and targets of the Pakistani crackdown, then a failure of historic proportions?

If the persecution of Hindus has been a persistent feature of all Bangladeshi govern-

Three as one

CAA-led narrative on religious persecution ignores political specificity, nuance in neighbourhood

India's new official narrative

is, of course, at complete variance with the understanding that has informed Indian foreign policy so far. If Hindus were equally persecuted in East Pakistan/Bangladesh both before and after it broke away from Pakistan, why did India even bother to intervene in the war of liberation? Was India's decision to intervene in Bangladesh's war of liberation, where Hindu Bengalis were both major players and targets of the Pakistani crackdown, then a failure of historic proportions?

ments, what explains the very different quality of its relations with India when the country has been ruled by governments with different ideological orientations? Were previous Indian governments unconcerned about the condition of the Hindu minority? Or did they pursue a more pragmatic and realist approach than the current government? After all, putting non-Muslim citizens of the three countries on a path to Indian citizenship — as the CAA effectively does, despite the asserted cut-off date of December 2014 — amounts to a significant surrender of India's sovereign prerogatives to set immigration policies to its smaller neighbours.

This new narrative is, of course, oblivious of the way inter-faith relations in India, or the state of bi-lateral relations with India, affect the security and confidence of the Hindu minority. According to the Bangladeshi scholar Meghna Guhathakurta, who has written extensively on the conditions of the Hindu minority in that country, the destruction of the Babri Masjid in 1992 had "resulted in a backlash against the Hindu temples, life and properties all over Bangladesh. Even Christians and Buddhists were not spared." Attacks on Hindus and their property in Bangladesh also took place after the Gujarat riots of 2002.

The seven decades of the subcontinent's post-Partition history make it abundantly clear that there is no better guarantee of peace and security for religious minorities in the CAA-covered countries than better inter-faith relations within India, and relatively peaceful relations among South Asia's three post-Partition states.

Not surprisingly, people in all three CAA-covered countries — including leaders of minority organisations — reject the new Indian narrative. Some have sounded the alarm on the danger that this narrative — and the Indian policies accompanying it — presents to South Asia's future stability. While the Indian media has focused mostly on Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan's criticism of these policies, the reaction of the other two countries that enjoy friendly relations with India, merits no less attention.

Afghan and Bangladeshi officials have set aside diplomatic niceties to criticise the new Indian narrative. Afghanistan's ambassador to India Tahir Qadiri has publicly rejected the charge that his country persecutes religious minorities. Afghans of all ethnicities and faith, he said in an interview with India

Today, have been victims of the four decades of war that his country has suffered. However, since the fall of the Taliban, the Afghan government has tried to fashion policies beneficial to the country's Sikh and other minority communities. There are now Sikh members of the Afghan Parliament, and Sikhs are represented at the presidential palace as well.

Bangladesh's Foreign Minister A K Abdul Momen also rejects the "allegations of minority repression in Bangladesh." Important voices in Bangladeshi civil society, such as Professor C R Abrar of the University of Dhaka, have been highly critical of the "anti-Bangladeshi vitriolic statements" coming from the "Indian ruling elite." Categorising Bangladesh "as a nation that oppresses its religious minority," he writes, is a deliberate insult to the people of Bangladesh. Despite India's much-repeated assertion that the NRC and CAA are India's internal matters, Abrar warns that their consequences for Bangladesh are likely to be "grave." There will be millions of Muslims unable to prove their claim to Indian citizenship under the rules of the NRC who would not get the protection of the faith-based amnesty that the CAA now provides. While India may not deport them as a matter of policy, in coming years many of them may choose to cross into Bangladesh in order "to avoid languishing in detention camps in atrocious conditions."

The Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad (Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council) fully echoes the concerns of the protesters in Assam and the rest of Northeast India regarding the CAA. The Parishad, formed in response to the Eighth Amendment to the Bangladesh Constitution which had made Islam the official state religion, has expressed its "deep concern" that the CAA would "encourage minority people to leave Bangladesh." The organisation's adviser, Nitai Roy Chowdhury, has expressed fears that because of the NRC and the CAA, "Hindus will want to go to India, meanwhile Muslims from India will try to enter into Bangladesh which could create a dangerous situation."

India's many friends and well-wishers in Afghanistan and Bangladesh now have ample reasons to wonder: With friends like these, who needs enemies?

The writer is professor of political studies, Bard College, New York



ASHOK BHAN

THE JUDGMENT of the Supreme Court on January 10 by a three-judge bench, pertaining to the communication and internet shutdowns in Kashmir, has received massive media coverage. It appears that there is some misunderstanding related to some of its conclusions with respect to internet restrictions, which has resulted in massive mischaracterisation of the judgment itself.

At the most fundamental level, the judgment upholds the requirement of natural justice that those affected by an executive or administrative order have the right to access the said order. As has been rightly pointed out by others, the state has often relied on unpublished and inaccessible orders and materials to justify its actions, including in the present Kashmir case.

The orders passed by the state (except for a certain "sample" order) were not even placed on record. However, the SC, by both requiring the state to proactively place orders before a court in writ proceedings, as well as requiring the publication of orders under the Internet Rules — as well as those passed under Section 144, CrPc — has taken away this mechanism of the state to thwart or abridge rights. The entire preliminary struggle faced by the petitioners in the present case, to have access to the orders they were challenging, has been done away with and is unlikely to resurface.

No MORE SECRETS

SC ruling on Kashmir internet shutdown limits arbitrariness of executive power

The Court has made any curbs on the internet subject to the stringent requirements of restrictions under Article 19 (2) of the Constitution. This brings in the proportionality analysis, which the Court interprets to include the requirement of allowing only the least restrictive measure. With respect to the internet, the Court specifies that the blanket suspension or banning of the internet is a 'drastic measure' that cannot be usually resorted to by the state.

This is a huge victory for those struggling against the abridgment of civil liberties: State authorities can no longer rely on the cover of secrecy to pass arbitrary orders.

The SC's declaration that the freedom of speech and expression, as well as the right to trade over the internet, has constitutional protection under Article 19 (1) is the first time that the Court has made a positive assertion regarding the same. The Court has therefore made any curbs on the internet subject to the stringent requirements of restrictions under Article 19 (2).

This brings in the proportionality analysis, which the Court interprets to include the requirement of allowing only the least restrictive measure. With respect to the internet, the Court specifies that the blanket suspension or banning of the internet is a "drastic measure" that cannot be usually resorted to by the state.

This case was also the first opportunity for the SC to expound on the procedure under the Internet Suspension Rules. While the Court did not go into the question of their constitutionality, it did make the procedure under the Rules more robust. The SC also filled by requiring a periodic weekly review of orders passed under the Suspension Rules. This review is not ordinary, or superficial, but appears to require proper analysis by the Review Committee, as the same has been given the responsibility un-

der Rule 2(5) to verify that the orders passed are in compliance with the requirements of the Telegraph Act.

It must be understood that this is a general requirement for any order passed under the Suspension Rules, and is not a specific direction to the administration in J&K. In the context of the present nationwide curbs and political climate, the holding of the Supreme Court on fundamental rights, both on substantive and procedural questions, not only sets the stage for challenges in the high courts, but also raises the threshold for when the state can impose such restrictions. The ruling also sets the stage for the relief granted to the people in Kashmir.

The SC has effectively ruled that the Kashmir internet orders be revoked, seeing as it is unlikely that the orders passed by the state authorities could have been in compliance with the ruling. If they do not revoke the orders, they would have to publish them, and prove that the orders were in compliance with the law laid down by the SC. Otherwise, the authorities face the risk of being in contempt of the present SC judgment: A decision which might not play out very well, either legally or politically, both in India and internationally.

The writer is a senior advocate, Supreme Court of India

JANUARY 22, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

HELP, NOT CHARITY

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA Gandhi strongly defended the attitude of developing countries towards international cooperation and declared that they were not asking for charity. Speaking at the UNIDO conference, she spoke of the aversion of developing countries to any attempt by others to influence the policy or impose their views. "If we seek help, it is not a charity, but rather as part of a process to undo the injustice of ages, and bring greater equality and security, thereby creates conditions for stable and enduring peace in the world, which all countries earnestly seek," she said. Mrs Gandhi said the existing system, with the world divided between the

industrialised haves and the developing have-nots, was no longer acceptable.

LABOUR DIVISION CALLS

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL KURT Waldheim called for a new international division of labour between developed and developing countries. Such a division should be based on equitable exchange of specialised industrial products and required strengthening of the technological capability of developing countries as well as a ready access for their manufactures to the markets of advanced countries, he said. Waldheim made these remarks in his opening statement at the third general conference of the United Nations

Industrial Development Organisation.

BHAJAN LAL CROSSOVER

HARYANA CHIEF MINISTER Bhajan Lal wants to cross over to the Congress (I) in the next few days. During the last four days, he has been making hectic efforts, trying to persuade other members of the Janata Legislature Party to join the Congress (I). He is reported to have met 30-40 members of the JLP in this connection. Such open critics of the Congress (I) as Swami Agnivesh, former education minister in the Bhajan Lal government, Sushma Swaraj and some Jana Sangh members are reported to have turned a deaf ear to Lal's pleas.





# In pursuit of truth and justice

There are many challenges and crises confronting journalism. But its quest for quality cannot stop



RAM NATH KOVIND

I FEEL HAPPY to participate in the Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Awards function. I am told that these awards were started as part of the birth centenary celebrations of the late (Ramnath) Goenka ji. These awards honour those journalists from print, broadcast and digital media who have maintained the highest standards in their profession and, despite immense challenges, produced work that sustains public trust in the media and impacts the lives of people. In other words, the awards are meant to felicitate those who hold their pen for truth. I congratulate all the award winners and urge them to never let go of their pursuit for truth, which is the only compass for good journalism.

When the group chairman, Viveck Goenka, met me to extend the invitation, he reminded me on a lighter note of how I share my first name with Ramnath Goenka. I said, yes, it is a pleasant coincidence in which, I am sure you all would agree, I have no role to play.

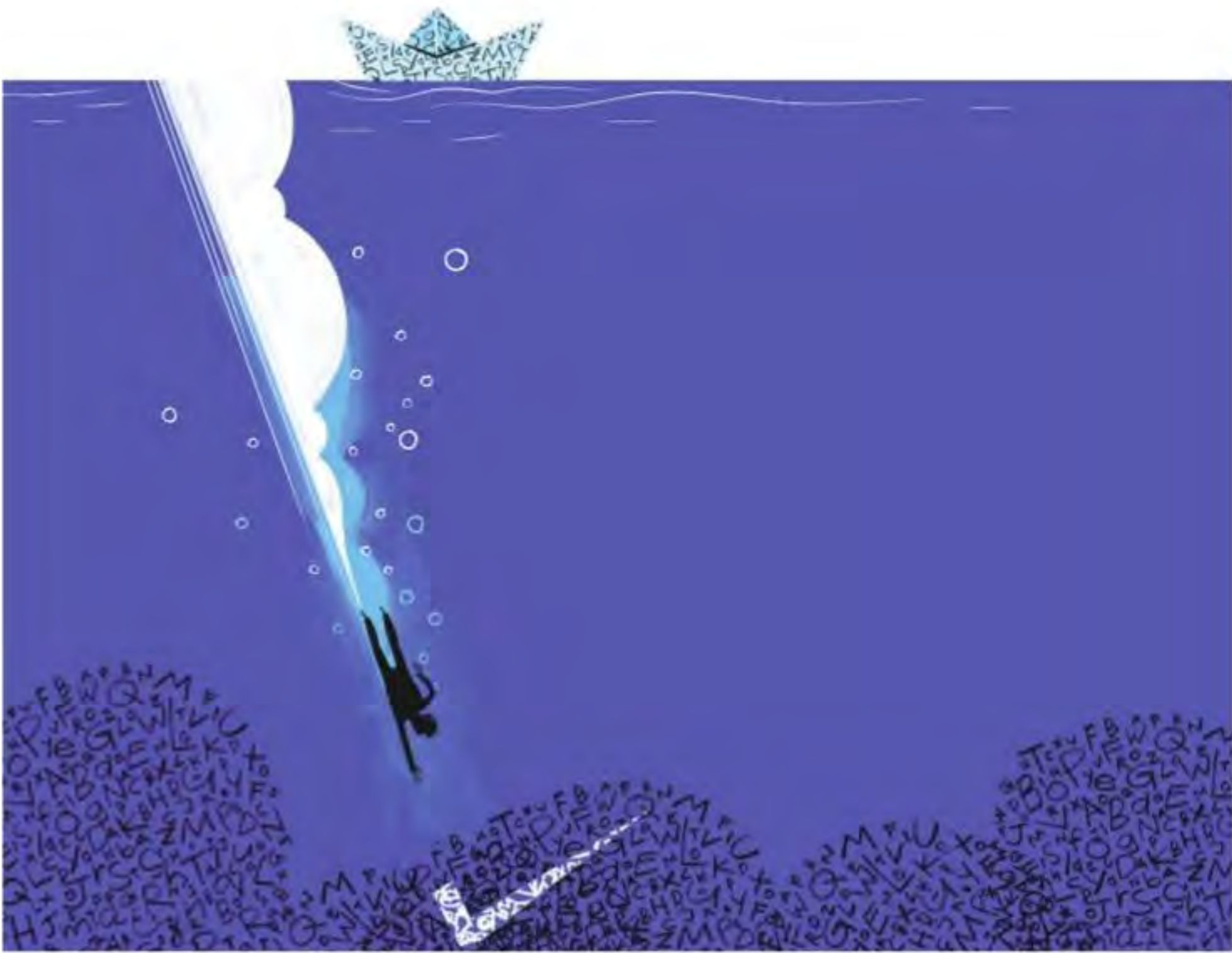
It is indeed an elevating experience for a humble Ram Nath to participate in an event named after the redoubtable Ramnath, the stories of whose fights against oppression and persistence for truth are the stuff of legend. But what I do — and all of us must — share with Goenka ji, is his passionate nationalism. I ardently share his dream of a strong and prosperous India.

Fondly called RNG, he was a matchless media personality who influenced the country both before and after Independence. He was a businessman who had the canny ability to build a real estate empire and utilise his wealth for public-service journalism. The hallmark of his endeavour was an uncompromising journalism of courage. A journalism without fear or favour; its fundamental commitment to truth above all else. When he suspended the publication of the newspaper during the Quit India movement, his editorial spoke of “the heartstrings, not the purse-strings”.

Over the decades, the Indian Express group has truly evolved into an institution which encompasses the best values and traditions of journalism. It has cultivated a culture of irreverence towards authority and sought to practise journalism by speaking truth to power. Goenka ji left behind a rich legacy in the able hands of his successors who seek to carry his message forward.

I was born and brought up in Kanpur, a city which once set the highest standards for journalism. Let us remember Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi, an extraordinary journalist, who sacrificed his life to douse the flames of hatred during communal violence in Kanpur. As a journalist, his written words were not only prescient but also showed his deep concern for the marginalised. Writing in the revolutionary newspaper, *Pratap*, which he had founded, he drafted what should serve as the mission statement for every journalist. Here I quote Vidyarthi ji’s words: “*Kisi ki prashansa ya aprashansa, kisi ki ghudki ya dhamki humein apne sumaang se vichalit na kar sakegi* (Nobody’s praise or criticism, happiness or disappointment, rebuke or threat will distract us from the just course).”

He added: “Truth and justice will be our internal guide. *Pratap* will always strive to steer clear of communal and personal fights. It isn’t born to cater to, protect, or oppose any important group, organisation, person or opinion — it will believe in independent thought and its religion will be truth. *Hum nay mein raja aur praja, dono ko saath denge, parantu anyay mein dono mein se kisi ka bhi nahin* (In justice, we will support both the king and his subjects, but in injustice we



CR Sasikumar

won’t back anyone). It is our deep desire to see the harmony between the country’s diverse castes, communities, and sects grow.”

The sagacity of Vidyarthi ji’s writings was never confined by the narrowness created by humans. That was his journalism. In pursuit of his dream of a strong and united India, he sacrificed his life for peace and nonviolence, like a true disciple of Mahatma Gandhi.

I know that I am recalling a period when mass communication was still in its infancy. We were, then, a long way away from summarising our messages in a few characters and spreading them faster than wildfire. Indeed, technology has drastically altered the nature of journalism.

Old timers would recall the magical touchstone, the five Ws and H (what, when, why, where, who and how), whose answers were essential for a story to qualify as a news report. In the din of the “breaking news” syndrome, that has consumed the media now, this fundamental principle of restraint and responsibility has been undermined substantially. Fake news has emerged as a new menace, whose purveyors proclaim themselves as journalists and taint this noble profession.

Technology has given rise to a new breed of journalism, which stands in contrast to traditional journalism. This development has revived the old debates about the status of facts and opinions, about credibility and authenticity. What is desirable is objectivity, which allows journalists to be open to facts, and present all sides of a picture. Fidelity to facts, digging for truth and keeping one’s lens clean and sharp is imperative.

I am aware that journalists tend to wear many hats in the line of their duty. These days, they often assume the role of an investigator, a prosecutor and a judge — all rolled into one. It requires a great deal of inner strength and incredible passion for journalists to play so many roles at a time to arrive at the truth. Their versatility is praiseworthy. But that prompts me to ask if such a sweeping exercise of power is accompanied by genuine accountability?

Ponder for a moment as to what Goenka ji would have done, had he encountered a crisis of credibility on account of paid news or fake news. He would never have allowed the situation to go adrift and initiated measures for course correction for the whole media fraternity. There is no doubt that journalism has been passing through a

Democracy is meaningful only when the citizen is well informed. In that sense, excellence in journalism grants full meaning to democracy. If journalism has to remain relevant, it has to retain its sense of mission, it has to reclaim its values of honesty and fairness. It has to, 24 by 7, reinforce its compact with citizens: That it will not bend, that it will always fight for the truth no matter what the consequence, and that it will remain committed to finding the truth without fear or favour.

critical phase.

The quest for truth is, of course, difficult and easier said than done. But it must be pursued. A democracy like ours deeply relies on the uncovering of facts and a willingness to debate them. Democracy is meaningful only when the citizen is well informed. In that sense, excellence in journalism grants full meaning to democracy.

If journalism has to remain relevant, it has to retain its sense of mission, it has to reclaim its values of honesty and fairness. It has to, 24 by 7, reinforce its compact with citizens: That it will not bend, that it will always fight for the truth no matter what the consequence, and that it will remain committed to finding the truth without fear or favour.

Given such high ideals, it is a difficult challenge to sustain good journalism and also remain profitable. A section of the media has then taken recourse to entertainment in the name of news. Stories exposing great social and economic inequalities are ignored, and that space is taken over by trivia. Instead of helping promote scientific temper, some run after irrational practices in their search for eyeballs and ratings. But, I am confident that quality journalism will prevail in the long run — the kind of journalism we have gathered to celebrate.

I once again congratulate all the award winners and also their organisations that helped bring their work to light. I also congratulate the Express group and the jury members for promoting excellence in journalism through these awards. I offer my best wishes to the young journalists whose work will be celebrated on this stage in the future. To them, and also to all other journalists, this advice from one of their greatest predecessors, Mahatma Gandhi, will serve as a good guide: “Always insist on truth, and urge it with humility and grace. I am a journalist of long standing. In my own way I claim to know my art well. I would therefore ask such of you as are journalists and publicists to curb your pen and tongue. Exercise the strictest economy of words, but not of truth. Restrain your expression, but not the inner light which should burn brighter with increasing restraint.”

I leave you with these words of the Father of the Nation. Jai Hind!

*The writer is the President of India. This is the text of the speech delivered at the Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Awards, January 20, New Delhi*

had been unfairly dominating JNU politics, ABVP joint general secretary Srinivas has said, “First of all, it should be understood that JNU has 8,000 students, out of which only 1,000 students are active in leftist organisations and about an additional 1,000 students support them in elections. Except for these 2,000 students, the remaining are non-leftist. A good number of these students do openly support the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, which is the largest single organisation on campus. Given the scenario, if a leftist uses the JNU as a platform to speak against the nation and its culture, it can’t be considered as the view of the whole of the JNU.”

The article has argued that frequent clashes happen in JNU because Left follows an unaccommodating ideology: “Communism can’t tolerate disagreements and the presence of other ideologies by its very design. Therefore, it is not surprising that the Leftists consider JNU as an ‘invulnerable republic’ of their ideological monopoly”.

## AI, THE FUTURE

IN ANOTHER ARTICLE, written by G B Reddy, *Organiser* has laid emphasis on developing ro-

bust Artificial Intelligence capabilities in India, lest it stays behind in the next tech revolution. “The development of AI has the potential to fundamentally transform civilian and military life in the coming decades. Consequently, AI will be a driver and structural force reshaping the global order. Are we ready for this tectonic shift in the strategic sphere?” the article asks.

It argues that India is emerging as the hub of digital skills but was a laggard in AI. It says that while the Modi government has taken some initiatives, there was a need to think big and take bolder decisions. In fact, the article laments how the government, till now, has not even formalised a policy for AI development and that “the pace of innovation around establishing a comprehensive AI strategy for the future isn’t comparable to America or China today”.

It has urged the government to increase funding for AI development as it is very low compared to the US and China. The article has asked the government to ensure the best brains do not leave the country. For this, it has suggested the payment of higher salaries so that India does not remain just a cheap destination for technology development.

Compiled by Deeptiman Tiwary

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“The new epidemic in Wuhan is not as horrible as SARS. We sincerely hope Chinese society can be more successful in preventing and controlling the pneumonia, and move a big step forward in terms of medicine.”

— GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

# Federalism is a two-way street

States like Kerala that oppose the CAA must recognise the Centre’s constitutional right to make laws pertaining to citizenship



V MURALEEDHARAN

“IT’S NICE TO have an opinion about communism now, because once you’re living in it you don’t get to have an opinion about it,” renowned chess player Gary Kasparov tweeted recently. He was echoing dozens of others who before him have tried to hold a mirror to the pernicious ideology which has claimed millions of lives around the world.

It was amusing to read Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan’s article, ‘Of, by and for the Constitution’ (IE, January 18), given that in Kannur, Marxists are alleged to have murdered hundreds of nationalists and dozens of their own party men out of political vendetta. The party’s cadres are even alleged to have burnt down an entire herpetarium to settle intra-party scores.

An estranged comrade once claimed that Vijayan, in an earlier avatar as CPM party secretary, had advised party cadre to take lessons from West Bengal comrades on eliminating political rivals without leaving any proof. The party’s commitment to the Constitution and respect for democratic institutions can also be discerned from the contempt with which its leaders have treated the judiciary in the past. In 1970, the Supreme Court upheld the conviction of the late CPM stalwart, E M S Namboodiripad, for his remarks against the judiciary. In 1967, when Namboodiripad was Kerala CM, he called the judiciary “an instrument of oppression” and referred to judges as “dominated by class hatred and class prejudices”. More recently, prominent CPM Kerala leader M V Jayaraman was convicted for making offensive remarks against judges of the state’s high court.

Indian democracy is a product of the civilisational ethos which inspired the country’s independence movement. The Constitution reinforces this commitment and constitutional functionaries have an obligation to uphold it. When Article 1 of the Constitution declares that “India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States”, it recognises this civilisational character. For centuries, this land has given shelter to persecuted people from various parts of the world. The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 is another step towards fulfilling our civilisational commitment to shelter persecuted people. The Act also fulfils a commitment made under the Nehru-Liaquat pact of 1950.

Itake this opportunity to dispel the misgivings about the CAA and refute the Goebbelsian propaganda that it’s based on religion. The CAA only relaxes the norms for granting citizenship to persecuted minorities from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. It applies to people from these communities who have been illegally living in India and sets a cut-off date of December 31, 2014. The Act reduces the naturalisation period from 11 years to five years.

It’s not that those belonging to the majority community in the three countries are denied Indian citizenship. Hundreds of them, including the likes of singer Adnan Sami, have been given Indian citizenship. For

them, the period of naturalisation remain 11 years as stipulated by the Citizenship Act, 1955.

The CAA is based on a reasonable classification that takes into account religious persecution of the minorities in the three Islamic countries. It’s sad that the Kerala CM and his party find fault with a law which extends a helping hand to hapless souls, mostly Dalits, who stayed in Pakistan because of Dalit leaders like Jogendra Nath Mandal. Despite being Pakistan’s first law minister, Mandal was forced to come back to India. But the Dalits who stayed behind in Pakistan faced the brunt of religious persecution.

Vijayan’s opposition to the CAA only exposes the heartless politics of the Left and the Congress. But his arguments are not surprising given the record of the Left in India and across the world. It was a Left regime that oversaw the Marichjhapi massacre, described as one of the worst human rights violations in independent India. The Marxist government in West Bengal unleashed violence leading to the death of Hindu refugees from Bangladesh who had settled in the Sunderbans.

Instead of implementing the CAA — which every state is mandated to under Article 256 of the Constitution — the Kerala government has chosen to challenge it before the Supreme Court under Article 131. The Article is meant to be invoked only for disputes between the Centre and states. It can also be invoked “in case of a dispute between the Centre and any state or states, on one side and one or more other states on the other or between two or more states, if and in so far as the dispute involves any question (whether of law or fact) on which the existence or extent of a legal right depends”.

What is the legal right that has been violated here? Entry 17 of the Union List under the Seventh Schedule refer to citizenship and naturalisation. Parliament alone is competent to enact laws on this subject. Federalism is a two-way street. States must respect the Centre’s (Parliament’s) rights.

I am glad that the Kerala CM has expressed concern about the country’s economy. But let’s not forget that Kerala’s lopsided economic policies and historic antipathy to industrialists has made the state into a zone which business outfits dread to venture into. Recently in Kannur, a young NRI businessman, Sajan Parayil, committed suicide after failing to get a convention centre built with his life’s savings opened. His family claimed Parayil was a victim of intra-party rivalry in the CPM. Earlier this month, the managing director of Muthoot Finance, George Alexander Muthoot, was attacked by miscreants, who stoned his car. The CPM’s trade union wing CITU was up in arms against the group over labour-related issues.

Vijayan has expressed concern for India’s image in the world. But this is nothing but hypocrisy given the manner in which alleged CITU goons troubled Nobel laureate Michael Levitt and his wife in the backwaters in Alappuzha district recently. A visibly upset Levitt has expressed his unhappiness in no uncertain terms.

Perhaps it’s time Vijayan first deals with the skeletons in his own closet and let Parliament do its duty.

*The writer is Minister of State for External Affairs and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### THE AAP EXAMPLE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Develop Delhi Party’ (IE, January 21). The AAP squandered its initial years in office by locking horns with Delhi’s LG. But the party soon got its act together. In Delhi, AAP faces a more informed electorate. The poor performance of the BJP in the recent assembly elections has given the AAP a shot in the arm. The party has overshadowed the BJP’s jingoism with good governance. The Congress is an inconsequential player, but the party could cut into the AAP’s votes. A win for the AAP could compel other state governments to deliver on their promises. **Deepak Singhal, Chennai**

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Develop Delhi Party’ (IE, January 21). In last five-six years, AAP has perfected the art of wooing voters. The party is no more a greenhorn in Indian politics. Moreover, Arvind Kejriwal has delivered in areas like public health and education, and the Delhi government has cut down power and water bills. All these issues are very close to the common people. AAP may not have fulfilled all its promises from 2015, but it has covered lot of ground. And when you have something to show as performance, then why not make it a political strategy? The party’s “10 Guarantees” seems to be part of such a strategy.

**Bal Govind, Noida**

### LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to [editpage@expressindia.com](mailto:editpage@expressindia.com) or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301.

### WRONG SUSPECT

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘States have an obligation’ (IE, January 20). The Citizenship Act of 1955 and the amendments to it, except the most recent one, were in concord with the Constitution’s secular ethos. The religion-related clause of the CAA attacks its basic structure. Moreover, by negating the voices of students as “opposition voices” the government has not shown sensitivity. The BJP’s reactions to peaceful protests against the CAA cast doubt on its understanding of the Constitution.

**Anshul Choudhary, New Delhi**

**VIEW FROM THE RIGHT**

**DATA-FED PROTESTS**

CLOSE ON The heels of Prime Minister Narendra Modi suggesting that the nation reduce screen time, the latest issue of *Organiser*, the RSS mouthpiece in English, has focused on data and the socio-political threats from it. In an editorial, *Organiser* has described protests as a new war thrust on the nation where data is the weapon.

“Take for instance the normal-looking protests, either in the name of caste or religion or language. Many of them are faceless and most of them effectively use social media tools to mobilise people. Some of them also find support and momentum from a foreign land. Some are believed to have originated from other countries. This new-age war is forced on us without firing a bullet or sending a soldier. The weapon in this war is



TOPOF THE WORLD



Prince Harry, Reuters/File

CANADA

Prince Harry arrives to start new chapter

*London:* Prince Harry on Tuesday began a new chapter in his life as he landed in Canada to reunite with his wife Meghan Markle and their eight-month-old son after a formal split with the British Royal family. The 35-year-old Duke of Sussex was photographed stepping off a plane in Vancouver as he set off in a car to join his family already in the country for some time. Harry has made repeated references to the media as a “powerful force”, which was the primary reason behind his decision to remove his family from the spotlight as frontline royals.

SYRIA

Russian air strikes kill 12 people: monitor

*Beirut:* Russian air strikes killed 12 civilians on Tuesday in northwestern Syria, as renewed violence tightened the noose around the country's last major opposition bastion and deepened an already dire humanitarian crisis. Two of the victims were killed in a southern area of Idlib province while the other 10 died in a western region of neighbouring Aleppo province, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. The raids on Aleppo province killed eight members of the same family who were sheltering in a house, Observatory chief Rami Abdel Rahman said.

PAKISTAN

Three Taliban militants ‘held, attack thwarted’

*Lahore:* Pakistan’s counter-terrorism officials on Tuesday claimed to have thwarted a terror attack by arresting three Taliban militants following an intelligence-based operation in Punjab province. They were planning to conduct attacks on a sensitive installation in Bahawalnagar, some 400 kms from here, the counter-terrorism department of Punjab police said in a statement. “Terrorism plan is defeated in Bahawalnagar... and three terrorists have been arrested and explosives recovered from them,” the officials said.

ASIAN COUNTRIES RAMP UP SCREENINGS

Virus outbreak: WHO to hold emergency meet, toll hits 6

As cases in China spike to 300, top leaders warn officials against cover-ups

AGENCIES

BEIJING/TAIPEI, JANUARY 21

AT LEAST six persons have died of the new SARS-like virus in China with top leaders warning officials against any cover up of the information on its outbreak even as the WHO is considering declaring an international public health emergency to combat the deadly illness.

The number of infected people has also increased sharply to about 300 as the government scamped to contain its spread by increasing monitoring on the movement of public from the 12 million people strong Wuhan city from where the SARS-like virus was first reported in December.

The World Health Organisation (WHO), which is holding an emergency meeting on Wednesday, will consider declaring an international public health emergency over the virus – as it did with swine flu and Ebola, *BBC* reported.

Meanwhile, as the fear grips Chinese cities, the country’s top leaders have warned lower-level officials against any cover up in



The quarantine section at Kuala Lumpur airport. AP

the information relating to the spread of the new coronavirus.

China’s National Health Commission on Monday confirmed for the first time that the infection could be transmitted from human-to-human. It said two people in Guangdong province had been infected this way.

Asia stepped up its defences Tuesday, introducing mandatory screenings at airports of arrivals

from high-risk areas of China as authorities move to head off a billowing regional health crisis.

From Bangkok to Hong Kong and Seoul to Sydney, authorities have gone onto high-alert over the new coronavirus.

Thai authorities have introduced mandatory thermal scans of passengers arriving from high-risk areas of China at its airports in Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket

GLOBAL SPREAD

**TAIWAN:** The first case was reported Tuesday. The patient, a woman in her fifties, was taken to a hospital directly from the airport, said officials

**AUSTRALIA:** A man showing symptoms of the virus after visiting China is being held in isolation at his home

**PHILIPPINES:** A five-year-old child has been hospitalised on arrival from Wuhan. Lab results are awaited, said sources.

and Krabi. Those passengers will be screened “without exemption”, health minister Anutin Charnvirakul said in a statement.

In Hong Kong, authorities said they were on “extreme high alert”. “We are... preparing for the worst. We have not lowered our guard,” Hong Kong’s number two leader, Chief Secretary Matthew Cheung, told reporters.

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM: DAY 1

Climate dominates Davos dialogue

World on fire, can’t be left to firemen alone: Swiss prez

BARUN JHA

DAVOS, JANUARY 21

SWISS PRESIDENT Simonetta Sommaruga on Tuesday said the world is on fire and everyone needs to work together to tackle the dangers before our environment as it cannot be seen as a job of the firemen alone.

“I look at the state of the world with a concern today. There is intolerance, hatred and revenge... We need to find the right balance for a common future,” she said during a special address at the WEF annual meeting here.

The President of the Swiss Confederation said, “The world is on fire. We are seeing rainforests burning in Amazon and bushfires in Australia. “The ecological balance of this world is in danger and we need to understand what all would be the consequences for all of us.”

When economic benefits are

A lot has happened, but nothing has been done as yet: Greta

*Davos:* Young climate campaigner Greta Thunberg on Tuesday said a lot has happened since her campaign caught eyes of the world but “nothing has been done” actually to save the planet. “People are more generally aware now. The climate and the environment is a hot topic. But – and it’s a big but: From another perspective, pretty much nothing has been done,” she said.



Swiss President Simonetta Sommaruga speaks next to WEF founder Klaus Schwab in Davos on Tuesday. Reuters

placed above nature, then the consequences for humans and the economy are immense, she said.

Drawing an analogy, she said biodiversity is like the Eiffel Tower of Paris and if you remove one screw from the tower each day, nothing will happen in the beginning, but if you keep removing the screws, the tower will fall apart. “We need politicians to take

TRUMP IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS

Parties clash over trial rules, Democrats allege cover-up

McConnell pushes for separate vote to examine evidence; Schumer says a trial without evidence is no trial at all

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 21

SENATOR MITCH McConnell, the majority leader, unveiled ground rules on Monday for President Trump’s impeachment trial that would attempt to speed the proceeding along and refuse to admit the evidence against the president unearthed by the House without a separate vote.

McConnell’s proposal includes the following provisions: (1) House prosecutors and Mr. Trump’s defense team each get 24 hours over two days to argue their cases; (2) evidence collected by the House could be admitted into the record only by a majority vote; and (3) Republicans have the option to make a motion to dismiss the trial before arguments from either side are heard.

Senator Chuck Schumer on Tuesday said he would move to amend to mirror the resolution used for President Bill Clinton.

“...Senator McConnell is saying he doesn’t want to hear any of the existing evidence, and he doesn’t want to hear any new evidence,” said Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the Democratic leader.

“It’s a cover-up, and the American people will see it for exactly what it is.”



House impeachment manager Adam Schiff at the Capitol. AP

House managers morning issued a statement blasting McConnell’s resolution, saying it “deviates sharply from the Clinton precedent — and common sense — in an effort to prevent the full truth of the president’s misconduct from coming to light.”

Schumer said he would demand that the Senate subpoena both witnesses and documents for the trial — including any records of President Trump’s call with the leader of Ukraine, and any records relating to the White House decision to withhold military aid from Ukraine.

However, McConnell said he counted 53 votes in favor of his rules, suggesting that any Democratic plan to change them would probably fail. **NYT**

Legal validity

A MAJOR point of debate will be whether or not Trump’s actions count as an indictable offence. His lawyers argue that even if he did abuse his power, the House never accused him of criminal conduct, which, they say, is needed to remove him from power. Scholars and legal experts have criticised this harshly, saying that a serious violation of public trust also falls under the ambit of impeachment.

Nobody likes Bernie Sanders, says Hillary

MATT STEVENS

JANUARY 21

HILLARY CLINTON, who battled with Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont for months in a 2016 Democratic primary that sometimes turned contentious, ripped into her former campaign rival in a new documentary series and declined to say if she would endorse and campaign for him if he were to win the presidential nomination this time around. “He was in Congress for years. He had one senator support him,” she said in a forthcoming four-part series, set to have its premiere at Sundance and air on Hulu beginning March 6. “Nobody likes him, nobody wants to work with him, he got nothing done. He was a career politician. It’s all just baloney and I feel so bad that people got sucked into it.”

Asked in an interview with The Hollywood Reporter, published on Tuesday, if that assessment still held, she said, “Yes, it does.” And in response to a question about whether she would endorse and campaign for Mr. Sanders if he were to get the nomination, she said: “I’m not going to go there yet. We’re still in a very vigorous primary season.” **NYT**



HILLARY CLINTON, BERNIE SANDERS

Thousands who went missing during civil war are dead, says Gotabaya

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

COLOMBO, JANUARY 21

FOR THE first time, Sri Lanka’s President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has admitted that some 20,000 people who disappeared during the country’s brutal civil war with Tamil Tiger rebels over a decade ago are “dead”.

Gotabaya Rajapaksa told UN Resident Coordinator Hanaa Singer last week that after probes are completed steps would be taken to issue death certificates to these missing persons, the *Colombo Gazette* reported.

According to the government figures, over 20,000 people are missing due to various conflicts including the three-decade separatist war with Lankan Tamils in the north and east which claimed at least 100,000 lives.

“He (Gotabaya) explained that these missing persons are actually dead. Most of them had been taken by the LTTE or forcefully conscripted. The families of the missing attest to it. However, they do not know what has become of them and so claim them to be missing,” President Rajapaksa’s office said.

A LEAK OF OVER 700,000 DOCUMENTS SHOWED HOW SHE ‘EXPLOITED’ ANGOLA’S WEALTH

Africa’s richest woman barred from her bank, facing probe

MICHAEL FORSYTHE

JANUARY 21

ISABEL DOS Santos, Africa’s richest woman and the daughter of Angola’s former president, is under scrutiny by her bank and the Angolan government after a leak of more than 700,000 documents showed how she exploited the country’s wealth to enrich herself.

EuroBic, a Lisbon-based arm of a bank where dos Santos is the biggest shareholder, said on Monday that it was ending its “commercial relationship” with her and investigating transfers



Isabel Dos Santos. Reuters

worth tens of millions of dollars, transactions that were revealed on Sunday by *The New York Times* and other news outlets working with the Washington-

based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.

Angola’s attorney general said on Monday the government would “use all possible means” to bring dos Santos back to the country, where she faces possible corruption charges and where her assets were frozen last month, along with her husband’s and those of a Portuguese business associate, Agence France-Presse reported. The Angolan government, led until September 2017 by her father, José Eduardo dos Santos, said the three were responsible for more than \$1 billion in lost government money.

The leaked documents, which include emails, invoices, slide presentations and contracts, provided a paper trail showing how dos Santos and her husband, Sindika Dokolo, amassed a fortune of more than \$2 billion through their stakes in vital Angolan industries like telecommunications, diamonds and construction. Angola, rich in oil and diamonds, is nevertheless impoverished, with one of the world’s highest infant mortality rates and endemic corruption.

The leaked materials also revealed that in November 2017, when dos Santos was chair-

woman of Angola’s state oil company, Sonangol, more than \$57 million was transferred from that company to the bank account of a Dubai company owned by a friend of hers. Ms. dos Santos has said the money was for fees owed to consultants and accountants, including Boston Consulting Group, McKinsey & Company and PwC, formerly called PricewaterhouseCoopers. It is not clear whether that sum matched bills from the consultants; the companies declined to provide billing details, citing client confidentiality.

Those transfers drained

Sonangol’s account at EuroBic, the European arm of an Angolan bank where dos Santos owns a 42.5 percent stake. EuroBic’s headquarters, steps from dos Santos’s sprawling Lisbon apartment, plays a central role in her business empire, which encompasses more than 400 companies and subsidiaries.

“The ICIJ report is based on many fake documents and false information, it is a coordinated political attack in coordinations with the ‘Angolan Government,” dos Santos wrote on Twitter: “715 thousand documents read? Who believes that?” **NYT**



POLICY WATCH INDUSTRIES

Govt seeks specific inputs from states, ministries on new industrial policy

Boost to manufacturing, private investment to be focus areas

PRABHA RAGHAVAN  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

WITH THE government aiming to finalise the new industrial policy within the current financial year, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is seeking specific inputs from ministries and states on focus areas to boost manufacturing and private investment.

“We wanted every ministry to specifically suggest and lay out, in view of the five-year vision document they have been preparing, what schemes they want to put in this policy. This was discussed in the last meeting that took place with them (two weeks ago),” DPIIT Secretary Guruprasad Mohapatra told *The Indian Express*.

“Some of the states have also not responded the way we wanted. We need specific inputs from them on what they want to focus on. Basically, we want to take them on record, so we need to sit with them and discuss what they want. Those kinds of discussions will start now,” he added.

“This industrial policy is still in the making. It is still in an infancy stage. A lot of material has been collected and a lot of consultations have been held, but there is still more to be done,” Mohapatra further said.

The new industrial policy, which will come over two decades after the last policy was implemented in 1991, has a “wider” focus, especially since manufacturing is expected to account for 20 per cent of India’s \$5-trillion economy target, according to Mohapatra.

“The latest draft covers a lot more areas,” said the DPIIT Secretary.

“This industrial policy is still in the making. It is still in an infancy stage. A lot of material has been collected and a lot of consultations have been held, but there is still more to be done”

GURUPRASAD MOHAPATRA  
SECRETARY, DPIIT

“The broad goal is to give a boost to manufacturing, which has many complexities. It is now embedded in the services sector and manufacturing is also getting more automated. So, we also need to keep employment in mind,” he added.

The government is looking to resolve issues related to ease of doing business, including developing clusters for backward and forward linkages in the supply chain.

Last week, the government organised an inter-ministerial workshop on 14 priority sectors that would need a fillip to boost manufacturing to \$1 trillion, including capital goods, electronics, food processing, metals and mining, tourism and renewable energy.

Work is on to understand how to bring in more policy incentives to attract investment, how to make the process easier for these sectors and how to make credit available to them at an affordable rate.

“These are the sectors in which we expect a lot of traction to happen and so we are looking at how to create the enabling framework. The idea is to bring more private sector investment in all these priority sectors,” said Mohapatra. “It is a very wide ecosystem we are working on,” he added.

‘INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE ORDINANCE APPLIES PROSPECTIVELY’

Will continue to probe Bhushan Power; IBC ordinance won’t shelter JSW: ED

AASHISH HARYAN  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

IN A fresh twist to the insolvency proceedings of Bhushan Power and Steel, the ED has decided to continue its investigation against the company and its former promoters, sources close to the development said.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is also of the view that the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) ordinance, which ring-fenced bidders of insolvent companies from prosecution against crimes of former promoters, will apply only prospectively and not retrospectively, thereby granting no protection to Bhushan Power as a company, the sources said.

In its affidavit to be filed with the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), the ED is also likely to mention that as JSW Steel and Bhushan Power had jointly bought the Rohne coal block in Jharkhand, the probe in financial irregularities of the latter would also extend to JSW Steel, said one of the sources. The NCLAT is scheduled to hear the case on Thursday. The move by ED gains significance as the NCLAT had on January 13 asked the probe agency to clarify its stand on JSW Steel’s plea that it should not be probed for the financial irregularities allegedly committed by former promoters of the company.

During the last hearing, JSW

NCLAT HAS ASKED THE AGENCY TO CLEAR STAND

■ The NCLAT had on January 13 asked the probe agency to clarify its stand on JSW Steel’s plea that it should not be probed for the financial irregularities allegedly committed by former promoters

■ The Cabinet had December last cleared an ordinance

that would protect bidders for insolvent companies from crimes committed by erstwhile promoters

■ Ministry of Corporate Affairs, in October, told the NCLAT that ED had no rights to attach properties of a corporate debtor undergoing insolvency resolution process

Steel had also said that the Centre’s recent ordinance on IBC would cover it as well.

The Union Cabinet had in December last cleared an ordinance that would protect bidders for insolvent companies from any crimes committed by erstwhile or former promoters.

The ordinance was seen as a reaction to JSW Steel being wary of proceeding with the resolution plan of Bhushan Power. JSW Steel, which had at Rs 19,700 crore placed the winning bid for Bhushan Power, had been wary owing to cases pending against the latter.

This was after the ED had remained firm on its idea to attach the properties of Bhushan Power, as well as its former promoters and directors for alleged money laundering. The ED had in October started attaching properties worth nearly Rs 4,000 crore, be-

longing to Bhushan Power. Following the raids, JSW Steel approached the NCLAT.

The appellate tribunal, while halting the implementation of the resolution plan, asked ED to release the assets attached by it.

The NCLAT, last October, also noted that such actions by agencies like ED, and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) or Serious Fraud Investigation Office, would “fail” IBC. “IBC cannot be annulled in this manner. Money laundering is by an individual not company,” the NCLAT bench had said.

Curiously, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs too had taken a similar stand in October and told the NCLAT that the ED had no rights to attach the properties of a corporate debtor undergoing corporate insolvency resolution process. It had then also said that doing so would hamper the insolvency process of such companies.

‘Global unemployment may rise by around 2.5 mn’

Global unemployment is projected to increase by around 2.5 million in 2020 and almost half a billion people are working fewer paid hours than they would like or lack adequate access to paid work, the ‘World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2020’ (WESO) report by the UN’s International Labour Organization report said



>470 MILLION: Total number of people worldwide who are affected due to unemployment

>630 MILLION: Number of workers affected by working poverty — defined as earning less than \$3.20 per day in purchasing power parity — or one in five of the global working population.



188 MILLION: Number of people who are unemployed around the world

120 MILLION: Number of people who have either given up actively searching for work or otherwise lack access to the labour market.

165 MILLION: Number of people who do not have enough paid work

267 MILLION: Number of young people aged 15-24 who are not in employment, education or training, with many more enduring substandard working condition

NOT ENOUGH JOBS BEING CREATED: Global unemployment has been roughly stable for last nine years but slowing global economic growth means that, as the global labour force increases, not enough new jobs are being generated to absorb new entrants to the labour market

MODERATE OR EXTREME POVERTY SET TO RISE: Moderate or extreme working poverty is likely to edge up in 2020-21 in developing countries, increasing the obstacles to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 1 on eradicating poverty everywhere by 2030

Source: ILO/PTI

As SC accepts fresh pleas by telcos, Vodafone Idea shares zoom, Airtel flat

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

LOOKING FOR some reprieve from the Centre and the judiciary in a bid to continue as a going concern, shares of Vodafone Idea zoomed by up to 24 per cent after the Supreme Court agreed to list next week telecom firms’ fresh pleas, seeking a fresh schedule of payment of statutory dues to the DoF.

The SC had on January 16, rejected the telecom operators’ earlier plea seeking a review of the October 24 judgment on AGR payments, following which the shares of Vodafone Idea had fallen 28 per cent on January 17.

The SC’s decision to list the fresh plea for hearing next week lifted investor sentiment and at the NSE the scrip rose as much as 24.74 per cent to Rs 6.05. It settled 22.68 per cent up at Rs 5.95. Besides, the spurt in volume was over 2.16 times on the BSE and the stock has gained over 30 per cent in last three trading sessions.

On the other hand, Bharti Airtel stock ended marginally up by 0.41 per cent to Rs 511.35 on the BSE. On the NSE, the scrip lost 0.07 per cent to close at Rs 508.35.

Tata Teleservices (Maharashtra) stock settled 1.15 per cent lower at Rs 2.59 on the BSE and ended flat at Rs 2.60 on the NSE.

Meanwhile, shares of Reliance Industries, the parent firm of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd, gained 0.13 per cent to close at Rs 1,533.95 on the BSE and 0.17 per cent to Rs 1,535 on the NSE.

“It is learnt that telecom majors have moved the Supreme Court in a bid to delay payments that are due on January 23. This is after the SC last week rejected the pleas of telecom companies with regards to October verdict on adjusted gross revenue (AGR).

“However, telecom players have got a fresh lease of life as the apex court has agreed to listen to pleas with regards to payment of statutory dues next week. In case of a negative outcome, the tele-

Vodafone m-pesa: RBI cancels certificate of authorisation

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THE RESERVE Bank on Tuesday said it has cancelled the Certificate of Authorisation of Vodafone m-pesa on account of voluntary surrender of authorisation.

Following the cancellation of

**EXPLAINED**

**Volatility in Voda Idea stocks**

VODAFONE IDEA’S share price has been witnessing extreme volatility over the last three months, since the SC order on AGR payment. As the promoters have gone on record to say that they won’t infuse additional equity, the company’s existence as a going concern now depends a lot on any relief that it can get from the apex court on payment schedule of its statutory dues to DoF.

com sector will essentially move towards duopoly kind of market benefiting Airtel and Reliance Jio largely and the viability of other weaker players will be questioned amid uncertainty,” said Paras Bothra, president—equity research, Ashika Stock Broking.

The SC on Tuesday agreed to list next week the fresh pleas of telecom firms, including Airtel, Vodafone Idea and Tata Teleservices, seeking a fresh schedule of payment of statutory dues to the tune of Rs 1.47 lakh crore to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). In the September 2019 quarter, while Bharti Airtel posted a loss of over Rs 23,044 crore, Vodafone Idea announced a record loss of Rs 50,921 crore on account of statutory dues arising from the SC order on AGR.

The telcos said they wanted an open court hearing on their fresh pleas. While the shares of the telcos took a beating after the SC order, the share price rose significantly after the telcos announced to raise tariffs by 40-50 per cent for pre-paid customers that account for a majority.

the CoA, the company cannot transact the business of issuance and operation of prepaid payment instruments, the RBI said.

However, customers or merchants having a valid claim on the company as a PSO, can approach for settlement within three years from the date of cancellation. **WITH PTI**

AIF, REITs, InvITs post strong growth amid weak public equity mkt activity

SANDEEP SINGH  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

AT A time when the economy is facing challenges and the pipeline of fundraising through public equity markets has almost gone dry, alternative financing vehicles like real estate investment trusts (REITs), infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs) and alternative investment funds (AIFs) have become the preferred choice for fundraising as there has been an exponential growth in funds raised and invested by AIFs over the last five years.

Data accessed from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) website shows that from an investment of Rs 361 crore by AIFs at the end of March 2013, the cumulative investment by AIFs grew to Rs 1.25 lakh crore by September 2019. At the same time, cumulative funds raised by AIFs have risen from Rs 529 crore in FY13 to Rs 1.54 lakh crore in September 2019.

While in the first six months of FY20 AIFs have invested an additional amount of Rs 16,025 crore, in the 18-month period between March 2018 and September 2019, they have invested Rs 64,404 crore. In the 18-month period, the net funds raised amount to Rs 69,486 crore.

By comparison, fundraising through initial public offering (IPO) in calendar year 2019 stood at Rs 12,362 crore, and in two calendar years — 2018 and 2019 — it aggregated to Rs 46,228 crore.

AIFs refer to any privately pooled investment fund, (whether from Indian or foreign sources), in the form of a trust or a company or a body corporate or a

CUMULATIVE FUND RAISED AND INVESTED BY AIFs		
	Funds raised	Funds invested
Mar '13	529	361
Mar '14	3,951	3,180
Mar '15	9,504	7,356
Mar '16	22,691	18,237
Mar '17	40,955	35,099
Mar '18	85,276	61,401
Mar '19	1,34,209	1,09,780
Sept '19	1,54,762	1,25,805

All figures in Rs crore; Source: Sebi

limited liability partnership.

Over 630 AIFs have already been registered with Sebi over the last seven and a half years, with every category and sub-category witnessing large number of registrations. In the last two years when public markets were rather stagnant, cumulative investments by AIFs have actually bucked the trend and more than doubled.

AIFs as financing vehicles have not only attracted the private sector but also seem to have caught the eyes of government. The National Investment Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) — the flagship Centre fund for investing in infrastructure sector — and the Rs 25,000-crore fund announced recently for reviving the realty sector are two of the major central government initiatives which have been set up as AIFs. Various state governments have also formed their own AIFs for encouraging investment in the respective states.

REITs and InvITs, on the other

hand, took some time to gain traction and showed progress with the first listing in 2017. Within a span of just two and a half years, over Rs 50,000 crore worth of assets have been acquired by REITs and InvITs in real estate and infrastructure sector, including roads, bridges, power, gas pipeline, etc.

Market sources say that apart from being significant in itself, the growth in these three vehicles must also be seen from the view of their impact on the economy. A significant chunk of investments by AIFs and the entire amount of funds invested through REITs and InvITs relates to sectors such as infrastructure and real estate, which have powerful spillover effects over the rest of the economy. In fact, it came at a time when these sectors are seeing a funding crunch and the public markets do not appear to be very attractive.

“The growth in these vehicles have been primarily due to the proactive steps taken by market regulator Sebi and the government,” said a market expert, adding, “On REITs and InvITs, Sebi has shown flexibility by continuously amending its regulations based on consultations and feedback from the industry while balancing the investor interest.”

The avenues for fundraising by REITs and InvITs have been significantly broadened by Sebi over time, such as through issue of bonds, preferential issue, institutional placement, rights issue.

Similarly, in AIFs as well, it took several enabling measures. Simultaneously, the government has also provided tax benefits and clarity for all these three vehicles over the years, tax pass-through status being a significant measure.

50TH ANNUAL MEETING OF WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Need fairer, more equitable terms in trade relations: Goyal

BARUN JHA  
DAVOS, JANUARY 21

UNION COMMERCE and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said India is working on ways to have fairer and more equitable terms in its trade relationships with various countries.

Speaking here at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2020, the minister also called for greater cooperation among various nations to realise the huge growth prospects in the Indian Ocean region and also for tackling the important issue of climate change. Goyal said the RCEP in its present form was clearly an unworkable agreement.

“Any pact needs to take into account several factors. India is grappling with a huge trade deficit, particularly with China and many other nations in the region,” he said. For the first time, India demonstrated that trade cannot be dictated by diplomacy, Goyal said, referring to India’s decision to pull out of the RCEP. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) has had to factor in several diversities among partners, but India has serious concerns about climate change and is seeking greater cooperation on fair terms, he asserted. Goyal was speaking at a Strategic Outlook session on ‘The Indian Ocean Rim’.

“We are like a pivot for the



Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal in Davos. PTI

Indian Ocean and we believe this region has huge potential. At the same time, India is very much concerned about the issue of climate change. “Going forward, the entire grouping around the Indian Ocean will play a very important role, while keeping in mind fair and equitable distribution. India also expects greater cooperation among various nations on climate change,” he said. Goyal further said, “We in India are also working on how to put in place more equitable terms in our trade relations with various countries.”

On whether India can still join RCEP, Goyal said the country had said at that time too that it will not be able to join the trade deal in its current form. **PTI**

‘27% of Indian CEOs see global growth improving’

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

AROUND 27 per cent of the Indian CEOs believe that global economic growth will improve over the next 12 months, a sharp decline from 51 per cent who had voted for an improvement in 2019.

Similar is the case when the CEOs were asked about the prospects of revenue growth of their respective organisations over the next 12 months. Around 40 per cent of the Indian CEOs were “very confident” about their 12-month revenue prospects, again lower as compared to 55 per cent in 2019. Around 51 per cent of

Indian CEOs said they are “extremely concerned” with uncertain economic growth, which they ranked as the biggest threat. Speed of technological change and over-regulation and policy uncertainty have been ranked as other major threats by them.

“If one word were to sum up the global CEO sentiment today, it would be uncertainty. It has been decades since we have come across four strong levers affecting business strategy and outcome all at once, to the extent that we are witnessing today. It is hard to think of an organisation that is directly or indirectly not impacted by the factors of climate change, security in using technology, the

increasing need to upskill their people and over-regulation. That said, this uncertainty provides a golden opportunity for organisations to make the right investments for the future,” Shyamal Mukherjee, chairman, PwC in India, said. On the bright side, India’s position as a region that can drive a company’s growth over the next 12 months moved up, but just a notch.

Around 9 per cent of the global CEOs surveyed put their money on India as one of the top three territories they consider will drive their company’s growth in 2020, which is a percentage point higher than the number in the survey conducted in 2019. **FE**

Trump: US in midst of economic boom

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
DAVOS, JANUARY 21

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump said Tuesday that he’s led a “spectacular” turnaround of the US economy and urged the world to invest in America.

Trump reminded that when he spoke here in 2018 “I told you that we had launched the great American comeback.”

“Today I’m proud to declare the United States is in the midst of an economic boom, the likes of which the world has never seen before,” he said.

“In America, we understand what the pessimists refuse to see: that a growing and vibrant market economy focused on the future lifts the human spirit and excites creativity strong enough to



US President Donald Trump with Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum Klaus Schwab. PTI

overcome any challenge,” Trump said. Trump spent nearly all of his approximately 30-minute speech describing US economic gains under his leadership.

‘US wealth inequality highest among advanced economies’

Davos: IMF Chief Economist Gita Gopinath on Tuesday said the wealth inequality in the US was one of the highest among advanced economies and the country’s tax system needs to be more progressive. The IMF chief economist said this was primarily due to unequal access to education and healthcare across the country. “I would also say the US tax system could be somewhat more progressive...it’s not right for the times,” she added. Speaking at a session at the WEF summit here alongside Gopinath, US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said the US economy has been outperforming the rest of the world. **PTI**







BAGEHOT

# Harry, Meghan and Marx

Brand Sussex represents the biggest threat to the monarchy so far

MARX PREDICTED that capitalism would destroy every remnant of feudalism. It would tear asunder “the motley feudal ties that bound man to his ‘natural superiors’”, in the words of “The Communist Manifesto”. It would drown ecstasies of religious fervour and chivalric enthusiasm in the “icy water of egotistical calculation”. And it would subject every national institution to the revolutionary logic of the global market.

So far the British monarchy, one of the last vestiges of the country’s feudal system, has proved a splendid refutation of Marxism. The Crown has survived both the high-noon of Victorian capitalism and the revival of market orthodoxy after 1979. In “The English Constitution”, Walter Bagehot explained why: far from undermining capitalism, the monarchy, in its British form, reinforced it, acting as glue in a society divided into antagonistic classes and distracting the masses from the real sources of power. It injected pageantry, romance, mystery and drama into the lives of British people, mitigating the dreary business of being a cog in the wheels of capitalism.

But the Duke and Duchess of Sussex may be about to prove Marx right. They represent the most profound danger to the monarchy’s settlement with modernity since Bagehot wielded his pen. Previous threats have been mere individuals – Edward VIII, Princess Diana and, most recently, Prince Andrew. The current one is an entire economic system. In stepping down as “senior royals” while pronouncing that they “value the freedom to make a professional income” the Duke and Duchess threaten to unleash the spirit of capitalism on the very core of the monarchy.

This is not the first time the Windsors have experimented with capitalism. Princess Diana referred to the royal family as “the firm” because it was so businesslike in its approach to monarchy. Prince Charles sells over £200m (\$260m) a year worth of organic food under his Duchy brand. But until now the firm has treated capitalism as a servant of feudalism. Prince Charles gives the profits from his Duchy brand to charity, and misses no opportunity to preach the superior values of the “old world” to this venal age, denouncing intensive farming methods and modern architecture, while telling off business people for putting profit before principle.

The Sussexes are doing something new. They are embracing capitalism in its rawest, most modern form: global rather than national, virtual rather than solid, driven, by its ineluctable logic, constantly to produce new fads and fashions.

This type of capitalism is the inverse of feudalism. In a feudal society you are bound to your followers by mutual bonds of obligation. In 21st-century capitalism you accumulate followers in order to monetise them. In a feudal society you are bound to plots of land: Harry is the Duke of Sussex while his elder brother is the Duke of Cambridge. In a 21st-century-capitalist society you are propelled around the world in pursuit of the latest marketing opportunity. It is only fitting that the principal agent of the current debacle, Meghan Markle, is the product of an entertainment business that has done more than



Britain’s Prince Harry and his wife Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, watch a performance during their visit to Macarthur Girls High School, Sydney, in October last year. Reuters

any other industry to fulfil Marx’s prediction that “all that is sacred” would be “profaned” and “all that is solid” would “melt into air”.

The Sussexes are determined to turn themselves into a global brand. Their first move after they announced that they were stepping down from many of their royal duties was to unveil the name of their brand, Sussex Royal, which sounds a bit like a potato but will soon start to glitter with Hollywood stardust. They started working on their new website in September, according to coding logs, and trademarked the Sussex Royal logo, for use on hundreds of items ranging from socks to counselling services, in December. They have hired a branding agency called Article whose clients include the children’s channel Nickelodeon,

the fashion house Diane von Furstenberg and the Toronto Maple Leafs ice-hockey team. They are exploring the possibilities of forging a relationship with Disney, an entertainment company that knows a thing or two about monetising princes and princesses.

Various branding experts have pronounced that Harry and Meghan have “a ready-made brand” that could earn them as much as £500m

in their first year. InfluencerMarketingHub, a website, points out that, with 10m Instagram followers, they could expect \$34,000 for a sponsored post. semrush, a Boston-based marketing analytics firm, says that Ms Markle’s “search volume” is nearly three times Beyoncé’s.

Already Harry and Meghan are rewriting the rules of royalty, so that they can behave as celebrities rather than as public servants.

**The Sussexes are doing something new. They are embracing capitalism in its rawest, most modern form: global rather than national, virtual rather than solid, driven, by its ineluctable logic, constantly to produce new fads and fashions**

They are planning to abandon the system of royal reporting, whereby royals put up with journalists chosen by the papers, who share their material with the rest of the press. Harry and Meghan intend to back out of that, in favour of choosing their preferred media toadies—though since it appears that they want to continue to receive money from Prince Charles, the older generation has a certain amount of leverage. Negotiations are under way. The Palace held a “crisis summit” on January 13th to try to work out a peace treaty between the Crown and the Sussexes. Ms Markle, who is in Canada, did not attend, leaving Harry to defend the Sussexes’ corner against his grandmother, father and brother. Branding experts purr that Harry and

Meghan have an interest in preserving the integrity of their brand. But the logic of 21st-century capitalism is against a peaceful settlement. They will need more than Prince Harry’s inheritance, which is estimated at £20m–30m, to keep up with the global super-rich. Ensuring that their brand remains hot and providing their “distribution channels” with “content” will require them to extract more and more value from the monarchy – perhaps including revelations about racism and sexism at the heart of the royal family. The daylight that Walter Bagehot said should not be let in upon the magic of monarchy is as nothing to the glare of 21st-century capitalism.

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## ROAD SAFETY

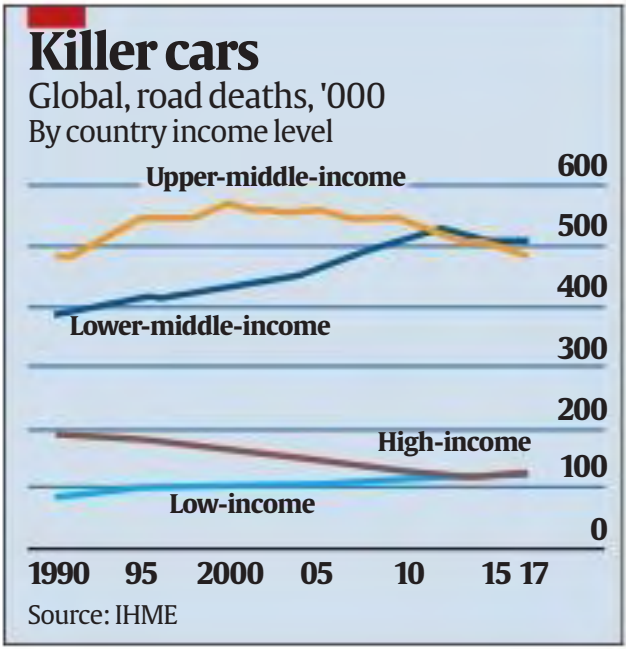
# Crunch time

Globally, roads are deadlier than HIV or murder

A YEAR ago Nungroothai Tantasirin’s daughter, Hataipat, was hit by a motorbike while crossing the road near Bangkok. Soon after she died of her injuries. Ms Nungroothai threw herself into campaigning for a pedestrian bridge and took the bike rider to court, winning a hefty financial settlement. But nothing brings back a lost daughter – and reminders of the tragedy are everywhere. Recently, the school where Ms Nungroothai teaches returned from holidays. One child turned up with a head wound from a crash. Another teacher was off sick, having been struck by a motorbike while walking along the side of the road.

Thais know that their roads are dangerous. Local journalists cover tragedies like the death of Hataipat Tantasirin and diligently report the carnage that occurs around New Year’s Eve and Songkran, the Thai New Year. According to official statistics, 19,930 people perished from injuries sustained on Thailand’s roads in 2018, including 837 in Bangkok. The country’s annual road-death rate is almost double the global average and more than seven times the rate in nearby Singapore, a wealthy financial hub. What is less well known is how easy it would be to change this.

Globally, road accidents kill more people every year than malaria or HIV/AIDS. Spencer James and other researchers at the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) in America put the death toll in 2017 at 1.24m. According to IHME, the overall number of deaths has been more or less static since the turn of the century. But that disguises a lot of movement up and down in individual countries. In many poor countries, especially African ones, road accidents are killing more people (see chart). Those countries have



swelling, young populations, a fast-growing fleet of cars and motorbikes, and a limited supply of trauma surgeons. It is impossible to know for sure because official statistics are so inadequate, but deaths are thought to have risen by 40% since 1990 in countries that the World Bank defines as low-income, such as Afghanistan. In many rich countries, by contrast, roads that were pretty safe are becoming even safer. In Estonia and Ireland, the number of deaths has fallen by about two-thirds since the late 1990s.

The most important and intriguing changes are taking place in middle-income countries, such as Thailand. These contain most of the world’s people and have some of the most dangerous roads. They also tend to be close to an inflection point. In China and South Africa deaths have been falling since about 2000, according to IHME – though crashes still claim about a quarter of a million Chinese lives each year. In India deaths peaked in 2012. It is possible that the Philippines reached a peak four years ago. In

Kenya and Nigeria deaths are still rising.

Roads in middle-income countries often change quickly, in ways that make them both safer and more dangerous. On the outskirts of Bangkok, Somchart Ninkled oversees a small group of volunteer ambulance drivers and “body snatchers”, as they are grimly known. These men are called to diverse emergencies, often involving snakes, which they grab with their bare hands. They also scrape at least one person off the roads every night. Crashes are getting worse, they say, as motorbikes become more powerful and roads grow smoother and faster. On the plus side, more people seem to be wearing helmets. And the police have at least put a stop to the local road races that were once common.

Rob McInerney, head of the International Road Assessment Programme, a charity, says that countries tend to go through three phases. They begin with poor, slow roads. As they grow wealthier, they pave the roads. Traffic moves faster, which pushes up the death rate (from Australia to Zambia, the physical law is the same: to calculate an object’s kinetic energy, you multiply half its mass by the square of its speed). In the third phase, countries act to make their roads safer. The trick is to reach the third stage sooner, by focusing earlier and more closely on fatal accidents.

How to do that? The answer is probably not education and training, says Soames Job of the World Bank. Some studies suggest that training drivers makes them more dangerous; perhaps they become cockier. Besides, routinely wearing helmets and seat-belts, obeying speed limits and avoiding drink-driving – all things that save lives – are not advanced skills. They are practices which people know they should follow but often don’t. Dangerous driving is not a fixed cultural trait, as some imagine. People respond to incentives, such as traffic laws that are actually enforced.

In Thailand motorbike helmets are compulsory. In Bangkok 85% of drivers and 55% of pillion riders wear them, according to road-side surveys. That is better than in the past, and much better than the national average. Perhaps urbanites follow the rules because they can afford helmets, or value their brains more highly – evidence from India suggests that university graduates are more likely to



A traffic police officer holds back traffic as a royal motorcade passes by in Bangkok in 2006. AP

wear helmets. But in all probability Bangkok residents wear helmets because they fear being stopped and fined if they do not. Rittporn Yomram, a motorbike taxi driver in Bangkok, says that many passengers hesitate to wear helmets – unless they see a cop.

The police can also reduce speeding and drink-driving, if people truly fear the consequences of being caught. Thailand’s cops wrote almost 12m tickets in 2018; unfortunately, due to poor record-keeping, only 12% of them were paid. Major-general Eakkarak Limsanggas of the Royal Thai Police has cracked down on drink-driving by setting up roadblocks around Bangkok. He thinks this had an effect, although the penalties are less harsh than in many countries. But it was not long before politicians started calling, arguing that the roadblocks were harming the

night-time economy and telling him to lighten up.

Countries can make their roads safer even if they are unable or unwilling to make drivers behave better. Many poor and middle-income countries have built concrete medians, especially in and around cities. These prevent head-on crashes – generally the most lethal kind – and give pedestrians a small safe zone halfway across a road. Development banks and groups such as the Millennium Challenge Corporation now insist that the roads they pay for are built to high safety standards.

Roundabouts, chicanes and road humps all reduce speeds and save lives. One study, by academics at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa, found that the number of pedestrian injuries in two districts of

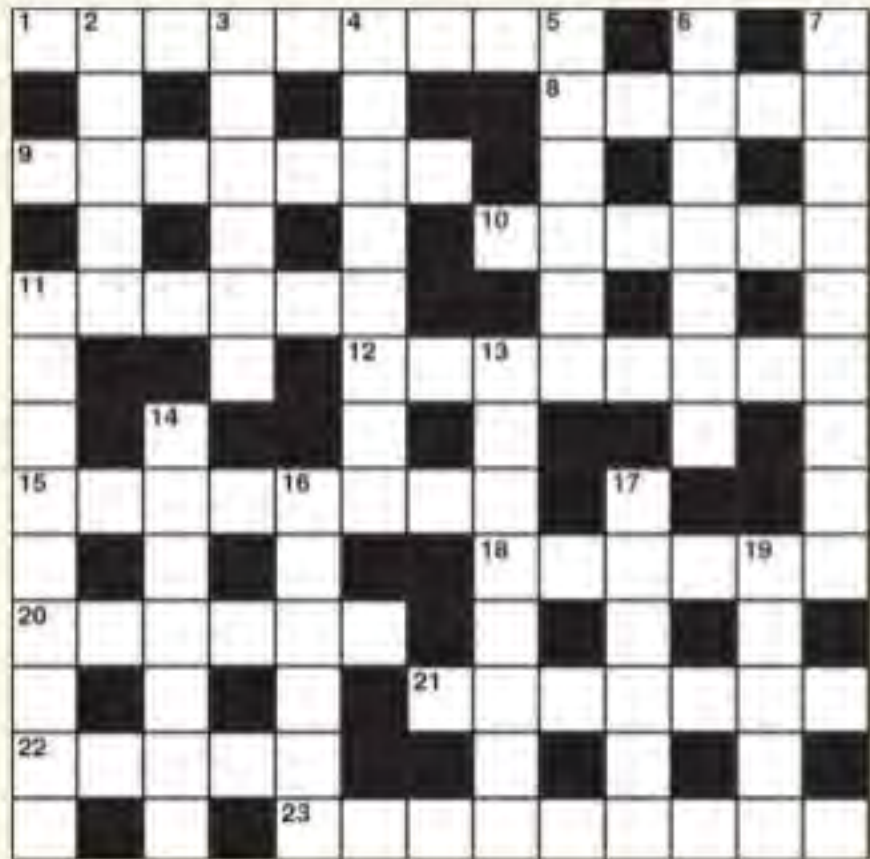
Durban fell from 659 in the two years before speed bumps were built to 519 in the two years after. The number of deaths fell more sharply, from 24 to eight. Mr McInerney points out that fast four-lane roads are still being built through villages in many countries. But in Peru and elsewhere, local people have responded by building illegal speed bumps.

In Bangkok, the road where Hataipat Tantasirin was hit by a motorbike has a new pedestrian footbridge. That will save lives, if people use it. The body snatchers report that they are often called to accidents where pedestrians have been hit by cars or motorbikes directly under footbridges. Apparently, they use them for shade.

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CROSSWORD 4021



- ACROSS
- DOWN
- 1 A watch and a clock that can't be relied on? (3-6)

8 Crown jewels? (5)

9 Rise to show appreciation (5,2)

10 Put down a whisky (6)

11 Up-to-date concerning money (6)

12 Could be nine seas in tumult (2,1,5)

15 Stay well away from work (8)

18 The lowest form of birds (6)

20 Fresh topics for light-minded scientists (6)

21 Sorting out and putting away (7)

22 Dash off for an away match (5)

23 Female forger was surrounded in South Africa (9)
- 2 A question of ownership (5)

3 Present causing pain (6)

4 Getting on one's high horse about a painting (8)

5 Bloomers are old-fashioned wear (6)

6 A result of splitting hairs? (7)

7 Discredited conditions? (4,5)

11 A sign of free accommodation (4,2,3)

13 Dilatory perhaps, but performed with skill (8)

14 Excess weight? It's his danger (7)

16 Metal of little value in America (6)

17 A wall-painting that's put up is arousing (6)

19 The up-and-down principle (5)

Solutions Crossword 4020: Across: 1 Express, 4 Miser, 7 Oath, 8 Thank you, 10 Experiment, 12 Cloche, 13 Twinge, 15 Yield fruit, 18 Coachmen, 19 Late, 20 Let up, 21 Torment. Down: 1 Elope, 2 Put-up job, 3 Scheme, 4 Man and wife, 5 Skye, 6 Routine, 9 Archbishop, 11 Insulate, 12 Chancel, 14 Albert, 16 Treat, 17 Rapt.

JUMBLLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

I know for sure that what we \_\_\_\_\_ is who we \_\_\_\_\_ Oprah (5,2,...6)

RVEEE

FILOO

LANCED

AOTBMW

SOLUTION: RVEEE, FILOO, LANCED, AOTBMW. Answer: I know for sure that what we become - Oprah

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4097

Difficulty Level 5s  
Instructions  
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level  
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4096



PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJNA  
NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

The Chief Engineer (SZ) HPPWD Shimla on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for each of the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T/Railways /other State Govt /Central Govt agencies. Non registered bidders may submit bids. However, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Sr. No.	District Division	Package No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs.Lakh)		Total Cost (Rs. Lakh)	Period of Completion of Construction (Days)	Bid Security (Rs. Lakh)	Cost of Form (Non-Refundable) (Rs.)
				Constr-uction	Mainten-ance				
1.	Afki	HP-11-102	L145-Construction upgradation of road from Kuru Nallah Magarwari Bani Ki Bainskot Bajhot Ghariach road at 0/0 to 6/000. (SH:- Removal of formation deficiency, C/o Retaining structure, M/T, C.D.work & C/o RCC Slab culverts, 4.00 mtrs. span,V. Shape side drain, PCC Parapets, P/F Logo, sign boards i/c 5 yrs maintenance and periodical renewal under AMP etc).	571.23	74.26	645.49	365	12.91	5000

2. Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 5th February, 2020.
3. Cost of Bid Form: Cost of Bid form in shape of Demand Draft in favour of concerned Executive Engineer in respective Division
4. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website www.pmgstyenders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). \*Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: www.pmgstyenders.gov.in Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender. \* Non-registered bidders may submit bids; however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.
5. Submission of Original Documents: The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4B(a) (ii) of ITB with Superintending Engineer ,3rd Circle HPPWD, Solan, on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand.
6. Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering:- Last date /time for receipt of bids through e-tendering of above mentioned works are as follows:-

Sr. No.	Package No.	Last date/time for receipt of bids through e-tendering
1.	HP-11-102	06.03.2020 at 10.30 A.M.

7. The site for the work is available.
8. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore; bids must be submitted online on website www.pmgstyenders.gov.in. The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened online at 11.00 A.M. Hours on above mentioned date in the office of Superintending Engineer, 3rd Circle HPPWD Solan by the authorized officers. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day at the same time.
9. The bidder is not required to quote his rate for routine maintenance. The rates to be paid for routine maintenance are indicated in the Bill of Quantities. Further, the payment for routine maintenance to the contractor shall be regulated based on his performance of maintenance activities. All the required materials like Cement/Steel/Bitumen/Explosive etc shall be arranged by Contractor at his own level.
10. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than ninety days after the deadline date for bid submission.
11. To qualify for a package of contract made up of this for which bids are invited in the same NIT, the bidder must demonstrate having experience and resources sufficient to meet the aggregate of the qualifying criteria for the individual contracts.
12. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

(Er. Surinder Pal Jagota)  
Superintending Engineer, HPPWD,3rd Circle Solan  
Tel 01792-220675, Fax 01792-223802  
E-mail hp-sol@nic.in  
For Chief Engineer HPPWD Shimla  
Nirman Bhawan. Nigam Vihar Shimla -171002

4187/H.P.

**HIMACHAL PRADESH  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
01892-265028, e-mail : ee-kan-hp@nic.in  
**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

The Executive Engineer, HPPWD Kangra Distt. Kangra H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Starting Date for Downloading Bid	Earnest Money	Deadline for Submission of Bid	Time Limit
1.	C/o Type -II Qtrs. 6 Nos. with parking in revenue colony at Kangra (SH: C/o building portion i/c WS & SI, C/o septic tank and rain water harvesting system).	67,36,199/-	12.02.2020	99,900/-	27.02.2020	Nine Months
2.	C/o 50.00 mtr. Span PSC Box Girder Bridge at Bhalwan Khad on Chakban Lapiana Via Pandu Bhalwan road at RD 0/479) (SH: C/o Sub Structure, Super structure and both side approaches) (Under SCSP)	1,48,05,633/-	12.02.2020	1,80,600/-	27.02.2020	One Year

The bidders are advised to note other details/terms and conditions of tender from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in  
The contractors/firms should be submit the hard copy of document as required in the bid of the above mentioned works. The contractors/firms should be submit all the documents a/w original FDR & Demand Draft before opening the technical bid, otherwise no document will be entertained after opening the technical Bid, So that the same can be open well in time Please Note.  
The undersigned has right to extend or cancel the bids without declaring any reasons thereof.

4166/HP  
HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

**CHIEF ENGINEER (KANGRA ZONE) HPPWD DHARAMSHALA H.P., 176215**  
**UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)**  
**E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

The Government of India has received a loan/credit number "P124639" under PMGSY-II (Rural Road Project-II) under World Bank funding (Additional Financing & Green & Climate Resilience) Rural Roads Financing towards the cost of Rural Roads Project (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of RRP-II works. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document.

The Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala-176215 on behalf of Governor Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-I (Batch-II) of 2019-20 in the District of Chamba as detailed in the Table below from the eligible contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T, Railways/other state govts/Central Govt agencies. Non-registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Division	Package No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)		Total Cost (In Lacs)	Period of Completion (Months)	Bid Security (Rs. Lacs)
			Constr-uction	Mainten-ance			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Nurpur	HP-04-318	Up-gradation of Raja Ka Bagh Geora Kathal Bharmoli Road Km 0/0 to 8/500.	426.42	49.36	475.78	12	9.51
Jawali	HP-04-309	Up-gradation of PWD Main Road to Solda Bhatoli PCM Road Km 0/0 to 8/620 (Portion Kotla Solda Siyuhni Road).	389.47	50.05	439.52	12	8.80
Fatehpur	HP-04-308	Up-gradation of Mangarh to Polian Jakhbar Road Km 0/0 to 7/500.	401.51	43.55	445.06	12	8.90
Fatehpur	HP-04-304	Up-gradation of Bain Indorian Mand Miani Paral Road Km 0/0 to 19/0.	990.80	110.33	1101.23	12	19.85
Kotla Behar	HP-04-319	Up-gradation of Bharwain to Kaloha Road Km 0/0 to 9/0.	629.35	52.26	681.61	12	12.60
Kotla Behar	HP-04-320	Up-gradation of Rori Kori to Tipri Road Km 0/0 to 8/500.	589.05	49.36	638.41	12	12.80

Other details can be seen in the bidding document. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

Submission of all physical documents will be accepted only up to or before the time and date of submission of bids. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date/ Time and place for receipt of bids through e-procurement:-  
Bids can be submitted online from Date 01 Month 02 Year 2020 to Date 22 Month 02 Year 2020 upto 1700 Hours and will be opened on Date 24 Month 02 Year 2020 at 1130 Hours in the office of Superintending Engineer, 9th Circle, HPPWD, Nurpur.

The Government has enhanced the tendering limit of Class-B Constrictors from Rs. 2.00 Crore (Two Crore) to Rs 5.00 Crore (Five Crore) only for PMGSY works.

For further details please log on to <https://pmgstyendershp.gov.in>  
The undersigned has right to extend or cancel the bids without declaring any reasons there-of.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,  
Kangra Zone, H.P.P.W.D, Dharamshala-176215.  
Fax: 011892-223100. Tel: 011892-224948.

4162/H.P.

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

**ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**  
By now you're probably wondering if your personal life will ever be the same again. The answer is probably 'no'. The reason is, whatever your first impressions, that this is a period of long-term improvement: to welcome in the new, you must be prepared to wave farewell to the old.

**LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**  
A partner still seems to be irritable or short-tempered, perhaps because they're not getting what they want. Unless you are ready to follow a struggle through to a successful conclusion, please try to be just that much more flexible and accommodating over all contentious personal issues.

**TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**  
There is nothing unsaid which may not be brought into the open. In fact, the more prepared you are to utter various home truths, the more likely you are to earn the respect of your fellows. Not everyone will be pleased, mind you, and you might have to apologise – at least once.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**  
Astrologically speaking the Moon is under your control today. In other words, you have the decisive say in what happens at home. You are also responsible for your own feelings and can therefore blame nobody else if you are not happy with the way things turn out.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**  
Your deepest desire will be not only to spend extra time at home, but hide yourself away completely. This is typical behaviour and so should surprise nobody, least of all you. However, by tomorrow your confidence will be growing – and you'll be back in the driving seat.

**LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**  
Life's normal little complications are bound to continue. However, you may take advantage of the fact that Venus' position is now absolutely ideal for your romantic life, whatever your age, circumstances, experience or inclinations. Go out there and be your charming best.

**VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**  
One of the major issues of the moment is security. However, the stars suggest that more important considerations are emotional happiness and peace of mind, and that might be why you'll be seeking romantic commitment – and testing a loved one's loyalty.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**  
There is a fair amount of tension in the air today, probably caused by a combination of some people who can't decide what they want and others who are determined to strike extreme postures. People are trying to break free from emotional chains: be patient, and be tolerant.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**  
You have every reason to strike a militant pose, standing up for yourself and defending your own interests. You may have to take on more than one job at once, spreading your talents around. Also, do try to find some time for socialising - you deserve no less.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**  
Keep your nose out of other people's business, no matter how tempting it may be to interfere. There is too much going on in your world for you to dissipate your energy on other people's affairs. Instead you should concentrate on getting your own life together.

**PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**  
Your personal and professional lives seem to be coming together in a way which is nothing if not fortuitous. Even those of you not currently in paid employment will gain from pursuing worldly interests. The stars' advice is to plan for the long-term.

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**  
**See Section 82 Cr.P.C.**  
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Hare Ram Yadav, S/o: Sh. Bachu Singh, R/o: Vill. Anney, P.S. Out Post Balwa Haat, Simri Bakhtiyarpur, Distt. Shaharsa, Bihar has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 48/19 U/s 354/509/323 IPC has been registered at P.S. Shakarpur, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Hare Ram Yadav cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Hare Ram Yadav has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Hare Ram Yadav accused of FIR No. 48/19 U/S 354/509/323 IPC has been registered at P.S. Shakarpur, Delhi is required to appear before this Court or to me to answer the said complaint on or before 24.02.2020

By Order  
Sh. Harshita Vatsayan  
MM/E/Mahila Court-01,  
DP/7217/ED/19 Room No. 14, Karkardooma Court, Delhi

**एम एस टी सी लिमिटेड**  
JEEVAN VIKAS BUILDING, 30/31 A, ASAF ALI ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110002  
Tel.: 23214201, 23213945, Fax: 23216713  
**e-Auction of Condemed Producer Gas Plant**  
MSTC shall conduct e-Auction No.33691 on 31.01.2020 for sale of **Condemed Producer Gas Plant & Its Machinery** for BHEL Haridwar. For inspection, contact on 01334-285857, 284176, 281847.  
For details log on to [www.mstcecommerce.com](http://www.mstcecommerce.com) or [www.mstcindia.co.in](http://www.mstcindia.co.in)

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH PUNE**  
An Autonomous Institution of Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India  
Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pune - 411 008 | Website : [www.iiserpune.ac.in](http://www.iiserpune.ac.in)  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER (E-Procurement Mode)**  
IISER Pune invites bids through e-Procurement system of Central Public Procurement (CPP) portal for the following :  
**Procurement of Wavelength dispersive X-ray Fluorescence (WDXRF)- 01 No**  
Tender document will be published on <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> and <http://www.iiserpune.ac.in/links/tender-notices-and-eoi>  
Advt.No: IISER/S&P/09/2019 Dated 20/01/2020  
Director

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MAHORE IRRIGATION DIVISION, DHARMARI**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
**E-NIT No. 27 of 2019-20 Dated: 17.01.2020**  
Executive Engineer Mahore Irrigation Division, Dharmari on behalf of Lt. Governor of Union Territory of J&K, invite tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors registered upto 1800 hrs. on 27.01.2020 for the following work.

Sr. No.	Name of the	Est. Cost (in lacs)	Cost of document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed for complete Job	Time and date of opening of Technical Bid	Class Contr.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	W.S.S.Panchi of Village Lardh (NABARD) 1. P/F of G.I. Pipes at Sharnad	133.70	1,000/-	2,67,400/-	03 Months	28.01.2020 (1300 hours)	"A"

1. Date of Publishing from, 17.01.2020.  
2. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website: <http://ktenders.gov.in> from 1000 hrs. from 17.01.2020 to 27.01.2020 (1800 hrs.)

Sd/- (Er. Ashfaq Ahmed Mir),  
Executive Engineer,  
No. MIDD/3112-3131  
Dated: 17.01.2020  
DIP/J-12532 Mahore Irrigation Division, Dharmari.

epaper indianexpress.com



# The Whole Nine Yards

How three boys in saris and one girl in a suit subverted gender norms at a Pune college recently

DIPANITA NATH

HE WAS sure his parents would not mind. Yet, Sumit Honwadajkar, a final-year student at Fergusson College in Pune, did not tell them his plan. They heard of it from a family friend a few days later. His father called to say, “You wore a sari to college? We saw the picture. *Bahut achhe lagrahey thhe* (You were looking very nice).”

On the “Tie and Sari Day” at Fergusson College on January 2, when girls turn up in the whole nine yards and boys look red-carpet ready, three boys and a girl subverted the gender norms. Honwadajkar, Akash Pawar and Rushikesh Sanap wore saris while Shraddha Deshpande suited up. The former accessorised with bindis, bangles and necklaces while Deshpande flaunted a firmly-

knotted tie from her father’s cupboard.

“The message they portrayed, about gender equality, should go out strongly. I joined Fergusson College in 1984 as a teacher and, over the years, have seen some boys wear saris for Tie and Sari Day and girls turn up in suits. But, this time, the action was very prominent,” says Ravindrasinh G Pardeshi, principal of Fergusson College.

On the historic college grounds — where Lokmanya Tilak, one of the founders, would meet and debate with Mahatma Gandhi, among others — the boys came up with the idea of making a statement against gender norms while sitting around after a class. “At that time, we did not know that wearing a sari isn’t only about the sari, there are many other things you need, like a blouse, petticoat and lots of safety pins,” says Pawar. Deshpande, who studies history, assigned them their



(L to R) Rushikesh Sanap, Sumit Honwadajkar, Shraddha Deshpande, Akash Pawar

colours — an inky purple sari for the fair Honwadajkar, orange for the darker Pawar and a creamy silk for the bearded Sanap.

The group, all of them 20-years-old, has some advice for other men trying to wear a sari for the first time — YouTube is deceptive. In reality, you have to stand before a woman, arms stretched sideways, abdomen relaxed, turning as ordered, while the sari is tucked

around your waist and the pallu pulled into place. “Men always say that women take long to dress up and, now, at least three men know why. We don’t just slip on a shirt and pull up our jeans, we drape, fold and tuck,” says Deshpande, who spent more than 90 minutes getting the boys ready.

On the day of the event, they went to college in Deshpande’s car. “We needed

courage, so all of us took a deep breath and stepped out,” says Sanap. A throng of students was at the college gate to see what others were wearing. “Everybody’s eyes were on us and, like robots, their necks turned as we walked past,” adds Pawar.

The first person to speak to them said, “*Kya yaar, kya karke aaye ho* (What have you done)?” A few steps later, two classmates came up smiling and took selfies with them. “A lot of other people started taking photos with us. That’s how we covered the distance to the main building. A professor saw us and said, ‘*Achcha hai*,’” says Pawar.

That day, there were thousands of people on campus. “As we wandered around, we drew the attention of crowds everywhere,” adds Pawar. Not all responses were complimentary. Deshpande was told, “*Ladki ho, ladki ki tarah raho* (You are a girl, stay like a girl).” A close friend of the boys refused to acknowledge them. When somebody asked if the boys were queer, Pawar shot back, “What if (we are)?”. “These people, who are criticising a group of students wearing saris, what kind of lives do they lead at home? How do they treat queer people? Patriarchy is a rot that has set deep in the Indian psyche,” says Pawar.

What had worried them was that wearing a sari would harm their “image”. But, girls turned out in full support. “Even girls I didn’t know from other departments spoke to us,” says Honwadajkar, “In 30 minutes, everything felt normal. except when we

walked,” he adds. It was very difficult to walk in a sari, even for a short distance. “Our legs were sweating under the folds. My pants were also slipping because I didn’t have on a belt,” says Honwadajkar.

Mainstream India continues to be suspicious about men in attire traditionally associated with women. A few days ago, a scholar from Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi was trolled online for turning up in a nose ring and bindi at a protest.

A short distance from Fergusson College is the Bal Gandharva Rang Mandir, dedicated to the great theatre artiste who played women’s roles on stage. “When Bal Gandharva used to perform in a sari, audiences would applaud, but when a student wears a sari, why do we criticise or mock him? I understand that the sari is an integral part of our cultural heritage but why do we feel that women should wear a sari all the time?,” says Pawar.

Deshpande adds that the fact that she felt confident and comfortable in her suit also pointed to how much more distance men have to cover. “Our books talk of gender equality. We study these books and get good grades but, if you see in reality, gender equality never gets implemented in life. It took our small initiative of a few hours for me to realise it,” says Pawar, while Honwadajkar adds, “Three things for guys out there — it is very difficult to wear a sari; second, it is more difficult to walk in a sari; third, to manage a sari for hours at a stretch is even more difficult.”

## SNAP SHOTS



### An Indian Turn

AFTER COLLABORATING with the ilk of Carl Lagerfield and Giambattista Valli, Swedish high street brand have turned to India with designer Sabyasachi Mukherjee (pictured) helming the ‘Sabyasachi X H&M collaboration’. With ‘wanderlust’ as the theme, the collection will have a dominant nomad vibe, and will feature ready-to-wear ensembles. Indian textiles, embroidery and signature prints will be the takeaway of the collection, which will launch on April 16, 2020. The collection leans heavily towards athleisure and glamping as a concept. In the preview video, we see lots of flowy silhouettes, saris paired with belts, lots of bangles and hats with ear flaps.



### It’s a Lead

SOUTH KOREAN class drama *Parasite* created history at the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Awards as it went on to become the first foreign language film to pick up the top prize of the best motion picture cast award. The Bong Joon-ho directorial has also been nominated for six Oscars, including best picture and best director. At the ceremony, veteran actor Robert De Niro received the lifetime achievement award. While actors Joaquin Phoenix and Renee Zellweger took home the honours for outstanding performance in a leading role for their titular roles as Joker and Judy, respectively, Brad Pitt and Laura Dern won for their supporting roles in *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood* and *Marriage Story* (pictured).

## What Matters

MELISSA FAY GREENE’S civil rights drama *Praying for Sheetrock*, published in 1991, will be adapted into a movie. “To make a great film, you start with a great story. As filmmakers, we can only hope to find a writer like Melissa, and we’ve long loved this story and its lyrical Southern storyteller. We live in a time where it’s important to make sure that we don’t forget our past,” said Rick Dugdale, Enderby



CEO, the company at the helm of it. The story is set in McIntosh County, in the pine woods of the Georgia coast, where a White sheriff wields all his power and a small African-American community is denied access to political power, good jobs, fair housing, and decent education. An unemployed Black man, Thurnell Alston, leads the way to challenging the sheriff.



# ‘I am not meant to be a director but might write someday’

Actor Kajol on presenting stories of lesser-known historical heroes on screen, and her future projects

ALAKA SAHANI

With *Tanhaji*, for the first time, you have acted in a period movie.

It was quite surreal for me. It took me a really long time to wear the costume, accessories and get ready for the camera. There was a specialist for draping the Nauvari sari on me while Mickey Contractor did my make-up. Once we got the look, it really felt different. The sets were so beautiful that you got the feeling that you were transported to another era.

Since this is produced by your co-actor and husband Ajay Devgn, how involved were you?

I was not so involved with the production of the film. When Ajay offered me the role of Savitribai, wife of Tanhaji Malusare, my first reaction was ‘you are asking me because I’m free’. His response was that Savitribai was a wonderful character to play and I would be able to do justice to it. When I read the script, I understood it was an important character and I loved her strength.

Such movies are mostly male-driven. Do woman characters face the threat of being insignificant?

It is a film about an episode in Indian history. We are talking about this particular battle (Battle of Sinhagad) that took place in the 17th century and the events leading up to it. I, definitely, don’t have the biggest role in the movie. However, this film couldn’t have been made without any of its characters.

In the recent years, there have been movies that have not shown Mughals in a positive light.

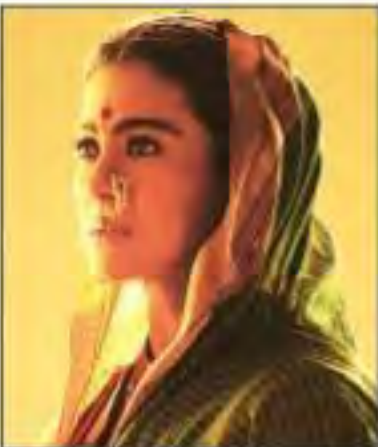
I think we are drawing unnecessary conclusions. There are no such thoughts behind it. It is part of our history. That’s what happened and we are simply showing you episodes in history.

You acted with Devgn after a gap in this movie, which happens to be his 100th.

Initially, we didn’t know it was going to be his 100th movie. On the sets, we are very comfortable with each other. We have done eight movies together — some before we got married and some after. Having him as my producer makes it very convenient if I’m going to be late on the set for some reason. I can just call him up and say ‘sambhal lena’ (handle it). Not that I was reporting late but it’s a comforting thought (laughs). What I appreciate about him as a co-star is that while shooting, half of his mind is paying attention to direction. There are times he would suggest that I should ask for one more take.

Have you thought of directing or writing?

I am not meant to be a director but might write someday. Writing is a solitary process and needs commitment in terms of time. I always think there are not enough hours in a day to do all that I wish to. Also, if I am given the choice between writing a book and reading one, I would opt for the latter. Today, e-books have created a wonderful possibility. I travel with 1,700 books. For a reader like me, this is the most fantastic invention ever after washing machine.



Kajol; (above) in a still from *Tanhaji*

# A Walk into the Wild

An exhibition focusses on India’s diverse wildlife and their unique qualities

The idea is to show the varied wildlife of India through the lens of different wildlife photographers in India

AJAY SURI

ORGANISER OF THE EXHIBITION

survival was at stake. Once a tigress gives birth to the cubs, there is absolutely no role for a tiger, the father moves out, the mother takes over and teaches the cubs how to hunt. In this case, somehow the biological father knew that these cubs had lost their mother and started taking care



Some of the photographs on display at the exhibition



of the cubs.” Tigress Noor also features among Suri’s photographs, appearing in a contemplative mood in Ranthambore National Park. Suri also recalls T42, an aggressive and moody tiger, with a tendency to charge at anybody.

In terms of personalities and temperaments, Suri finds tigers similar to humans. “Some of them may get angry very quickly. In Corbett, there was a tiger named Bhola; he would just come and sit in front of a vehicle and not move, and be totally unperturbed. Another tiger, a man-eater, was very elusive and hard to spot.”

Das, who has exhibited in Paris, Hamburg and Miami, has captured two leopards yawning together in synchronicity in Rajasthan’s Bera area. Among his other dis-

plays are shots of baby elephants mimicking their parents engaged in an act of love, and elephants throwing mud over their bodies. “Before coming out into the sun every morning, elephants put mud on themselves so that their skin doesn’t get a sunburn. They put a lot of dust all over their body, as if powdering it, by uprooting grasses. It has got a medicinal value so that no insect settles in because of the mud,” he adds.

Bringing the “celebrating wilderness” aspect into the exhibition is Sharad Kumar Verma’s snowy mountainous landscapes of the Lahaul-Spiti region, in freezing temperatures of minus 25 degrees. Padma Shri-awardee Anup Sah, a photographer and mountaineer from Nainital who has captured the Himalayas for 40 years, renders views of the snow-capped Mount Kailash and the wildlife around. He hopes the exhibition helps enthusiasts learn ways of composition and techniques from the best in the field, than merely posting their photographs on social media.

The exhibition is on till January 23

# On the Block

Over 80 luxury handbags, cars and 15 artworks seized from Nirav Modi will be auctioned next month

BENITA FERNANDO

AN AMRITA SHER-GIL painting from 1935, an Hermès Birkin bag and a Gerrard Perregaux Men’s *Opera One* wristwatch are among the 100-plus seized assets belonging to fugitive economic offender, Nirav Modi, which will be auctioned in February and March. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has appointed Indian auction house Saffronart to host two auctions of the assets — a live auction in Mumbai on February 27 and an online auction on March 3-4.

The assets include 15 artworks by modern and contemporary Indian artists. The Sher-Gil work has never come into auction previously and is estimated to sell at Rs 12-18 crore. An oil on canvas by MF Husain from his *Mahabharata* series is also estimated to sell in the same range. A blue painting by VS Gaitonde from 1972 is estimated to sell at Rs 7-9 crore, while an untitled work depicting Krishna by Manjit Bawa is estimated at Rs 3-5 crore.

However, a sizeable portion of the assets comprises luxury handbags. Over 80 of these will be auctioned. Dinesh Vazirani, CEO and co-founder of Saffronart, says, “This will be the largest collection of luxury handbags to enter the



Works by (top) Manjit Bawa and MF Husain to be auctioned

Indian auction market.” The handbags include international luxury labels Chanel, Louis Vuitton, and Birkin and Kelly styles from Hermès. Birkins are known to have a long waiting period of up to three years and can cost about Rs 25 lakh. These are among the prized accessories that many celebrities own — Victoria Beckham is said to have a collection of over 100 Birkins. Saffronart is yet to announce the estimates for these goods.

This is the first time that the ED has reached out to a professional auction house to conduct an auction of seized assets. Vazirani says, “The ED floated an open tender and invited all auction houses to participate. Saffronart was selected based on their evaluation of competitiveness and on the basis of experience and expertise.” Two cars belonging to Modi will also be on sale.

Select lots from the upcoming auctions will be exhibited at the Saffronart gallery in The Oberoi, New Delhi, during the India Art Fair.



# 20 SPORT

## Ishant’s NZ tour in doubt after MRI shows Grade 3 tear

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

PUTTING ISHANT Sharma’s New Zealand tour in jeopardy, the MRI scans on the fast bowler’s right-ankle showed a grade-three muscle tear. With the injury expected to take as many as six weeks to heal and the Tests exactly a month away, his hopes of playing the series seem bleak.

Though the official word from BCCI is still awaited, the Delhi team management reckons that India’s senior most pacer wouldn’t be available for India’s toughest outing World Test Championships yet. “A tear is as bad as a fracture and it would take more than a month to fully heal. Then the rehab would take another few weeks. So it would take considerable time before he reaches full fitness,” a senior support staff said.

To further assess his injury, which occurred when he was appealing for an lbw late on the second day and twisted his ankle in the process, Ishant would fly to the National Cricket Academy in Bangalore this week. “The local doctor feels that he will be out for six weeks, but now it’s the BCCI doctors to analyse the extent of his injury and prescribe the course of action,” he said. Though Ishant came to the stadium in the morning, he left soon after. He was able to place his foot on

the floor, but the swelling is quite bad.

The fast bowler—four shy of his landmark 100th Test—wouldn’t have injured at a more inopportune time in his career, when he was at the peak of his bowling prowess and when he was as fit as he ever had been. Player of the match in India’s last Test, against Bangladesh, he has been in breathtaking form since the start of last year, a span in which he has hauled 66 wickets in 17 games at a princely average of 19.43. His ledger included five-for in England, Australia and West Indies, and an average of under 25 in all of India’s overseas tours. With a fine-tuned out-swinging to left-handed batsmen from around the wicket, which New Zealand has aplenty, he has become deadlier. So has he developed a better control of his lengths—unlike in the past, where he was often reluctant to bowl full, he can comfortably switch between lengths without losing venom.

Psychologically as well, Ishant has seldom been in a better frame of mind, a clarity of thought that comes with age and experience. “I had so much of ups and downs in my career and there hasn’t been a lot of consistency. So you are under a lot of pressure. Since 2010, I used to be under a lot of pressure to perform and lost my sleep over it. So I have stopped thinking. I will give my hundred per cent to each delivery and result will take care of itself,” he had recently said.



Ishant Sharma could be out of action for six weeks. *PTI*

As importantly, he hadn’t missed a Test in this duration due to injuries, besides emerging as the leader of arguably India’s finest collection of match-winning seamers alongside Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami and Umesh Yadav. By his own admis-

sion, he hasn’t looked as fit as he is now. Recently, he had posted a video of his fitness regime, which included power-lifting, single-leg sit-ups and lots of running on the ground.

“If I have four weeks to prepare for a se-

ries, then for two weeks I will focus on basic strength: normal squats and exercise that will help build that solid strength. Then I do a lot of running as well, because you are doing the most difficult job in cricket - fast bowling. Fast bowling, as you know, is 20 per cent skill and 80 per cent fitness. As a fast bowler, you need to be fully fit in every match and careful to not pick careless injuries,” he had said

### A freak injury

The ankle injury he picked at the Kotla was more freakish than careless. “He lost his balance and when trying to not fall down, he twisted his ankle. It’s really unfortunate. In the heat of the moment, you appeal really hard. And that time we were desperate for the wickets,” the support staff elaborated.

Though India’s bowling firm has sufficient depth, Ishant’s absence would be felt in more ways than one, especially as Jasprit Bumrah is returning from a serious injury and gradually regaining his rhythm. Both Mohammed Shami and Umesh Yadav are still prone to occasional bouts of inconsistency, and Ishant’s prospective replacement, state-mate Navdeep Saini has yet to make his Test debut. Not just his skills, but as coach Ravi Shastri had pointed out last year, his ability to “get under the batsman’s skin”, will be surely missed.

## Limited-overs leg: Samson, Shaw replace Dhawan

*New Delhi:* Wicketkeeper-batsman Sanju Samson and talented opener Prithvi Shaw replaced injured India opener Shikhar Dhawan for the upcoming T20 and ODI series against New Zealand respectively.

Dhawan dislocated his shoulder while fielding in the third ODI against Australia in Bengaluru on Sunday.

### Squads

**T20:** Virat Kohli (captain), Rohit Sharma (vice-captain), Sanju Samson, KL Rahul, Shreyas Iyer, Manish Pandey, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Shivam Dube, Kuldeep Yadav, Yuzvendra Chahal, Washington Sundar, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Navdeep Saini, Ravindra Jadeja, Shardul Thakur

**ODIS:** Virat Kohli (c), Rohit Sharma (vc), Prithvi Shaw, KL Rahul, Shreyas Iyer, Manish Pandey, Rishabh Pant (wk), Shivam Dube, Kuldeep Yadav, Yuzvendra Chahal, Ravindra Jadeja, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Navdeep Saini, Shardul Thakur, Kedar Jadhav.

# Khan hits ton: For old team against old team

Sarfaraz scores unbeaten 132 against Uttar Pradesh on Day 3; gives Mumbai hope of a fight on the final day at Wankhede

DEVENDRA PANDEY  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 21

FOUR-AND-A-HALF years have passed but Sarfaraz Khan remembers tears rolling down his cheeks when he shelved his Mumbai cricket jerseys and packed in the cricketing attire of Uttar Pradesh. He had just finished playing the 2015 IPL, his name had started doing the rounds in Mumbai cricket circles when his stubborn father decided that he will henceforth not play for them but will instead turn out for Uttar Pradesh as he felt his son would get a regular run in the playing XI there.

However, things didn’t pan out as they hoped in Uttar Pradesh cricket, where he says he felt like a migrant, and it was decided that he should come back to his hometown two seasons ago. A cooling-off period was mandatory in Mumbai cricket before he became eligible again. Khan waited. The wait ended this season and he is trying his best to cement his place in the Mumbai Ranji team.

On Tuesday, Sarfaraz remained unbeaten on 132 as he kept up Mumbai’s hopes of a fight on the final day. Mumbai still trail by 272 runs with five wickets intact and only an out-of-the-skin performance can fetch them the first-innings lead.

Mumbai’s two young faces — Bhupen Lalwani and Hardik Tamore — had ensured the team didn’t lose early wickets on the third morning. They added 71 runs for third wicket before debutant Lalwani was trapped in front by Wajid Ali. Tamore’s gritty half-century ended four balls after lunch as he missed the line of a nip-backer from Ankit Rajpoot and lost his middle stump.

### Lad and Khan show

Mumbai’s crisis man Siddhesh Lad was himself going through a crisis of sorts this season — he had come into this game with scores of 14, 8, 4, 4, and 0. A lot was at stake and time was surely running out for him. The Lad-Khan show began Mumbai’s fight as they looked to score runs at every opportunity.

Khan looked aggressive, especially with his late cuts. Uttar Pradesh too were guilty of serving him too many short balls and Khan kept guiding them past slips. Out of 14 fours struck by Khan, four came off late cuts. Lad looked to cash in on spinner Sourabh Kumar, and he slammed a six and a four in one over.

As Lad looked to leave his bad form behind, Khan continued the charge, hitting back to back sixes off Wajid Ali before he used his feet nicely to play inside out to loft left-arm spinner Kumar for a six over cover.

A flick over midwicket took Khan to his first ton for Mumbai this season. He jumped twice, kissed the crest but his eyes remained on the Uttar Pradesh dressing room.

It seemed like a reproach for not having faith in him and telling them that he had no choice other than getting back to Mumbai.

Lad and Khan added 210 runs for the fifth wicket to keep Mumbai’s hopes alive in the game. Lad missed out on a ton as he edged Mohammad Saif to wicketkeeper Upendra Yadav. At stumps, Mumbai are 353 for 5 with Khan and Aditya Tare (9) at the crease.

Later, Khan revealed how his life has come a full circle as he had played for Uttar Pradesh against Mumbai not long ago at the same venue. And on Tuesday, he scored a memorable hundred for Mumbai against his old team.

**BRIEF SCORES:** UP 625/8 decl. Lead Mumbai 353/5 (Sarfaraz Khan 132 not out, Siddesh Lad 98; Ankit Rajpoot 3-63) by 272 runs.



Mumbai’s Sarfaraz Khan celebrates after scoring a hundred against Uttar Pradesh in Mumbai on Tuesday. *Ganesh Shirsekar*

# In search of retribution, Satish lights up Kotla

SANDIP G  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

THERE WAS only one engrossing contest throughout the third day of the Delhi-Vidarbha fixture, between Ganesh Satish and the fading light, as he approached his century. For most of the afternoon, the sun was blazing, but after he hurtled to his mid-70s, the light began to deteriorate rapidly. “After every ball, I felt the visibility was getting poorer,” he later told this paper.

So between deliveries, he would peer at the waning sun and the scoreboard, before he would turn towards the direction of the dressing-room balcony, where he met reassuring glances. Though Vidarbha’s lead had crossed 300—eventually declaring at 330/3 and setting Delhi a steep target of 347—they wouldn’t declare until Satish completed his three-figure mark. But he was eating up time and he didn’t want to keep his teammates waiting for his landmark, he didn’t want his hundred to rob precious overs of his bowling colleagues’ quest to grab six points.

So after a few stealthy singles that took him to 85, he decided to unleash the big strokes that had earned him recognition in the KSCA league back home in Bangalore. It didn’t matter that the pitch was sluggish and ball 75-odd over old, a combination than made stroke-play difficult. The third delivery of the tired Simarjeet Singh’s 17th over

was pulled over square-leg. The ball seemed to reach him in slow motion after pitching, but he patiently waited for it before swivelling his body almost 180 degrees to impart power on the shot. He reached 91.

The next ball, Simarjeet attempted a yorker, a poor imitation at that as it turned out to be a low full-toss that he lofted over long-on with a neat flick of the bottom hand. A smile broke out on his face, even as the on-field umpires pulled out the light-metre. He knew the light was good enough for a few more overs. In trundled in part-time off-spinner Nitish Rana, whose fifth ball he smuggled a single to wildly celebrate his 16th first-class hundred in the near-darkness of Kotla. Vidarbha declared immediately before their spinners delivered a few anxious moments for Delhi batsmen in two overs, before the umpires decided that the light was too poor for the game to continue.

Every hundred is a retribution for Satish, for he was blamed throughout his career for not converting starts to hundreds, hundreds to daddy hundreds. There is a certain amount of truth too, as he has converted only 16 of his 34 half-centuries to hundreds. It hardly mattered that some of his fifties and hundreds have come in the big games, like the 117 in the Ranji Trophy final against Maharashtra in 2014, which they won. But the next season, a couple of poor scores found him out of the team.

The competition for batting spots in the tre-

ble-winning Karnataka team was intense, what with KL Rahul, Karun Nair, Mayank Agarwal and Robin Uthappa were jostling for spots. All of whom were already India players or went onto represent the country. But Satish felt unhinged because he didn’t have a stable batting spot, was pushed up and the order, and yet thrust to the cold after a few bad performances. “I was not given a long rope and I was obviously disappointed. When I asked them why, they would ask me how many hundreds I have made. Then how many hundreds would you expect from someone who often bats in the lower middle-order?” he asks.

### Vidarbha’s batting bulwark

Then came the Vidarbha request, which he readily accepted, and has in the last five years emerged as one of their batting bulwarks. The stats clearly capture the story. With Karnataka his stats read 2504 runs at an average of 34 including six hundreds. With Vidarbha, he has racked up 3589 runs at 55.5, in the process registering 10 hundreds and a career-high of 237. But even with Vidarbha last year, he went through a century-less patch. “Last year, there was a time a when I scored six 50-plus scores but couldn’t convert any. Many of the 50s contributed to our victory, and I am happy if the team wins even I don’t score a hundred. But I had learned at a young age that it’s how everybody judges a batsman. Everybody remembers centuries,” he says.

His 92-ball hundred in Kotla was memo-

rable for various reasons. It would be remembered for his daring stroke-play as well as the window it opened for the defending champions to push for an outright win. When he came out to bat, Vidarbha were 138/2, with Wasim Jaffer perishing after a miniature masterpiece on arduous batting. The other batsman Sanjay Ramaswamy is an old-school anchor, so for Vidarbha to settle for a formidable score and yet give their bowlers sufficient time to bowl Delhi out, they needed someone to accumulate quick runs. Satish telegraphed his intentions straightaway, lacing the first two balls he faced for boundaries behind point.

More than half of his boundaries, and half of his runs, came behind square, which’s instructive of his preferred strokes. He would employ the cut at the slightest hint of width, to both seamers and pacers. He would slouch low in his trigger movement, then rise with the ball and lash his fast hands at the ball, the supple wrist furnishing the placement. Mat cricket in KSCA leagues, he attributes the fluency of his cuts.

To their blame, the dispirited Delhi bowlers pampered his biggest strength, bowling either short or back-of-length to him. They offered little fight or contest, on a day the only meaningful contest was between Satish and the fading lights in his quest for retribution.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Vidarbha 179 and 330/3 decl (Ganesh Satish 100 not out, Akshay Wadkar 70). Delhi 163 and 10/0.

## ROUND-UP

## J&K on a roll against Odisha

JAMMU AND KASHMIR are on a roll. Odisha became their latest victim, as a matured second innings display secured a four-wicket win at Cuttack. In a match where the batsmen struggled to score runs, Jammu and Kashmir’s target was 204 in the fourth innings. Suryansh Raina’s half-century and Shubham Pundir’s cameo did the job for them. **BRIEF SCORES (AT CUTTACK):** Odisha 161 and 166 lost to Jammu and Kashmir 124 and 205/6 (Suryansh Raina 69; Debabrata Pradhan 4/48) by 4 wickets **Points:** J&K 6, Odisha 0

## Game on knife’s edge at Valsad

THIS GAME is set up for a humdinger of a finish. Going into the final day, Punjab require 133 more runs for victory, with six wickets remaining. Earlier, the bowlers brought Punjab back into the game, skittling Gujarat out for 167 in their second innings. Medium pacers Siddarth Kaul and Arshdeep Singh bagged three wickets apiece. Punjab, however, have lost their top-order in the run chase. A lot will depend on young Anmolpreet Singh on the final day.

**BRIEF SCORES (AT VALSAD):** Gujarat 281 and 167 (Kshitij Patel 57; Arshdeep Singh 3/39, Siddarth Kaul 3/58) vs Punjab 229 and 87/4

## Four-wicket haul for Unadkat

MADHYA PRADESH’S lower-middle order frustrated Saurashtra, reducing their chances of an outright win. Jaydev Unadkat returned with four wickets all right, but Saurashtra’s lead is 229 runs going into the final day. It would be interesting to see if the visitors make a sporting declaration to enliven the contest. **BRIEF SCORES (AT INDORE):** Saurashtra 344 and 165/2 (Harvik Desai 65 not out, Cheteshwar Pujara 64 not out) vs MP 280 (Venkatesh Iyer 75; Jaydev Unadkat 4/45)

## Rahul pulls off a heist for Services

SERVICES CLINCHED a thriller against Haryana, winning by one wicket, rallying from 97 all out in their first innings. First, Diwesh Pathania, Sachidanand Pandey and Arjun Sharma shared 10 wickets between them to fold up Haryana for 133 in their second innings. Then, Rahul Singh played a blinder – 115 off 155 balls – to take his team over the line. Rahul departed with Services two runs shy of victory. But Pandey kept his nerve. **BRIEF SCORES (AT DELHI):** Haryana 176 & 133 (Sachidanand Pandey 4/54, Arjun Sharma 3/27) lost to Services 97 and 215/9 (Rahul Singh 115) by 1 wicket **Points:** Services 6, Haryana 0

## Vinay Kumar stars in Puducherry win

**BRIEF SCORES (AT PUDUCHERRY):** Puducherry 209 and 351 in 73.4 overs (R Vinay Kumar 81\*, Paras Dogra 61; Nabam Tempol 7/104). Arunachal 192 and 72 in 26.4 overs (Vinay Kumar 5/25). Puducherry won by 296 runs **Points:** Puducherry 6, Arunachal 0

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE



# How a shop-lifting episode saw whipping boys Japan make World Cup cut

TUSHAR BHADURI  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 21

NOBODY EXPECTED the meeting between India and Japan at the ICC U-19 World Cup to be a close contest, so when the East Asians were bowled out for 41, with the total surpassed in 4.5 overs without any wickets lost, nobody was surprised.

It was the East Asians' first major ICC event, and they were up against the four-time champions and the match lasted less than 28 overs in all.

None of the Japanese batsmen reached double figures – two batsmen were the highest scorers with seven each – and five of them were dismissed without opening their account. In fact, if it had not been for the 19 extra conceded by India – 12 of them wides – Japan would have been struggling to avoid the embarrassment of the lowest total in the history of the tournament, Scotland's 22 against Australia in 2004. Had it not been for the eighth-wicket stand of 13 between Kento Dobell and Maximilian Clements, that record could have been in trouble.

But it is hard to be too critical of the Japanese. Cricket is nowhere near a mainstream sport in that country more known for sumo wrestling, football, baseball and badminton. In fact, it has been making rapid strides in several sports as the Tokyo

**Papua New Guinea were fancied to go through the regional qualifier in Japan last June, but on the eve of their final and deciding match against the hosts, 10 of the PNG players were found shoplifting in Sano, just over an hour north of Tokyo.**

Olympics come closer, with cricket not an Olympic sport yet. Judging by the names in the playing XI, at least seven or eight players have some expatriate heritage. Four of them are of Indian descent, which is not uncommon for upcoming cricketing countries, especially in age-group cricket.

But Japan would not have been at the U-19 World Cup in South Africa had it not been for a strange sequence of events. Papua New Guinea, one of the stronger emerging nations in the game and had appeared in the U-19 World Cup on eight occasions dating back to 1998, were fancied to go through the regional qualifier in Japan last June, but on the eve of their final and deciding match against the hosts, 10 of the PNG players were found shoplifting in Sano, just over an hour north of Tokyo. They were suspended by their national association, and with only four eligi-



Opting to field first, India bowled out Japan for 41 runs in 22.5 overs, with leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi taking four wickets for five runs.

ble players left in the squad, the team management had no option but to forfeit the match, paving the way for Japan making it without a ball being bowled.

In fact, the offending players were for-

tunate that local police didn't press charges and allowed them to return home, according to Cricket PNG Chief Executive Officer Greg Campbell.

"A crime in Japan is anything from 5 to

10 to 15 years - there's a no crime thing - so our main priority was the boys. They're young men and they probably didn't know better and got caught into peer pressure," Campbell was quoted as saying by website rnz.co.nz when the offending players returned home.

He said all the stolen items were recovered, but it was the right thing to suspend the players at fault, even though it meant missing out on World Cup qualification.

"They've got no charges laid against them - everything has been cleared. We got all the items back, we paid for them at the shops they were taken (from) and donated that to charity, is what I can gather from our team manager, and the shopkeeper didn't press any further and they left the country so they have no charges against them whatsoever.

"It was never an option in my mind or the team manager's or the ICC (to let them play the final game) - they did wrong, mate. We shouldn't let them go through, they did wrong," he said.

"Although it wasn't on the cricket field, nothing to do with any part of the cricket, it was after the hours of cricket, but it's just something that the ICC code of conduct and Cricket PNG's code of conduct doesn't accept."

**BRIEF SCORES:** India Under-19s 42 for 0 (Jaiswal 29\*) beat Japan Under-19s 41 (Bishnoi 4-5, Tyagi 3-10) by ten wickets

## B'desh win away from advancing

*Bloomfontein:* Bangladesh are on the cusp of joining the defending champions in the Super League after a comfortable seven-wicket victory over Scotland for their second win of Group C.

Their place in the next stage would be confirmed if Pakistan beat Zimbabwe on Wednesday – a result which would also see Pakistan progress, while New Zealand face Sri Lanka. Spinner Rakibul Hasan took a stunning hat-trick as Bangladesh moved closer to the knockout stages in Potchefstroom.

The Scots were bowled out for 89 – with Hassan finishing with figures of four for 20 including the scalps of Kess Sajjad, Lyle Robertson and Charlie Peet in successive balls. Bangladesh reached the target within 17 overs, though Scotland did force a fight back with a sterling bowling performance from seamer Sean Fischer-Keogh (three for 27), before Mahmudul Hasan Joy's 35 not out steered his side to the line.

Bangladesh captain Akbar Ali was pleased with his side's clinical display so far in the tournament, having opened the tournament with a nine-wicket win over Zimbabwe on Saturday. **PTI**

## TRAMLINES

### Player told off by umpire for asking ball girl to peel a banana

French player Elliot Benchetrit on Tuesday denied having showed a lack of respect to a ball girl at the Australian Open after asking her to peel a banana for him during a qualifications match last weekend. The umpire told Benchetrit the girl did not have to do this for him, but the player had an explanation for the unusual request. "I had put some powder on my hands to stop sweating," Benchetrit told reporters after his 6-2 6-0 6-3 defeat in the first round in Melbourne against Japan's Yuichi Sugita. "The bananas are very hard to peel here because they don't have a stem. I asked the ball kid nicely because she had already peeled one for me at the beginning of the match," he explained. "The umpire intervened and told me: 'She's not your slave, you cannot ask her that.' He said 'Slave!'"

### Kyrgios eager to join Aus Olympic team

Australian firebrand Nick Kyrgios has expressed an interest in joining his country's Olympic team in Tokyo, four years after withdrawing from the Rio Games in controversial circumstances. Ahead of the 2016 Rio Games, Kyrgios was involved in a war of words with Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) president John Coates and Australia's chef de mission Kitty Chiller, accusing the AOC of "unfair and unjust treatment". After helping Australia reach the semi-finals at the inaugural ATP Cup this month, Kyrgios now considers himself a genuine medal contender at the Tokyo Games. "100%... I wanted to play just as much the last time the Olympics were around," Kyrgios told reporters after winning his Australian Open opening round match against Lorenzo Sonego on Tuesday. "I feel like if I'm there, I've got a genuine shot at winning a medal, one. I'd love to be there with the other athletes representing Australia, two. So, yeah, I mean, I would obviously love to be there." **REUTERS**

**366** New projected WTA ranking for five-time Grand Slam singles champion and former world No. 1 Maria Sharapova after her third straight first-round loss in a major

**If I win the Australian Open, I will be the happiest person on the planet. I think that the \$4 million Australian will be in much better use in the hands that know what to do with it, and know how to help others."**

**ALEXANDER ZVEREV**, SEVENTH-SEED ON THE PLEDGE TO DONATE ALL HIS PRIZE MONEY IF HE WINS THE TITLE TO THE RECOVERY EFFORT FOLLOWING WILD FIRES

**KEY RESULTS**  
**Men's first round:** No. 1 R Nadal beat H Dellien 6-2, 6-3, 6-0; No. 4 D Medvedev beat F Tiafoe 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; No. 5 D Thiem beat A Mannarino 6-3, 7-5, 6-2; No. 9 R Bautista Agut beat F Lopez 6-2, 6-2, 7-5; No. 10 G Monfils beat Lu Yen-hsun 6-1, 6-4, 6-2; No. 11 D Goffin beat J Chardy 6-4, 6-3, 6-1; No. 12 F Fognini beat R Opelka 3-6, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (5); No. 15 S Wawrinka beat D Zhumhur 7-5, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-4; No. 23 N Kyrgios beat L Sonego 6-2, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (1); No. 32 M Raonic beat L Giustino 6-2, 6-1, 6-3.  
**Women's first round:** No. 2 K Pliskova beat K Mladenovic 6-1, 7-5; No. 4 S Halep beat J Brady 7-6 (5), 6-1; No. 5 E Svitolina beat J Boulter 6-4, 7-5; No. 6 B Bencic beat AK Schmiedlova 6-3, 7-5; No. 10 M Keys beat D Kasatkina 6-3, 6-1; No. 17 A Kerber beat E Cocciaretto 6-2, 6-2; No. 19 D Vekic beat M Sharapova 6-3, 6-4; O Jabeur beat No. 12 J Konta 6-4, 6-2; No. 18 A Riske beat W Yafan 7-6 (5), 2-6, 6-3

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
MELBOURNE, JANUARY 21

TOP SEED Rafael Nadal turned on the style as he launched his bid for a record-equaling 20th Major title at the Australian Open on Tuesday, but falling star Maria Sharapova hit a career low. Australia's Nick Kyrgios also cantered into the second round, but fourth seed Daniil Medvedev had to fight his way past American Frances Tiafoe in four sets.

Nadal, one shy of Roger Federer's Grand Slam mark, dropped only five games as he swatted aside Bolivia's Hugo Dellien 6-2, 6-3, 6-0 in just over two hours at a sunny Rod Laver Arena.

"It was a positive start," said the reigning Roland Garros and US Open champion, wearing a bright pink singlet and matching trainers. "What you want in the first round is just to win, and it's better if it's in straight sets."

He joins Federer and defending champion Novak Djokovic in round two as the Big Three look to tighten a stranglehold that has brought them all but one of the last 14 Australian Open titles.

Nadal, the first player to be world number one in three different decades, is still thriving at 33 but it's a different story for five-time Grand Slam winner Sharapova.

The 32-year-old, playing on a wildcard as she wrestles with a shoulder injury, lost 6-3, 6-4 to Croatian 19th seed Donna Vekic, making her an opening-round loser at three straight Grand Slams for the first time.

The future looks uncertain for the former world number one, who won Wimbledon when she was just 17 but has not reached a Grand Slam final since she lifted the 2014 French Open trophy.

"I can speak about my struggles and the things that I've gone through with my shoulder, but it's not really in my character to," Sharapova said. "I was there, I put myself out there (playing). As tough as it was, I finished the match – it wasn't the way that I wanted." Britain's Johanna Konta, a two-time Slam semi-finalist, also fell at the first hurdle as she battles to overcome a knee problem, losing 4-6, 2-6 to unseeded Tunisian Ons Jabeur.

### Stormy Fognini

On a bumper day of 88 first-round matches, after rain wiped out half of Monday's schedule, former US Open champion Marin Cilic and Milos Raonic both moved safely through. Italy's Fabio Fognini, two sets down against America's Reilly Opelka when their match was suspended on Monday, returned to win it in five after a stormy encounter when both players argued furiously with the umpire.

A new star emerged in 18-year-old Italian Jannik Sinner, last year's NextGen champion, who earned his first Grand Slam victory against Australia's Max Purcell.

Australia's Kyrgios, who has spearheaded fundraising efforts for the country's deadly bushfire disaster, kept his notorious temper in check despite being taken to two tie-breaks in a 6-2, 7-6 (7/3), 7-6 (7-1) win over Lorenzo Sonego of Italy. "I feel super-comfortable, you guys are the best. I feel the support... I am ready to go again," Kyrgios told the crowd.

Medvedev, the narrow loser to Nadal in September's US Open final, dropped the second set against Tiafoe before recovering to win 6-3, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Austria's Dominic Thiem, who has reached the last two French Open finals, went through in straight sets against Adrian Mannarino, while 2014 champion Stan Wawrinka needed four to get past Damir Dzumhur.

Seventh seed Alexander Zverev beat Marco Cecchinato in straight sets but there was disappointment for France's Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, the 2008 finalist, who retired with a back injury against Australia's Alexei Popyrin.

Elsewhere, women's fourth seed Simona Halep survived some painful-looking falls to beat America's Jennifer Brady, and 2016 champion Angelique Kerber dropped only four games against Elisabetta Cocciaretto of Italy. Air pollution from the bushfires disrupted the build-up to the year's first Grand Slam, but after Monday's heavy rain the skies were clear and sunny on Tuesday.



Rafael Nadal, who blitzed past Hugo Dellien on Tuesday, is the first man to be world number one in three different decades. The Spaniard is not only seeking to match great rival Roger Federer's Slam mark, but also to become the first man in the Open era to win all four Majors at least twice. **Reuters**

# India's tournament ends at the start... again

SHAHID JUDGE  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 21

THE BALL sat up for Prajnesh Gunneswaran, who let loose another powerful forehand inside-out drive. At the centre of the baseline, with his opponent, world no 146 Tatsuma Ito, deep into his own backhand side, this was a shot – a winner – that the Indian would have made nine times out of 10. But this was a day when there wasn't much going his way.

A heavily strapped left arm – his playing arm – owing to a wrist and elbow problem rendered his two most potent weapons a fair degree harmless. The big serve wasn't there – his fastest delivery coming at 196 kmph as opposed to the usual 200-plus efforts – and his first serve percentage was an insufficient 67 per cent. And he couldn't find much rhythm on the forehand.

At match point, in the first round of the Australian Open, Prajnesh, who made it to the main draw as a lucky loser, had a chance to prolong the contest. But that inside-out effort fell just wide of the singles sideline, handing the Chennai native a 6-4, 6-2, 7-5 loss. Thus ended the run of India's only player in the singles main draw in the first round of a major, for the 16th consecutive time.

"I didn't play a good match. I couldn't use spin on the forehand like I normally would and was serving a lot slower than I normally would (because of the injury). I didn't start well and never had good composure," Prajnesh said after losing his fifth consecutive main draw match at a Grand Slam. "I think it was a good chance to make the second round. I'll have to learn from this and figure out how to play the next time I'm in this situation."

The 'next time' has been coming more often than not for Indian singles tennis. The novelty of an Indian player making it to the singles main draw is steadily wearing off – this was the ninth consecutive appearance for an Indian in the round of 128 at a major. What has been lacking though is a win at that level. The last time an Indian reached the sec-

### Indian players 0-13 in Grand Slam main draw

The last time an Indian men's singles player won a match in the main draw of a Grand Slam was at the 2013 US Open, when Somdev Devvarman beat Lukas Lacko of Slovakia. Since then, there have been 13 occasions when a currently active Indian player has reached the main draw of a major, but failed to advance in each attempt.

Yuki Bhambri has had the most chances, making it to six main-draw matches. In those, he did come up against big name players like Andy Murray and Tomas Berdych, and played against higher-ranked Frenchman Pierre-Hughes Herbert at the 2018 US Open. But despite being the higher-ranked player in against Marcos Baghdatis (Australian Open 2018), Ruben Bemelmans (French Open 2018), and Thomas Fabbiano (Wimbledon 2018), he managed to win just one set in total.

After Bhambri, Prajnesh Gunneswaran has had the most attempts, with a 0-5



record in the main draw. He faced tough opponents at the Australian Open 2018 (Francis Tiafoe), Wimbledon 2018 (Milos Raonic) and US Open 2019 (Daniil Medvedev), but arguably, his best chance of breaking the duck was on Tuesday against lower-ranked world no. 146 Tatsuma Ito.

Meanwhile, Sumit Nagal and Saketh Myneni have both had just one appearance in the main draw of a Slam, both at the US Open. Nagal famously took a set against Roger Federer last year, while Myneni came through qualifiers in 2016 before losing a five-setter to Jiri Vesely of the Czech Republic. Devvarman, in turn, lost three main-draw matches after making it to the second round of the 2013 US Open, but won five first-round matches in total. If one takes his record out of the equation, the last time an Indian singles player reached the second round of a Slam was Leander Paes at Wimbledon in 2001 – 19 years ago.

ond round was seven years ago, when Somdev Devvarman beat Lukas Lacko in his opener at US Open 2013.

### 13th time unlucky

Among current players, Yuki Bhambri, Prajnesh, Saketh Myneni and Sumit Nagal have reached the main draw 13 times in total but none has managed to pick up a win. And if you take Devvarman out, the last Indian to reach the second round in singles was Leander Paes way back at Wimbledon 2001.

"When the opportunities knock, you have to find a way to take it. The only way they are going to start winning matches in the Grand

Slams is, when they get good draws, they need to capitalise on it, especially considering that (Prajnesh got in as) a lucky loser, playing a guy that is ranked 146. You don't get much better draws than that in a Grand Slam," says Devvarman, who was doing commentary for the match. "The next step is always improvement, regardless of where you are in your career. A lot comes down to fitness and maturing as a player."

In the last few years, Indian singles players have won Challenger events, qualified for the ATP Masters 1000, and Bhambri and Prajnesh have also broken into the top 100. But they haven't carried that form into the majors.

"The next step is actually winning

matches in the main draw," says India's Davis Cup coach Zeeshan Ali. "As a player, you define yourself by how you perform in the majors. Believing is one thing and doing is another. Right now, we have the belief that we belong among the top players in the world. But once you win matches in Grand Slams, you're actually going to belong there."

Prajnesh's straight-sets loss to Ito was arguably the best chance any of the current players had of breaking the duck, at least on paper. Ito's current rank of 146 was lower than any other opponent an Indian has come across in the main draw. In fact, of the 13 times, this was the fourth occasion when the Indian player was ranked higher than his opponent – the first time such was the case for world no. 123 Prajnesh.

But it's not as if the Indians haven't beaten the top players before. Bhambri has beaten Gael Monfils, Nicolas Mahut, Lucas Pouille; Prajnesh has beaten Denis Shapovalov, Benoit Paire and then world no. 18 Nikoloz Basilashvili; Ramkumar Ramanathan got the better of Dominic Thiem; Myneni had beaten former world no. 8 Mikhail Youzhny.

So why not at the Slams?

"It doesn't just come down to how you prepare for a Grand Slam. It comes down to consistency," Devvarman says. "Playing at a high level week in-week out, being smart with your schedule, being smart with your body. Making sure that you're really working on your body, making sure that even though you're working hard at a high intensity you're still injury-free. That's something that a lot of Indians have failed to do."

Bhambri has currently spent over a year away from the tour due to injury, Nagal has struggled with shoulder problems in the past and Prajnesh, just as he was on Tuesday, has constantly been hampered by niggles.

Three Indians are currently in the top 200, two are getting close to breaking into the top 100. They are no longer a rarity in the big events. But at the Grand Slams, there's still a wait for one to step forward.

*All matches live on Sony Six and Ten.2 from 05:30 hrs*



BRIEFLY

Former India skipper Banerjee hospitalised

Indian football legend PK Banerjee has been admitted to a private hospital on Tuesday after he fell ill last night. The 83-year-old former India captain was n't keeping well and some complications arose last night. Banerjee, however, is said to be stable. A medical bulletin from the hospital stated: "Legendary Indian Footballer Shri PK Banerjee has been admitted for treatment at Medica Superspecialty Hospital. Diagnostic investigations are being carried out and he is under care of team of doctors." **ENS**

India bags four silver medals in Serbia

The seasoned M Meena Kumari (54kg) was among the four Indian pugilists who claimed silver medals at the 9th Nation's Cup boxing tournament for women in Sombor, Serbia. None of the Indians could win their summit bouts on Sunday night with Monika (48kg), Ritu Grewal (51kg) and Bhagyabati Kachari (75kg) being the other silver medal winners apart from Meena. Signing off with bronze medals were Pavitra (60kg) and Pwila Basumatary (64kg). Both of them lost in the semifinals. Meena, who claimed a gold medal at the World Cup in Cologne last year and is also an Asian medallist, lost to Italy's Giordana Sorrentino 1-4 in a hard-fought contest. Monika also went down in a split verdict to Russia's Iulia Chungalakov, while Ritu was beaten 0-4 by China's Cai Yan. Kachari, the reigning national champion, lost 1-4 to Morocco's Khadija Mardi. **PTI**

Jose denies reports of bust-up with Rose

Tottenham Hotspur manager Jose Mourinho has played down reports of a training ground row with Danny Rose after the full-back was left out of Saturday's goalless draw against Watford in the Premier League. *The Daily Mail* reported Rose sought an explanation from Mourinho after he was unhappy at being left out of the squad for both the 2-1 win over Middlesbrough in the FA Cup third round replay last week and then for the Watford match. "A disagreement between me and Danny? No," Mourinho told a news conference on Tuesday. "My relationship with my players is good and I love to work with my group. And that's it." Mourinho said Rose was left out at the weekend due to a back injury, with young centre-half Japhet Tanganga filling in at left-back at Vicarage Road. **REUTERS**

FA charges Man Utd for misconduct

Manchester United have been charged by the Football Association (FA) over misconduct of their players in the 2-0 defeat by runaway Premier League leaders Liverpool. United's players surrounded referee Craig Pawson midway through the first half on Sunday after Liverpool's Virgil van Dijk challenged goalkeeper David de Gea. Roberto Firmino subsequently scored, but his goal was ruled out following a VAR review of Van Dijk's clash with the Spanish goalkeeper. De Gea dropped the ball which the defence failed to clear allowing Firmino to take advantage and score. "Manchester United FC has been charged with a breach of FA Rule E20(a)," read the FA statement. **AFF**

Olympics and Woods: It's a match

The Games want the American great but with time running out, earning a ticket to Tokyo will be a tough ask

KAREN CROUSE  
JANUARY 21

IN NOVEMBER 2008, two officials from the International Golf Federation traveled to Switzerland to make a case for returning their sport's athletes to the Olympics after a century-long hiatus. But as the men made their presentation to members of the International Olympic Committee, they realized they were pitching to an audience fixated on a single player.

Never mind the sport's global reach or its charitable impact and cornerstone values of honesty and fair play. To Ty Votaw, who was helping make golf's case for inclusion, it was clear from the start what the IOC considered golf's greatest asset.

"The very first question asked was, 'Will Tiger Woods play?'" Votaw said.

Twelve years later, the Olympics still covet Woods — now, perhaps, more than ever. The problem is that there may not be a spot for him.

In 2008, Woods' participation seemed foreordained. He stood alongside Usain Bolt and Michael Phelps as one of the world's most dominant athletes, and was coming off a season that had included his 14th major title. For the 10th time in 11 years, he ended the year ranked No. 1. Woods, with his star power, and the Olympics, with their global stage, looked like a marriage brokered in a corporate boardroom.

Yet while Woods' spirit was willing, a back injury sidelined him for most of 2016, sinking his hopes of qualifying for that summer's competition in Rio de Janeiro. Golf returned to the Olympics without him, and Englishman Justin Rose won the gold medal.

Now, four years later, Woods is the closest he has been to the Olympics since he attended an archery event at the 1984 Games in Los Angeles with his father.

To qualify, he must be one of the top four American players ranked inside the world top 15 as of June 22. Woods is currently seventh in the world, but only the fifth-best American heading into this week's Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines in San Diego.

At the moment, Brooks Koepka, Justin Thomas, Dustin Johnson and Patrick Cantlay hold the four Olympic tournament places reserved for Americans. Woods, 44, spoke last fall of his desire to participate in the Tokyo Games, describing it as a "once-in-a-lifetime experience."

"And especially at the age I'll be," he said.

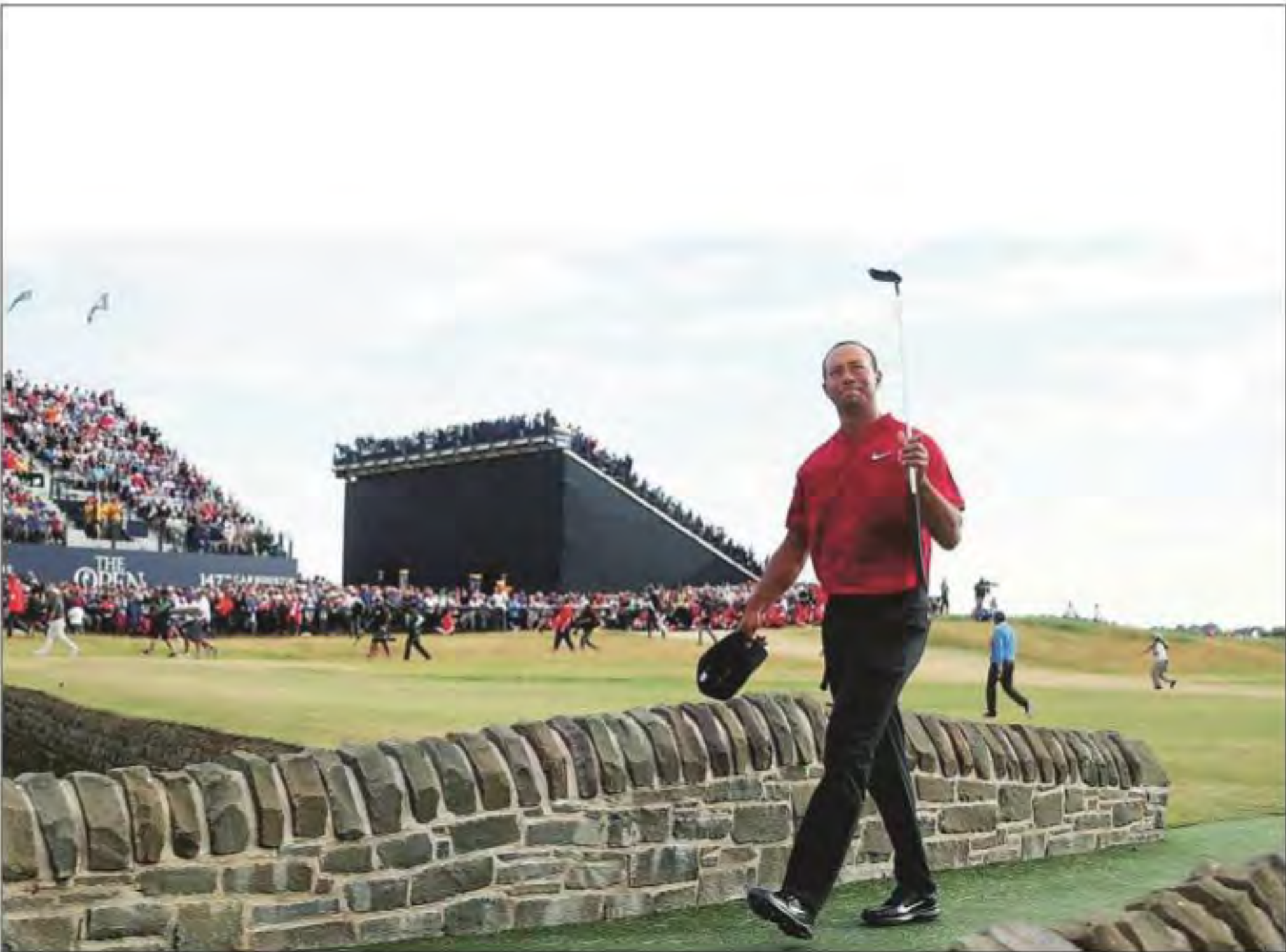
It may comfort Woods that in the post-World War II era, two U.S. Olympians, sailors Paul Smart in 1948 and Everard Endt in 1952, have won gold medals in their 50s. So it's not necessarily now or never for him. But for an Olympic movement ravaged by the cancers of corruption and cheating, and reeling from the retirements of Bolt and Phelps, there would be no time like the present to plug into Woods' transcendence.

"I know TV companies for obvious reasons are excited about it," said Peter Dawson, the International Golf Federation's president. So, it would appear, is the host country. In October, roughly 60 miles from the Olympic venue, Japanese fans cheered louder for Woods than they did their native son, Hideki Matsuyama, at the inaugural Zozo Championship, which Woods won wire to wire.

Yes, Woods is currently the odd man out among Americans. But that is, as Dawson joked, "nothing that another Masters win wouldn't cure."

In 2016, the top four men in line to headline the Olympic field — Jason Day, Jordan Spieth, Rory McIlroy and Johnson — chose not to compete for reasons that included the fear of contracting the mosquito-borne Zika virus. This year, it's possible an American player or two could be sidelined by something else: money.

The men's competition in Tokyo will take place two weeks after the British Open



Woods acknowledged that he might have to play more than he would like in the first half of 2020 in pursuit of qualification. *Reuters*

and two weeks before the start of the three-tournament FedEx Cup playoffs, which offer a \$60 million total purse, including a \$15 million payoff to the eventual winner.

The first playoff event is outside Boston, 14 time zones from Tokyo, and so it is not unthinkable that a top player, prioritizing majors over medals or playoff riches over Olympic gold, might decide that it's not worth making the round-the-world journey to Japan at such a key moment in his season.

Could somebody also stay home because of outside pressure to step aside to make room for Woods?

"There may be some of that," Dawson said, though he quickly added, "I'm sure Tiger wouldn't want to get into the Games that way."

It has happened before, though. At the 2004 Australian swimming trials, superstar Ian Thorpe, the world-record holder and reigning Olympic champion in the 400-meter freestyle, was disqualified from his heat for a false start after he lost his balance on the blocks and fell into the water. The top two finishers in the final qualified for the Athens Games, and scores of Australians soon were publicly calling on Craig Stevens, the runner-up, to relinquish his spot to Thorpe.

There was no danger that Stevens or Thorpe would miss the Olympics; both had qualified in other events. But a month later, during a televised interview for which he was paid a six-figure sum, Stevens announced that he was ceding his spot in the 400 freestyle to Thorpe, who went on to successfully defend his Olympic title.

For the moment, Woods still controls his fate. After his victory last year at the Masters, he described the Olympics as "a big goal," but he admitted "getting there and making the team is going to be the tough part."

One option, Woods acknowledged, was that he might have to play more than he would like in the first half of 2020 in the pursuit of Olympic qualifying points. A strong finish this week, at an event he has won seven times, would be a great start.

"I just know that if I play well in the big events like I did this year," Woods said last year, "things will take care of itself."

NEW YORK TIMES

SIMPLY PUT

Golf's uneasy relationship with the Olympics

What was golf's return to the Olympics in 2016 like?

At Rio, golf returned to the Games roster for the first time in 112 years. But it did so without many of its top players. Most of the big names stayed away, citing various reasons. Jordan Spieth and Dustin Johnson blamed their withdrawals on the mosquito-borne Zika virus while some others, like Rory McIlroy, pulled out because Olympic golf wasn't important enough. In fact, when McIlroy was asked which events at Rio would he watch, he reportedly said: "Probably events like track and field, swimming, diving, the stuff that matters."

Why was golf not seen as 'important enough' at the Olympics?

A lot of athletes said an Olympic gold should be the pinnacle for an athlete whose sport is part of the programme. That, many feel, is not the case with golf. For instance, the Rio Olympics golf tournament took place exactly when the John Deere Classic, which has total prize money of \$4.8 million, with the winner receiving \$864,000. Two majors, too, were held just a month before the Olympics -- The Open and US PGA were both played in July. This year, too, The Open - which offers valuable ranking points - will be held less than 10 days before the opening ceremony, meaning a lot of golfers could prioritise that over the Games. This has caused a lot of resentment from some other sports, like squash for example, that have been trying to get into the Olympic programme for several years.

Will the International Olympic Committee (IOC) remove golf from future Olympics?

Far from it. The thrilling gold medal

duel between eventual champion Justin Rose of Britain and Sweden's Henrik Stenson, which went till the last hole, is believed to have received much higher television ratings than a lot of other sports, according to the Guardian. Since television viewership is seen as one of the most important criteria for a sport to remain in the Olympics, golf continued to remain in the programme for the Paris Games in 2024. And given that Los Angeles will be hosting the event in 2028 -- and the fact that golf is a huge draw in that part of the world -- the sport is likely to stay on.

How is the response from the top golfers been like for the Tokyo Olympics?

So far, none of the top names have pulled out. In fact, McIlroy said he regretted not going to Rio and has expressed interest to represent Team GB this year. Tiger Woods, too, said competing in Tokyo would be a 'once in a life time experience'. He, however, is not certain of a spot in the team yet as four Americans -- Brooks Koepka, Justin Thomas, Dustin Johnson and Patrick Cantlay -- hold the places reserved for Americans because of their higher ranking.

How do golfers qualify for the Olympics?

Qualifying for the Olympics began in July 2018, with golfers accumulating points in an official Olympics ranking that essentially mirrors the men's and women's World Rankings. The qualifying period runs through June 23, 2020 for the men and June 30, 2020 for the women. The total field will comprise 60 golfers and no country can have more than four golfers competing.

Amid injury crisis, Pep fumes at tight schedule

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
LONDON, JANUARY 21

MANCHESTER CITY manager Pep Guardiola believes some competitions in English football must be scrapped to protect the welfare of players and increase the quality of matches.

City face Sheffield United away on Tuesday night in the Premier League in their 17th match in 59 days since the last international break in November.

Serious injuries to Tottenham's Harry Kane and Manchester United forward Marcus Rashford that could have an impact on England's chances at Euro 2020 have highlighted the issue and Guardiola believes the status quo is "unsustainable".

"The players arrive at the Euros, trying their best with their national teams then they are back here after no more than 20 days' rest because the show must go on. It's unsustainable,"

Guardiola said at his pre-match press conference on Monday.

"I'm sorry for Kane and Rashford because they are good for the league, but we demand a lot from the players, it's too much. "They (the Premier League) should reflect on it but all the managers complained about it and they don't care."

The pressure is on England's football authorities to at least remove replays from the third and fourth round of the FA Cup and scrap the two-legged format of the League Cup semi-finals.

City are still involved in both domestic cup competitions, as well as the Champions League, and have a minimum of 19 games left this season.

"You have to eliminate competitions. Take them out completely, so less games," added Guardiola.

"Less games, less competitions, less teams, less quantity and more quality." Guardiola also joined Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp in ridiculing the idea of expanding the Champions League from 2024 onwards.

"The solution you have is to make a year of 400 days - then we can book in another competition," he said sarcastically.

For the first time this season, every club in the Premier League will have a two-week break in February, but Guardiola believes that comes too late after a gruelling festive period. "The big administration people cannot complain because it's normal this happens," he added.

"Look at the injuries we have had, all the teams have had. That is normal.

"With that number of games, players break down. I'm not surprised, I am so sorry for them."



Manchester City are still involved in both domestic cup competitions, as well as the Champions League.

OFF-FIELD BATTLES

Spanish league boss takes on FIFA over expanding club event

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
LONDON, JANUARY 21

FIFA'S DETERMINATION to have a bigger role in club football worldwide is troubling the head of the Spanish league.

Javier Tebas, president of La Liga, fears FIFA expanding the Club World Cup and providing a fresh windfall for a group of elite clubs will exacerbate financial disparities between teams and harm football.

The FIFA men's club competition is due to swell from an annual competition with seven entrants to an event featuring a 24-team group stage from 2021.

"The major risk would be the Club World Cup," Tebas said through a translator in London. "They want to have it every two years. I don't know how far they wish to go."

FIFA President Gianni Infantino is considering offers from companies willing to provide financing for the competition, which is due to have a new name for its pilot edition. Tebas believes it could pose a greater challenge to European football than attempts by clubs to breakaway to form any Super League.

"FIFA stopped being regulators and organizers for national teams and start to organise other kinds of tournaments which compete directly with the national leagues

and this is something that concerns me because we had a balance, an ecosystem between the different leagues in Europe and different continents," Tebas said.

"In Europe we have the Champions League and now we have an intruder who might disrupt that balance. There was already a threat of that in Europe, even though I think the risk of that has dropped significantly with the Champions League, but I think this could have an impact on the value of international competitions."

Real Madrid President Florentino Perez has formed the World Football Club Association, which has been formulating plans for new competitions of its own. Those proposals only emerged in reports after Perez met with FIFA President Gianni Infantino in November.

Eight European teams are due to feature in the new Club World Cup, including Real Madrid due to its 2018 Champions League victory.

"The idea of creating new super World Cups for super clubs could be very damaging for Real Madrid and for major clubs," Tebas said. "It's something he's not taking into account and I don't really see a future for these competitions. I don't think there's a real passion for these kind of events. I think when people discuss this they realize it's damaging



for them.

"I always ask why we should change a system of strong international competitions. If it's not broken, why try to fix it?"

But Infantino is determined to elevate the status of FIFA's club competition and provide significant income to the finalists.

"We've seen how the Premier League has grown significantly over the last few years," Tebas pointed out. "La Liga has also grown significantly and why would we want to change that? Why would we want to put that at risk with these sort of ideas? It's like building castles in the sky."

While concerned about Infantino's plans,

FIFA stopped being regulators and organizers for national teams and start to organise other kinds of tournaments which compete directly with the national leagues and this is something that concerns me because we had a balance, an ecosystem between the different leagues in Europe and different continents."

JAVIER TEBAS  
LA LIGA PRESIDENT

Tebas is supportive of UEFA President Aleksander Ceferin who has clashed regularly with his FIFA counterpart.

"If Ceferin defends European football as I have seen with national league and championships in balance, which is the current trend, I welcome this clash, this confrontation," Tebas said. "An organisation like FIFA is supposed to be a regulatory body. They draft the different calendars and when we need to play. Sadly, from organising World Cups, they are talking about Club World Cups and having that every two years.

"That is not an option because it would change the status quo. This can't hap-

pen. This sort of confrontation will never harm us if it goes along the path Ceferin is trying to defend."

Tebas has been a regular critic of governments using their wealth to finance clubs, particularly Qatar at Paris Saint-Germain and Abu Dhabi at Manchester City. Both teams have been punished by UEFA for breaching spending rules and City is subject to a fresh investigation that could lead to a Champions League ban.

"One of the major issues in European football is related to (financial) doping," Tebas said. "Because when we have clubs being financed by states then that has an impact on salaries and that means in other countries with more strict economic controls like Spain and Germany clubs cannot actually ask the state for extra financing to pay those salaries.

"This causes inflation and people think about creating other competitions because Florentino Perez and other clubs are always saying we need more money to maintain our players."

That isn't necessary, according to Tebas. "I don't think we are helping football in any way if we generate wealth and it just goes straight back to the big clubs," Tebas said. "But that's what's happening, the major clubs share out the large part of the income among their players.

"In the end instead of having 12 Ferraris, they have 15. Instead of having 10 Lamborghinis they have 12. We're dealing with major clubs generating a huge amount of money. So our aim is to redistribute that wealth. It's not a case of creating new competitions because anything there would only benefit large clubs and channel wealth to the major car manufacturers."

One of Tebas' frustrations closer to home is the Spanish football federation thwarting his bid to take La Liga games overseas. But the federation has just staged its reformatting Super Cup in Saudi Arabia despite criticism of the kingdom's human rights violations and its role in the murder of The Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi embassy in Istanbul in 2018.

Saudi Arabia has also been linked to the pirating of sports broadcasts from Qatar-owned beIN Sports to undermine its neighbor as part of a wider regional diplomatic dispute.

"The Saudi Arabian government has a policy whereby they improve the image of the government through sport... whitewashing their image," Tebas said. "We should not forget what happened in the Turkish embassy.

"We should not forget these things. This happened in an embassy, not a pub and this is very serious, at least in my opinion. Money is not the only thing that matters."