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#### THE EDITORIAL PAGE

#### JNU & THE POLITICS OF DIVISION

BY PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

#### POWER TO THE GOON

The mob violence on JNU students is a chronicle foretold. Those whose job is to protect the campus are accomplices  
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#### BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

It is a bit more than a student union election. Can you handle it?



#### INSIDE



#### FROM MUMBAI TO KOLKATA, PROTESTS ACROSS CAMPUSES

#### INSULT TO INJURY: 36 INJURED, FOUR HEAD INJURIES

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## INACTION IN JNU IN SHARP CONTRAST TO ACTION IN JAMIA

# Day after Delhi Police watched mob, not one arrest, no attacker identified

V-C statement links violence to protest against fee hike, two wardens quit

ARANYA SHANKAR  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS after masked men went on a rampage inside Jawaharlal Nehru University, leaving 31 students, two teachers and two guards injured, Delhi police are yet to make a single arrest in the case. The police, which came under fire for storming the Jamia Millia Islamia campus and targeting students inside the library last month, remained silent on how roughly 100 people were able to run riot inside the JNU campus for close to three hours — between 6 pm and 9 pm — despite the first phone call to the police control room being made at 4.57 pm Sunday.

JNU Students' Union president Aishe Ghosh, who was among the injured and received 16 stitches for her wounds at AIIMS, alleged it was an organised attack, and some "RSS-affiliated professors" were promoting the violence. Vice-president of the

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 2](#)



JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh (right) and AISA member Dripta Sarangi, among 36 injured in the attack, address a press conference on the campus on Monday. Tashi Tobgyal

## Unmasked on WhatsApp: Chief proctor to eight ABVP office-bearers

SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

AT LEAST eight office-bearers of ABVP, the chief proctor of JNU, a teacher of a Delhi University-affiliated college and two PhD scholars were members — some as active participants — of at least three WhatsApp groups where messages threatening violence against students of the university did the rounds on Sunday.

As reported by *The Indian Express* Monday, the groups kept buzzing in the hours leading up to the violence, and some messages came in even as the masked men were on the loose, entering hostel rooms, beating up students and damaging furniture.

The day after, more details emerged on the members of the groups.

JNU chief proctor Vivekananda Singh was a member of the group 'Friends of RSS',  
[CONTINUED ON PAGE 2](#)

## Income Tax relief for middle class & incentives for new home buyers likely

SUNNY VERMA & SANDEEP SINGH  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

THE FINANCE Ministry is likely to provide income tax relief to the middle class in the upcoming Union Budget 2020-21, according to two senior government officials.

A series of discussions have been held within the government to promote economic growth and a reduction in the tax burden is seen as having a direct impact on boosting consumption.

An official said the Finance Ministry is learnt to have firmed up plans under which the tax adjustment is likely to be planned in a manner that the effective tax burden of the middle class effectively comes down by about 10 per cent of their overall tax outgo for the year.

What this could mean is that the tax structure may be tweaked in a manner that if tax outgo for an individual is Rs 1 lakh in a year, then the person may see an effective reduction in his tax outgo by around Rs 10,000.

"We are going through a number of suggestions. One view is to remove all surcharges on middle class and to keep the income tax structure simple. Some tax relief is being thought

COUNTDOWN TO  
**BUDGET**  
2020-21

#### ECONOMY

US-IRAN TENSION: SENSEX DIPS, WORST LOSS IN SIX MONTHS  
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of, either in the form of an adjustment of tax slabs or the removal of the surcharges," one of the officials said, asking not to be named.

In another possible move, the government is learnt to be considering tax incentives to individuals for buying home. An official said that since real estate is a key sector and has the biggest multiplier effect on the economy, there could be benefits targeted for new home buyers.

"Discussions are underway on possible measures and an increase in tax incentive for new home purchase could be provided to push home purchase and absorption of unsold inventory," the official said.  
[CONTINUED ON PAGE 2](#)



Nobel laureates Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group, and Seema Chishty, Deputy Editor, The Indian Express, at the Express Adda in Mumbai on Monday. Prashant Nadkar

## Recourse to violence frightening, says Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee on JNU

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 6

VOICING CONCERN over Sunday's attack on students in JNU, Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee said that the "real worry" for him was youth resorting to violence to resolve conflicts.

"The recourse to violence is extremely frightening for the future sense of policy because it does create this worry for the youth of today. Their way of



resolving a conflict is by beating other people. That's the real worry for me," said Banerjee, a

JNU alumnus, while speaking at the Express Adda Monday along with fellow Nobel Laureate and wife Esther Duflo.

Echoing Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's remarks on the violence, Banerjee said that "what was remarkable about JNU was that it was a safe space for dissent".

"It is important for all of us to lay claim to that safe space. To say that it is important for our nation's future that we have a  
[CONTINUED ON PAGE 2](#)

#### EXPLAINED

#### Message from BJP allies

THERE IS concern and unease among BJP allies over campus violence, especially after the JNU incident. From JD(U) to IJP, Akali Dal to RPI (A), all have condemned the violence and the role of police. Calling for action, they have a clear message: safety of students is paramount, and parties should not turn campuses into political arenas.

## Govt & BJP blame Opp, but allies back students, JDU says sack V-C

PRADEEP KAUSHAL & LIZ MATHEW  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

ON A day when the government blamed Opposition parties for "creating an atmosphere of violence...especially in universities", the ruling BJP's NDA partners expressed "solidarity" with the students who were attacked in JNU. The party's ruling ally in Bihar,



Cong, Left, AAP behind unrest, says Javadekar

JD(U), demanded the immediate sacking of Vice-Chancellor M Jagadesh Kumar, and an inquiry by a Supreme Court judge into Sunday's violence on the campus.

## Do not precipitate, do not go after students: HRD to JNU

RITIKA CHOPRA & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

THE HUMAN Resource Development (HRD) Ministry conveyed its "displeasure" Monday to the officers of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) over the insensitivity displayed by the administration towards the students injured in Sunday's violence.

The Ministry also advised the university not to "precipitate"

Condemning the violence, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar alleged that "some members of the Congress, Communists and the Aam Aadmi Party and some elements are deliberately creating an atmosphere of violence in the country, especially in universities".

Suggesting that the violence was linked to tension on campus over registration of students, he  
[CONTINUED ON PAGE 2](#)

## Delhi Assembly poll dates are out: Voting Feb 8, counting Feb 11

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

THE DELHI Assembly elections will be held on February 8 and the results will be announced February 11, Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora said Monday.

The announcement of the poll schedule comes at a time when the Capital has been witnessing protests, some of them violent, against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

Asked about the law and order situation in the Capital, against the backdrop of the poll announcement, Arora said the Election Commission held interactions "at all levels", including the Delhi Police, Delhi Chief Secretary and the Union Home Ministry, and was "quite hopeful" that the government machinery would "control the situation" and ensure conducive conditions for elections.

"In any case, if there is an extraordinary situation during the poll process, then there are pro-



CEC Sunil Arora (right) with EC Ashok Lavasa, Monday. PTI

visions to defer polls," he said. "Last time, the announcement was made on January 12, and the polls were notified on January 14. There was some criticism that candidates and parties didn't have enough time for preparation, hence the announcement today. There is a week's gap between announcement and notification this time," Arora said.

The notification for the polls will be issued on January 14 while the last date for withdrawal of candidature will be  
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RELATED REPORT  
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#### PAGE 1 ANCHOR

## ₹ 1.4 cr in coins daily, cash-strapped BEST has a change problem

IRAM SIDDIQUE  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 6

THE CASH-STRAPPED Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) is finding it difficult to either use or get coins worth Rs 10 crore lying with it deposited in banks in exchange for notes. BEST officials said they had approached RBI after repeated letters to 13 banks in the city elicited no response.

In a desperate move, BEST has been paying its employees Rs 500 monthly as part of their salary in coins since December 2018.

Coins have been pouring in at BEST since July 2018, when minimum fares were slashed to Rs 5, Rs 10 and so on from Rs 8 for a minimum of 2 km to Rs 34 for 20 km earlier. Officials say the coins are difficult to carry and conductors have complained about the weight.

A senior BEST official said, "About 70 per cent of our daily ticket sales of Rs 2 crore are in coins. Most of these are Rs 5 coins, which are heavy. We face difficulty carrying them as well as calculating them at the end of the day and depositing them in banks."

BEST General Manager

Surendrakumar Bagde told *The Indian Express*, "We are trying to come up with a solution and are in talks with RBI. In the meanwhile, we would request our customers to make digital payments as much as possible."

The BEST management conveyed the problem to RBI at an informal meeting on December 31. According to sources, the banks which have not responded to its letters to accept the coins are the 13 with which they transact on a regular basis — including State Bank of India, Bank of India, Canara Bank, Bank of Maharashtra, Bank of Baroda and three cooperative banks.



Since December 2018, BEST employees have been getting Rs 500 monthly in coins, as part of their salary. Express

In a letter to Canara Bank, BEST wrote, "The BEST undertaking is providing public transport services covering 90% of the area, 32 lakh commuters daily. I sincerely request you to accept the coins and cash on a daily basis so that the cash flow in BEST is not hampered."

In September 2019, BEST had procured coin counting machines and opened exchange centres across 27 depots to allow citizens and traders to get coins against higher denomination notes. Over the past few months, BEST officials said, they had received several complaints from conductors regarding

heavy coin bags.

BEST said its attempt to get toll operators to take the coins had also failed. "The operators were willing to take the coins as well as to give an incentive of Rs 5 extra on change of every Rs 1,000, but the talks fell flat after the National Highway Authority of India enforced FASTags. FASTags allow toll to be deducted through e-wallet."

ICICI Bank, which has a contract with BEST to collect money, has cited space crunch in its cash chest for not taking the coins. An ICICI official said on the condition of anonymity, "No banks hoard cash, what we collect is

put back in circulation. But there are no takers for coins. We send the coins to RBI, but the multi-step process takes several weeks. The coins meanwhile lie unutilised, eating up space."

An ICICI spokesperson said, "BEST is a valued customer of the bank. We continue to accept cash deposits from the company regularly. However, the inflow of coins from BEST has gone up manifold in the past few months, leading to substantial rise in their storage and handling cost. We have suggested many options to BEST to efficiently manage the inflow. These  
[CONTINUED ON PAGE 2](#)





barring a chief minister (Yog Adityanath) from campaigning





0-50 Good

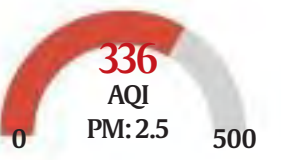
ANAND VIHAR

Very Poor



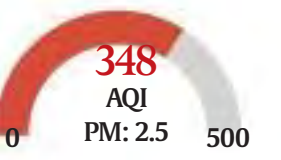
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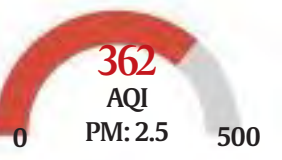
SHADIPUR

Very Poor



DWARKA-SECTOR 8

Very Poor



JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh, who was discharged from AIIMS early Monday morning. She received 16 stitches on her head apart from treatment for bruises to her back and hand. Tashi Tobgyal

### MORE THAN 24 HOURS LATER

Not a single arrest, detention or list of suspects

### FACULTY MEMBERS RECOUNT HORROR

Many say mob reached their homes, barged in

### PARALLEL MARCHES ON CAMPUS

Left, ABVP blame each other for violence

# INSULT TO INJURY

Of the 36 injured, 4 suffered head injuries, rest had bruises on scalp and limbs, records show

Battered, bruised, unbroken, JNUSU head says will fight on

#### ASTHA SAXENA

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

OF THE 36 people injured during the violence at Jawaharlal Nehru University Sunday, four suffered head injuries while the others sustained soft tissue injuries on the head, scalp, elbows and hands. The injured were treated at the AIIMS Trauma Centre and discharged Monday morning.

More than 24 hours later though, their attackers were still at large.

Depending on the nature of injuries, the hospital divided patients into three categories — red, yellow and green. Called triage, (a French word meaning to “sort” by priority or life-threatening nature of injury), this method is followed to expedite treatment to those seriously injured.

Five of the injured were put under the green tag, which means they suffered minor injuries. The others were put under the yellow tag, which means they sustained moderate to serious injuries that are not immediately life-threatening. *The Indian Express* looked into the type of injuries:

#### The students

**AISHE GHOSH, 23** Suffered deep lacerations on her forehead, scalp and right frontal region. She also sustained soft tissue injury on the left elbow.

**SARTHAK, 31** Suffered a soft tissue injury over the scalp.

**KAMLESH, 30** Suffered minor head injury and a soft tissue injury on the scalp.

**SURI KRISHNAN, 23** Sustained a minor head injury and soft tissue injury on the scalp.

**GAURAV, 24** Sustained abrasions on the right wrist.

**SHAMBHAVI, 21** Suffered soft tissue injury on the left elbow.

**VALENTINA, 26** Suffered a soft tissue injury on the right hand and elbow.

**SHIVAM CHAURASIA, 27** Sustained soft tissue injury on the right wrist and abrasions on the back of his neck.

**MANISH JANGID, 25** Suffered soft tissue injury on the left wrist.

**SHESHMANEE SAHU, 22** Suffered a minor head injury and a soft tissue injury on the left elbow.

**NIKHIL MATHEW, 24**



Prof Sucharita Sen, Swaraj India head Yogendra Yadav

Sustained a soft tissue injury on the left shoulder.

**AYUSH SINGH, 19** Suffered congestion in the right eye.

**AISHWARYA PRATAP, 25** Suffered a soft tissue injury on the elbow and a minor head injury.

**SHAUKAT, 28** Came to the hospital but was not diagnosed with any injury.

**UJWAL, 22** Suffered a soft tissue injury on the scalp.

**DEEPSHIKA, 19** Suffered a soft tissue injury on the right hip as well as lacerations.

**SHINJITIN, 21** Suffered an injury on the scalp and forehead.

**KAMRAN, 22** Suffered a minor head injury and lacerations on the scalp.



**MUKESH KUMAR, 23** Suffered a soft tissue injury on the left palm and abrasions on the left knee.

**RAJ PANDEY, 20** Sustained a soft tissue injury and lacerations on the right leg.

**RITWIK, 20** Sustained bruises on the right leg.

**VIKAS SHARMA, 29** Suffered abrasions and a soft tissue injury on the forehead.

**ASIF, 29** Came with a history of fall, suffered a fracture on the tip of the right ring finger.

**RAJIV KUMAR, 33** Suffered injuries below the right knee and the right shoulder.

**GHULAM AHMED, 31** Sustained a soft tissue injury on the right hand wrist.

**SANTOSH KUMAR, 30** Sustained mild bruises on the right shoulder and swelling on right hand elbow.

**AMIT KUMAR, 22** Sustained abrasions on the scalp.

**RAHUL, 22** Sustained lacerations on the right leg.

**VISHWAJEET, 22** Suffered a soft tissue injury on the left leg and right knee.

**MANISH KUMAR, 35** Did not suffer any significant injury. He complained of body pain.

**MAITREE, 32** Came with a history of fall and suffered soft tissue injury on the right ankle.

**PIYUSH SWAIN, 26** Suffered minor bruises on the body.

**DOLAN SAMANTHA, 23** Sustained swelling on the right hand finger.

#### Others

**ASSISTANT PROF AMEET PARAMESWARAN, 37** Suffered soft tissue injury to the left elbow.

**PROF SUCHARITA SEN, 45** Sustained lacerations over the right temporal side of head and abrasions on the left elbow.

**YOGENDRA YADAV, 56** Suffered soft tissue injuries on the face.

#### ARANYA SHANKAR

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

DRAPED IN a shawl, with a plastered arm and a bandage on the head, JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh had trouble eating food on her own Monday. Her younger sister helped her as she recuperated in the flat of a faculty member in the campus, after receiving 16 stitches on her head and bruises on her waist.

Ghosh told *The Indian Express* that she saw the attack on her and the university as “nothing but an attempt to break the movement against fee hike, which has been peacefully on for almost 70 days”.

“I see this as an attempt to murder, nothing less. This was targeted violence to break our resolve and movement. If the V-C has any sense of morality, he should resign,” said Ghosh, admitting that despite the violence in Jamia, she never imagined that “RSS goons” would be given a free hand on the JNU campus.

Recollecting Sunday’s events, Ghosh said the JNUSU was campaigning in School areas for the registration boycott when she started getting news

“I realised that the more we stood up to them, the more they would hit us. So I told Nikhil, ‘let’s just fall down’. After a point we sat down so they would stop hitting us. My hands were not moving to even pick up the phone.”

#### AISHE GHOSH

JNUSU PRESIDENT

of individual students being beaten up by lathi-wielding men near the yet to be unveiled Vivekananda Statue.

“I immediately sent messages on WhatsApp groups, telling people not to take that route. By 3 pm, after discussing with Saket (JNUSU V-P), I also messaged the SHO and ACP asking them to send police. I spoke with them on the phone as well, and they assured me that the masked men had been removed from campus,” she claimed.

Ghosh said she then went to the Sabarmati T-point where the JNUTA programme for peace on campus was on. As news of masked men beating up people started, she initially told students not to panic and stay together.

“But two minutes later, there was indiscriminate assault by 70-80 people. I was with my friend Nikhil (Matthew) at the time. They targeted us and beat us up. They said ‘yahin kaat denge, yahin maar denge’. The first blow landed at the back of my head. I thought they would hit us once and leave, but they kept hitting my head. I didn’t even realise I was bleeding till I saw blood trickling down my face,” she said.

“I realised that the more we stood up to them, the more they would hit us. So I told Nikhil, ‘let’s just fall down’. After a point we sat down so they would stop hitting us. Then they finally left. My hands were not moving enough to even pick up the phone, which was soaked in blood, and call for an ambulance. A student did that for me,” she said.

Ghosh was discharged from AIIMS at 4 am Sunday: “The attack on me is an attack on all 8,000 students of the university.”

Meanwhile, her father Debasish Ghosh said: “Today, my daughter was attacked, tomorrow someone else will be targeted. We want strong action against those who carried out the attack.” He also demanded the V-C’s resignation.

Students spend long night huddled together

#### AMIL BHATNAGAR

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

LATE SUNDAY night, a few JNU students lit a bonfire on the road leading to Sabarmati Hostel. Two of them collected broken pieces of glass strewn across the road. It had been four hours since a masked mob stormed the university’s hostels and attacked students and teachers and vandalised property.

A student from Sabarmati Hostel, who was among those targeted by the mob, recalled the carnage unleashed by the group. “It appears it happened over the registration process issue. There had been a face-off earlier in the day between the two sides. A few hours on, masked men entered the hostel. They must have identified the rooms to target... They broke windows above the door and forced it open. They ransacked whatever they could and hit me,” he said.

Many students were seen huddling in the corridors, enquiring about the health of those injured. Some were heard making plans to spend the night together. A student recalled how the group first broke all windows, then the doors and pelted stones.

Inside the canteen, shattered glass doors and a ransacked TT table stood as a testimony to Sunday’s attack. Two hours earlier, over a hundred students had walked towards the main gate calling for the withdrawal of Delhi Police from the campus. After brief sloganeering, police officers left, but students remained wary.

“We feel this is not over yet. We want to ensure that our friends are safe. We will stay here... It will be a long night but we will stay,” said a student.

No proof but V-C continues to link fee protest to violence

#### ARANYA SHANKAR

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

DELHI POLICE is yet to disclose names of suspects in Sunday’s violence at JNU, but the Vice-Chancellor Monday sought to suggest it was the Left-led JNU Students’ Union which may be linked to it. Most of those injured, on the other hand, said the ABVP was behind the violence — a charge the outfit denies.

In multiple short statements on Twitter, V-C M Jagadesh Kumar wrote: “The origin of the present situation in JNU lies in some agitating students turning violent and obstructing the academic activities of a large number of non-protesting students. The protesting students damaged the University communication servers to disrupt the winter semester registration. They prevented thousands of students from doing their winter registration. Their intent is clearly aimed at disrupting the functioning of the University. This is simply hooliganism and against the ethos of JNU. No such person will be spared and appropriate action will be taken.” The JNUSU has been protesting against hostel fee hike on campus.

When contacted to ask about what led him to arrive at this conclusion, Kumar did not respond to calls and messages.

“JNU administration will use all possible means to protect the safety and security of our students. We all need to stand together to protect the interests of genuine students. The University should not be held to ransom by some agitators who have no respect for the fundamental rights of law abiding students,” he said.



JNU V-C M Jagadesh Kumar

The over 30 injured students and teachers, meanwhile, said the V-C had not reached out to check on them. The V-C also stressed on how the administration would “ensure that their winter semester registration will take place without any hindrance”.

In contrast, when students of Jamia Millia Islamia were beaten up by police during an anti-CAA protest last month, V-C Najma Akhtar had responded immediately. “There has also been emotional loss, a loss of confidence and our students’ psyche has been affected. Who will be responsible for that? *Property aap bana sakte hain, but bachche jis situation se guzre hain use aap dobara nahi theek kar sakte*,” she had told reporters the next day.

Meanwhile, asked why the mob could not be controlled, a senior official said, “Compared to them (attackers), security guards were not enough. At a time, there are only 80 guards on shift. There are a total of 250 guards in JNU. In fact, six guards were also injured.”

On how the mob was allowed to enter, the official said, “There are only five-six guards at each gate. How will they stop a 100-plus group? Police were also standing there; what did they do?”

#### SUKRITA BARUAH

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

HOSTELS OF JNU, at the heart of a controversy over a proposed fee hike since October, became ground zero for violence on Sunday with the entry of masked men armed with sticks and rods. *The Indian Express* spoke to residents of eight hostels to put together the sequence of events — from Periyar hostel, which saw clashes in the afternoon, to Sabarmati hostel, which the mob targeted in the evening.

#### Periyar hostel

According to residents, a clash broke out outside around 3.30 pm. A group of students protesting against fee hike at the School of Social Sciences alleged they had been assaulted by some ABVP members and had taken out a march on campus to demonstrate against that. The students claimed that when they reached Periyar hostel, where “several ABVP students live”, stones were thrown at them from inside. “This led to a clash which died down in about an hour. I saw a group beating up a student. Some people went into the hostel as well,” claimed a resident, adding that people were not masked at the time. On Monday, the glass wall of the security guards’ cabin at the gate was shattered, as was a glass doorway.

#### Mahi-Mandavi

A group of 40-50 students came inside around 4.30 pm, residents claimed, adding that they were masked and carrying sticks. “They came and went around the hostel but did not break anything or hit anyone,” said a resident.

#### Sabarmati



JNU students took out a march on campus against Sunday’s violence. Tashi Tobgyal

The men’s wing of this hostel was the primary site of destruction. Several people at the JNUTA demonstration at Sabarmati dhaba fled into the hostel when the mob first attacked. According to residents, the violence peaked between 6.40 pm and 7.20 pm. The mob initially broke glass doors at the reception and stormed inside with sticks, stones, rods and hammers.

The doors of the hostel have a glass panel above, which was smashed. “They knew which rooms to enter since they simply walked by several rooms. A couple of students jumped from the first floor when they saw the mob. The crowd first tried to go after students and then attacked their rooms,” said a resident.

A Kashmiri student’s room on the first floor was thoroughly vandalised. “I switched off the lights and locked the door when I heard what was happening. When they smashed my glass panel, I jumped out of my balcony to that of the neighbouring room. They

managed to break the door.”

Another room had rocks on the study table, which, a student said, were pelted through the glass panel when four people in the room held the door to stop the mob from entering. Several students alleged some members of the mob entered the women’s wing and knocked on doors, but no destruction was caused. Soorya Prakash, a visually impaired student on the ground floor, was also assaulted. “I was studying when the glass pane above my door was broken and a shard fell on my head. I received 10-12 blows with a rod. I kept shouting that I’m blind. I could smell that they were drunk. When they finally believed that I’m blind, one man said, ‘What’s the point of hitting a blind person?’ and they left,” he said.

#### Koyna, Shipra, Narmada, Tapti, Lohit

On Sunday night, rumours began to fly that masked men had

broken into Koyna, a women’s hostel. But a resident said “there was no break-in but rather fear and panic because of what was happening outside. At Shipra women’s hostel next door, students created a barricade at the main door, using benches to block entry to the building.

Residents of the Narmada men’s hostel said a group of 25-30 police personnel, including persons in plainclothes, arrived at the road outside their hostel at around 7.45 pm. “They came to the door of our hostel but our guard bolted the main door and we blocked entry from the inside,” said a resident. Police were stopped from entering at Tapti too. “We don’t trust police anymore and we didn’t know who the people in plainclothes were. We didn’t want harassment under the pretext of ‘taking rounds’,” said a resident of the women’s wing. At Lohit, 150 students gathered at the entry until 11 pm to prevent outsiders from entering.

### AAP worried over violence in city: Singh

*New Delhi:* CM Arvind Kejriwal Monday held a meeting with ministers and senior AAP leaders at his residence on the JNU violence. It is learnt that the party has decided to take a more pronounced stand in this case, as opposed to its stand on the Jamia violence. AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said the party is worried about incidents of violence in Delhi. He sought the Centre’s intervention in restoring peace: “A wrong message is going to the world regarding the country due to the developments in Delhi.” L-G Anil Bajjal met the registrar and pro- V-C of JNU.

### IMA slams attack on docs, nurses

*New Delhi:* The Indian Medical Association has condemned the attack on doctors and nurses who went to JNU to treat injured students on Sunday. “If doctors and nurses are not safe in the capital, it speaks volumes about the governance and lack of it... Is this a civil war? What is the message that goes out to the world?” the medical body said in a statement issued Monday. An ambulance heading to campus was attacked on Sunday night.





# At ABVP march, claims that their members targeted & a familiar slogan

SHIVAM PATEL,  
SOMYA LAKHANI &  
SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

DENYING THAT their members were involved in a mob attack on JNU students and teachers Sunday, the ABVP Monday alleged the mobs were led by Left groups.

Speaking at the JNU's north gate, Manish Jangid, secretary of the ABVP's JNU wing, claimed Left leaders, including the JNU students' union president and the general secretary of the All India Students' Association, attacked students inside the campus and in hostels while leading the mobs.

The allegations were denied by JNUSU and AISA.

Outside the JNU main gate, ABVP activist and JNU student Valentina Brahma, with band-aids around her fingers, alleged she hid inside an ABVP member's room with outfit member Shambhavi to "protect herself



Hundreds of ABVP supporters took out a march outside the main gate of JNU, Monday. *Express*

from AISA members".

She said, "I was sitting at the ad block when a woman with a shawl around her face started hitting me. I saw her face and it was an AISA member who I know. She targeted me because I am from ABVP. I was saved by friends who took me to Periyar hostel, where a mob of 20-30 people came and started bang-

maaro saalon ko' and 'gaddaron ki kabhar khudegi, Savarkar ki dharti pe'.

The 'goli maaro' slogan has regained momentum since BJP's Kapil Mishra used it at a pro-CAA rally on December 20.

Since then, it has been raised at several rallies by Right-wing groups. "I think the slogan strikes a chord instantly due to its simple wording. Yes, I had raised it first but it is not as if I coined it. Now, I can see it being raised everywhere," Mishra said, when contacted on Monday.

Jangid, meanwhile, said, "There's a teacher at the French centre in JNU who also led and initiated the mob, and another one at the social medicine department who threatened us at AIIMS Trauma Centre."

In the room with Brahma and Jangid was another ABVP activist, Shambhavi, who alleged that "members of Left student parties chased ABVP members from the ad block to Periyar hostel, pelted stones and hit them with rods at 3.30-4 pm Sunday".

## 'SMALL SCUFFLES BEFORE VIOLENCE'

# Warned mob to disperse but they ignored police, says FIR

MAHENDER SINGH  
MANRAL  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

AROUND 7 PM Sunday, as over 50 people holding sticks and rods vandalised property at JNU's Sabarmati hostel, police personnel warned them against it on a public address system and asked them to disperse peacefully. The masked men, however, did not stop. Rather, they went on to attack students and managed to escape. This is as per an FIR of rioting lodged at Vasant Kunj (North) police station, based on a complaint by inspector Anand Yadav.

Yadav was stationed at the administrative block since Sunday morning, following the High Court's directions to deploy personnel to ensure that protests do not happen within a 100 metre radius of the block, where the Vice-Chancellor sits.

Responding to allegations that the police response had been slow and ineffective, Delhi Police spokesperson Mandeep Singh Randhawa said, "We responded to PCR calls as soon as we got them and handled the law and order situation professionally.



Police were accused of being slow in responding to violence

PCR calls came from hostels that were some distance away about a scuffle between student groups. Delhi Police is normally only deployed at the administrative block and the scuffle happened at far away hostels where we were not deployed."

Police also rejected allegations of reaching the varsity late despite several pleas from the students' union. Asked how masked men entered a closed campus, an officer said, "The entry of each person is made at the gate. If a student is accompanied by an outsider, entry is also made. We are investigating how people entered and have seized some material."

Meanwhile, the FIR lodged by inspector Yadav states that "We came to know at 3.45 pm that some students of JNU had gathered outside/at Periyar Hostel and there was a scuffle, where they damaged property. We rushed there and saw people with faces covered with mufflers, and carrying sticks, fighting with some students. They escaped when they saw police."

At 7.45 pm, police received a written request from the JNU administration to maintain law and order, following which extra force was called to the spot. "When the first incident took place, 20-30 police personnel were present in-

side campus. Later, 20 police personnel from each police station in the district were called. Another 50 personnel were called around 8 pm with anti-riot gear," said a police source.

On Monday, the case was transferred to the Crime Branch and the team visited Periyar and Sabarmati hostels. "We found that there were a series of clashes on Sunday. The first clash happened on Sunday at 11 am, and another took place at 2.30 pm followed by a third at around 3.20 pm. The fourth one was more violent when some masked people barged inside Periyar hostel at 4.30 pm. Later, some students of JNU gathered near Sabarmati hostel where they were planning a peace march, but at 6 pm, some masked persons with sticks and rods, entered Sabarmati hostel," police sources said.

Another FIR, filed in connection with an incident at the JNU server room on Saturday, names JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh and 19 others, accusing them of vandalism. The FIR, registered post 8 pm on Sunday, was filed on the basis of a complaint by the JNU administration that had been filed earlier.

# Faculty targeted too: 'Ran to bedroom, mob followed, asked us to surrender'

ARANYA SHANKAR  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

FROM A South Korean teacher and her schoolgoing son to an Urdu teacher and the wife of a former teachers' association secretary — Sunday's attack in JNU by masked intruders also targeted a number of faculty members, their families and homes.

At the New Transit House, which has 25 homes of faculty members, teachers said the "intimidation and violence" began around 7.30 pm-8 pm.

Kumari Neelu, wife of former JNU Teachers' Association (JNUTA) secretary Bikramaditya Choudhary, said she had stepped out of her home for a walk around 7.30 pm when she saw a crowd of about 40 people in the distance with sticks and iron rods.

"I immediately turned around and started walking back. Suddenly, they picked up pace and started running. I also ran," she said.

Choudhary, who stays on the first floor, said he heard his wife screaming, asking him to open the door on the ground floor. "I immediately opened the door and let her in. We could hear them banging on the doors in our area. Both my wife and I made multiple calls to JNU officials and police, but nobody did anything. There was no response," he said.

Across Choudhary's residence, Myung-e Lee, Visiting Faculty at the Centre of Korean Studies, said the attackers opened the door of her house and barged in.

"They were hitting out with sticks, our windows were shaking. My son, who is a class IX student, opened the door and they came in. They said they were looking for someone specific, and when they didn't find them, they left," she said, adding that most of the intruders were not masked, and that at least one of them had identified her.

Lee and her son Jeon Jin Kim said the attackers then banged on

the adjacent door for almost 10 minutes. "They used my steel shoe rack to try and break open that door; I could hear them planning to use flower pots," said Lee.

Urdu teacher Shiv Prakash, who was with his wife and two children at their home on the ground floor, said the intruders barged in and threatened him.

"At around 8 pm, we heard them scream, 'Darwaza kholo, warna tod denge' (Open the door, or we will break it). Then they broke the latch, and came in. We ran to the bedroom but they followed us inside. I asked them why they were doing this, they said, 'Surrender kijiye' (You should surrender)". I don't know whether they were Left or Right, but it was very scary," he said.

Hearing the commotion, two sons of a professor who lives right across from Prakash, opened their door.

"As they saw us, they rushed towards our house. I tried to stop them by pushing them, but one of them came inside. He went

with a stick in his hand to every room. He said, 'Yahan koi Sanghi to nahi hai' (Is there a Sanghi inside)? Then they left," said the elder son, who did not wish to be identified.

Choudhary alleged that asking for ABVP members or 'Sanghis' was "a deliberate tactic". "Why would Left students come to our home looking for ABVP people? Why would we hide them? Everyone knows us. This was deliberately done as a tactic," he said.

Former JNUTA president Sonajharia Minz and Saugata Bhaduri, who were injured in stone pelting at the Sabarmati T Point Sunday, also suggested that it was a targeted attack.

"After I was hit by a stone the size of half-a-brick, I turned and saw that Saugata was on the floor being beaten. But then I heard someone say, 'Chhod do, yeh woh nahin hai' (Leave them, these are not those people)". This suggests they were looking to attack someone specifically," said Minz.

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबंधक, यूनिट-1

कन्दूखान एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेस प्रा प्रा

जल निगम नवन सं-7, कृष्ण कुटीर हाईट

हाउस, फेज-2, वीरसखमी रोडडी ले-आउट

के समीप, कांदूगोडी, बैंगलुरु-560067

ई-मेल- cdsun01@gmail.com

निविदा सूचना सं-01/एम-6/01

दिनांक-04.01.2020

ई-निविदा सूचना

उप प्रा जल निगम की ओर से इस कार्यालय के निविदा सूचना सं- 281/एम-6/10 दिनांक 27.12.2019 के माध्यम से Supply & Installation of Furniture at Pondicherry University की अनुमानित लागत रु 6695984.00, हेतु दिनांक 10.01.2020 के अपराह्न 15:00 बजे तक ई-निविदाएं आमंत्रित की गई थी- The Bid document may be downloaded from "https://tender.up.nic.in" w.e.f.: 28.12.2019 Last Date of online submission: 04.01.2020 till 15:00 Hrs. Online Opening of e-bids: 04.01.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. उक्त के क्रम में पुनः इस कार्यालय के निविदा सूचना सं-268/एम-6/17 दिनांक 04.01.2020 के द्वारा आमंत्रित निविदा (निविदा आईडी-2019\_LUPCDS.417620\_1) की तिथियों में अप्रतिहार्य कारणों से एतद द्वारा निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया गया- क्रमांक विवरण 1. निविदा डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि पूर्व निर्धारित तिथियाँ एवं समय: 04.01.2020 till 15:00 Hrs. संशोधित तिथियाँ एवं समय: 10.01.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. उक्त कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 28.12.2019 से दिनांक 10.01.2020 के मध्य उप प्रा जल निगम की e-procurement वेबसाइट http://tender.up.nic.in से डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं तथा ई-निविदा दिनांक 10.01.2020 को अपराह्न 16:00 बजे कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबंधक, यूनिट-01, सीए एण्ड डीओ एण्ड, उप प्रा जल निगम, नवन सं-07, कृष्ण कुटीर हाईट हाउस, फेज-2, वीरसखमी रोडडी ले-आउट के समीप कांदूगोडी, बैंगलुरु-560067 में जारी जायेगी। ई-निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य रु 5,000 + GST (18%) अतिरिक्त देय होगा।

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (NW) II

H-BLOCK: SECTOR-15: ROHINI: DELHI-110089

PH: 27851040 (E-MAIL eenw2.djb@gmail.com)

PRESS NIT No. 52 (2019-20)

Press Notice Tender

S. No	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender	Earnest Money/ Tender Fee	Date of release of tender procurement Solution/ I.D. No.	Last date/ time of receipt of bid through e-procurement solution
1-	Shifting of 500 mm dia water line coming in alignment of peripheral sewer line on 40 futa road, Vijay Vihar Ph-II under EE (NW)-II.	Rs. 32,48,690/-	Rs. 65,000/-	03.01.2020 2020_DJB_187139_1	15.01.202 Upto 3.00 PM

PRESS NIT No. 53 (2019-20)

Press Notice Tender

S. No	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender	Earnest Money/ Tender Fee	Date of release of tender procurement Solution/ I.D. No.	Last date/ time of receipt of bid through e-procurement solution
1-	Removing contamination by replacement of old/damaged 100 mm dia water lines of C and D blocks of sector 24 Rohini RSC in AC-07 Bawana under EE(NW)II	Rs. 45,61,741/-	Rs. 91,900/-	06.01.2020 2020_DJB_187338_1	17.01.2020 Upto 3.00 PM

The verification of details of NIT published in leading news papers may be sent to undersigned for record please.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)

Advt. No. J.S.V. 798/2019-20

Executive Engineer (NW) II

कार्यालयक अभियंता का कार्यालय

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गढ़वा

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई- निविदा सूचना संख्या – RWD/SD/GARHWA/15/2019-20

कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी

क्र.सं.	कार्य का नाम	प्रारंभिक राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमार्ण विपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1.	गढ़वा जिला के भवनाथपुर प्रखण्ड में परसोडीह पंडा नदी पर पुल निर्माण कार्य।	4,18,21,555.00	8,37,000.00	10000.00	18 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 10.01.2020

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्त की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय – 23.01.2020 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक।

4. ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गढ़वा / मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, एफ.एफ.पी. भवन, रॉकी में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, Bank Credit Certificate एवं Affidavit जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय 24.01.2020 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक।

5. निविदा खोलने का स्थान – मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, एफ.एफ.पी. भवन, रॉकी।

6. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय – 27.01.2020 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे

7. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता – कार्यालयक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गढ़वा।

8. ई-निविदा प्रकाश का दूरभाष सं- 9234908682

9. निविदा शुल्क राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निर्गत ड्राफ्ट या बैंकर्स चेक जो कार्यालयक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गढ़वा के पदनाम से देय हो देना होगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाइट [www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in) एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

PR223358 (Rural Development)19-20'D

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,गढ़वा

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER DELHI  
OLD ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006  
Helpline No. 1800-111-400/1950: website: [www.ceodelhi.gov.in](http://www.ceodelhi.gov.in)  
PUBLIC NOTICE

Certification by Media Certification and Monitoring Committee(MCMC) for political advertisement to be telecast/broadcast over TV/Radio Channels/audio-video displays/Cinema Halls/Internet based media/Websites including Social Media's & Cable Network during General Elections to Legislative Assembly of GNCT of Delhi-2020.

It is hereby brought to the notice of all registered political parties/groups/organizations/associations **havina Headquarters (Registered Office) in NCT of Delhi** and individuals contesting candidates that certification of advertisement of political nature/relating to General Elections to Legislative Assembly of GNCT of Delhi-2020 is required to be obtained before it is telecast/broadcast on TV/Radio Channels/audio-video displays/Cinema Halls/Internet based media/Websites including Social Media's Cable Network.

The necessity for obtaining certification is required, in pursuance of Order No.509/75/2004/JS-I dated 15th April, 2004 issued by Election Commission of India consequent upon order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in SLP(C) No.6679/2004 in the matter of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Vs M/s Gemini TV Pvt. Ltd. & Others which has directed that no cable operator of TV channel shall telecast any advertisement, which does not conform to the law of the country and which offends the morality decency and susceptibility of view or which is shocking, disgusting and revolting. Moreover, no advertisement shall be permitted which derides any race, caste, colour, creed and nationality, is against any provision of the constitution of India and tends to incite the people to crime, cause disorder or violence or breach of law or glorifies violence or obscenity in any way.

It is also brought to the notice of all candidates/political parties seeking certification that their advertisements **should comply also with the Model code of Conduct.**

In fulfillment of guidelines issued by Election Commission of India, Media Certification and Monitoring Committee(MCMC) has been constituted at the level of Special Chief Electoral Officer(Spl.CEO) in the Office of Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi, Old St. Stephen's College Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006, for dealing with application of previewing and scrutinizing of advertisements of political nature by political parties/ groups/ organizations/ associations **having registered office in Delhi.**

Similar committees for dealing with the application from individual contesting candidates have also been constituted at each district called District Level Media Certification and Monitoring Committee under the District Election Officers of the Districts. An application for certification of any advertisement by recognized National/State Party/registered political party/group/organization/association **having Headquarters in NCT of Delhi** or individual contesting candidate in Delhi in the format prescribed shall be made to the respective Committee, not later than three(03) days and not later than seven (07) days in other cases, prior to the date of telecast of such advertisements. Applicants have to submit the two copies of the proposed advertisement in electronic form(CD) alongwith duly attested transcript thereof in English and Hindi.

**Advertisement to be telecast/broadcast only after the issue of certificate to the effect that the advertisement concerned is fit for telecast.**

The decision taken by the respective committee on the application for certification of an advertisement to direct deletion/modification of any part of the advertisement shall be binding and complied within 24 hours from receipt of such communication from the Committee. The advertisement so modified will be resubmitted for review and certification. Any appeal against the decision of the Committee at Spl. CEO or District election Officer (DEO) level will lie with the State Level MCMC headed by the Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi, having office at Old St. Stephen's College Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006.

All concerned may also refer to the Compendium of Instruction on media related matters, March, 2019 and other relevant guidelines available on Election Commission of India website: <https://eci.gov.in>

The prescribed application format for certification of any advertisement can either be downloaded from website: [www.ceodelhi.gov.in](http://www.ceodelhi.gov.in) or obtained from the O/o Special Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi or from the O/o District Election Officer concerned.

The broadcasting/telecasting agencies are required to broadcast/telecast only the advertisement material duly certified by the committees constituted for the purpose.

This is issued for the information, guidance and compliance of all concerned.

Sd/-

SATNAM SINGH

Special Chief Electrol Office

DIP/Shabdarth/1245/19-20

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, DELHI  
OLD ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE BUILDING,  
KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006

Helpline No.1800-111-400/1950: website: [www.ceodelhi.gov.in](http://www.ceodelhi.gov.in)

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Restriction on printing of pamphlets, posters by candidates/political parties/printing presses etc.**

It is hereby informed to all concerned that the printing and publication of election pamphlets, posters etc. is governed by the provisions of Section 127A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. According to the said provision, no person shall print or publish, or cause to be printed or published any election pamphlet or poster:

- Which does not bear on its face the names and addresses of the printer and the publisher thereof.
- Unless a declaration as to the identity of the publisher thereof, signed by him and attested by two persons to whom he is personally known, is delivered by him to the printer in duplicate.
- Unless, within a reasonable time i.e within three days of the printing of the document, one copy of the declaration is sent by the printer, together with one copy of the document to the Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi, or the District Magistrate as the case may be.

For this purpose, any process for multiplying copies of a document, other than copying it by hand, shall be deemed to be printing and the expression "printer" shall be construed accordingly. 'Election pamphlet or poster' means any printed pamphlet, hand bill or other document distributed for the purpose of promoting or prejudicing the election of a candidate or group of candidates or any placard or poster having reference to an election.

Any person who contravenes any of the above provisions shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six month or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees or with both.

Reference is also invited to Section 77(1) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, according to which expenditure involved in advertisements in connection with the election of any candidate has to be added to the account of election expenses of the candidate, required to be maintained under that Section. Further, Section 171H of IPC prohibits incurring of expenditure, interalia, advertisement, circular or publication, for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate, without authority from the candidate. As such, in any advertisement/election matter for or against any political party or candidate in print media, during the election period, the name and address of the publisher should be given alongwith the matter/advertisement.

This is being issued for the guidance of all concerned especially political parties/ candidates/ printing presses and to make the public aware of strict provisions of law relating to printing of posters, pamphlets etc. by the candidates and political parties.

Sd/-

SATNAM SINGH

SPL.CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

DIP/Shabdarth/1245/19-20

epaper.indianexpress.com



CAPITAL GOES TO POLLS ON FEB 8

AAP, BJP trade charges as Delhi poll dates announced

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

HOURS AFTER the schedule for the Delhi Assembly polls was announced on Monday, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal sought to compare work done by the municipal corporations, Delhi Police and Delhi Development Authority — all three are governed by BJP — with AAP's five-year tenure. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, meanwhile, said Delhi will reject those who "misled" them for five years. Delhi goes to polls on February 8 and results will be announced on February 11.

Addressing a press conference, Kejriwal said: "In a way, there are two models in Delhi - that of the BJP which runs MCDs, police and DDA and the other is that of AAP which works on education, health, water, power and other things... The people of Delhi don't want Delhi to go the way MCDs have."

BJP has been in power in the MCDs for over 12 years.

After polls dates were announced, Shah tweeted: "I'm



While CM compared the Delhi BJP model with AAP, Home Minister Amit Shah said Delhi govt misled people for five years

sure the people of Delhi will defeat those who misled them for five years and made empty promises. They will choose a government that will fulfil Delhi's ambitions under PM Narendra Modi's leadership."

While AAP's CM candidate is Kejriwal, the BJP has not declared a candidate yet. According to sources, it is not expected to either. On Sunday, Shah had said the Delhi BJP will contest polls under the leadership of PM Modi.

Kejriwal Monday said he failed to understand how this would happen: "I don't understand it. Will he (the PM) step down and

POLL PLAN	
Date of notification:	January 14
Last day of nomination:	January 21
Scrutiny of nominations:	January 22
Last date for withdrawal of candidature:	January 24
Date of polls:	February 8
Counting of votes:	February 11

contest polls from Delhi? I have been trying but have failed to understand how this will work."

Recently, AAP put up posters near the BJP's national headquarters on Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, with a tongue-in-cheek message, wishing the "seven BJP contenders for the post of CM" a happy new year. This included Union Ministers Harsh Vardhan and Hardeep Puri, Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari, Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel, MPs Gautam Gambhir and Parvesh Verma and Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta.

For AAP, the key areas for the

polls are power, water, health and education. Making a pitch for the work done in these areas, Kejriwal said: "I tell the people of Delhi, vote for AAP only if you think we have worked for you."

"One needs courage to say this after being in power for five years. We will take our message to people. We will go to their houses. We have worked for people irrespective of the party they support or belong to," he added.

Maintaining that he wants to focus on work and run a positive campaign, Kejriwal said that any criticism from the BJP will also be looked into when the party manifesto is prepared.

"I heard Amit Shah ji's speech yesterday and thought I will be open to criticism of our work, but he only abused me. We can't do that, we don't know how. We want to run a positive campaign based on work," he said.

Shah, who inaugurated work on a cycle track in the city Monday, said AAP had only duped people. "For the past 60 months, the AAP government only made promises; for the last three months, it spent money meant for development on ads and announcements.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah Monday criticised Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for not granting sanction to prosecute those who raised "anti-India slogans". Referring to the 2016 sedition case, in which former JNUSU president Kanhaiya Kumar is among the accused, he said: "Some students shouted anti-India slogans, said 'Bharat tere tukde honge'. Tell me, should they not be sent to jail? But Kejriwal is not granting sanction to prosecute them. Who do you want to save, Kejriwal ji?"

On Sunday too, Shah had accused the AAP convenor of "favouring the tukde tukde gang".

He was speaking at the launch of the Delhi Development Authority's ambitious 200-km cycle track project. Costing Rs 550 crore, the track will connect business districts, offices, schools, colleges, Metro stations, and forest areas. Shah said around 11 lakh people in the city commute on bicycles at present and that efforts should be made to increase this number to 50 lakh, which would make a major difference to Delhi's traffic and pollution levels.

According to a senior DDA official, over the years, the network

CYCLE CORRIDOR

WIDTH OF WALKWAY: 2.4m with 1 m green strip in between

UNDER PHASE 1

Three lines measuring 36 km have been earmarked under the first phase. These areas have abundant forests, dense residential areas and workplaces in close proximity

NILGAI LINE (20.5 KM): Badarpur to Malviya Nagar Metro station (20.5 km)

PEACOCK LINE (8.5 KM): Malviya Nagar Metro station to Vasant Kunj mall

BULBUL LINE (7 KM): Chirag Dilli to Nehru Place and ISKCON Temple

will exceed 200 km. Under phase one, 36 km of the track would be developed. It will connect residential areas in South Delhi such as Tughlaqabad, Greater Kailash, Saket and Nehru Place, and will pass through Jahanpanah forest and other green spaces, said the official.

There will be secure entrance points near residential areas and exit points near places of work and schools, said the official. These points of entry, called 'Origin Destination plazas', shall have facilities for washrooms, refreshments, cycle repair and parking.

Union Urban Development Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the corridor will loop around the

city like a ring and connect Metro stations, bus stands, high density residential areas, business districts and industrial, recreational and educational districts. "The CycleWalk will also connect all master plan greens and make Delhi a city of connected forests and lakes... to promote a healthy lifestyle and provide last-mile connectivity. This will become a safer and greener alternative..." Puri tweeted.

A senior official said, "Roads and unplanned development have broken large forests into small ones. It's still possible to connect all forests, so a robust forest ecosystem functions within the city."

BRIEFLY

Man held with pistol at JMI Metro station

New Delhi: A 34-year-old man was arrested after he was allegedly caught with a pistol at Jamia Millia Islamia Metro station Monday. Police said they recovered a pistol and five rounds of bullets from the man at the security checking point at 10:20 am. Police said the man, Ameer Hamza Khan, hails from Meerut. A CISF officer said: "The man said he lives in Jamia Nagar and is a math teacher at an institute in Gurgaon. He claimed he was unaware of the pistol in his bag."

Two held for 'betting'

New Delhi: Two men have been arrested for their alleged involvement in betting in an Australian cricket league's match in Shahdara Sunday. The accused were identified as Gautam Sharma (34) and Rahul Sharma (28), residents of Geeta Colony. Three laptops and Rs 5,200 have been recovered from their possession, said police. **ENS**

HC upholds man's jail term for sexually assaulting niece

PRITAMPAL SINGH  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

A MINOR girl's sketch of a house, a girl carrying balloons and a dress lying beside her, had convinced a Delhi court to convict the man who allegedly sexually assaulted her. The accused, who is the victim's uncle, was awarded five years' rigorous imprisonment in 2017.

Dismissing the appeal filed by the accused against the verdict on Monday, the Delhi High Court said it did not concur with the trial court's conviction based on the victim's sketches.

Justice Vibhu Bakhru was of the opinion that the "testimony of the child is quite clear and there is no doubt that the appellant had sexually assaulted the child".

"The contention that the child had implicated the appellant because he used to scold her is unpersuasive. The child has clearly described the sexual assault committed on her; this court is unable to accept that the child of such

tender years could have conceived of a devious plan for making such vile allegations to implicate a close relative only because he would scold her and compel her to do her school work," it added. Justice Bakhru observed that there is "much merit in the appellant's contention that the inference drawn by the trial court on the basis of the sketch drawn by the child is unwarranted".

"This did not, in any manner, indicate that the child had an intermingled relation, or any inference of commission of a sexual assault could be drawn by the said sketch..." said the court.

During the proceedings before the trial court, the girl was given paper and crayons. She began sketching an abandoned house, a girl holding balloons and a dress lying beside her.

The trial court judge had regarded the sketches as the victim's impression of her ordeal: "If the elements of this drawing are considered... commission of sexual assault upon her... becomes evident."

Five more arrested for violence at Seemapuri

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

FIVE PERSONS, including two Bangladeshi nationals, were arrested for allegedly inciting violence at a protest against the new citizenship law in North East Delhi's Seemapuri on December 20. A Delhi court Monday remanded the five accused in judicial custody.

Rajesh Deo, DCP (Crime Branch), said, "We have arrested five more men in the case and are investigating the matter."

Police said they are recover-

ing supporting documents to prove the nationality of the two accused. They added that two other juveniles were identified and nabbed on Sunday in connection with the violence in Seemapuri. The case is being investigated by an SIT of the crime branch, which had earlier arrested 14 men for violence there.

A senior police officer said, "It was an unlawful assembly. It was marching towards Apsara Border, and when we tried to stop them, they pelted stones at cluster buses and a PCR van. Some of our police officers also sustained injuries."

Two dengue deaths in 2019: SDMC report

New Delhi: A total of two people suffering from dengue have died in Delhi in December, a report released by South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) Monday claimed. The total number of people affected by the vector-borne disease in 2019 stood at 2,036.

The report claimed that while two deaths took place in 2019, four deaths were reported in 2018.

The Delhi government last year had launched '10-hafte, 10-baje, 10-minute' campaign, which concluded on November 10. **ENS**

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**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**  
**Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities**  
**5th floor, Antyodaya Bhawan**  
**CGO Complex, New Delhi**  
**Appointment of Director, National Institute of Locomotor Disabilities, Kolkata**

Applications were invited for the post of Director, National Institute of Locomotor Disabilities (NILD), Kolkata vide this Department's advertisement published in Employment News/Rozgar Samachar dated 17.08.2019. Date of receipt of applications for the said post is extended upto 31.01.2020 (Friday). The eligibility criteria, application format, etc are available on this Department's website <http://www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in/> and NILD, Kolkata's website <http://niohnl.nic.in/>. Applicants who have already applied need not apply again.

(Navind Kumar)  
Under Secretary (Nis)

davp 38117/11/0052/1920

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- Online registration of application and payment of fee: from 03.01.2020 to 26.01.2020
- Date of online Preliminary Test (Tentative): Various dates in February 2020 / March 2020
- Date of online Main Exam (Tentative): 19.04.2020

Place: Mumbai  
Date: 03.01.2020

General Manager  
CRPD

**SHAAHEED HASAN KHAN MEWATI GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE NALHAR, NUH-122107 (HARYANA) PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is for the information of all concerned/ applicants those who applied for the post of Group C & D against Advertisement No. 01/2017 & 04/2017 with closing date of 01.03.2017 & 20.06.2017 respectively, which were withdrawn vide public notice appeared in Newspapers on 29.03.2018. The candidates may apply for refund of application fee along with the proof of fee paid towards the application, name of the post, Bank accounts details i.e. name of the Bank, self account number, Bank IFSC Code through post to the office of Director, SHKM GMC, Nalhar, Nuh within one month of the issuance of this notice. After that no claim of refund of application fee will be entertained.

Sd/- Director,  
SHKM Govt. Medical College,  
Nalhar (Nuh).

79791/HRY.

**OBITUARY**

Corps of Signals salutes its following Signallers who left us for their heavenly abode during the month of Dec 2019.

- (a) 15672837A Hav Omkar Singh Pal
- (b) 15701168X Nk Md Shahealam Khan
- (c) 15738312Y Sigm Gawandi Vaibhav Balaji
- (d) 15740771W Sigm Shemthiluan Shemthanglian
- (e) 15741880P Sigm Ponsankar S

On behalf of the Corps, we sincerely pray to Almighty for peace to departed souls & strength to the bereaved families to bear this irreparable loss.

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**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that share certificate Nos. as per detail given below has been reported lost or misplaced.

Folio no.	Name of shareholder	Share Certificate no.	Distinctive nos.	No. of shares
70038	Nansah V Gosalia Nira N Gosalia	2389	5891521-570	50
		14151	6479621-670	50
		23889	5998521-570	50
		45961	8070121-170	50
		48496-97	8196871-970	100
		56519	8613096-3055	50
77127	Vinod R Doda	85133	9078706-755	50
		26647	7104421-470	50
		31785	7361321-370	50
		35161-62	7530121-220	100
		35942	7598171-220	50
		36500	7573071-120	50
31849	Kalpana Kagrana Harsh Kagrana	36504	7697271-320	50
		46268	8085471-620	50
		51640	8354056-105	50
		55894	8568756-805	50
		79231-32	9733601-700	100
		52878-79	8415986-8055	100
10488	Sarnat Dev Jajoo	17111	6627621-670	50

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

For SML ISUZU LIMITED  
(PARVESH MADAN)  
Company Secretary

Place: Chandigarh  
Date: 06.01.2020

**विश्व पुस्तक मेला**  
04-12 जनवरी 2020

**NEW DELHI WORLD BOOK FAIR**  
04-12 JANUARY 2020

**कार्यक्रम • PROGRAMME • TUESDAY, 7 JANUARY 2020**

थीम मंडप (हॉल नं. 7ई)		
समय	विषय	संस्था
11.30 से 1.00 बजे	कवीज प्रतियोगिता	कानून एवं न्याय मंत्रालय भारत सरकार
2.30 से 4.00 बजे	पंजाबी विरासत : पारंपरिक संगीत पर आधारित कार्यक्रम	न्यास द्वारा प्रस्तुत
4.30 से 6.00 बजे	गान्धीजी पर प्रस्तुत एक साहित्यिक कार्यक्रम	साहित्य अकादेमी द्वारा प्रस्तुत

**Author's Corner (Reflections & Conversations)**  
Hall No. 8

Timings	Event	Presented by
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm	Arun Anand : Book Discussion The Saffron Surge	Prabhat Prakashan

**New Delhi Rights Table**  
Conference Hall, First Floor, Hall No. 7

Timings	Event	Presented by
11.00 am to 6.00 pm	A forum for publishers, Rights agents, authors, translators and editors from India and abroad to network and explore business opportunities together.	National Book Trust, India

**Seminars and Discussions**  
Auditorium Hall No. 8 (First Floor)

Timings	Event	Presented by
2.00 pm to 3.30 pm	Book Release Function	Kitabhghar Prakashan
4.00 pm to 5.30 pm	Symposium and Discussion on Gandhian Philosophy as reflected in Odia Literature	Odisha Sahitya Academy

♦ Tickets available at :- Gate 1 & 10 - bookmyshow.com  
- Itporline.com - Select metro stations

लेखक मंच (हॉल नं. 12)		
समय	विषय	संस्था
11.00 से 12.15 बजे	नई पुस्तकों पर परिचर्चा : अनुल कुमार	गांगी प्रकाशन
12.30 से 1.45 बजे	नई पुस्तकों पर परिचर्चा : महेश कुमार भारद्वाज	सामयिक प्रकाशन
2.00 से 3.15 बजे	नई पुस्तकों पर परिचर्चा : पौष्प कुमार	प्रभात प्रकाशन
3.30 से 4.45 बजे	चर्चा/संगोष्ठी : रचना यादव	हंस
5.00 से 6.15 बजे	भाषाओं पर परिचर्चा : शहरपारा	धीमरा फाउंडेशन, अमेरिका
6.30 से 7.45 बजे	चर्चा गोष्ठी : निदेशक	वेस्ट बंगाल उर्दू अकादेमी, कोलकाता

**Children's Pavilion**  
Hangar near Hall No. 7

Timings	Event	Presented by
11.00 am to 1.00 pm	1. Interactive session with children's Writers. 2. Slogan writing/ Poster making	Sahitya Akademi Kids Motivational Group
	3. Good manners and Happiness in life (A Skit)	Meeraj Kids World and Meeraj International School
2.30 pm to 4.30 pm	Professional talk/ Panel Discussion on Junk Food and Eating	Akriti Publishers

**Schedule of Cultural Events**  
Hangar Opp. Hall No. 7H

Timings	Events	Presented by
5.00 pm	Musical Presentation Presentation of songs	National Bal Bhavan Swar Samarpan

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# 6 GOVT & POLITICS



## IN THE LOOP

THE ELECTION Commission's press conferences for announcement of state elections are usually presided over by all three commissioners. However, for the last two press conferences, only two have been present. The one on Jharkhand Assembly polls last year was presided over by Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora and Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra. The one on Delhi elections on Monday was attended by Arora and Election Commissioner Ashok Lavasa. Chandra, who is on leave, was not present. Arora clarified that all discussions on the schedule and dates had happened earlier and Chandra was part of those discussions.

## SET FOR MEET

AS THE meetings of the Union Council of Ministers have been decided, some of the participants are preparing themselves for long sessions. Their concerns come from the fact that the last meeting of the Council saw intense discussions for more than eight hours, with only 40 minutes for a lunch break and 10 minutes for a tea break. This was very unusual for some of the ministers, who often take a break from their busy schedule in the afternoon by resting in the ante-room of their office.

## REACHING OUT

THE MASS contact programme launched by the BJP to dispel "myths" about the new citizenship law has got a huge response on its toll-free number 8866288662. The BJP on Tuesday said the toll free number, where people can give a missed call to register their support for CAA, has received more than 52 lakh calls from unique numbers already. In all there have been 67 lakh calls, but some are repeat calls. The BJP also hopes to reach over 3 crore people in the next month or so through its door-to-door campaign. The party brass is said to be unhappy about the way the number had been displayed on some social media accounts as that of Netflix or soliciting amorous adventures.

# IT Ministry to brief House panel on data Bill during Jan 14 meet

**KARISHMA MEHROTRA**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

THE IT Ministry will brief the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Personal Data Protection Bill during its first meeting, to be held on January 14.

In December, both Houses of Parliament had voted to bypass the Information Technology Standing Parliamentary Committee, chaired by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, and send the Personal Data Protection Bill to a Joint Select Committee (JSC) chaired by BJP's Meenakshi Lekhi instead.

The Bill will be a first of its kind in the country, mandating certain types of data to be stored only in the country and giving some rights to users to control how their data is used.

It was learnt that committee members were looking to focus on decreasing the exceptions given to the state in the Bill. In other words, they hope to add more elements of state surveillance reform.

The Lok Sabha members of the JSC are: chairperson Meenakshi Lekhi, PP Chaudhary, SS Ahluwalia, Tejasvi Surya, Ajay Bhatt, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Sanjay Jaiswal, Kiritbhai Solanki, Arvind Dharmapuri, Heena Gavit, Uday Pratap Singh, Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Gaurav Gogoi, SJothi Mani, Saugata Roy, Kanimozhi, P V Midhun Reddy, Shrikant Eknath Shinde, Bhartruhari Mahtab and Ritesh Pandey.

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

CALLING SUNDAY evening's attack on JNU students a planned incident, Opposition leaders on Monday accused the BJP-led government of abetting the violence and slammed the Delhi Police for the manner in which it handled — or in the Opposition's view mishandled — the situation.

While Congress president Sonia Gandhi and BSP chief Mayawati called for a judicial probe — echoing similar demand from Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday — the Left parties said accountability must be fixed for the "assault on JNU", and the culprits punished.

In Mumbai, Maharashtra Chief Minister and Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray compared the JNU violence with the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack and said students are feeling unsafe in the country.

Sonia said, "The voice of India's youth and students is being muzzled every day. The horrifying and unprecedented violence unleashed on India's young by goons with active abetment of the ruling Modi government is deplorable and unacceptable.... Yesterday's bone-chilling attack on students and teachers in JNU is a grim reminder of the extent the government will go to stifle and subjugate every voice of dissent."

Sonia appointed a four-member Congress fact-finding team headed by senior leader Sushmita Dev to visit the campus and prepare a report.

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad said, "The attack on JNU students and teachers exposes the decisive agenda and anti-democratic approach of the government."

Addressing the media, senior Congress leader P Chidambaram said the JNU incident is "perhaps the most clinching evidence that

we are rapidly descending into anarchy." He said, "It has taken place in the national capital in India's foremost university under the watch of the Central government, the Home Minister, the Lieutenant Governor and the Commissioner of Police. This is the gravest act of impunity in recent times.... Did Delhi Police not have any intelligence on this planned assault? If they did not, their intelligence gathering was pathetic. If they did, it was an atrocious failure of responsibility. In either event, the Commissioner of Police must be held accountable."

In Kolkata, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said, "I was also involved in student politics at one point but I have never seen this sort of an attack on students and educational institutions... It was a planned attack, a fascist surgical strike on the student community."

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said, "Those

who attempted the Nazi-style onslaught on students and teachers of JNU were trying to create unrest and violence in the country.... The attackers assumed the character of a terrorist group and reached the campus with deadly weapons..."

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said it was wrong to portray the incident as rivalry between students and called it an assault on reason, rationality and on democracy. Calling it an organised, planned attack, he said, "For nearly five hours....the V-C not responding and asking police to come in and restore normalcy makes him also complicit in this attack. The V-C must be sacked immediately," he said.

CPI general secretary D Raja said Home Minister Amit Shah must explain to the nation what happened in the country's premier university.

Calling it a planned attack, Samajwadi Party president

Akhilesh Yadav hinted at the ABVP's involvement in the attack, as the RSS's students' wing has so far been unsuccessful in JNU Students' Union elections, and allegedly "wants to hijack the student union and the university". He also questioned the role of the police and said it appears the police kept waiting outside the gate for information to go inside and take action. He wondered whether this was the same police force that went into the campus of Jamia Millia Islamia in the same national capital.

BSP chief Mayawati tweeted to condemn the attack, calling it "shameful" and urging the government to take the incident seriously. She also said a judicial inquiry into the matter would be helpful.

Odisha Chief Minister and Biju Janata Dal chief Naveen Patnaik condemned the attack and expressed shock. "Violence has no space in democracy and

such attacks on students must be condemned unequivocally. Appeal law enforcement agencies to take stiff action to apprehend the culprits and wish the injured students speedy recovery," he tweeted.

AIMIM chief and Lok Sabha MP from Hyderabad Asaduddin Owaisi claimed that the perpetrators had support from the ruling party. "I condemn this violent behaviour perpetrated by those cowards who definitely have support from the ruling party... there is no doubt that these people had been given a green signal by the powers (that) be... They might have covered their faces but their ideology has exposed them... We appeal to BJP. You are certainly in power. But how long you will save these people? All these Frankensteins are yours. Police in Delhi report to you. You have not learnt any lesson from Jamia Millia," Owaisi said.

WITH PTI INPUTS

# Kolkata to Kochi, campuses stand with JNU

*The Indian Express* takes a look at protests organised in different cities in solidarity, condemning the violence



Led by students, demonstrations in different cities saw the participation of young professionals and civil society members. At many places, the protesters did not let politicians take the centre-stage.

### WEST BENGAL

SFI MEMBERS, students, members of civil society and political parties took out multiple rallies across Kolkata on Monday. SFI members took out 14 rallies from as many places in the city and demanded strong action against those responsible for the attack. Rallies were also taken out from Jadavpur University, Presidency University and Calcutta University by students, who shouted slogans against ABVP members who they alleged were behind the attack in JNU.

The biggest rally by SFI was taken out from College Street to Jorasanko in north Kolkata. Students of Presidency University took out a rally from its College Street campus to the state BJP headquarters in central Kolkata. The police put up barricades midway and stopped the students.

The BJP took out a rally in the evening towards Jadavpur University campus to protest against an alleged attack on its party office in Jadavpur by Left union students. AIDS0, CPI(M), TMC and Youth Congress members also held rallies in the city.

### PUNJAB

Students from across the political spectrum in Panjab University held demonstrations at the student centre on Monday afternoon. Before the Left and Centre-aligned student groups began their protests, a group of ABVP members held a small protest condemning alleged "Leftist violence in JNU". The ABVP demonstration was interrupted as a larger wave of protesters from Left-affiliated outfits and others entered the premises.

In Ludhiana, a protest was organised at the Bus Stand.

### UTTAR PRADESH

Students of Mass Communication department of



Aligarh Muslim University held a Tiranga Yatra to protest against the JNU attack. During the march, organised by students and supported by AMU coordination committee, a memorandum for the President of India was submitted to the SSP.

In Banaras Hindu University (BHU), a protest was organised by students and OBC/ST/ST Teachers and Employee Association to show solidarity with JNU. A protest march was organised by students of Samajwadi Chhatra Sabha, NSUI, AISA and others at Allahabad University. ABVP students also held a march, accusing Left students for the attack.

### KERALA

Protests began in the state within hours of Sunday's attack and continued into Monday, condemning the attack and inaction of Delhi Police. SFI took out demonstrations in all districts except Kozhikode. In Kozhikode, demonstrations were led by activists belonging to DYFI, CPI(M)'s youth wing. In Kochi, a 2-km protest march comprising students and general people was taken out.

### RAJASTHAN

Members of NSUI and ABVP clashed outside Rajasthan University in Jaipur, accusing each other for the JNU violence. NSUI members took out a protest march

and burned an effigy of PM Narendra Modi outside Rajasthan University. ABVP members also reached the spot and sloganeering by both sides soon led to clashes, leading to police intervention.

### TELANGANA

Students of University of Hyderabad and Osmania University held protests late Sunday night on Monday. While many students living in hostels came out after midnight and raised slogans against the violence, in the morning several students' organisations held protests and demanded action against the perpetrators. Students also held a protest at

### MAHARASHTRA

Within hours of violence in JNU on Sunday night, a protest was organised at Gateway of India at midnight Sunday. What began as a trickle at midnight grew every hour and, by Monday evening, led to at least a 1,000 people gathering in solidarity with JNU. The demonstrations at the Gateway of India, Hutatma Chowk and, later, at Carter Road in suburban Bandra on Monday had students, professionals, teachers, film and theatre personalities and others. Protesters at Gateway said they were in for a "Shaheen Bagh-type" agitation that will continue indefinitely, referring to the continuous protest in the Delhi locality against CAA, NRC and NPR. The protesters, who did not allow politicians to make speeches at the venue, have dubbed it "Occupy Gateway of India".

The protesters sat under the sun the entire day. A request by state minister Jitendra Awhad, who joined

the Ambedkar statue on Tank Bund.

### GUJARAT

A protest was held outside IIM-Ahmedabad on Monday evening involving a large number of participants from civil society members, students and faculty members of various institutes. Independent MLA from Vadgam, Jignesh Mevani, also joined the protest. The police detained three members of ABVP outside IIM-Ahmedabad campus for allegedly creating ruckus.

### ASSAM

Hundreds of people, mostly students of different institutions of

the protest, to shift it under shade was politely refused.

IIT-Bombay faculty on Monday released a statement condemning the attacks, and by late Monday evening it was endorsed by 141 faculty members. The faculty members decided to host an open discussion from 6 pm to 7 pm every day for the next 10 days to discuss a range of issues concerning students.

TISS Teachers' Association also wrote a letter to the faculty, students and staff at JNU.

In Pune, students of the Film and Television Institute of India said they would take out a march to SPPU on Tuesday to protest the JNU attack. In Aurangabad, central Maharashtra, students linked arms and formed a human chain in Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University to protest against the JNU violence. The protesters shouted slogans against BJP, ABVP and other Sangh Parivar outfits.

Guwahati and some JNU alumni, participated in a protest at the city's Nehru Park. They condemned the attack and blamed ABVP for it. A similar demonstration was held in Jorhat town of Upper Assam. At IIT-Guwahati, a group of students staged protest. AASU also criticised the attack.

### HARYANA

The Haryana Federation of University and College Teachers Organisation (HFUCTO) condemned the attack on JNU and stated that university and college teachers in the state will wear black badges on Tuesday as part of the protest.

ENS BUREAUS

# Railways plans hydrogen-powered engine for passenger trains by end of 2021

**JOHNSONTA**  
BENGALURU, JANUARY 6

AS PART of efforts to find alternative sources of fuel to power its trains, and to reduce reliance on fossil fuel-based energy sources like diesel and electricity, Indian Railways has set in motion efforts to build a hydrogen-powered rail engine that can propel a passenger train on a suburban route by the end of 2021.

The Railways' efforts to develop a hydrogen-powered engine found mention at the 107th Indian Science Congress in Bengaluru this week, with former space scientist D Narayana Rao stating that a group from SRM University is working with Railways to develop the engine.

In November 2019, the Indian Railways Organisation for Alternate Fuels (IROAF) issued a

call for interest in development of a hydrogen-powered rail engine — a technology that has been demonstrated successfully only in Germany so far.

"SRM University and IROAF have come up with the technical specifications to design a hydrogen-powered fuel cell-based train. So far only Germany has demonstrated and no other country in the world has done this," Prof Rao, who is the pro-

vice chancellor of SRM University, Amaravati, said on the sidelines of the Science Congress.

"The proposed train will have four passenger coaches operating at 75 km/hr speed. One coach will carry the hydrogen gas cylinders, fuel cells, super capacitors and DC converters. Hydrogen will be the input to the fuel cell and the power output of the fuel cell will drive the train," he said. "Fuel cell-based rail propul-

sion technologies powered by PEM (proton exchange membrane) using hydrogen fuel-cells and a standard battery system are being tried out globally for railroad applications. Elimination of fossil fuel and very low emissions are inherent advantages of such a rolling stock," the IROAF has stated in its proposal for developing hydrogen-powered trains.

"On January 10 we will pres-

ent our technical specifications to Indian Railways. Perhaps by end of 2021, we are hoping to have a functional train," Rao said. A group of faculty at the university with expertise in hydrogen-powered fuel cell technology had initially proposed the hydrogen-powered engine to the Integral Coach Factory, but the project was subsequently taken up by the Indian Railways itself, he said. "The hydrogen-powered

train will be operated in suburban areas to start with," Rao said. It is expected to later evolve into a train powered by engines that produce hydrogen on board using water splitting technologies, which are being experimented with around the world with the use of nano materials.

"The next phase is to generate hydrogen on board the train from water. This means that we want to convert water into hy-

drogen and use that hydrogen as the input for fuel cells. Here the role of nano catalysts will come into play to split water into hydrogen," the professor said.

Until water splitting technologies are firmly established and are capable of producing pure hydrogen, the source of supply of the gas would have to be hydrogen that is available as a byproduct of some industries, he said.



SABARIMALA REVIEW PLEAS

# Nine-judge bench to hear related matters from Jan 13

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

A NINE-JUDGE Constitution bench of the Supreme Court will start hearing matters arising out of the Sabarimala review petitions from January 13.

The top court had, in a 3:2 verdict on November 14, said its September 28, 2018 decision lifting age restrictions on entry of women to the Sabarimala hill shrine may impinge on the affairs of other religions too and required a more detailed examination.

Accordingly, the court decided to keep the review petitions pending till a “larger bench of not less than seven judges” took a call.

The then Chief Justice of India, Ranjan Gogoi, who wrote the majority judgment, said that “debate about the constitutional validity of practices entailing into restriction of entry of women generally in the place of worship is not limited to” the Sabarimala case, “but also arises in respect of entry of Muslim women in a Durgah/Mosque as also in relation to Parsi women married to a non-Parsi into the holy fire place of an Agyari”. The court said, therefore, “it is time that this Court should evolve a judicial policy befitting to its plenary powers to do substantial and complete justice and for an authoritative enunciation of the constitutional principles by a larger bench of not less than seven judges”.

The verdict pointed out that the question regarding “powers of the constitutional courts to tread on the question as to whether a particular practice is essential to religion or is an integral of the religion” was also pending before it in connection



Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren arrives for the Assembly session, in Ranchi on Monday. PTI

## Soren orders 22 fast-track courts for POCSO, rape cases

ABHISHEK ANGAD  
RANCHI, JANUARY 6

JHARKHAND CHIEF Minister Hemant Soren on Monday ordered the setting up of 22 special fast-track courts to deal with Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) and rape cases in the state.

At a cabinet meeting, Soren also directed that necessary posts be created for judicial officers in these special courts in every district. He also ordered the creation of additional 154 posts for the functioning of these 22 courts.

Earlier, on the first day of a three-day session of the Legislative Assembly, Soren took oath as the representative of Barhait constituency, one of the two seats that the Jharkhand

with petitions against female genital mutilation in Dawoodi Bohra community and that this question needed to be settled too.

The court was of the view that all these issues may be overlapping and covered by the 2018 Sabarimala verdict.

These issues, the court said, would include defining constitutional morality, whether it's overarching morality in reference to preamble or limited to religious beliefs or faith. “There is need to delineate the contours of that expression, lest it becomes subjective,” the CJ wrote.

The verdict also suggested some other issues for likely consideration by the larger bench — the interplay between freedom of religion under Articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution and other provisions in Part III, particularly Article 14; sweep of expression ‘public order, morality and health’ occurring in Article 25(1) of the Constitution; extent to which court can enquire into whether a particular practice is an integral part of the religion or religious practice of a particular religious denomination or should that be left exclusively to be determined by the head of the section of the religious group; the meaning of the expression ‘sections of Hindus’ in Article 25(2)(b) of the Constitution; whether “essential religious practices” of a religious denomination, or even a section thereof are afforded constitutional protection under Article 26 and the permissible extent of judicial recognition to PILs in matters calling into question religious practices of a denomination or a section thereof at the instance of persons who do not belong to such religious denomination.

# Citizenship, Art 370, Ram temple problems of legacy: Jaishankar

KRISHN KAUSHIK  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

CALLING THE issues of citizenship regarding the new law, abrogation of Article 370 and the building of a Ram Temple as legacy issues, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Monday that what the government has to deal with right now are the problems which were not addressed earlier.

“Today, we have accumulated a legacy of problems, and if you see today what is happening in this country, these problems have caught up with us...,” the minister said at the release of the book ‘Pax Sinica: Implications for the Indian Dawn’, by Akhil Deo and Samir Saran of the Observer Research Foundation.

On the citizenship issue, he said, “Just look at the citizenship issue, the citizenship issue started 40-50 years ago, Rajiv Gandhi did an agreement in Assam in 1980s.”

Mentioning Article 370, he said, “It was a temporary Article, if you look through the



Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar at a book launch in New Delhi on Monday. Prem Nath Pandey

Constituent Assembly, the general sentiment...went on for 70 years.” He said, “Look at Ayodhya. Show me where in the world you will have an unresolved problem for 150 years.”

Also referring to GST, he said, “Take something like GST. Today, it is blindingly obvious that we need a single tax system and yet people kept kicking it down the road.”

Citing the example of China, he said the society needs a mindset to solve problems to

rise as a global power.

“China prepared in a way to become the power they seem to be heading towards,” he said. “You don’t get to be a big-league power by evolution and accident, it takes leadership, it takes preparation.”

He said India too needs to develop its narratives, which should include putting out “the core interests very clearly”.

He said in India’s case, “territorial integrity is a core interest” which cannot be traded for eco-

# Ministers of 25 countries expected to attend Defence Expo in Lucknow

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 6

THE UTTAR Pradesh government along with the Central government is leaving no stone unturned in a bid to make the 11th edition of the Defence Expo-2020 the biggest such event.

Defence ministers of 25 countries have so far agreed to attend the expo, which will be held on 200 acres of land in Lucknow from February 5 to 9.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh along with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had on Sunday reviewed the preparations for the event.

While the main theme of the defence corridor is “India, The Emerging Defense Hub”, the focus will also be on “Digital Transformation of Defence”. Several countries are expected to showcase their state-of-the-art technologies.

Singh was informed that about 925 exhibitors have already booked spots; 150 of them are foreign exhibitors. A government spokesperson said that of the 925, as many as 755 are Indian companies. Of the total Indian companies, 223 belong to Micro, Small and Medium Industries (MSME). The Indian companies will be given a 50 per cent concession for purchase of land.

The state government is also preparing a “tent city”, which is



Yogi Adityanath with Rajnath Singh, Sunday. PTI

being developed at Vrindawan Development Scheme on the outskirts of Lucknow. The “tent city” is likely to have 1,000 super deluxe and deluxe tents for guests. The government is also preparing for different events on the banks of Gomti River.

The state is expecting that countries such as America, Russia, France, South Korea, Israel, Sweden and Britain will showcase their latest technologies in the defence sector during the event.

In 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had inaugurated Uttar Pradesh Investors’ Summit, where he had announced construction of a defence corridor in the state. The expo will have several pavilions, while the one for the state will focus on the Uttar

Pradesh defence corridor project among other things.

The Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor will pass through Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra, Aligarh, Jhansi and Chitrakoot. As per the latest progress report, work is going on to acquire about 3,000 hectares for the project, which will be developed along the Bundelkhand Expressway connecting Chitrakoot in Bundelkhand to Agra in western Uttar Pradesh.

On Sunday, Joint Secretary (Defence) Chandrakar Bharti had said the last Defence Expo in Chennai covered 80 acres, while this time the site is spread over 200 acres. “While there were 40 MOUs signed in Chennai, more than 65 are expected here...” said Bharti.

## Course on ‘Garbha Vigyan Sanskar’ on anvil

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 6

IF EVERYTHING goes according to plan, Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University (RMLAU) in Ayodhya will soon teach expecting mothers and students on how to make a foetus mentally stronger. How?

RMLAU is likely to start a three-six month certificate course on ‘Garbha Vigyan

Sanskar’ (the science of educating foetus) — said to be the first-of-its-kind course in the state.

The Executive Council of the university will take a call on the matter on January 10.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Vice-Chancellor Manoj Dixit said while some universities in Gujarat already offer a degree course on the subject, RMLAU, which got the inspiration from Governor Anandiben Patel during her visit at the convoca-

tion last year, will first start a certificate course.

“There are 16 different *sanskars* (moral values) in the Hindu culture, but Garbha Sanskar has scientific significance as well,” said Dixit.

He said the course, to be undertaken by the Yoga Therapy Department, will be a mix of traditional and modern sciences.

“Even medical science has proved that environment of the expecting mother plays a signif-

icant role in the development of the foetus. Thus, we plan to mix the ancient and modern sciences together with the help of this course,” said Dixit.

Not just students, even expecting mothers and their family members can undertake the course as it would sensitise them on how to take care of the child, said the V-C.

Earlier, BHU started a course in ‘Bhoot Vidya’ for psychosomatic disorders.

The Congress has also initiated the move to have Vidhan Parishad in the state. The Congress had promised the second house in all its Assembly manifestos but now that it has wrested power after a decade and a half it's pursuing the idea seriously because the bicameral system will allow it to nominate more persons.

The Kamal Nath government also moved a Bill to amend the Madhya Pradesh District Planning Committee Act, 1965, to increase the committee membership to 20 from the existing 10 or 15. The government will be able to appoint two “prominent persons” from the district. Justifying the amendment, Finance Minister Tarun Bhanot said the government wants to bring expertise to the committee and decentralise power at the district level.

# India summons Pak chargé d'affaires to lodge ‘strong protest’

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

THE WAR of words between India and Pakistan over the treatment of minorities in the two countries continued on Monday, with India summoning a senior diplomat over the “targeted killing” of a member of the Sikh community and the attack on the Nankana Sahib Gurudwara and Pakistan issuing a statement that accused India of not protecting minorities from “saffron terror”.

India on Monday summoned Pakistan’s Chargé d’affaires Syed Haider Shah “to lodge strong protest at the recent acts of vandalism and desecration of the holy Gurudwara Sri Janam Asthan at Nankana Sahib, Pakistan, and the targeted killing of a minority Sikh community member in Peshawar, Pakistan”.

The MEA said India shared with Shah “strong concerns raised by members of civil society, parliamentarians and others at the continued persecution of religious and ethnic minorities in Pakistan, including the recent despicable and heinous acts”. It said

Pakistan’s government was “called upon to ensure safety, security, and welfare of the members of the minority communities in Pakistan, including their places of worship, and take immediate measures to expeditiously bring the perpetrators of such despicable and heinous acts to justice”.

This is the third such statement issued by India within a week. Pakistan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement on Monday to reject the “Indian propaganda”. The statement said the “BJP government’s mischievous portrayal of isolated incidents in Peshawar and Nankana Sahib as alleged ‘persecution’ of minorities is part of its smear campaign” and that it is a “desperate attempt to divert attention from ongoing state terrorism” in Jammu and Kashmir and “systematic discrimination against minorities in India”.

It said it “completely rejects these fabrications, which will in no way shield the BJP government from opprobrium by the international community on ‘the adverse fallout of the discriminatory Citizenship Amendment Act and National Register of Citizens’”.

# As AIMIM grows, Tejashwi plans Seemanchal tour

SANTOSH SINGH  
PATNA, JANUARY 6

APPARENTLY ALARMED at the growing influence of Asaduddin Owaisi and his party, the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), in Muslim-dominated Seemanchal region, comprising Kishanganj, Araria, Purnea and Katihar districts of Bihar, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav has announced a tour of Kosi and Seemanchal region after January 14.

The RJD’s apparent sense of restlessness comes from the opposition alliance losing the recent Assembly bypolls to AIMIM in Kishanganj. The AIMIM had also put up an impressive show by getting more than 2.9 lakh votes from Kishanganj Lok Sabha seat despite finishing third after the Congress and the Janata Dal (United).

Playing down Owaisi’s emergence in the Bihar political stage, RJD spokesperson Mrityunjay Tewari said, “We do not take AIMIM as a threat. Since it is election year, we are beginning our focussed trip — Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Prasad Yadav will tour Kosi and Seemanchal areas.” Asked about the AIMIM’s growing influence in Seemanchal, Tewari said the party had won just one seat in the by-election.

“It is the RJD-led Grand Alliance which will be the main force (in the state elections, scheduled later this year). Our opponent is the NDA, not a particular party,” he maintained.

AIMIM’s Bihar unit youth president Adil Hasan Azad, however, said: “Our growth chart is for everyone to see since the 2015 state Assembly polls. The difference of votes between the Congress (winner) and our candidate in last Lok Sabha polls (in Kishanganj) was just about 35,000. We will further expand our base in the coming elections by contesting outside

## EXPLAINED

### Amid CAA protests, RJD sees opportunity

THE RJD, which is in alliance with the Congress, among other opposition parties, in Bihar, has traditionally banked on votes of the Muslim-Yadav communities, which comprise around 30 per cent of the state’s population. With former partner JD(U) returning to the NDA in 2017, and amid the ongoing protests against the new citizenship law and NRC, the party sees this as an opportunity to further consolidate its votes among the minority community. And therein comes the hurdle in the form of AIMIM, which will also vie for largely the same vote-bank, along with a section of Dalits.

Seemanchal.” Unlike “other parties”, Azad said, the AIMIM is not playing up religious issues but talking about health, education issues and a package for Seemanchal.

While the Congress has had a dominant presence in Kishanganj, the RJD is eyeing Araria, Purnea and Katihar. The party has been trying to strengthen its presence in the area after the death of Mohammed Taslimuddin, former Lok Sabha MP and the party’s face in Seemanchal area.

# MP launches ‘help desk’ for prosecution witnesses

MILIND GHATWAI  
BHOPAL, JANUARY 6

THE MADHYA Pradesh Directorate of Public Prosecution on Sunday launched an in-house ‘witness help desk’ application that will allow its prosecution offices in different districts to offer help to witnesses, complainants and victims by addressing some of the common problems they face in courts.

The directorate had already set up help desks in 51 districts that guided witnesses to respective courts and prosecutors. Now, these desks have been equipped with tablets. When a witness visits the court for the first time, their phone number, name and Aadhaar number will be collected, along with details such as the name of the prose-

cutor concerned and the court number.

Through the application, a user will then get details of their cases on the phone. They will be able to make a call on the help desk number or simply send a text message to get details of the next date of hearing or the status of the case or whether their presence is required.

After the launch of the application, a three-day training camp for prosecutors began at Indore on Sunday.

The directorate’s chief Public Relations Officer (PRO), Mausami Tiwari, told *The Indian Express* that in the next phase, a mobile application will be launched. Unlike those on the prosecution side, defence witnesses face no problems because defence lawyers bring them along to the court.

# Year on, Kamal Nath govt works to re-establish political base

MILIND GHATWAI  
BHOPAL, JANUARY 6

DURING ITS first year in office, the Kamal Nath government has taken a series of legislative and administrative measures aimed at helping the Congress reestablish its political base that been eroded during the 15-year BJP rule between 2003 and 2018.

The Congress government, which enjoys only a wafer-thin majority in the Assembly, succeeded in passing Bills related to holding indirect elections for the posts of mayor and chairmen of urban local bodies and also getting a say in the appointment of vice-chancellors in different universities.

Currently, direct elections are held for the posts of mayors and chairmen of urban bodies. The BJP won all 16 mayoral elections and held a majority of posts of

chairmen of nagarpalikas and nagar parishads (municipal councils). Now, the councilors will elect one person among them as mayor or chairman, an arrangement that gives the ruling party more say because the councilors are not bound by party whip, unlike in Assemblies. Simultaneously, the government, using its administrative power, recently appointed administrators in 18 local bodies instead of holding elections when their term ended.

Alleging that the procedure was changed because the ruling party fears that it can’t win direct elections, the BJP has accused the government of making the elections for the posts of mayor and chairman vulnerable to horse trading and other manipulation. The BJP alleges that the ruling party will influence the councilors’ decision-making by misusing the administration.



Kamal Nath

The government has justified the change, saying there is a lack of coordination between a directly elected mayor/chairman and councillors which affects decision making and development of cities and towns. In the direct election system, it was not uncommon to have a one-party majority in the board and the directly-elected mayor belonging to a rival party.

In the last Assembly session,

the government amended the Madhya Pradesh Universities (Second Amendment), 1973, to arm itself with power to nominate one person on the three-member search committee for the appointment of vice-chancellors. The state government justified the amendment by saying that it makes the policy for successful conduct of universities, provides finances and is directly responsible to the public in university-related matters but has no role in appointing the vice-chancellor. The Opposition BJP has accused the Congress government of curtailing the powers of the Governor.

In keeping with its policy to shed the pro-minority and anti-majority image, the Congress also brought a new law to manage administration of all major temples, including Ujjain’s Mahakaleshwar, Maihar’s Ma Sharda, Indore’s Ganesh Mandir and

Salkanpur Devi Mandir. The separate laws governing some of these temples will now be replaced by a common law that allows the government to appoint “special invitees” on the management committees.

Law Minister P C Sharma argued that the law was not brought for political reasons but for better management of big temples and to provide more facilities to devotees who throng in large numbers on special occasions.

BJP spokesman Rajnish Agrawal said it’s anybody’s guess that the new appointments, including that of pujaris, will be influenced by ideology. He said that previously, trusts enjoyed a degree of autonomy. He admitted that the BJP can counter the measures taken by the government to increase its base only up to a point because the Congress is in power and legislates on dif-



# 14 infants dead in Ahmedabad Civil Hospital in five days

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, JANUARY 6

A DAY after the state government admitted to nearly 200 infant deaths in Ahmedabad and Rajkot government civil hospitals in December 2019, Ahmedabad Civil Hospital authorities said Monday that 14 infants died in the hospital in the first five days of January.

“From January 1 to January 5, 127 deliveries were performed here. Of these, 23 newborns had to be admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), of which seven died. Apart from the deliveries, 36 newborns who had come from other referral units were also admitted to our NICU. Of these, seven died,” an official at the Ahmedabad civil hospital said.

Giving a breakdown of the cause of deaths, the official said seven were due to congenital abnormalities, five died due to premature birth and two due to res-

piratory problem.

Dr GH Rathod, medical superintendent at the Civil Hospital, attributes low-birth weight of a newborn as well as the mother's condition as the predominant factors when it comes to survival of prematurely born babies. “It is true that winters may lead to a spike in deaths of newborns as one is more prone to contracting infections, especially respiratory infections,” added Dr Rathod.

Gujarat Deputy CM Nitin Patel admitted Sunday that the deaths were on the higher side, but termed it a “cyclical phenomenon” and claimed the state government had managed to reduce the infant mortality rate to below 25 from 30 in three years ago.

Meanwhile, Sola Civil Hospital superintendent RM Jitija said he was not authorised to disclose any data in relation to infant deaths. Officials of the state health department were unavailable for comment despite repeated attempts.

# 2019 seventh warmest year, weather toll 1,562, says IMD

ANJALI MARAR PUNE, JANUARY 6

THE YEAR 2019 was one of extremes — heat, cold, rain and cyclones — for India, killing a total of 1,562 people. The previous year, total deaths caused due to similar weather vagaries was 1,428.

This was stated in a weather summary titled the ‘Statement on Climate of India during 2019’ released by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Monday. Rain and flood alone claimed 849 lives, with Bihar being the worst affected state due to unprecedented weather events experienced during all the seasons last year.

Interestingly, the rainfall amounts during both the Southwest Monsoon (June to September) and Northeast Monsoon (October to December) remained 109 per cent of the Long Period Average (LPA). That is, the country

## Report stresses rise in cyclonic storms

THE AVERAGE temperature during 2019 rose by 0.36 degrees celsius, making this the seventh warmest year on record. The year 2016 was by far the warmest year recorded. Last year was dominated by tropical cyclones as the country witnessed eight cyclones formed in the Indian Ocean. After 1902, this was the first time that the Arabian Sea reported five intense and frequent cyclonic storms, surpassing the average annual number of cyclones formed in the Bay of Bengal in a year. The annual rainfall over the country stood at 109 per cent of the Long Period Average (LPA), with both the monsoons recording excess rainfall.

recorded excess rainfall during the entire year, making it an extremely wet year in recent times. The death toll, as per IMD records, in 2017 was 1,592 and in 2016 it was 1,538.

The mean temperature was 0.36 degrees above normal, making 2019 the seventh hottest year ever recorded, the report said. The

decade 2011-19 was the warmest on record for the country, when the annual mean temperature was 0.36 degree above normal. The report highlighted that India had warmed by 1 degree Celsius since 1901. Whereas the rise in minimum temperature was 0.22 degrees in the century. While extremely heavy rain

and hot days are becoming more frequent in recent years, 2019 was exceptional also for the number of cyclones on India's east and west coasts, the IMD stated.

Arabian Sea brewed more cyclonic storms than the Bay of Bengal in 2019. This was only the second time in 117 years that the Arabian Sea saw such intense and frequent cyclones.

In 2019, eight cyclonic storms formed over the north Indian Ocean, IMD officials said. Five — Cyclones Vayu, Hikka, Kyarr, Maha and Pavan — originated in the Arabia Sea, which is usually calmer, not seeing more than one cyclone a year. On the contrary, the Bay of Bengal last year reported fewer cyclones than normal. The cyclones formed there include Pabuk, Fani and Bulbul.

The causes of deaths due to extreme weather events last year were as follows: heavy rain and floods 849, heatwave 349, thunderstorm 210, lightning 75, snow avalanche 51 and cold wave 28.



## Bijnor locals kill leopard that mauled 11-year-old to death

**Bijnor:** An 11-year-old schoolboy was mauled to death by a leopard in a village in UP's Bijnor Monday, the sixth such killing in the district in as many weeks, police said. After the incident, the feline was killed by local residents. However, authorities

believe another leopard in the area is responsible for killing five others. Forest Officer Manoj Shukla said the next of kin of the deceased will be given Rs 5 lakh compensation, while legal action will be taken against those who killed the animal. **PTI**



A man walks home as it snows on the outskirts of Srinagar on Monday. AP

## Mizoram to organise Zo Kutpui fest in US, Bangla

**Aizawl:** The Mizoram government will be organising Zo Kutpui (festival) in at least 10 states across India and countries such as US, Myanmar and Bangladesh, officials said Monday. The first edition of the festival will begin on January 9 in Vanghmun in Tripura and will be held over three days, an official of the

state tourism department said. CM Zoramthanga would grace the event. The festival will then move to other states which have significant Mizo population, an official said. The move is an attempt to unify and strengthen brotherhood among various Mizo tribes living in different parts of the world. **PTI**

## Pak nationals held with drugs worth Rs 175 cr off Guj coast

**Ahmedabad:** Five Pakistani nationals on board a fishing boat were apprehended mid-sea off Gujarat coast Monday morning when they were allegedly trying to smuggle drugs worth Rs 175 crore into the state, security agencies said. As many as 35 packets of heroin, weighing one kg each,

were seized from the five men near Jakhau coast in Kutch district, located around 440 km from here, the Indian Coast Guard said in a release. The early morning operation in the Arabian Sea near Jakhau was carried out by teams of the Gujarat ATS and the Indian Coast Guard. **PTI**

## HC grants Rajiv convict 15 days' parole

**Madurai:** Madras High Court on Monday granted 15 days' parole to Ravichandran, one of the seven life convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, to attend to his ailing mother and settle some family matters. Acting on a petition by his mother, Justices T Raja and B Pugalendi granted him parole from

January 10, though the state government submitted that it would not be possible to provide police security for him in view of Pongal festival. The petitioner submitted her son had been lodged in Madurai central prison for more than 27 years after he was sentenced to life imprisonment. **PTI**

## 7 Maoists held for Latehar ambush

ABHISHEK ANGAD RANCHI, JANUARY 6

ALMOST 45 days after four security personnel were shot dead at Chandhwa area of Latehar district in Jharkhand on November 22, Jharkhand Police arrested seven persons from the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist), including associates of the outfit's sub-zonal commander Ravindra Ganjuhu.

The November 22 incident had occurred less than 48 hours after Union Home Minister Amit Shah credited Chief Minister Raghubar for “curbing naxalism” in Jharkhand. Four policemen — ASI Sukra Oraon and three homeguards Sikander Singh, Jamuna Prasad and Sambhu Prasad — were gunned down in an ambush at Lukaiyua Mod near Chandhwa district in Latehar district.

Police said three associates of Ravindra Ganjuhu were traced in Chandhwa when they had come to collect levy from a contractor named Sonu Singh on January 5. DGP K N Choubey said a team raided the area and detained all three associates, who later “confessed” to committing the November 22 attack.

On the modus operandi of the November incident, Latehar SP Prashant Anand said, “Three people kept a watch over the police and the patrolling party over a walkie-talkie. Ravindra Ganjuhu and his five associates were waiting at Lukaiyua Mod. After the killing, they looted police's guns and assembled at Boda Mandap area.”

Police said they recovered Rs 5 lakh from the arrested Maoists, “We are investigating the entire chain of money,” Anand said.

## Murder accused shoots at self in court

**Lucknow:** An accused in a triple murder case reportedly shot at himself in a courtroom in Mainpuri Monday. Manish Yadav, who has been lodged at Mainpuri district jail since 2012, injured his right leg and his condition is stable, said police. Four policemen were suspended for negligence of duty as the undertrial got hold of the pistol while in custody. **ENS**

Office of The General Manager  
Construction Unit, Uttar Pradesh  
Jai Nigam, Saharanpur

Letter No. 386/203/258 Dated : 31.12.2019  
Short Term E-Tender Notice

Online percentage rate e-tenders on Single bid system for Construction of OHT, Boundary Wall, Staff Quarter, Pump House (2Nos.), Recharge Unit & Laying & Jointing of Rising Main (Excluding Supply of D.I. Pipe) with 12 Months defect liability period, are hereby invited on behalf of chairman, U.P. Jai Nigam from the registered contractors of U.P. Jai Nigam in class "B" Category and having requisite work experience and financial capabilities. Tender document shall be available at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> interested contractors may view and download tender documents on e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> from date 07.01.2020 (15:00 Hrs.) to 14.01.2020 upto 17:00 hrs. Upload duly filled online Dt. 14.01.2020 (upto 17:00 hrs.). Bid opening Date 16.01.2020 (at 15:30 hrs) at Office of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division, U.P. Jai Nigam, Muzaffarnagar.

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-III, Delhi  
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building,  
Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001

Notice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993

In the matter of O.A. No. 325/2019  
ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE  
Vs  
Shri Gurdev Singh  
Applicant.  
Defendants

To:  
D-1 Sh. Gurdev Singh S/o Sh. Deep Singh, 5883, Basti Harphool Singh, Sadar Bazar, Delhi-110006. Also at : 84C, LIG DDA Flats, Gulabi Bagh, Delhi-110007

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 17-03-2020 at 10.30 A.M.

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

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 23th day of Dec., 2019.

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

## Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (PuVNL) (A subsidiary of UP Power Corporation limited)

Purvanchal Vidyut Bhavan, Vidyut Nagar, P.O. - D.L.W., Varanasi -221004 Website: <http://www.etender.up.nic.in>

**Tender Date Extension** The date of submission & opening of e-tender no. EAV-29/19-20 is here extended up to 20.01.2020 (15:00 PM) & 21.01.2020 (15:00 PM) respectively. Further details can be seen at website [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in). Other terms and conditions shall remain same. Sd/- **Superintending Engineer (MM-I) "SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION"** पत्रांक: 40/पू.वि.वि.नि.लि. (वा.)/सा.प्र.-I/अअ-I/ विज्ञापन दिनांक: 06.01.2020

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि. कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, हमीरपुर पत्रांक सं-762/ वि.वि.म.ह./पी-1 (प्रकाशन)/निविदा/2019-20 दिनांक:- 06/01/2020 अति-अल्पकालीन (ई-निविदा) निविदा खुलने की तिथि एवं निविदा से सम्बन्धित अन्य सभी विवरण ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल <https://etender.up.nic.in> एवं निगम की वेबसाइट <https://dvvn.org> पर उपलब्ध है। 1. ई-निविदा संख्या-132/SE/EDCH/2019-20:- कार्य का विवरण: विद्युत वितरण मण्डल हमीरपुर के अधीन वितरण क्षेत्रों में तैनात अवर अभियन्ताओं की राजस्व वसूली तथा उपभोक्ता सेवा सम्बन्धी कार्यों के निष्पादन हेतु एण्डरॉयड टैबलेट्स की आपूर्ति। "राष्ट्रीय हित में बिजली बचावें" हस्ता./- (एस.आर. गर्ग) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

हस्ता./- (आनन्द मोहन) संयुक्त आयुक्त (हथकरघा), कृते आयुक्त एवं निदेशक, हथकरघा एवं वस्त्रोद्योग, उ.प्र., सचिव, उ.प्र. बुनकर बहदुरी फण्ड, कानपुर।

संख्या 2106/बु.व.फण्ड/एसप्रो/2019-20 दिनांक: 27 दिसम्बर, 2019

हथकरघा एवं वस्त्रोद्योग निदेशालय, उ.प्र. (उ.प्र. बुनकर बहदुरी फण्ड) सर्वोदय नगर, जी०टी० रोड, कानपुर-208005 पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना

संख्या 2106/बु.व.फण्ड/एसप्रो/2019-20 दिनांक: 27 दिसम्बर, 2019

दिनांक 17 फरवरी, 2020 से दिनांक 08 मार्च, 2020 तक बुनकर स्वरूप पार्क, कानपुर में प्रस्तावित नेशनल हेण्डलूम एसप्रो 2019-20 के निम्नांकित कार्यों हेतु देश के अनुभवी/प्रतिष्ठित फर्मो/ टेकेंदारों से अल्पकालीन निविदाएं, निविदा सूचना संख्या-2067/बुवफण्ड/एसप्रो/2019-20 दिनांक 19.11.2019 द्वारा आमंत्रित की गयी थी, किन्तु अल्पकालीन निविदा प्राप्त किये जाने की अन्तिम तिथि दिनांक 20.12.2019 तक कोई भी अल्पकालीन निविदा प्राप्त ना होने के फलस्वरूप आमंत्रित अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रक्रिया को निरस्त करते हुये उक्त कार्य हेतु पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा निम्नांकित विवरण के अनुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है। पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना, अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न, कार्य का विवरण, नियम एवं शर्तें आदि का अवलोकन सूचना विभाग की वेबसाइट [www.upgov.nic.in](http://www.upgov.nic.in) पर किया जा सकता है और कार्य का विवरण, नियम एवं शर्तें आदि का विवरण पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न में भी अंकित है। निम्नांकित तिथि एवं समय के अन्दर ई-निविदा एवं कार्यालय से पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न क्रय कर एवं भर कर जमा किया जा सकता है, जिसका विवरण निम्नान्व है:-

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत (लाख रु. में)	एफ.डी.आर. के रूप में योजित धरोहर धनराशि (रु. में)	बैंक ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर्स चेक अथवा नकद के योजित अल्पकालीन निविदा मूल्य (18% जी.एस.टी. सहित) (रु. में)
1	2	3	4	5
1	सुरक्षा व्यवस्था हेतु सुरक्षा गार्ड	2.00	2,500.00	472.00

एसप्रो को का स्थान तिथि एवं अधिष्ट पूर्णता: अन्तिम है एवं किसी भी समय इसमें परिवर्तन/निरस्त किया जा सकता है। पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न किसी भी कार्यालय दिवस में दि. 06.01.2020 से दि. 14.01.2020 तक पूर्वाह्न 9:30 बजे से अपराह्न 6:00 बजे तक उपरोक्त कालम-5 के अनुसार निविदा शुल्क जमा करके क्रय किये जा सकते हैं। परे हुए अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न कार्यालय में दि. 15.01.2020 को अपराह्न 12:30 बजे तक जमा किए जा सकते हैं। उक्त कार्य की तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय विवरण दि. 15.01.2020 को अपराह्न 2:30 बजे निविदादाताओं की उपस्थिति में निविदा समिति द्वारा हथकरघा एवं वस्त्रोद्योग निदेशालय, उ.प्र., सर्वोदय नगर, कानपुर नगर में खोली जायेगी। मात्र उन्हीं पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदाओं का वित्तीय विवरण खोला जायेगा, जो तकनीकी विवरण में अर्ह पाये जायेगी।

MADURAI CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION  
"INFRASTRUCTURE AND AMENITIES FUND - 2019"  
Ma.Po.2/Est. 02546/119-20 TENDER NOTIFICATION No. 5/2020 Date : 06.01.2020  
1 On behalf of Madurai Corporation The Commissioner Madurai Corporation invites Sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for following works under I&A Fund 2019.

Sl.No. Name of work Value Put to Tender EMD  
1. Ma.Po.2/Est. No. 02546/119-20 Construction of Over Bridge across river Vaigai Near Kuruvikaran Salai in Madurai City Municipal Corporation Rs. 20.67 Lakhs 20.67 Crore

2. Date, Time and Venue for the Pre-Bid Conference: 21.01.2020, 04.30 PM at Conference Hall Old Madurai Corporation, Aringar Anna Maligai, Madurai - 625 102. 3. Form of Contract : Two Cover System. 4. The bid documents will be available in <http://tenders.tn.gov.in> from 07.01.2020 to 07.02.2020, 3.00 PM. 5. For any clarifications in Bidding Documents the Bidders may contact the office of the "The Commissioner, Corporation of Madurai, Aringar Anna Maligai, Thalakulam, Madurai - 625 002". 6. Bids must be submitted to the "The Commissioner, Madurai Corporation, Aringar Anna Maligai, Thalakulam, Madurai - 625 002" in person on or before 03.00 PM on 07.02.2020 and bids will be opened on 07.02.2020 at 03.30 PM, in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of receipt of the bids as specified, the bids will be received and opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. 7. The Commissioner Madurai Corporation Reserves the rights to accept or reject any bid or reject all the bids at any time without assigning any reason thereof. Eligibility criteria and other details can be had from the Bidding document. 3. E-mail Address: [commr.madurai@tn.gov.in](mailto:commr.madurai@tn.gov.in). Contact No: 0452-2532412. DIPRI/73/TENDER/2020 Commissioner, Madurai Corporation

TAMIL NADU CEMENTS CORPORATION LIMITED  
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)  
L.L.A. Building, II Floor, 735, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002.  
SHORT e- TENDER NOTICE

e-Tender Ref.Nos.	Name of the work	Value (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Due Date
40/2019-20	Transportation of Clinker from Ariyalur Cement works to Alangulam Cement works	5.08 Crore	5,00,000	22.01.2020
41/2019-20	Supply of Chemical Gypsum to new 1 MTPA plant at Ariyalur Cement Works, Ariyalur	4.68 Crore	4,50,000	22.01.2020
42/2019-20	Appointment of contractor for Loading of Cement at Ariyalur Cement Works, Ariyalur	2.84 Crore	2,80,000	22.01.2020

Important Note:  
A pre-bid meeting for the e-T.Nos.40/2019-20, e-T.No.41/2019-20 & e-T.No.42/2019-20 will be held on 10.01.2020 at 2.00pm, 3.00pm, & 4.00 pm respectively at TANCEM, Corporate Office, No.735, L.L.A. Building, II Floor, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002.  
The details are available in [www.Intenders.gov.in](http://www.Intenders.gov.in). Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any would appear only on the above said website.  
DIPR044/TENDER/2020 MANAGER (TECHNICAL)

हथकरघा एवं वस्त्रोद्योग निदेशालय, उ.प्र. (उ.प्र. बुनकर बहदुरी फण्ड) सर्वोदय नगर, जी०टी० रोड, कानपुर-208005 पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना

संख्या 2106/बु.व.फण्ड/एसप्रो/2019-20 दिनांक: 27 दिसम्बर, 2019

दिनांक 17 फरवरी, 2020 से दिनांक 08 मार्च, 2020 तक बुनकर स्वरूप पार्क, कानपुर में प्रस्तावित नेशनल हेण्डलूम एसप्रो 2019-20 के निम्नांकित कार्यों हेतु देश के अनुभवी/प्रतिष्ठित फर्मो/ टेकेंदारों से अल्पकालीन निविदाएं, निविदा सूचना संख्या-2067/बुवफण्ड/एसप्रो/2019-20 दिनांक 19.11.2019 द्वारा आमंत्रित की गयी थी, किन्तु अल्पकालीन निविदा प्राप्त किये जाने की अन्तिम तिथि दिनांक 20.12.2019 तक कोई भी अल्पकालीन निविदा प्राप्त ना होने के फलस्वरूप आमंत्रित अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रक्रिया को निरस्त करते हुये उक्त कार्य हेतु पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा निम्नांकित विवरण के अनुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है। पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना, अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न, कार्य का विवरण, नियम एवं शर्तें आदि का अवलोकन सूचना विभाग की वेबसाइट [www.upgov.nic.in](http://www.upgov.nic.in) पर किया जा सकता है और कार्य का विवरण, नियम एवं शर्तें आदि का विवरण पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न में भी अंकित है। निम्नांकित तिथि एवं समय के अन्दर ई-निविदा एवं कार्यालय से पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न क्रय कर एवं भर कर जमा किया जा सकता है, जिसका विवरण निम्नान्व है:-

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत (लाख रु. में)	एफ.डी.आर. के रूप में योजित धरोहर धनराशि (रु. में)	बैंक ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर्स चेक अथवा नकद के योजित अल्पकालीन निविदा मूल्य (18% जी.एस.टी. सहित) (रु. में)
1	2	3	4	5
1	सुरक्षा व्यवस्था हेतु सुरक्षा गार्ड	2.00	2,500.00	472.00

एसप्रो को का स्थान तिथि एवं अधिष्ट पूर्णता: अन्तिम है एवं किसी भी समय इसमें परिवर्तन/निरस्त किया जा सकता है। पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न किसी भी कार्यालय दिवस में दि. 06.01.2020 से दि. 14.01.2020 तक पूर्वाह्न 9:30 बजे से अपराह्न 6:00 बजे तक उपरोक्त कालम-5 के अनुसार निविदा शुल्क जमा करके क्रय किये जा सकते हैं। परे हुए अल्पकालीन निविदा प्रश्न कार्यालय में दि. 15.01.2020 को अपराह्न 12:30 बजे तक जमा किए जा सकते हैं। उक्त कार्य की तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय विवरण दि. 15.01.2020 को अपराह्न 2:30 बजे निविदादाताओं की उपस्थिति में निविदा समिति द्वारा हथकरघा एवं वस्त्रोद्योग निदेशालय, उ.प्र., सर्वोदय नगर, कानपुर नगर में खोली जायेगी। मात्र उन्हीं पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदाओं का वित्तीय विवरण खोला जायेगा, जो तकनीकी विवरण में अर्ह पाये जायेगी।

हस्ता./- (आनन्द मोहन) संयुक्त आयुक्त (हथकरघा), कृते आयुक्त एवं निदेशक, हथकरघा एवं वस्त्रोद्योग, उ.प्र., सचिव, उ.प्र. बुनकर बहदुरी फण्ड, कानपुर।

संख्या 2106/बु.व.फण्ड/एसप्रो/2019-20 दिनांक: 27 दिसम्बर, 2019

कार्यालय कृषि उपज मण्डी समिति नौमच, जिला- नौमच (म.प्र.)

अक्रांक/मण्डी/निविदा/19-20/4218 नौमच, दिनांक: 03.01.2020

:: निविदा आगमन सूचना ::

प्रमुख अभियन्ता म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में उपयुक्त (एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली) पंजीकृत निविदाकारों से प्रतिशत दर आधार पर सिस्टम निविदा क्रमांक 2020\_MPSAM\_73022, 2020\_MPSAM\_73023, 2020\_MPSAM\_73025 एवं 2020\_MPSAM\_73026 के अंतर्गत ऑनलाईन निविदा दिनांक 28.01.2020 को शाम 5:30 बजे तक एवं भौतिक रूप से दिनांक 29.01.2020 को शाम 5:00 बजे तक जरिये स्पीड पोस्ट/पंजीकृत डाक से (बिगिनि ऑफर को छोड़कर) आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रश्न एवं अन्य जानकारी निविदाकारों को म.प्र. शासन की ई-निविदा के पोर्टल <http://mptenders.gov.in> पर प्राप्त होगी एवं उक्त निविदा से सम्बंधित समस्त जानकारी मंडी बोर्ड के पोर्टल [mpmandiboard.gov.in](http://mpmandiboard.gov.in) पर भी अवलोकनीय होगी। नोट: आवश्यक होने पर उपरोक्त निविदा सूचना से सम्बंधित किसी भी प्रकार की संशोधन सूचना अथवा अन्य जानकारी केवल उपरोक्तानुसार पोर्टल पर प्रदर्शित की जायेगी।

सचिव कृषि उपज मंडी समिति नौमच, जिला- नौमच (म.प्र.)

DELHI JAL BOARD  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C) DR-II  
DELHI GATE STP PHASE-II, OPPOSITE DELHI SECRETARIAT,  
IP ESTATE, NEW DELHI-110002  
PH: 011-23392216, E-mail- [eeedr2@gmail.com](mailto:eeedr2@gmail.com)  
Corrigendum No. 01  
NIT NO: 05/EE(C) DR-II/(2019-20)  
Tender ID No: 2019\_DJB\_186809\_1

Name of Work: Construction of 8.0 MGD Batla House Ph-II-SPS (WWPS) including civil Work, E&M Work, Rising main and other related associated/allied appurtenant works on DBO basis at Batla House New Delhi.  
(i) Civil, E&M Work & Rising Main for WWPS and Rising main on DBO basis.  
In reference to above NIT, the NIT No. 05 /EE(C) DR-II (2019-20)( Tender ID No: 2019\_DJB\_186809\_1) dated 30.12.2019 read as NIT No. 04/EE(C) DR-II (2019-20)( Tender ID No: 2019\_DJB\_186809\_1).  
The other terms and conditions of the NIT shall remain the same.  
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)  
Advt. No. J.S.V. 795/2019-20

Sd/- EE(C)DR.II

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# EXPRESS NETWORK

## PROTEST WATCH

**MAHARASHTRA**

### Thousands of women march in Malegaon



Police pegged the figure at 10,000. *Express*

**Malegaon:** Malegaon held its second massive protest against the CAA and the proposed nationwide NRC on Monday. Shan-e-Hind, daughter of former Malegaon Central MLA Nihal Ahmed and convenor of the agitation, had been keen that the town's women make their opposition to the Centre's decisions clear. According to organisers' estimates, more than 50,000 women marched from the James-Tus-Swalehat Chowk

to Shahidon Ki Yaadgar chowk. Malegaon Central MLA Mufti Mohammad Ismail Qasmi and head of the Dastoor Bachao Committee announced, "On Republic Day, no one should buy petrol from petrol pumps and everyone should empty their bank accounts. Give this message to everyone in your family." A massive women's march was held in 2018 in opposition to the instant triple talaq legislation. **ENS**

**TAMIL NADU**


**Makkal Adhikaram** activists protest against the new citizenship law, NRC and NPR in Chennai on Monday. *PTI*

**TRIPURA**

### BJP ally launches indefinite protest against CAA

**Agartala:** The Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT), an ally of the ruling BJP in the state, on Monday launched an indefinite sit-in against the CAA near the headquarters of Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council, about 25 km from here. The party also pressed for a separate Tipraland by carving out the tribal council from the state. The tribal council constitutes two-third of Tripura. IPFT spokesperson Mangal Debbarma said, "The demonstration will continue till the Centre takes a positive step. We want either the scrapping of the Act or exempting entire Tripura from its purview."

IPFT general secretary Mevar Kumar Jamatia said, "Though our alliance partner, the BJP, does not agree with our stand, we will continue our agitation unless an amicable solution is achieved." Jamatia, who is also the Tripura tribal affairs minister, said, "We feel achieving a separate Tipraland is the ultimate solution to end the tribal angst in the state." The party's leaders said several tribal bodies had met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Delhi on December 12 soon after the Citizenship Amendment Bill was passed in Parliament and he had assured them that he would make sure that the tribals are protected in the state. **PTI**

**BIHAR**


A silent protest against CAA, NRC in Patna on Monday. *PTI*


*Partha Patil*

### Won't support Bandh: Mamata

A protest against NRC, CAA and NPR in Kolkata on Monday. West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee said she was all in favour of protests against the CAA, but her party will not resort to the "cheap politics" of bandhs. The Left parties have called for a nationwide strike on January 8 and a seven-day protest from January 1 to protest against the government's "anti-people" policies.

### HC says Mewat Sec 144 order in public interest

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 6

**DECLINING** TO interfere with Mewat administration's decision to impose Section 144 for two months in the wake of protests against the new citizenship law, Punjab and Haryana High Court Monday said the order appears to have been passed in public interest after an assessment of the situation by authorities, adding the court is "nobody to assess the situation".

The observations were made by the division bench of Chief Justice Ravi Shanker Jha and Justice Arun Palli before dismissing a plea by a lawyer. The PIL by advocate Mohammad Arshad contended that the Additional District Magistrate passed the order without identifying any imminent threat to public order and that it violates fundamental rights guaranteed under Article 19. The court observed, "Today we quash this and something untoward happens, are you going to reimburse...".

Arshad had submitted that the order was passed only on the basis of an apprehension and it virtually prohibits any kind of protest.

### Centre to SC: If parents in NRC, kids won't be sent to detention camps

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

**ATTORNEY GENERAL** of India K K Venugopal assured the Supreme Court on Monday that children excluded in the National Register of Citizens (NRC) will not be sent to detention centres in Assam for now if the names of their parents feature in the NRC.

"I cannot conceive children being sent to detention centres and being separated from their families. Children whose parents have been granted citizenship will not be sent to detention centres," he said.

The law officer made the remarks before a bench comprising Chief Justice of India S A Bobde, and Justices Suryakant and B R Gavai over a plea seeking protection of children who were left out of the NRC. The Centre sought four weeks' time to file a response.

"Mr K K Venugopal, learned Attorney General for India, states that the children of parents who have been given citizenship through NRC, will not be separated from their parents and sent

to detention centre in Assam pending decision of this application," the court recorded the assurance in its order.

The court also sought an explanation from the Assam government over allegations that the new state coordinator Hitesh Dev Sarma made anti-immigrant and communal statements on social media before his appointment to oversee the NRC process in the state.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal submitted Sarma's Facebook posts that allegedly contained anti-Muslim statements.

"He should not be saying all these things. You will have to explain this," the court observed while asking Sarma to either explain or withdraw his comments.

However, Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta told the court that since the NRC process had concluded, Sarma would have no role to play and his alleged bias would not impact the process. The court allowed four weeks for the Assam government to respond to the plea challenging Sarma's appointment.

### Damages recovery to be handled like civil issue, says Meerut ADM

**APURVA VISHWANATH**  
MEERUT, JANUARY 6

**MEERUT** ADDITIONAL District Magistrate Ajay Kumar Tiwari has said that the process of recovering money from those who destroyed public property will be handled like any other civil issue.

Last week, the district administration demanded close to Rs 25,000 each from more than 140 people for the damage in the city during violence amid the protests against the new citizenship law on December 20, which left five people dead. This is the first such exercise undertaken by the government.

"The process (of recovery) has just been initiated. If a police station is prima facie satisfied that an individual destroyed public property, a notice is issued directing the person to show cause within seven days," Tiwari said.

"Seven days is allowed but if a

person requests, a reasonable extension will be given," he added.

Legally, the showcause notices have to be served in person, wherever possible. Additionally, it can be served through next of kin or, if all other means fail, can be served through placing an advertisement in a newspaper.

As of Friday, no response to the show causes issued had been received by the ADM's office.

"As per the Civil Procedure Code, a balance of probability will be kept in mind like in all civil cases. The accused is free to bring a lawyer and witnesses who can make a case that he was not involved in destruction of public property," he said. The ADM will be the adjudicating authority and parties can challenge the order subsequently in court.

"The loss of property for the administration is the same even if it is worth Re 1 or Rs 1 lakh. This is the idea behind holding those who caused damage responsible.

How much each guilty individual pays depends on many other factors," Tiwari said.

The proportion of damages to be recovered from an individual will be determined in the next step after a detailed hearing, he said.

"The punitive liability is important because the administration is recovering damages for the tax payer and not for itself. The damage is borne by the tax payer if it is not recovered by the actual perpetrators," Tiwari said.

According to preliminary estimate prepared by the PWD, Nagar Nigam, Meerut Development Authority and Road Transport Office for police vehicles that were damaged, the total cost of damaged property is pegged at Rs 40.87 lakh.

"As of now, it is a rough estimate. I have asked for an elaborate report. For example, if railings or dividers have been damaged, then length, description and cost along with photographs will be collected to arrive at the figure," he said.

## NRC next, says BJP's Bengali booklet on CAA

**SWEETY KUMARI**  
KOLKATA, JANUARY 6

**WHILE** PRIME Minister Narendra Modi has said that the his government has not even discussed National Register of Citizens (NRC), the Bengali version of BJP's booklet on the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) that was launched in Kolkata on Sunday as part of the party's nationwide campaign to "dispel misinformation" about the new law mentions that the citizen's register NRC will be implemented after this.

The Hindi version of the booklet, however, does not mention anything on NRC.

On the last page of the 23-page booklet, a question reads: "Will it be NRC after this? How much it is needed? And if there is NRC, will Hindus have to go to detention centres like in Assam?" The answer reads: "Yes, after this NRC will be implemented. At least the central government's intention looks like that. Before that, we would like to clearly mention that no Hindus will have to go to detention centre due to NRC. Those 11 lakh Hindus who are in detention centres in Assam are staying there because of the Foreigners Act."

The booklet then goes on to explain that the NRC was implemented in Assam as per the orders of the Supreme Court, and



**Union minister Babul Supriyo** releases a booklet on CAA in Kolkata, Sunday. *PTI*

the Foreigners Act was passed by the then Congress government in the state. "The BJP government in Assam did not bring the NRC. Rather, it has decided to move court against the NRC," the booklet says.

It says that the Hindus lodged in detention centres in Assam would be released after the CAA is implemented. "It is heard that there are around two crore infiltrators in Assam and West Bengal. It is needed to enlist these infiltrators as D-voters. This only speaks volumes about the problem of infiltration in the country. That is why a countrywide NRC is needed," the booklet says.

When asked why the Hindi

## NPR a disguised bid to do Assam-like NRC: Chidambaram

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

**SENIOR CONGRESS** leader and former home minister P Chidambaram on Monday said the exercise to update National Population Register (NPR) "must be stoutly opposed" as the NPR this time, unlike in 2010, is a "disguised attempt" to do an Assam NRC-like exercise throughout the country. The NRC-CAA-NPR exercise, he said, is part of the RSS-BJP plan to push its divisive agenda of a Hindu Rashtra.

Chidambaram, however, was not forthcoming on whether Congress governments in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab would stop the NPR exercise in their states. TMC-ruled West Bengal and Left-ruled Kerala have already issued orders stopping the NPR exercise in their respective states.

Asked whether the Congress has formally decided that its state governments will not participate in the NPR exercise, Chidambaram said "that question should be put to the Chief Ministers".

"As of now our position is, we oppose the CAA and NPR exercise. Now when is NPR exercise going to start as far as the Government of India is concerned, I don't know. Let them first indicate that an NPR exercise has to start. I don't think there is any directive so far from the central government..." he told reporters.

He said there is a world of dif-



**Chidambaram in New Delhi on Monday.** *Prem Nath Pandey*

ference between NPR 2010 and NPR 2020. "NPR 2010 was conducted in a few states when there was no controversy about NRC and without the unhappy experience of the Assam NRC. Secondly, there was no CAA looming large. Thirdly, NPR 2010 gathered data in respect of only 15 fields..." he said.

"NPR 2020 will ask for information on the last place of residence, the place of birth of the parents, voter identity, passport number, driver's licence, PAN and Aadhaar. Who added these additional fields and why? In terms of text and context, NPR 2010 and NPR 2020 are very different. NPR 2020 with the additional fields is a disguised attempt to do an Assam NRC-like exercise throughout the country and, therefore, it must be stoutly opposed," he said.

Chidambaram said NRC was a "sinister and mischievous plan" to divide the country.

version in the same booklet has no such mention of NRC, Sayantan Basu, general secretary in the Bengal unit of BJP, replied, "This booklet in Bengali is not at all the translation of Hindi. Here in Bengal, there has been a lot of confusion over the CAA and NRC. Therefore, the NRC point has been given in the Bengali version of the booklet and it is written there that implementation of NRC is the Central government's prerogative".

At a rally in New Delhi on December 22, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said that there has been no discussion on implementing NRC in the country as he clarified that the Citizenship (Amendment) Act would not affect Muslims who have been living in the country for generations. Modi had blamed the Congress, other Opposition parties for creating fear in the minds of people.

Reacting to BJP's claims on NRC in the booklet, the Trinamool Congress said that "truth has come out".

"The cat is now out of the bag. The truth of the BJP has come out. We have been saying that the Prime Minister and the Union ministers have been trying to confuse the people by making contradictory statements on NRC. The people of this state and the country will give them a befitting reply," TMC secretary-general Partha Chatterjee said.

### Jain outfit seeks permission for rally, admin says it has to be against CAA

**MILIND GHATWAI**  
BHOPAL, JANUARY 6

**WHEN** THE Jain community in Indore sought permission to take out a procession welcoming a religious leader on Sunday, they were told they can do so only if the rally is against the new citizenship law.

The conditional permission caused a furore in the community, which had sought permission for the procession to welcome its leader Acharya Vidyasagar.

The letter granting conditional permission had 17 points and the 15th point referred to the citizenship law. The remaining points were about dos and don'ts for organisers as prohibitory orders under Section 144 were in force.

Indore Collector Lokesh Jataw said an explanation has been sought from the SDM who issued the letter. Jataw termed it a "human error" because the administration issued similar letters to organisers who wanted to take out rallies to oppose the citizenship law.

Senior BJP leader Kailash Vijayvargiya tweeted, "A small example of how the administration in Madhya Pradesh is working under pressure from the Congress?"

Vinay Bakliwal, the city chief of Digambar Jain Samaj and also the president of the ruling Congress's Indore unit, said it was an error that was corrected. He said the rally was taken out without any problem and no political slogans were raised.

### Snow, rain disrupt transport, power in Himachal

**Shimla:** Snow and rain disrupted normal life in various parts of Himachal Pradesh on Monday. At least 75 roads were blocked and bus services suspended in snow-bound areas and electricity supply was affected due to a spell of precipitation which is likely to continue for at least two more days. Mobile and internet connectivity were also affected.

According to officials of the PWD, 36 roads were blocked in Mandi circle, 15 in Shimla zone, nine in Kullu circle, and seven in Dalhousie circle. Five national highways — three in Shimla and two in Shahpur — are also blocked. Officials said the total damage to the roads is to the tune of Rs 64.50 crore and 72 machines have been deployed to clear them. **ENS**

### AKBAR PADAMSEE DIES AT 91

## 'He had a very distinct style, was a great colourist'

**VANDANA KALRA**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

**ASA** child, Akbar Padamsee might have begun his artistic experiments by copying images from The Illustrated Weekly of India magazine in his father's accounts books, but it was a journey that was to continue for over seven decades — one that saw him paint the world, from landscapes to mirror images, figures and heads, borrowing from travels and ancient Sanskrit texts. That journey came to an end on Monday evening, when Padamsee breathed his last in Coimbatore. The Padma Bhushan awardee was 91. "With his passing away, we have lost a legend. That generation

is slowly disappearing, which is so sad. His compositions came alive in his works," says curator and art critic Ina Puri.

Described as "grammarian of art", Padamsee was perhaps one of the most underrated associates of the famed Progressive Artists Group for a long time. Still a student at Mumbai's Sir JJ School of Art when S H Raza reportedly spotted his talent, he was with Raza in Paris in the early 1950s, famously holding his first exhibition in Paris at Galerie Saint Placide in 1952.

Best known for his Grey Series, Metascapes and Mirror Images, Padamsee experimented with a variety of mediums, including filmmaking, sculpture and photography. In 1969, he set



AKBAR PADAMSEE  
1928-2020

up a Vision Exchange Workshop to provide artists with resources to experiment with photography and filmmaking. It was attended by the likes of artists Nalini Malani and Gieve Patel.

Bose Krishnamachari, co-

founder of the Kochi Muziris Biennale, recalls how Padamsee always encouraged young artists. "He was a university himself," says Krishnamachari. He recalls how Padamsee was a voracious reader who called Sanskrit his first language. "He was a mentor to me," adds the artist.

Gallerist Arun Vadehra recalls Padamsee as a young artist in Mumbai in the 40s, who was extremely generous and painting till the very end of his life, even when he was on his wheelchair. "He was a great scholar. When he did his figures, anatomy was his concern, it was basically reform and formalism involved in the work. He had a very distinct style and was a great colourist. He was

a follower of Paul Klee in terms of 'The Thinking Eye'." A proponent of artistic freedom, his first exhibition in India at Jehangir Art Gallery in Mumbai in 1954 led to a legal battle as he was accused of obscenity for paintings titled Lovers. He eventually won the case.

More than 22 of his works from the Jehangir Nicholson Collection, dating 1957 onwards, prepare to hang at the gallery in Mumbai in the exhibition that was announced to begin on January 9, these probably best reflect Padamsee's belief — in an interview to The Indian Express in 2015, he had stated, "Art is always undergoing change. It is the artist's prerogative to embrace change."





PERSONAL

It is notified for the information that my original Qualifying Examination Certificate of main senior Secondary Examination of year 2018 and Roll no. 8620359 issued by CBSE, has been actually lost. Name of the candidate: Ritik Kagra, mob. 9871676609.

0040526552-1

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate of Main Secondary and Senior Secondary Examination of year 2009 (Roll no. 6180473) and year 2013 (Roll no. 9126270) issued by CBSE has been actually lost, name of candidate Ankush Goswami, D-4/322, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi-110062.

0040526579-1

**I, Vikram Singh R/O-D-292,** Pratap Vihar, Sector-11, Ghaziabad, in my document my son name is, wrongly mentioned as Abhishek, but correct name is Abhishek Negi.

0040526597-5

**I, Sirajuddin s/o Faizu R/O-E-44/A-406,** New-Seemapuri, Delhi-110095, have informed that the Sirajuddin and Sarajuddin both are one & same person. I know myself Sirajuddin in future.

0040526597-1

**I, Sandhra W/o Sh. Makhan Lal** R/O-F-35, Gali No. 16-D, Shakuntala App.Sadh Nagar, Palam-Colony, Palam Village, South-West, Delhi-110045, have changed to my name Santra Devi for, all purpose. (D.O.B.01.01.1949)

0040526603-1

**I, Ritu W/o Munish Raj Garg R/O-**House No.68, First Floor, Wood Stock, Nirvana Country, Sector-50, Gurugram, Haryana-122018, have changed my name to Ritu garg for all, future purposes.

0040526650-1

**I, Sonu Alias Sonia Kanwar D/o** Sawai Singh and W/o Devendra Singh Bhati R/O Shahtan Singh Nagar, Jodhpur, Rajasthan-342308, have changed my name to Sonia Kanwar

0070691416-1

**I, Prem Narain Pandey, S/O-** Ram Sahai Pandey, R/O-422, Sector-37, Faridabad, Haryana, office at 24/1-A, Govind Puri, Kalkaji, New-Delhi-19, declare that Prem Narain Sharma and Prem Narain Pandey are same person, in future public will known as Prem Narain Pandey.

0040526636-2

**I, Neelam Rani W/o Shri. Rajeev** Sodha R/O-House No.11124, Dorivalan, Manakpura, New Rohtak-Road, Karol-Bagh, N.Delhi-110005, have changed my name to Sonu Sodha after-marriage for all, future purposes.

0040526636-5

**I, Vishnu Kumar Aggarwal S/o** Shri Raja Ram R/O 344, Jagriti Enclave, Delhi-110092, informs that I have changed my name from Vishnu Kumar to Vishnu Kumar Aggarwal for all future purposes.

0040526551-1

**I, Nafees Khan, S/O-Ali Jaan, R/O-**A-357, Khasra No.125, 1st-Floor, Gali No.9, Near Amina Masjid, Village-Wazirabad, New Delhi-110084, inform that my brother Anish Khan daughter school record father's name written Anish Khan, but suddenly my brother's death a accident and I got married his wife, so I want daughter (Layba) school record father name Nafees Khan.

0040526597-2

**I, Monica Chawla W/O-Nitin** Sagor R/O-House.No-61/28, Street.No.11, Near Geeta-Ashram, Jyoti-Park, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001, Have Changed My Name To Monica Goswami, For All, Future Purposes.

0040526636-6

**I, Sujata D/o-Subhash** Chander, R/O-Flat.No.399, Sec-17-A, Sarvhit-Apartment, opp. IP University, NSIT Dwarka, Delhi-110078, changed the name of my minor daughter from Ridhima to Ridhima Luthra.

0040526611-2

**I, TARANNUM D/o-Zaheer R/o-**cpj-1/131 J-block new-Seelampur Delhi-535, have lost my original certificate/ marksheet class-10th year-2011 Rollno-86455662 CBSE-Delhi.

0040526611-10

**I, VIPIN KUMAR S/O-VIJAY PRASAD GUPTA R/O H.NO.12,** CHURCH-LANE, JUNGPURA, BHOGAL, NEW-DELHI-14, have changed my name to VIPIN GUPTA.

0040526633-6

**I, Vandana Kumari W/o Shailesh** Kumar Singh R/O-Flat.No. 991gf, Sector-5, Wave-Floor, Nh-24, Wave-City, Ghaziabad, UP, P201002, Changed My Name To Vandana Singh.

0040526633-12

**I, MUDIT PIYUSH UNIAL S/O-** Piyush Uniyal R/O-OC-708, Supertech-Rameshwar Orchids, H-1, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, UP-201010 have changed my name to MUDIT UNIAL.

0040526611-8

**I, Laishram Kiranmala Devi W/o** Laishram Sharat Singh R/O Khangabok Khatlakpam Leikai, P.O & P.S Thoubal, Dist-Thoubal, Manipur, Pin-795138 have changed my name from Laishram Kiranmala Devi to Naorem Kiranmala Chanu Vide affidavit dated 20.12.2019 before the OC, Manipur.

0040526561-1

**I, Mohammad Rais Ahmed S/o-** Mr. Abdul Bari, R/O-M-69, Abul Fazal Enclave Part-I, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025, inform that in my Driving Licence, No. P03052004406834, my and my father name is wrongly written as MD. Rahis instead of Mohammad Rais Ahmed and my father name is as Abdul Wahid instead of Abdul Bari for all future purpose.

0040526487-4

**I, Bhupesh Kumar R/O-RZB-130-**B, Gali No-7, Gurudwara Road, Mahavir Enclave Part-1, N.Delhi-110045 have changed my name to Bhupesh Kumar Harish.

0040526597-4

**I, Bhudev Prashad and Bhudev** Sharma S/o Babul Sharma R/O-EWS D-471, Kalindri Vihar, 100-Futa road, R.B.Digari Colledge, Kalindri Vihar, Kuberpur, Agra Uttar Pradesh-282006, have changed my to Bhudev Prasad Sharma for all purpose.

0040526597-6

**I, hitherto known as Sujata** Kumari Wife of Mr. Brij Nandan Prasad, Residing at-C-3, Type-5, Tower-9, Kidwai Nagar, East, New Delhi-110023. Have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sujata Prasad.

0040526613-1

**I, hitherto known as Rekha** Poddar D/o sh Vijay Kumar Gupta, W/o Late Purshottam Poddar, R/O C-29, Ground Floor, Pamposh Enclave, New Delhi-110048 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Tanishka Gupta

0070691405-1

**I, Vikram kaul S/O Lokesh kaul** R/O-716, sector-17, Faridabad Haryana have changed my name to Vikram kaul for all future purposes.

0040526598-1

**I, Vijay Kumar S/O-Fakir Chand** R/O-K-2/539, Tara Chand-Colony, Mahalpur-Extn, South/West Delhi-110037. Have Changed My Name To Vijay Kumar Bagri.

0040526607-7

**I, Vicky Kumar S/O Rajender** Prasad R/O-G-22a, Galino.7, Prem Nagar-1, Kirari, Suleman Nagar, Delhi-110086. Changed my Name to Vicky Singh.

0040526598-5

**I, Asha Rani Bamrotha W/O-** Kuldeep Bamrotha R/O-B-18, Vishnu-Garden, New-Delhi 110018. Have Changed My Name To Asha Rani.

0040526633-2

**I, Subash Chandra Sharma R/O-**H.No.45, Peepal Wali-Gali, Guldhar-II, Sector-23, Sanjay-Nagar, Ghaziabad, UP-201002, have changed my name to Subhash Chandra Sharma.

0040526611-5

**I, Shiv Ram Singh S/o Ram** Janak Singh R/O-A-202, Gali No-4C, Part-2, Pusta-1, Sonia Vihar, Delhi-110094, that name of mine has been wrongly written as Guddu Singh in My PF and ESIC. The actual name of mine is Shiv Ram Singh

0070691408-1

**I, Sanjay Marwah, S/O-Gurbax** Rai Marwah, H.No-211-212, Double-Storey, New-Rajinder-Nagar, N.Delhi-110060. Have Changed My Minor Son Name, From Manav Marwah To Maanav Marwah.

0040526607-9

**I, Sangita Thapar W/o Harish** Jaggi R/O Uu-92-B, Pitampura, Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Sangeeta Jaggi for all purposes.

0040526568-1

**I, Sandeep Kumar S/O Ram** Chander R/O-368, Saidpur Village, Sonapat-131402. Have Changed My Name To Sandeep Lamba.

0040526598-4

**I, Salahuddin S/o Late.** Anzaruddin R/O-H.No.C-1st/10-B, Raju-Park Khanpur, New-Delhi-110062, that inadvertently in my son's MCD-birth record/School record/Central Board of Secondary-Education, Examination in the year-2019, issue by CBSE. My name has been wrongly-written as Sheikh Mohammad Salahuddin instead of Salahuddin, which may be amended accordingly.

0040526613-2

**I, Saboor Kamal W/o Khawar** Kamal R/O-E-89/A, Gali No.5, Chand Bagh, Delhi-110094, have changed my name from Jayakumari. D. to Saboor Kamal for all future purposes.

0040526553-1

**I, SUPRABHA KUMARI GUPTA** W/O PREM KUMAR GUPTA-146/16, ONKAR NAGAR, TRINAGAR, DELHI-110035. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SUPRABHA KUMARI.

0040526611-6

**I, Roshni Nomani W/o Mohd.** Kafeel R/O-C-42, Sector Delta-I, Greater Noida, Distt.:- G.B. Nagar UP, have changed my name to Mariya Kafeel for future.

0040526597-3

**I, Ramani Mathew w/o-** Karumankal Varghese Mathew R/O-Flat.No-86, Pocket-F23, Sec-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Aleyamma Abraham Permanently.

0040526607-10

**I, Mohd Daanish Ul Hassan S/O,** Ali Hasan R/O-A-117/3, Near-Masjid Ashraf, Abul Fazal Enclave Part-2, Shaheen Bagh, New Delhi-110025, have changed my name to Mohd Daanish Hassan for all purposes.

0040526601-1

**I, Mumtaz Ali S/o Late Mr. Ali** Baksh R/O House No-36, Bhainsner Hedi, Bhainsner Heri, Basera, Muzaffarnagar, UP-251310 do hereby inform that in my documents my name is wrongly written as Mumtaz Ahmed instead of Mumtaz Ali, both are one and same person.

0040526575-

**I, Ravindranath Ajit Kumar** Punde S/o Sh. Ajit Kumar Amrit Punde R/O No.121, Vista Villas Greenwood City, Sector-46, Gurgaon, Haryana-122003, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ravindra Punde.

0070691406-1

**I, Rangrao Singh S/o Sh.** Shrichand R/O-Flat-No-B-49, Plot.No-32, Sriram-CGHS Ltd., Sector-4, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078. Have changed the name of my minor son Shreyansh aged 09 years and 04 months to Shreyansh Singh for all purposes.

0040526613-4

**I, Pooja Pahwa W/o Sushil** Kumar R/O-Saifpur Firojpur Bahsuma Meerut, have changed my name Urmil Pahwa.

0040526598-2

**I, Raghwendra Tiwari S/o** Brijesh Narayan R/O House No-123, Gali No-12, A-Block, Part-2, Sonia Vihar, Sabhapur, Delhi-110094, that name of mine has been wrongly written as Bablu Tiwari in My PF and ESIC. The actual name of mine is Raghwendra Tiwari

0070691413-1

**I, Radhy Shyam Mittal S/o** Rameshwar Das R/O K-5/101, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-59, have changed my name to Radhey shyam.

0040526569-1

**I, RISHABSH Singh Chauhan** S/O-Jogender singh chauhan R/O-686, near-sheela-mandir village-alipur, delhi, have lost my original-certificate class-10th year-2013 rollno-8143630 CBSE-Delhi.

0040526561-9

**I, Priya W/o Kishor Kumar R/O-**A-2/77-C, Lawrence-Road Delhi-110035, have changed my name to Priya Chawla for all purposes.

0040526613-7

**I, Prayag Datt S/O Madhawa** Nand R/O-B-1356, G.D.Colony, Mayur-Vihar, Phase-3, Delhi-110096, have changed my name to Prayag Dutt S/O Madhwanand.

0040526636-4

**I, Praveen Gupta S/O Roshan** Lal Gupta R/O-F-25/61, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085. Have Changed My Name to Praveen Kumar Gupta.

0040526598-8

**I, Parvesh Kumar Bharti S/O** Sh. Rampal Singh R/O Flat No.503, Pocket-2, DDA-Flats, Sector-9, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075. Have changed the name of my minor daughter Amaira aged 02-years and 02 months to Amaira Singh for all purposes.

0040526613-3

**I, PUKHRAJ AGGARWAL, S/O** Late ASHOK KUMAR AGGARWAL H.No-2235-2236, BEHIND-KALI-MASJID, GALLI-SHANKAR, BAZAR-SITARAM, DELHI-110006. Have changed my name to AYAAN MALIK.

0040526613-8

**I, No-12974143P, Hav Bashir** Ahmed Shah, S/O- Late Gh Nabi Shah, R/O Zaripora, Tehsil-Kulgam, District-Anantnag. In my service records name and (D o B) of childrens has been wrongly mentioned as daughter Ashiq Bashir instead of Aasia Bashir (D o B-13-04-2000) and son waheed Bashir instead of wahid Bashir (D o B-26-11-2002). It needs correction. Objections be filed to concerned authorities within seven days.

0020399840-1

**I, Baljit Singh S/O Gurinder** Singh R/O-Flat No.39, Gh-14, Paschim-Vihar, Delhi-110087. Have Changed My Name To Baljeet Singh.

0040526598-9

**I, BIPASHA SOM W/O-** Saurabhkumar Gune R/O H.No.26, Block-C, Gautam-Buddha University, Greater-Noida-201312, changed my name to BIPASHA SOM GUNE.

0040526633-5

**I, Ashwani Chopra S/o V.K** Chopra R/O-H.No-302, E-1, Gardenia Glamour Sector-3 Vasundhra Ghaziabad, U.P-201012, have changed my minor son name from Nihal Chopra to Nihalal Chopra.

0040526572-1

**I, Arushi D/o-Gopal Bandhu R/o-**113, G-block phase-1, Ashok vihar Delhi-110052, have changed name Arushi Bandhu for future.

0040526636-1

**I, Anupam S/o Shri Chand** Jee R/O House No. 3238, 1st Floor, Backside, Block-C, Green Field Colony, Faridabad-121001 have changed my name to Anupam Raina for all purposes.

0040526558-1

**I, Asif Baig S/O Mirza Naseer** Baig R/O-1350 Madarasa-Shah Abdul-Aziz Kala-Mahal, Daryaganj, Delhi-110002. Have Changed My Name To Mirza Asif Baig.

0040526607-6

**I, Anil Kumar S/O-Ram Kumar** Singhal R/O-D-14 Hakikat Rai-Road Adarsh-Nagar Delhi-110033. Changed My Name To Anil Kumar Singhal.

0040526607-3

**I, Iram Salim, W/o Salahuddin** R/O-H.No.C-1st/10-B, Raju-Park Khanpur, New-Delhi-110062, that inadvertently in my son's MCD-birth record/School record/Central Board of Secondary-Education, Examination in the year-2019, issue by CBSE. My name has been wrongly-written as Iram Salahuddin instead of Iram Salim, which may be amended accordingly.

0040526607-8

**I, Chandni Kumar D/o Sh.** Dharam Raj Sah W/o Sunny Kumar Shaw R/o 18/17A, Goods Shed Road, Titagarh (M), North 24 Paraganas, Titagarh, West Bengal-700119 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Chandni Kumar Sah in future for all purposes.

0070691404-1

**I, Kuldeep Singh S/o Balwant** Singh R/O H.No. 718/2, Gali No.5 Punjabi Basti, Anand Parbat Military Road, Karol Bagh Delhi-110005, have changed my name to Kuldip Singh

0040526567-1

**I, Komal D/o Sh. Shyam Sunder** Mittal R/O-E-154 Krishan Vihar, Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Komal Mittal for all purposes.

0040526606-1

**I, Km. Mamta Rani Jain W/O-Anil** Kumar H.No-290/12, Snathan Mandir-Gali, Ganaur, Sonipat, Haryana-131101. Have Changed My Name To Mamta Jain.

0040526607-4

**I, Lovleen Kaur W/O Sunil Sethi** R/O-1235, II-Floor, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009. Have Changed My Name To Lovleen Sethi.

0040526598-6

**I, Km Huma R/O H. no. 710 G F** Haweli Azam Khan Chitli Qubar, Jama Masjid, Chandni Chowk Delhi 110006 have changed my name to Huma Khan

0070691403-1

**I, Kanahaiya Kumar Jha S/O-** Sarva Narayan Jha R/O-124, 2nd-Floor, Surya-Vihar Part-2, Sector-91, Faridabad, Haryana-121003. Have Changed My Name To Kanhaiya Kumar Jha.

0040526607-2

**I, Kajal D/o Bachchan Singh R/o** 345, Sector-37, Noida (U.P.) have changed my name to Kajal Sirrit for all future purposes.

0040526581-1

**I, Kailash Chandra Kanwal S/o** Padma Dutt R/O-B-18 Khasra No.529/1 Block-B Aya-Nagar Phase-2, Delhi-110047, changed my name to Kailash Chandra Sanwal.

0040526611-4

**I, KM.SHEFALI JAIN W/O-NITIN** JAIN R/O-1/9565, GALLI.NO.3 PRATAPPURA ROHTASH-NAGAR WEST/SHAHADARA DELHI-110032. Have changed my name to SHAFALI JAIN.

0040526633-7

**I, Juveriyah Ghous W/O-Sarmad** Rana, R/O-C-125 Johri-Farm, Jamia-Nagar, Delhi. Have changed my name to Juveriyah Rana.

0040526633-4

**I, Jetander Dhiman S/O Darshan** Kumar R/O-Gp-1, Pitampura, Delhi-110034. Have Changed My Name To Jitender Kumar.

0040526598-3

**I, Indereet S/O-Virender Singh** R/O-A-7/111-112, Third-Floor Sector-17 Rohini Delhi-110089. Changed my name to Indereet Singh.

0040526633-1

**I, Gulshan Kumar S/O Late. Tilak** Raj R/O-313/73F, Plot.No.67, Anand-Nagar, Indorlok, Delhi-35. Have changed my minor son name from Hitesh to Konark. His DOB is-01.01.2010.

0040526613-6

**I, Abhinav Prabhat Sharma S/O** Ajay Krishan Sharma R/O 98 Kadambari Apartment Sec-9 Rohini, Delhi 110085, have changed my name to Abhinav Sharma.

0040526570-4

**I, Mahesh Kumar Mahawar S/O** Natthu Ram Mahawar R/O D-318, Shakurpur, J.J.Colony, Trinagar, Delhi-110034. Changed My Name To Mahesh.

0040526598-10

**I, JAFRA. H.NO.11ST A 29/13 GF** SANGAM VIHAR NEW DELHI. have changed my name to ZAKARA BEGUM

0070691402-1

**I, Anu Meha Tyagi D/o Bhuvnesh** Kumar Tyagi R/O A307 Nav Nirman CGHS Plot 6A, Sector-2, Dwarka, have changed my name to Annumeha Tyagi.

0040526564-1

**I, Anjana Aggarwal W/o-** Vijender Aggarwal R/O-C-6 Ganesh-Nagar Pandav-Nagar Complex, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Neeru Aggarwal, for all future purposes.

0040526611-3

**I, Anil Tyagi S/o Randhir Singh** R/O H.No.220, Village & Post Office-Rai, District-Sonapat, Tehsil-Sonapat, Haryana, Pin Code-131029, have changed my name to Anil Kumar for all purposes.

0040526591-1

**I, Anil Kumar S/O Ramesh** Chandra R/O Ai Nadi, Sevia Jat, Mandir Wali Gali, Agra, U.P.-282001, Changed My Name To Anil Khatiwalya.

0040526633-11

**I, Ajitpal Singh S/o Sukha Singh** R/O B-102, Indra Marg, Mandawali, Delhi-110092, have changed my name from Ajitpal Singh Bhullar to Ajitpal Singh for all future purposes.

0040526554-1

**I, Abhishek Jadon S/o-Kamlesh** Jadon R/O-Plot.No-35A, Ashirwad Apartment, Gali.No-9, Sadhnagar Palam-Colony Delhi-110045. Have Changed My Name To Abhishek Singh Jadon.

0040526613-5

**I, Asim Rahman S/o Aqilur** Rahman R/O D-238, Sector-47, Noida (U.P.) have changed my name to Asim Rahman for all future purpose.

0040526581-2

**I, MOHD AMEENULLAH KHAN** S/O-HAFEZULLAH KHAN R/O-850 KATRA-HIDDU FARASH-KHANA DELHI-110006. Have changed my name to AMEEN ULLAH KHAN.

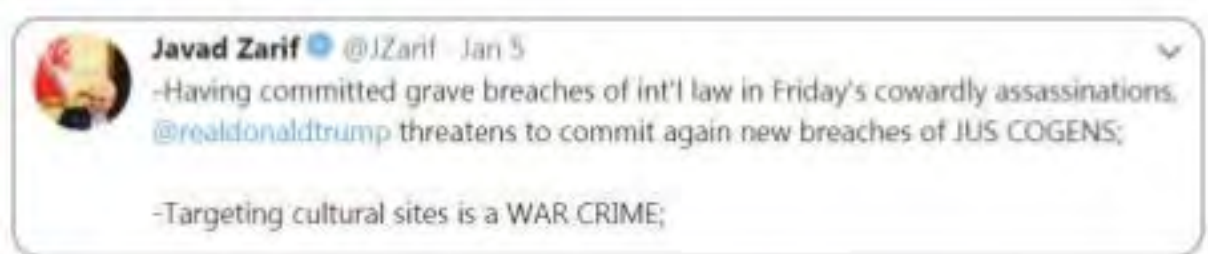
0040526633-8



THIS WORD MEANS

JUS COGENS

The Latin term that Iran invoked after Trump threatened to target its cultural sites



**ON SUNDAY**, responding to President Donald Trump’s threat to attack sites that were “important to Iran and Iranian culture”, Iran’s Foreign Minister Javad Zarif posted on Twitter: “Having committed grave breaches of int’l law in Friday’s cowardly assassinations, @realDonaldTrump threatens to commit again new breaches of JUS COGENS; — Targeting cultural sites is a WAR CRIME;... Those masquerading as diplomats and those who shamelessly sat to identify Iranian cultural & civilian targets should not even bother to open a law dictionary. *Jus cogens* refers to peremptory norms of international law, i.e. international red lines. That is, a big(ly) “no no.”

(“Bigly” is a word that many believe Donald Trump has been heard to say, and is frequently used to mock the President’s speech, mannerisms, and behaviour. However, in 2016, the BBC quoted Fiona McPherson, a senior editor with the Oxford English Dictionary, as saying that “bigly” is, in fact a real word, which can mean “with great force”. The US reference book company Merriam-Webster also agrees that “bigly” is a word, the BBC report said.)

**JUS COGENS** or *ius cogens*, meaning “compelling law” in Latin, are rules in international law that are peremptory or authoritative, and from which states cannot deviate. These norms cannot be offset by a separate treaty between parties intending to do so, since they hold fundamental values. Today, most states and international organisations accept the principle of *jus cogens*, which dates back to Roman times.

The *jus cogens* rules have been sanc-

tioned by the Vienna Conventions on the Law of Treaties of 1969 and 1986. According to both Conventions, a treaty is *void* if it breaches *jus cogens* rules.

Article 53 of the 1969 Convention (“Treaties conflicting with a peremptory norm of general international law (*“jus cogens”*)”) says: “A treaty is *void* if, at the time of its conclusion, it conflicts with a peremptory norm of general international law. For the purposes of the present Convention, a peremptory norm of general international law is a norm accepted and recognized by the international community of States as a whole as a norm from which no derogation is permitted and which can be modified only by a subsequent norm of general international law having the same character.”

Article 64 of the 1986 Convention, “Emergence of a new peremptory norm of general international law (*jus cogens*)”, says: “If a new peremptory norm of general international law emerges, any existing treaty which is in conflict with that norm becomes void and terminates.”

Besides treaties, unilateral declarations also have to abide by these norms.

So far, an exhaustive list of *jus cogens* rules does not exist. However, the prohibition of slavery, genocide, racial discrimination, torture, and the right to self-determination are recognised norms. The prohibition against apartheid is also recognised as a *jus cogens* rule, from which no derogation is allowed, since apartheid is against the basic principles of the United Nations.

OM MARATHE

TIP FOR READING LIST

TRIBUTE TO AN ICONIC COMIC STRIP

THE PREFACE to *The Peanuts Papers: Writers and Cartoonists on Charlie Brown, Snoopy & the Gang, and the Meaning of Life*, edited by Andrew Blauner, begins: “Nearly twenty years after the death of Charles M Schulz,... there still seems so much to say about *Peanuts*, the singular comic strip that occupied the artist for the greater part of his life and, through a miraculous ensemble of hand-drawn children and an independent-minded beagle, won over the world.”

Schulz’s iconic work, which ran in newspapers around the world from 1950 to 2000 (and continues to appear in many publications even today), was once described by John Updike as a “comic strip at bottom tragic”. *The Peanuts Papers*, a “collection of deeply personal essays, will help you see it clear, if you don’t already, as a psychologically complex epic about stoicism, faith and other approaches to

existential struggles”, says the review of the book in *The New York Times*.

“This collection is varied, even kaleidoscopic, but it also offers the pleasure of detecting echoes and correspondences among writers who come to *Peanuts* from their own distinct perspectives... *The Peanuts Papers* celebrates Schulz’s real-world cartoon universe by allowing this sort of dialogue among its contributors. Even matters they all agree on, above all the view that *Peanuts* is of endless interest and remains deserving of the highest praise, can be expressed through a wealth of fruitful approaches,” says the Preface.

However, as *The New York Times* review notes, the list of contributors “skews quite noticeably to the older and whiter side”, and the book does not have any of Schulz’s strips. There are, however, some original illustrations by some of the cartoonist contributors.





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KARISHMA MEHROTRA  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

CALIFORNIA’S NEW privacy law — the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) — is first-of-its-kind data legislation. As users’ data are increasingly commodified by technology conglomerates, the law — which went into effect on January 1 — gives Californians new controls over how companies use their data. These controls include the right to access the data, the right to ask for its deletion, and the right to prevent its sale to third parties. Significantly, because of the global nature of the Internet, these changes will affect users worldwide.

“What this new law comes down to is giving consumers the right to take back control over their information from thousands of giant corporations. This is about power: the more a company knows about you, the more power it has to shape your daily life. That power is exercised on the spectrum ranging from the benign, such as showing you a shoe ad, to the consequential, like selecting your job, your housing, or helping to shape what candidate you support in an election,” Alastair Mactaggart, author of the 2018 ballot initiative that led to CCPA, wrote in the law’s proposal.

What rights does the CCPA give Californian users?

They have the right to see what personal information businesses collect about them, and the purpose and process of the collection. Personal information refers to any information that can be linked back to the user.

They can request and view what inferences the businesses make about them, and have the right to see details about their personal information being sold or given to a third party.

Users can make businesses delete their personal information, and opt out of having their data sold to third parties. The law lays out some exceptions, such as information necessary for completing transactions, providing a service, protecting consumer security, and protecting freedom of speech.

Users can get a copy of the collected per-



Facebook says it doesn’t “sell” data, and the law does not apply to it. *The New York Times*

sonal information for free. Parents have to give permission to companies before the companies can sell the data of their children under the age of 13 to third parties.

To which companies does the law apply?

The law only applies to businesses with gross annual revenues of more than \$25 million; those that buy, receive or sell the personal information of 50,000 or more consumers in California; or those that derive more than half of their annual revenue from selling consumers’ personal information.

The law applies to businesses collecting information of Californians; not just to businesses that operate in the state.

Unintentional noncompliance will lead to fines of \$2,500 per violation; intentional noncompliance will attract a penalty of \$7,500 per violation.

Some studies estimate it will cost businesses \$55 billion to initially meet the standards, of which \$16 billion will be spent over the next decade.

One study has said that the law protects \$12 billion worth of personal information

that is used for advertising in California every year.

What has changed in practical terms?

The law went into effect on January 1, but the California Attorney General has not begun enforcing the act yet. The AG will be allowed to take action six months after the rules are finalised, or on July 1.

At the very least, companies will need to set up web pages and phone numbers to take requests. Users also may begin to see a new button on websites stating “Do Not Sell My Personal Information”.

Several large companies have set up new infrastructure to comply. Google launched a Chrome extension to block Google Analytics from collecting data. Facebook has said that the law doesn’t apply to them since they do not “sell” data, and that they already have features that comply with the law (such as a tool that allows users to access and delete their information).

Bloomberg has reported that a wave of new start-ups are pitching products to companies to help them adhere to the new rules.

# There’s hope for the rare Bustard — here’s why

ANJALI MARAR  
PUNE, JANUARY 6

ONCE THE frontrunner to be named India’s national bird, the Great Indian Bustard has long been on the brink of extinction. The Great Indian Bustard (GIB), is one of the heaviest flying birds, and is found mainly in the Indian subcontinent. Barely 150 of these birds are estimated to be surviving now globally. However, a major conservation effort launched about four years ago is bringing a ray of hope.

Nine chicks

Since June last year, nine GIB eggs collected from the Desert National Park in Jaisalmer where a conservation centre has been set up, have hatched, and the chicks are reported to be doing well. This is the largest number of hatchings reported within a six-month frame by any GIB conservation programme in the world, say officials.

Forest officials have identified seven females and one male among the GIB chicks; the sex of the ninth and youngest chick, which hatched a couple of months ago, is not yet known.

Giving the chicks the right diet is a challenge, the officials said. “Very little is known



The Great Indian Bustard was once common in several parts of Gujarat, Karnataka, and Maharashtra. *Archive*

about their food habitat. With inputs provided by our counterparts in Gujarat, scientists have identified bird feed that is rich in proteins and calcium,” Arindam Tomar, Chief Wildlife Warden of the Rajasthan Wildlife Department, told *The Indian Express* over the phone.

The GIB is known to eat insects, harvested foodgrains, and fruit. “The uncontrolled use of pesticides and insecticides in farms has badly hit their food habitat,” said Tomar, who took over as the project head in early 2019.

Vanishing grasslands, and attacks by dogs and foxes have contributed to the threat to the GIB’s survival.

Conservation

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun, are working to save the GIB. The Ministry has allotted special funds to the tune of Rs 33 crore, a part of which was used to set up the incubation and chick-rearing centre in Jaisalmer.

In a report submitted to the Ministry in November 2018, the WII said extensive land surveys have been carried out to locate suitable habitats for the chicks.

Officials have zeroed in on 14 spots, based rainfall, accessibility, proximity to wild source, habitat and topographic suitability, availability of water, temperature, etc., and identified Sorsan as the site most conducive for their rearing.

“Sorsan would allow the birds to breed more frequently, unlike Jaisalmer, which sees frequent droughts. Also, with access via road and suitable flat grassland habitat is available,” the WII report said. The centre will be the birds’ home for a few years — a safe habitat would have to be readied before they can be released into the wild.

Challenges

Male birds reach sexual maturity between the ages of 4 and 5; females at age 3-4. Generally, the GIB lives up to age 15 or 16, experts said. A female lays an egg once in 1-2 years, and the chicks’ survival rate is 60%-70%. “Being such long-lived and slow reproducing species, adult mortality remains high,” the WII report said.

Tomar said: “Once these birds mature and can produce offspring, there must be enough habitats to support their growth. Readying the necessary habitat will be key in the coming months and years.”

According to the WII report, the bird was once abundant in Kutch, Nagpur, Amravati, Solapur, Bellary, and Koppal districts in the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Karnataka. “Karnataka has expressed interest in working with us, but there is nothing concrete from Maharashtra so far,” the officer said.

Globally and in India, high voltage power lines are a major threat to the GIB, the WII report says. The bird has poor frontal vision, which restricts it from spotting power lines early. “...About 15% of the population (dies) due to the power lines in Jaisalmer alone. This, in comparison to the natural cause of deaths contributed only 4% to 5% cases,” the report says.

# Why an American attack on Iran’s cultural sites could constitute a war crime

NEHA BANKA  
KOLKATA, JANUARY 6

FOLLOWING THE assassination of Maj Gen Qassem Soleimani, President Donald Trump tweeted on Saturday that if “Iran strikes any Americans, or American assets” in retaliation, the US would target 52 sites in Iran, “some at a very high level & important to Iran & the Iranian culture”.

It was not clear what Trump would achieve by deliberately destroying Iran’s cultural heritage, but such a step, should he follow through on his threat, could be considered a war crime.

Iran is home to one of the world’s oldest civilisations dating back to 10,000 BC. Twenty-four Iranian sites are on UNESCO’s World Heritage List, two of which are natural sites and the rest cultural sites.

Among the main World Heritage Sites in Iran are the Meidan Emam and Masjid-e-Jame in Isfahan; the Golestan Palace in the historic heart of Tehran; Pasargadae and Persepolis, capitals of the Achaemenid Empire, founded by Cyrus II and Darius I respectively in the 6th century BC; and the archaeological site of Takht-e Soleyman,

which has the remains of an ancient Zoroastrian sanctuary.

What is the problem with targeting cultural heritage?

Following the unparalleled destruction of cultural heritage in World War II, the nations of the world adopted at The Hague in 1954, The Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, the first international treaty focussed exclusively on the protection of cultural heritage during war and armed conflict.

The Convention defined cultural property as “movable or immovable property of great importance to the cultural heritage of every people, such as monuments of architecture, art or history, whether religious or secular; archaeological sites,...”, etc. The signatories, referred to in the Convention as “the High Contracting Parties”, committed themselves to protecting, safeguarding, and having respect for cultural property.

There are currently 133 signatories to Convention, including countries that have acceded to and ratified the treaty. Both the United States and Iran (as well as India) signed the Convention on May 14, 1954, and it entered into force on August 7, 1956.



Iranian World Heritage Sites Meidan Emam in Isfahan (left) and Golestan Palace in Tehran. *Soroush Angabini/UNESCO*



The Rome Statute of 1998, the founding treaty of the International Criminal Court, describes as a “war crime” any intentional attack against a historical monument, or a building dedicated to religion, education, art, or science. The International Criminal Court started functioning in 2002 with jurisdiction over four main crimes: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.

Article 8 of the Rome Statute deals with war crimes. Article 8(2)(b)(ii) says war crimes include “intentionally directing attacks against civilian objects, that is, objects which are not military objectives”, and 8(2)(b)(ix)

mentions “intentionally directing attacks against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, historic monuments, hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided they are not military objectives”.

122 countries are States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. The United States is a signatory that has not ratified the Statute. India has neither signed nor ratified the Statute.

Is it likely that the US will in fact, attack these heritage sites?

Following Trump’s threats, Secretary of

State Mike Pompeo told ABC News: “We’ll behave lawfully. We’ll behave inside the system. We always have and we always will.”

To CNN, Pompeo said, “We will be bold in protecting American interests and we’ll do so in a way that is consistent with the rule of law.” Pressed on whether “cultural centres” were fair targets, he said: “We’re going to do the things that are right and the things that are consistent with American law.”

Trump himself has been direct, underlining that he meant what he tweeted.

“They’re (the Iranians) allowed to kill our people. They’re allowed to torture and maim our people. They’re allowed to use roadside bombs and blow up our people,” the President told reporters on Sunday. “And we’re not allowed to touch their cultural site? It doesn’t work that way.”

How has Iran responded to the threats?

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif posted on Twitter: “A reminder to those hallucinating about emulating ISIS war crimes by targeting our cultural heritage: Through MILLENNIA of history, barbarians have come and ravaged our cities, razed our monuments and burnt our libraries. Where are they now? We’re still

here, & standing tall.” He also said that Trump’s threats, if carried out, would be a breach of “*jus cogens*” (*See This Word Means’ in column at left*) and a war crime.

When has cultural property been targeted earlier?

■ During the Siege of Dubrovnik in 1991-92 by the Yugoslav People’s Army, the old town of Dubrovnik in Croatia was targeted in an attempt to wipe out Croatian history and cultural heritage. Subsequently, during the Croat-Bosniak war, Croat paramilitary forces destroyed the 16th century Stari Most bridge in Mostar in today’s Bosnia and Herzegovina, in 1993.

■ In 2001, the Taliban destroyed Buddhas that had been carved into the mountainside in Bamiyan, Afghanistan, between the 3rd and 6th centuries AD.

■ In 2006, the UN and the Cambodian government established the Khmer Rouge Tribunal to prosecute the destruction of Cambodia’s cultural assets.

■ Between 2014 and 2017, the Islamic State destroyed several places of religious and cultural significance. In 2015, the IS captured and destroyed the ancient Syrian city of Palmyra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.







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RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

POWER TO THE GOON

The mob violence on JNU students is a chronicle foretold. Those whose job is to protect the campus are accomplices

THE VICIOUS ATTACK on students and teachers in JNU by a group of goons, allegedly affiliated to the RSS student-wing ABVP, on Sunday night is not merely a case of campus violence peaking. It is the outcome of the daily demonising of the university, its staff and faculty, over a period of time by people holding high public office. The mob that went on a rampage in the campus, including in girls' hostels, was empowered by the very government that is vested with the power and responsibility to uphold law and order, to act as it did. It did not happen in a day, of course; it has been in the works ever since JNU was seen by the establishment as a rebel outpost. Students and faculty have been branded "anti-nationals", who need to be punished. Phrases like "tukde tukde gang" and Urban Naxal were used by BJP functionaries, including senior ministers, to describe students and cases foisted on student leaders. A narrative of aggressive nationalism was carefully nurtured to normalise the vilifying of the university and its inhabitants, dogwhistling that targeting JNU has the sanction of the government.

Two members of the Union Cabinet, both JNU alumni, have condemned the incident. But this rings hollow. Visuals of hooligans roaming in dormitories and the campus, wielding hockey sticks and bludgeons, shouting "desh ke gaddaro ko, goli maaro saalo ko", and finally trooping out of the campus, under the benign gaze of Delhi Police, are available in the public domain. Delhi Police, which the other day was seen wreaking havoc on the Jamia Millia Islamia campus, has been coy to act against the thugs who had a free run in JNU. The vandals have been aided and abetted by the institutions that ought to have cracked down on them in the first place. What is the message that is sent out? Who is to act against the hooligans? How long before such mob transforms itself into lynch bands that have murdered people in the name of food and faith in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand in recent years.

The wardens of JNU hostels that faced the brunt of the thugs have quit their posts, taking responsibility for failure to protect students. The university vice-chancellor, M Jagadesh Kumar, a divisive presence in the campus at the best of times, seems to run the university as a department of the Union Human Resources Development Ministry, its strings pulled by Union Home Ministry. Clearly, his fidelity is not to the students and staff — his tenure is remarkable for its failure in winning the trust of the campus. Kumar should be relieved of the responsibility he has long abdicated. But for that to happen, saner heads need to prevail. Who understand that a campus where goons are empowered is a campus that will shrivel — and shrink a nation's future.

BLAZE DOWN UNDER

In Australia's bushfires lie warnings about the complex ways in which climate variables interact

AT LEAST 24 people have lost their lives, nearly 500 million animals have perished and more than 12 billion acres of land — an area as large as Denmark — has turned to cinders as bushfires have ravaged large parts of Australia. The fires, among the worst in the country's history, have been raging since September and show no signs of abating. New South Wales, the country's worst-affected state, declared an emergency last week in its southeastern region and people were asked to move to safer locations. But the state government faced people's ire when those fleeing the inferno had to face long traffic jams. More opprobrium has been heaped on the country's Federal government. Across the country, frustrated Australians have vented their anger at Prime Minister Scott Morrison for playing down the blaze's association with climate change — a charge the Federal government has denied.

Bushfires are actually a part of Australia's ecosystem. Many plants depend on them to cycle nutrients and clear vegetation. In fact, eucalyptus trees in Australia depend on fire to release their seeds. But all this usually happens during a few weeks in late January-February, when the country is at its driest. The prolonged blaze this year has coincided with Australia's harshest summer. Parts of the country recorded their highest recorded temperature in December. Then, longer-term factors have been at play. Much of Australia is facing a drought that is a result of three consecutive summers with very little precipitation. This, according to climate scientists, is unprecedented. Moreover, as the Australian Bureau of Meteorology's 2018 State of the Climate report notes, "Australia's climate has warmed by just over 1 degree Celsius since 1910, leading to an increase in the frequency of extreme heat events." This has led to more rainfall in northern Australia, but created drought-like conditions in the more densely populated southeast.

Australia is home to nearly 250 animal species, some of them like the koalas and kangaroos are not found elsewhere. But the region also has the highest rate of native animals going extinct over the past 200 years. The fires will aggravate this situation. Experts, for example, reckon that more than a quarter of the koala habitat has been consumed by the blaze. The fires have also caused a drop in the bird, rodent and insect populations. These creatures are the building blocks of the ecosystem and the fall in their population is bound to have long-term impacts. In Australia's bushfires lie a warning about the complex ways in which climate variables interact.

PURE STARSHINE

The Golden Globes had many surprises, least of which was an all vegan menu

THERE WAS A time stars let down their hair at the Golden Globes, with the first awards of the season a good dress rehearsal for the Oscars and the over 75,000 glasses of free Champagne lubricating enough Dutch courage. Now, Hollywood's glitziest night has stirred itself "woke". On Sunday night, the best of TV and cinema of 2019 were first served the rapier-sharp tongue of anchor Ricky Gervais, and then an all-vegan menu (a Globes first). With Donald Trump rushing the US headlong into another blunder in West Asia, the best film surprise was a just-released war movie, 1917. The best actor no-surprise was Joaquin Phoenix's anarchist and confused Joker who, in his acceptance speech, strewn with cuss words and casual informality, lectured Hollywood on climate change, private jets and responsible voting. The luminaries of Netflix's hot contenders were being resoundingly shut out — Martin Scorsese and Robert De Niro (*The Irishman*), Adam Driver (*Marriage Story*) — looked on unimpressed.

But if Phoenix stressed that he didn't want to rock the boat, the women didn't need reminding. Top honours again eluded them, while Olivia Colman won best TV actress for the solidly establishment *Crown*. Michelle Williams struck a few political notes, as Awkwafina became the first performer of Asian descent to win a Best Actress Musical or Comedy.

With no fire sizzling the red carpet either, the clouds parted for pure starshine for one brief moment. Brad Pitt, the Best Supporting Actor, wearing his blond splendour and dating status lightly, complimented his director Quentin Tarantino and thanked co-actor Leonardo Di Caprio as their Hollywood nostalgia film walked away with the most awards of the night. Pitt's four-letter word of choice was simpler. "If you have the chance to be 'kind' to someone tomorrow, take it. I think we need it," the actor said. Aah, for that forever fairytale, *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*.



PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

JNU violence reflects an apocalyptic politics driven by a constant need to find new enemies

THE SHOCKING VIOLENCE at JNU should convince you of one simple proposition: India is governed by a regime whose sole *raison d'être* is to find an adversarial rallying point and crush it by brute force. Cowardly thugs running amok in one of India's most premier universities, inflicting head injuries on teachers and students, is not a minor scuffle explained away by JNU's local conflicts. To better understand what is at stake, it is important to listen to the entire range of speeches our honourable, "He Who Must not be Named" Home Minister delivers. One thing will become abundantly clear. The current political regime cannot exist unless it finds a new enemy. It now legitimises itself, not by its positive accomplishments, but by using the enemy as a rallying point. The targeting of enemies — minorities, liberals, secularists, leftists, urban naxals, intellectuals, assorted protestors — is not driven by a calculus of ordinary politics. It is driven by will, ideology and hate, pure and simple. When you legitimise yourself entirely by inventing enemies, the truth ceases to matter, normal restraints of civilisation and decency cease to matter, the checks and balances of normal politics cease to matter. All that matters is the crushing of real and imaginary enemies, by hook or by crook.

The events at JNU are another symbol of the apocalyptic politics this government is playing. It is apocalyptic in a triple sense. At the level of discourse, the normalisation of the phrase "tukde tukde gang" abetted by the home minister, with the help of a pliant media, laid the background conditions for this kind of violence.

There is no doubt that many of those who were cowardly enough to assault unarmed professors and students and hit them on the head, see themselves as some kind of nationalist warriors: Avenging national honour by unleashing violence in a university. But the fact that they think in this way has been enabled by the larger ideological climate, something government functionaries have done much to inculcate.

There is no getting away from the fact that hunting down your own citizens as anti-national is now part of the ideological construct of this government, as evidenced by the home minister's speeches. There is no get-

The silver lining is that, as recent events have shown, enough Indians are refusing to be cowed down. This is embittering and shaking the government and its supporters even more. In the short run, we need three things. There has to be an absolute refusal to patronise anyone who normalises the 'tukde tukde gang' talk — licensing the militarisation of domestic politics. There has to be institutional accountability: From the JNU VC to the home minister. But, this moment will also require the forces of protests to be more visible in the peaceful and dignified way they have been over the last few days.



AAKASH JOSHI

GEORGE ORWELL ONCE lamented that he "was forced to become a pamphleteer" by the times that he lived in. His happy place, to use the contemporary parlance, was gardening and writing novels. Orwell was much more than a pamphleteer. He was a chronicler of the evils of nationalism as well as one who understood its appeal. There are few Orwells among us. But our time, like his, is a moral test.

What is the metaphor, the analogy, that describes the masked men and women that rampaged across Jawaharlal Nehru University on the night of December 5? Were these stone-pelters (though given the size of their projectiles, perhaps rock throwers) and rod-using assaulters of students the great Indian Ku Klux Klan — they have it down pat, the masks and narrow majoritarianism? Or, perhaps, they are just "goons" or the "lumpen element" — those broad terms that can mean anyone, on a given day. And, since we dare not say the F-word or the N-word, can we call them Brownshirts, despite the decidedly saffron tint to their sloganeering? By the time of writing this, both the complicities that enabled the violence and the equivocations in its aftermath are well underway.

The Delhi Police, which reports to Home Minister Amit Shah, has not made a single arrest, nor taken into custody anyone connected to the violence. In fact, by all accounts, the mob moved with impunity through the campus even as the police stood at the gate. This,

AFTER THE STICKS AND STONES

With the violence at JNU, citizens face a stark, binary moral choice

Something has changed in India over the last few months. In Delhi, those who watched the country change, lose its character have finally decided to show up for others. As with Jamia, so with JNU. Even before the police took action, well-meaning citizens and alumni of JNU showed up at the university.

remember, is the same force that was loading up by the busloads peaceful protestors last month from anti-CAA-NRC demonstrations. Campus security is conspicuous by its absence, the university's vice-chancellor deafening in his silence. Now, the equivocations. BJP MP Meenakshi Leki managed to blame Left parties (even as the violence was underway) for "politicising students", evoke the spectre of "Jamia students" on the JNU campus and took a swipe at Priyanka Gandhi. She went on to say that "if my kids were doing this (protesting, striking) they would get a tight one (presumably a slap) from me". Shah has asked for a "report" on the matter from the Delhi Police — seen on video allegedly escorting weapon-wielding men and women from the campus. It is not difficult to imagine what will follow. More voices from the BJP, the Union government and their loud sympathisers will try to present this as a clash between student groups; Urban Naxals will be brought up and a minor disagreement between students — an everyday part of campus life — will be used as a justification for creating terror in a place that dissents. And, given the love for "debate", of pretending that there are two equal sides to every immortality, the discourse will move on as it always does. But it need not be so. Something has changed in India over the last few months. In Delhi, those who watched the country change, lose its character have fi-

nally decided to show up for others. As with Jamia, so with JNU. Even before the police took action, well-meaning citizens and alumni of JNU showed up at the university. There, a young woman was first chased by men with rods — outside the gate on the road leading up to the campus. When she did make it, ABVP activists greeted her and others with slogans of "Jai Shri Ram", "Desh ke gaddaron ko, goli maaro saalon ko" and "...Afzal (Guru) ki maut maroge". When they spoke to these men, argued with them, they were told to get the men of their house. She, and others like her, were a symptom of their cowardice, "pallu ki aad mein anti-national" is how they were described. The women engaged in the debate, pointed out that their agency was not circumscribed by men, and that's a privilege that should be a right. But this must be said to the men who chased the young women, those who assaulted JNUSU President Aishe Ghosh leaving her face battered and bleeding. And because in the times we live in, the dreaded first person must be employed — the political is as personal as it gets. The "men of the house" — for the children we may someday have, or just to assuage our conscience — will, at the very least, have to turn pamphleteers. Beat that with a stick.

aakash.joshi@expressindia.com

JANUARY 7, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

CONG SET FOR WIN THE CONGRESS-I SEEMED to be firmly in the saddle for a major victory in the Lok Sabha mid-term election. The results declared so far show that the voters have swung away from the Janata Party and the Lok Dal. The performance of both parties was utterly dismal. Of the 61 results declared till midnight, the Congress (I) had won as many as 44 seats.

BACK TO MRS GANDHI THE PEOPLE LOOK like returning Mrs Gandhi with the same vengeance as they had rejected her in the 1977 election. The verdict against the Janata may be even more

severe because the combined Congress did win 153 seats in the last poll. As predicted, the Lok Dal does not figure anywhere. The leftists may do far better than the Lok Dal and the Congress put together. If today's trend continues, the Congress (I) may have a two-third majority in the new Lok Sabha. Indeed, it will be Mrs Gandhi's personal victory. The argument that she alone can give a stable government to the country seems to have gone down well with the people. SOVIET'S DENY CHARGES THE SOVIET UNION, denying charges of military interference in Afghan affairs, last

night accused United States officials of making the charges to kill the second Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. The Soviet Ambassador, Oleg A. Troyanovsky, seemed to have President Jimmy Carter in mind when he brought the accusation in the UN Security Council, at the second meeting of a debate on the situation in Afghanistan begun last afternoon by request of the United States, China and 48 other countries. "American leaders", he said, "have seized on the so-called Afghan question to justify attempts to prevent the so-called SALT II treaty from coming into force and justify the increase in the military budget."





# West Asia after Soleimani

An all-out war between the US and Iran will destabilise the region and have major economic impact worldwide. The outcome could be apocalyptic for India’s interests



NOT MANY IN India are aware of Major General Qassem Soleimani, the commander of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) of Iran — the man who was killed by a surgical drone airstrike near Baghdad airport on the morning of January 3. The killing began the New Year and decade with a trigger that may have far reaching consequences. But first, Soleimani needs a brief introduction.

“His brilliance, effectiveness, and commitment to his country have been revered by his allies and denounced by his critics in equal measure,” wrote US General Stanley McChrystal in 2018. “Soleimani is arguably the most powerful and unconstrained actor in the Middle East today. A ghostly puppet master, a practical strategist.” It was Soleimani who put the Quds Force among the top few forces of the world that have the rare capability to combine intelligence with special forces strike capability and possess a fiercely strategic ideological orientation. The IRGC, with Quds Force at its core, is an organisation which oversees and executes Iran’s regional interests, maintains linkages with other friendly forces and also works through a system of local proxies. Its effectiveness over time has created linkages with the Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Palestine, Houthis in Yemen, militias in Iraq, Bashar al Assad’s forces in Syria and, very importantly, with the Russians in the Middle East. Iran’s Middle East strategy was developed through this capability and it gives out the message that it cannot be meddled with.

The US can use a sledgehammer to defeat and destroy Iran and its forces but after the Iraq and Afghanistan experiences, it is aware that victory in such wars does not necessarily belong to the stronger side.

Soleimani had been in the US’s crosshairs right from the time the US declared the Quds Force a terror organisation. His operational effectiveness had the US worried but it is learnt that even when opportunities to target him arose in the past, former President Barack Obama desisted from following up with an authorisation simply because the next steps in escalation gave no positive options. That is the issue now as well. While no one in the US laments Soleimani’s death, no one is happy with it either since it was not part of a strategy with a focused aim. Is that being fair to President Donald Trump, who is obviously revelling in this achievement?

A short chain of events in Iraq, set off in the last few days of 2019, led to the assassination. US military facilities in Kirkuk (Iraq) were attacked on December 27 by a Shia militia, killing a US contractor. The US responded on December 29, killing 25 militants — Iraq’s leadership was extremely upset. This sparked a retaliatory attack on the US base in Taji before a mob attacked the US Embassy compound in Baghdad on December 31. This is a flagship US embassy in the Middle East, spread over 100 acres, and the breach of its security unnerved the US — that is actually all the more reason that any attack on the Quds Force Commander should have been outside Iraq. The US cannot afford to yield



C R Sasikumar

space in Iraq to a Iran-driven popular people’s movement — very much a possibility as a consequence of Soleimani’s killing.

The question everyone seems to be asking is related to the feasibility of an all-out war. There is no doubt that the domestic political environment of the US is in flux and Trump would risk anything for a fillip to his chances of re-election. However, the US is war weary and if Trump thinks that an all-out war will help his re-election chances, he would be mistaken. A limited set of military actions from time to time — those that exploit US technological superiority — will draw more favourable support. Of course, a lot is contingent upon the nature of Iran’s retribution for the death of the man who was often called a “living martyr”.

Iran’s leadership is aware of its limitations and would wish to stay short of a tipping point, which the US could use to commence an all-out war. For its own larger cause and image, the US would be least concerned about the worldwide economic ramifications of it subsequent actions. Energy price rise, risk to shipping and the economic collapse of the Gulf economies will probably be of less concern than it did in 1990 because the US is no longer dependent on the Middle East for energy. It will, of course, have to be mindful of the worldwide economic impact.

The other question for strategic minds is the nature of a future proxy war in the Middle East. Early reactions from US-based thinkers appear to conclude that a war between the US and Iran will now be direct and beyond proxies. This may not be entirely correct. Weaker nations, such as Iran in this case, choose to fight through proxies who are not exactly unorganised and undisciplined elements. If the US chooses to confront them directly without using its own proxies, it runs the risk of an Afghanistan or an Iraq type of commitment.

Early reactions from US-based thinkers appear to conclude that war between the US and Iran will now be direct and beyond proxies. This may not be entirely correct. Weaker nations, such as Iran in this case, choose to fight through proxies who are not exactly unorganised and undisciplined elements. If the US chooses to confront them directly without using its own proxies, it runs the risk of an Afghanistan or an Iraq type of commitment.

exactly unorganised and undisciplined elements. If the US chooses to confront them directly without using its own proxies, it runs the risk of an Afghanistan or an Iraq type of commitment. For Iran’s proxies, borders remain just lines on maps; they can be crossed at will despite modern surveillance systems. In flat organisations, such as those the proxies are part of, there is minimum control and direction. That is where Iran too runs the risk of overplaying its strategy without presence of a strong and experienced commander like Soleimani, which could lead to a more direct confrontation. An irregular entity such as the Islamic State (IS) lacked air power, armed drones and missiles and yet displayed its conventional war fighting capability. All this will be available if irregular proxies receive a higher level of state support.

Finally, a look at the effect on Indian interests. Energy prices, a diaspora of eight million and \$40 billion in remittances for 5m the core of India’s concerns. Energy prices are already on the rise, without even an inkling of the Iranian response. The diaspora presence is mainly in the Gulf countries, which have thus far been largely out of the theatre of proxy war, except for Saudi Arabia. However, this situation is not permanent. It is contingent on the intensity of escalation of the war by proxies and could extend beyond the current sub regions of the conflict, engulfing the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain. That would be apocalyptic for Indian interests.

*The writer, a former corps commander of the Srinagar-based 15 Corps, is chancellor, Central University of Kashmir*

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

Trump has increased the risk of a region-wide conflagration sucking in Iraq, Syria and Israel. And he has normalised murder of high officials as a tool of state policy, a precedent whose implications he himself might do well to ponder.

— THE GUARDIAN

# Realism behind the rhetoric

Both Trump and Khamenei are realists. There are political constraints on them that limit the pressures of a further escalation of conflict between US and Iran



BY C RAJA MOHAN

AS US PRESIDENT Donald Trump and the “Supreme Leader” of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, raise the pitch of their rhetoric, it is quite easy to underestimate the political constraints on both leaders that limit the pressures for an escalation.

Khamenei has promised “harsh revenge” for the killing of Major General Qassem Soleimani and Trump responded with the threat to bomb 52 Iranian sites, including its precious cultural heritage. While the world gasped at Trump’s threat, he insists that nothing is off limits if Iran takes another American life.

Khamenei certainly can’t afford to look weak in the face of an unprecedented provocation from Trump. He, however, would certainly not want to lose his head in trying to save his political face. The Supreme Leader will also have to factor in Trump’s unpredictability. Barely 48 hours before Soleimani was killed, Khamenei had dared Trump last week by saying “you can’t do a damn thing”. Trump’s campaign of maximum pressure has put Iran’s economy under great strain and deepened domestic political discontent. While the killing of Soleimani helps Khamenei in the near term to close domestic political ranks, a prolonged war with the US could sharpen the Islamic Republic’s internal contradictions. For Trump, too, the elimination of Soleimani has played well with his political base. But pushing the confrontation too far carries huge risks for Trump’s campaign to retain the White House in the general elections later this year. Like Khamenei, Trump would not want to lose the crown in trying to win a distant war.

Is there some room, then, for de-escalation? US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has repeatedly emphasised that the Administration’s strategy is to establish deterrence against future threats to Americans and that it is prepared for de-escalation. Meanwhile, Trump has also sent signals of reassurance to Khamenei by affirming that his Administration has no interest in engineering a “regime change” in Tehran. Through the last few years of his presidency, Trump has often talked about a potential deal with Iran’s clerics. And it was Khamenei who spurned Trump’s offer of an unconditional dialogue as unacceptable amidst the pressure of sanctions.

Until now, Khamenei had some success in running a proxy war against the US but a direct confrontation would be suicidal. Triggering self-destruction can’t be a strategy for Tehran. Despite all the talk of a “third world war”, a direct military contest between US and Iran is loaded in America’s favour.

Iran’s leaders are also realists. Recall the decision of Ayatollah Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic, to accept a ceasefire in the prolonged and bloody war with Iraq in 1988 amidst domestic difficulties. Iran’s decision to stop fighting was also influenced

by the brutal use of chemical weapons by Saddam Hussein and the accidental downing of an Iranian airliner by US that killed nearly 290 passengers. Khomeini was convinced that the US was about to destroy his clerical regime. Khomeini’s words on “drinking the poison of peace” are very much part of the Islamic Republic’s political lexicon. More recently, Khamenei accepted quite a humiliating set of terms in concluding a nuclear deal with the Obama Administration. That Trump wants ever harder terms is another story.

Tehran’s first responses to the killing of Soleimani have been measured. One, Iran has resumed uranium enrichment as part of its step-by-step withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear agreement with the international community in response to Trump’s decision to tear it up. Second, it has got its political allies in Iraq to get the parliament in Baghdad to pass a resolution demanding an end to US military presence in Iraq.

The two moves ramp up pressure on US allies and mobilise anti-Americanism in the Middle East. The Europeans are deeply committed to the nuclear agreement. They are eager to contribute to the de-escalation of the current crisis if only to save the nuclear deal. But Trump does not set much store by America’s traditional alliances like NATO. He did not bother to consult the allies in Europe before taking out Soleimani.

The second move feeds into the declared long-term Iranian objective of driving Americans out of the Gulf and brings us to the ultimate irony of the present crisis. During the 2016 campaign and since, Trump has repeatedly affirmed that he would rather bring the American troops home.

Unlike the security establishment in Washington, Trump does not believe the US needs a permanent military presence in the Middle East in the name of “American global leadership”. With the US emerging as a major oil producer and exporter, energy security is no longer a driving force for Trump. For Trump, counter-terrorism is perhaps the only credible reason to sustain a large military footprint in the Middle East. That, arguably, could also be achieved through offshore military presence.

Trump might not be averse to taking US troops off the ground in the Middle East. But he would like to do it on his own terms. In responding to the non-binding resolution in the Iraqi parliament, Trump threatened Iraq with major sanctions if the US withdrawal is not on friendly terms. Trump is also conscious that not everyone in Iraq wants America to leave the country and cede it to Iranian domination. The minorities in Iraq — the Sunni and Kurdish communities — as well as sections of the majority Shia see US presence as critical in ensuring Iraqi sovereignty vis a vis Iran.

Trump’s radical departure from the conventional US thinking on the Middle East and the deepening of many regional contradictions make the current crisis very different from those we have seen in the past. While there is always the danger of miscalculation by one or more of the actors, it would be unwise to assume they are irrational.

*The writer is director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express*



PRAKASH SINGH

# Proceed with CAA, reject NRC

State miscalculated law’s fallout, failed to recognise anger among Muslims

THE AGITATION AGAINST the Citizenship Amendment Act appears to have gone through three phases. In the first phase, it was a protest against its enactment, as there were genuine apprehensions that the Act, followed by a pan-India NRC exercise, would lead to a large section of society, mostly Muslims, being declared illegal migrants/citizens. There was protests in Jamia Millia Islamia and large-scale demonstrations in Assam and other Northeast states. In the second phase, it became a confrontation between students and the police. Allegations of police high-handedness spread and there were sympathetic protests in educational institutions across the country. The CAA remained the trigger, but it was pushed to the background. Student anger was directed against the police and the government. In the third phase, which we are witnessing today, the movement has been hijacked by political opportunists, separatist factions, fundamentalist groups and lumpen elements. The CAA is an excuse; the target is the ruling party.

The government, in retrospect, appears to have seriously miscalculated the fallout of the CAA. Its success on three fronts appears to have made it insensitive to the simmering anger among the Muslim community. The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill 2019, which banned triple talaq, was a good measure for the emancipation of Muslim women from an atrocious practice,

but it antagonised the radical elements. The abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution, ending the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, aggravated the discomfiture of Muslims. Then the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya added to the sense of unease. The canard that the judiciary had been influenced to give the disputed plot to the Hindus for the construction of the Ram temple, with some luminaries writing about the alleged flaws in the judgment, added fuel to the fire. All these three developments — the annulment of triple talaq, the abrogation of Article 370 and the Ayodhya verdict — collectively led to a feeling of anger, resentment and frustration among Muslims. The government either was not aware of the depth of Muslim resentment or was not bothered about it and was confident of being able to weather any storm.

The announcement of the National Population Register was unexceptionable, but it was ill-timed. Heavens would not have fallen if it had been delayed by a few months. It has provided further ammunition to the Opposition which has embarked on a disinformation campaign to mislead people.

The police are presently doing a thankless job. If they take action against the agitators, as they did in UP, there are allegations of high-handedness. If they play it safe, as they did in West Bengal, the agitators will have a field day — destroy railway property, burn buses, attack police posts and indulge in

acts of vandalism. It is indeed sad that in most of the states, the governments are not particularly bothered about the destruction of public and private property. The taxpayer’s money is nobody’s concern.

The Supreme Court had, in the context of state governments not taking effective measures to protect public and private property from being damaged by unruly mobs, constituted two committees, one headed by Justice KT Thomas and the other by FS Nariman, to study the problem. The Thomas Committee gave recommendations regarding the modalities for preventive action and for providing sharper teeth to inquiry/investigation. The Nariman Committee made suggestions regarding the assessment of damages. These were accepted by the Court which clearly said that “the liability will be borne by the actual perpetrators of the crime as well as the organisers of the event giving rise to the liability” and that “exemplary damages may be awarded”. Uttar Pradesh is perhaps the first state to have shown the political will to punish those who vandalised property.

The agitation has thrown up some disturbing questions. In UP, according to the police chief, there was a conspiracy to create disturbance. If so, one would like to know its full ramifications. Another senior police officer said that the pattern of protests in the state showed guerrilla tactics. The official version that the police did not open fire, and the fact

that there have been deaths due to bullet injuries need to be reconciled. Reports about the involvement of Popular Front of India (PFI) in the agitation are a matter of grave concern and require in-depth investigation. The Karnataka home minister, speaking about the Mangaluru violence, stated that the attack on police was premeditated and the arson was orchestrated by anti-social elements. It would appear that the roots of the agitation go much deeper. Resentment against CAA was perhaps the proverbial last straw. But the movement has since degenerated into a confrontation between the government and diverse elements opposed to it.

The objections to the Citizenship Act are generally unconvincing. Assam is the only state which has reasons to feel aggrieved. There is substance in the argument that the Act contravenes Clause 6 of the Assam Accord which guaranteed safeguards to “protect, preserve and promote the cultural, social, linguistic identity and heritage of the Assamese people”. Reservations on the NRC are understandable. While going ahead with the CAA, the government would do well to scrap the proposal to expand the NRC and explore the possibility of settling refugees in other states across the country which are willing to and in a position to absorb them.

*The writer was formerly Director General of Police, Assam*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### WHOSE NATION?

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Tableaux of exclusion’ (IE, January 6). The government at the Centre is on the backfoot especially in these “excluded states”. And that is why it is arguing that nationalism is under threat. Actually, it’s the Sangh Parivar’s idea of nationalism that is under threat. The Centre-state confrontation goes against federalism.

Anurag Ekka, Ranchi

### GRAINS OF TRUTH

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Lifting growth, containing inflation’, (IE, January 6). The foodgrain procurement regime under the FCI requires reimagination. The decentralised scheme, wherein participating states procure grains on behalf of the FCI for their projects, must be made more flexible. States should be allowed to expand their procurement basket, incentivise procurement of pulses and millets.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata

THIS REFERS TO ‘Lifting growth, containing Inflation’ (IE, January 6). There is a need to address certain structural issues such as de facto nationalisation of the grain market, the open ended procurement system and inefficient management of inventory. Steps such as scaling up of the National Warehouse Receipt system, outsourcing stocking operations to the private sector and revisiting the MSP policy could be some

### 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.

issues to ponder upon.

Sarthak Sonwalkar, Ujjain

### BJP IN DELHI

THIS REFERS TO the report, ‘BJP to fight Delhi polls in Modi name, CAA agenda’ (IE, January 6). It is strange that the BJP’s leaders in Delhi could not reach a consensus over a CM candidate for the assembly elections. If the elections to be fought under Narendra Modi’s leadership, as announced by Home Minister Amit Shah, do not result in a victory for the party, will it accept that the PM’s charisma is on the wane?

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur



TOPOF THE WORLD



John Bolton served as National Security Adviser to Trump

IMPEACHMENT TRIAL Bolton says he's willing to testify if subpoenaed

**Washington:** Former Trump national security adviser John Bolton said Monday that he is “prepared to testify” if he is subpoenaed by the Senate in its impeachment trial of President Donald Trump. Bolton, who left the White House in September, said that he has weighed the issues of executive privilege and that after “careful consideration and study” decided that he would comply with a Senate subpoena. “I have concluded that, if the Senate issues a subpoena for my testimony, I am prepared to testify,” he said. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has expressed resistance to calling new witnesses in the trial.

BRITAIN Man who raped dozens of men gets life in prison

**London:** A man described as “the most prolific rapist in British legal history” has been sentenced to life in prison with a possible release after 36 years following his conviction for sexual offences against 48 men. Authorities said the evidence against 36-year-old Reynhard Sinaga indicates he had many more victims, with roughly 195 men apparently having been filmed while being abused when they were in his apartment. Many were unconscious at the time. Judge Suzanne Goddard QC said in Manchester Crown Court the true number of Sinaga’s victims may never be known.

GERMANY Police kill man who approached them with knife

**Berlin:** Police in western Germany shot and killed a 37-year-old man who allegedly tried to attack them with a knife. They are checking whether extremism was a possible motive for the attack, the German news agency dpa reported Monday. The man, whose name was not given, first used an unidentified object to attack a police car in front of a precinct in Gelsenkirchen Sunday night, and then approached officers with the item in his hand, police spokesman Christopher Grauwinkel said.

WEeping, KHAMENEI PRAYS OVER BODY OF IRANIAN GENERAL SLAIN BY U.S.

# Soleimani successor vows revenge as Trump repeats his threats on Iran

US President warns of ‘sanctions like they’ve never seen before’ against Iraq if it expels US troops

NASSER KARIMI & JON GAMBRELL TEHRAN, JANUARY 6

WEEPING AMID wails from a sea of mourners, Iran’s supreme leader on Monday prayed over the remains of a top Iranian general killed in a US airstrike in Baghdad, an attack that’s drastically raised tensions between Tehran and Washington.

The procession for Iranian Revolutionary Guard Gen. Qassem Soleimani drew a crowd of mourners and followers, said by police to be in the millions, on Monday in Tehran, where Soleimani’s replacement vowed to take revenge for his killing. Additionally, Tehran has abandoned the remaining limits of its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers in response to the slaying while in Iraq, the Parliament has called for the expulsion of all American troops from Iraqi soil.

Adding to the tensions, US President Donald Trump threatened to demand billions of dollars in compensation from Iraq or impose “sanctions like they’ve never seen before” if it goes through with expelling US troops.

Trump had earlier vowed on Twitter that the US will strike back at 52 targets “VERY FAST AND VERY HARD.”

He doubled down on that threat Sunday, dismissing warnings that targeting cultural sites could be a war crime under international law. “They’re allowed to kill our people. They’re allowed to torture and maim our people. They’re allowed to use roadside bombs and blow up our people. And we’re not allowed to touch their cultural sites? It doesn’t work that way,” Trump said.

Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei himself prayed over the caskets of Soleimani and others slain in the attack. Khamenei, who had a close relationship with Soleimani, wept at one point during the traditional Muslim prayers for the dead. The crowd wailed. Soleimani’s successor, Esmail Ghaani stood near Khamenei’s side, as did Iranian President Hassan Rouhani. “We promise to continue down martyr Soleimani’s path as firmly as before with help of God, and in return for his martyrdom we aim to get rid of America from the region,” Ghaani said. **AP**



People attend a funeral procession for Iranian Major-General Qassem Soleimani and Iraqi militia commander Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis in Tehran on Monday. Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei (bottom, left) openly wept as he led a prayer over the coffin of Soleimani. Soleimani’s successor, Brigadier General Esmail Ghaani (bottom, right), was also at the funeral. *Reuters, AP*



## US stops dozens of Iranian-Americans at border

ZOLAN KANNO-YOUNGS, MIKE BAKER & MARIEL PADILLA WASHINGTON, JANUARY 6

DOZENS OF Iranians and Iranian-Americans were held for hours at Washington state’s border with Canada over the weekend as the Department of Homeland Security ramped up security at border ports after Iran threatened to retaliate against the United States for the strike that killed its top military leader. More than 60 of the travellers, many returning from work trips

or vacations, were trying to come home to the US Saturday when agents at the Peace Arch Border Crossing in Blaine, Washington, held them for additional questioning about their political views and allegiances, according to advocacy groups and accounts from travellers. Most of the travellers were released after the extra scrutiny, according to administration officials, although advocates said some were denied entry to the US.

Masih Fouladi, an executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, a Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, said some were held in a waiting room and questioned for up to 10 hours. Later on Saturday night, when others who had just attended a concert in Canada by an



Matt Leas, a spokesman for Customs and Border Protection, disputed the accounts and reports from advocacy groups that the Department of Homeland Security had issued a directive to detain those with Iranian heritage entering the country, despite their citizenship status. **NYT**

Iranian pop star were trying to cross back into the US, they were denied entry and told to come back later, Fouladi said.

When one family asked agents why they were being questioned, an officer told them, “This is a bad time to be an Iranian,” according to Fouladi.

The People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Tibet Military Command started its New Year exercises in which it has deployed helicopters, armoured vehicles, heavy artillery and anti-aircraft missiles across the region from Lhasa, capital of Tibet, to the border defence front lines with elevations of more than 4,000 metres, state-run *Global Times* reported.

India-China Line of Actual Control (LAC) covers 3,488 kilometres, including the border along

## Nankana Sahib vandalism: Main accused held in Pak

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LAHORE, JANUARY 6

THE MAIN accused in the recent incident of vandalism at Gurdwara Nankana Sahib in Pakistan’s Punjab province has been arrested and charged with a non-bailable section of the stringent anti-terrorism act, a top official said on Monday.

Gurdwara Nankana Sahib, also known as Gurdwara Janam Asthan, is a site near Lahore where the first Guru of Sikhs, Guru Nanak, was born.

According to media reports, a violent mob had attacked the Gurdwara and pelted it with stones on Friday. A team of police had to intervene briskly to control the situation.

The accused, identified as Imran, was arrested on Sunday for his role in the incident, Geo News reported.

Azhar Mashwani, the Focal Person (Digital Media) to Punjab Chief Minister, took to Twitter to announce the arrest.

“The main culprit in #NankanaSahib incident Imran has been arrested. FIR # 6/2020 u/s 295A/290/291/341/506/148/149, 6 sound system /7ATA has been registered at Nanakan Police Station,” he said in the tweet which also carries the pic-



Imran was arrested Sunday

ture of the accused behind bars.

He further said that the “7 ATA” is a non-bailable section under the Anti Terrorism Act.

Breaking his silence on the incident, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Sunday condemned the recent incident of vandalism at the Nankana Sahib, saying it goes against his “vision” and the government will show “zero tolerance” against those involved in it.

India has strongly condemned the incident of vandalism at the revered Gurdwara and called upon the Pakistan government to take immediate steps to ensure the safety and security of the Sikh community there.

On Saturday, Indian leaders cutting across party lines and various outfits condemned the mob attack on the historic Gurdwara, terming it as “cowardly” and “shameful”.

## China’s PLA begins major military exercises in Tibet

KJM VARMA BEIJING, JANUARY 6

THE CHINESE Army has begun major military exercises in the high-altitude Tibet bordering India, deploying latest weapons including the Type 15 light battle tank and the new 155-MM vehicle-mounted howitzer, a media report said on Sunday.

The People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Tibet Military Command started its New Year exercises in which it has deployed helicopters, armoured vehicles, heavy artillery and anti-aircraft missiles across the region from Lhasa, capital of Tibet, to the border defence front lines with elevations of more than 4,000 metres, state-run *Global Times* reported.

India-China Line of Actual Control (LAC) covers 3,488 kilometres, including the border along

Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.

China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of South Tibet.

Both the tank and howitzer, which were revealed to the public on the National Day military parade on October 1 last year, are specifically designed with advantages for plateau regions and can play important roles in safeguarding border areas, the report said.

Their deployment in the Tibet Military Command will enhance PLA combat capability in the plateau regions, it quoted a military expert as saying.

Both were equipped with powerful engines, enabling them to manoeuvre efficiently in Tibet’s terrains, a military expert was quoted as saying in the report.

Heavier hostile weapons cannot reach the oxygen-depleted border areas, and, if lighter, they do not have enough firepower, he said. **PTI**

## Harvey Weinstein appears in court as trial set to get underway

TOM HAYS & MICHAEL R SISAK NEW YORK, JANUARY 6

HARVEY WEINSTEIN and several of the women who have accused him of sexual misconduct converged Monday at the New York City courthouse where a judge and his lawyers handled the final preparations for his high-stakes trial on charges of rape and assault.

Weinstein, 67, entered the building leaning on a walker following a recent back surgery.



When asked outside the courtroom how his back felt, Weinstein responded with a thin smile and a so-so gesture with his hand. “Not so good,” he said. “Better.”

Inside, his lawyers and prosecutors spent the morning sparring about procedural matters, including how to keep publicity surrounding the trial from influencing the jury’s thinking.

In a brief hearing, the judge denied a motion to sequester jurors throughout the course of the trial and declined to gag Weinstein’s attorneys from speaking to the media. The judge also turned down a defense request to call as a witness a police detective who had been accused of mishandling part of the case. **AP**

## Venezuela’s ruling Socialists seize Congress

CORINA PONS & LUC COHEN CARACAS, JANUARY 6

VENEZUELA’S SOCIALIST government installed a new head of Congress after armed troops blocked opposition legislators from entering Parliament, in a move condemned by many nations as an assault on democracy.

Troops with riot shields blocked opposition leader Juan Guaido from entering parliament for what was expected to be his re-election as head of Congress, at one point pulling him off the compound’s iron rail-

### EXPLAINED Maduro, Guaido continue quest for legitimacy

AMID GROWING unrest in Venezuela over a failing economy, Juan Guaido, who is an opposition leader and head of the legislative body, declared himself president last year. Though his claim was widely upheld in the West, President Nicolas Maduro maintained control of state machinery. But to continue to hold on to his claim of being the legitimate president, analysts say Guaido had to be re-elected as legislative assembly chief. Maduro’s forces tried to prevent this by blocking opposition lawmakers from voting. This has resulted in competing claims of leadership of the legislative body and a continuing quest for legitimacy by both Maduro and Guaido.

ings after he tried to push past security forces.

The blockade allowed the ruling Socialist Party to hand the post

to legislator Luis Parra, who was recently expelled by an opposition party over corruption allegations.

The gambit by the government of President Nicolas Maduro was slammed by the United States, the European Union and a dozen Latin American nations.

Opposition legislators quickly re-elected Guaido in a session at the headquarters of a pro-opposition newspaper. But the move may further weaken the opposition’s already flagging campaign to oust Maduro, and creates two competing leaders of parliament in a nation caught in a political standoff and suffering an economic collapse. **REUTERS**

### JOAQUIN PHOENIX, RENÉE ZELLWEGER WIN TOP ACTING PRIZES

## Golden Globes 2020: ‘Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood’ & ‘1917’ win top awards

BROOKS BARNES & NICOLE SPERLING BEVERLY HILLS, JANUARY 6

ONCE UPON a Time... In Hollywood, Quentin Tarantino’s ode to 1970s-era Los Angeles, emerged as the big winner at the 77th Golden Globe Awards on Sunday, taking home three trophies, for best musical or comedy, screenplay and supporting actor.

Overall, it was a night when the Hollywood establishment pushed back against the streaming services that have arrived on the film scene. Sam Mendes’ *1917*, a World War I epic that does not

arrive in wide release in theaters until Friday, was named best drama, and Mendes received the trophy for best director.

“I hope this means that people will turn up and see this on the big screen, the way it was intended,” Mendes said from the stage in an unsbtle swipe at Netflix.

It was a humiliating evening for Netflix. The streaming giant went into the ceremony with a leading 34 nods, including six for Noah Baumbach’s *Marriage Story*, more than for any film, and five for Martin Scorsese’s *The Irishman*. But Netflix left with only two trophies: Laura Dern collected the Globe for her sup-



Sam Mendes accepts the award for best motion picture drama for 1917 at the 77th Annual Golden Globe Awards. *AP*

porting role in *Marriage Story* and Olivia Colman (*The Crown*) was named best actress in a tel-

evision drama. Amazon and Hulu each took home a pair of awards, with *Fleabag* (Amazon)

### AWKWAFINA FIRST ASIAN AMERICAN TO WIN BEST ACTRESS

AWKWAFINA BECAME the first Asian American woman to win a Golden Globe Award for best actress, winning in the musical or comedy category for her role in *The Farewell*.

voted best TV comedy. But Apple TV Plus was shut out completely. In contrast, HBO converted

four of its 15 nominations into wins, including Globes for best drama (the soapy media family series *Succession*) and best limited series (*Chernobyl*). Sony Pictures, the studio behind *Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood*, was the big winner among film companies.

The ceremony began on a frothy and obscene note, as the returning host, the British comedian Ricky Gervais, cracked numerous jokes that were bleeped by NBC censors. He mocked Joe Pesci by likening him to Baby Yoda, cracked an extremely vulgar joke that involved the *Cats* star Judi Dench licking herself, poked fun at Hollywood’s focus on diversity

and pronounced that “no one cares about movies anymore”.

Phoebe Waller-Bridge (*Fleabag*) collected the Globe for best actress in a television musical or comedy. “Thank you for picking up this little scrap of a show,” she said to Amazon, which runs the series on its streaming service. Jared Harris was expected to collect the Globe for best actor in a limited series for his *Chernobyl* scientist, but the award went to Russell Crowe (Showtime’s *The Loudest Voice*), who skipped the ceremony amid wildfires in his native Australia.

Nothing is certain when it comes to the Globes, but Renée

Zellweger was as close to a sure thing as it gets. She won best actress in a drama for her portrayal of Judy Garland in *Judy*. On the men’s side, Joaquin Phoenix won for his demented transformation in *Joker*.

Eddie Murphy was the favourite to win best comedic actor for playing a struggling comedian who comes up with a blaxploitation hit in Netflix’s *Dolemite Is My Name*. In a surprise, Taron Egerton (*Rocketman*, released by Paramount Pictures) was called to the stage. A flummoxed Egerton thanked his mother — “This one’s for you” — and Elton John, whom he played in the film. **NYT**



RUPEE DOWN 13P TO 71.93 AGAINST DOLLAR AS INVESTORS SEEK SAFE HavENS

As crude spikes amid US-Iran tensions, Sensex sees sharpest fall in six months

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, JANUARY 6

INVESTORSON Monday shunned equities and rushed to safe haven assets like gold as escalating US-Iran tensions sent crude oil prices soaring, leading to a global sell-off in stocks and currencies. India, too, joined the market rout with the BSE Sensex crashing nearly 788 points — its worst loss in about six months — as markets awaited any Iranian response to the US killing of a senior Iranian commander.

The 30-share Sensex plunged 1.90 per cent, or 787.98 points — the biggest single-day drop since July 8 — at 40,676.63 after hitting an intra-day low of 40,613.96. The 50-scrip NSE Nifty Index closed at 11,993.05, falling by 1.91 per cent, or 233.60 points.

With this, the Sensex has plunged 950 points in the last two sessions, which analysts attributed to the US-Iran tensions and impact of crude price rise. Investor wealth, or market capitalisation, plunged by Rs 3.36 lakh crore in two successive sessions to Rs 153.90 lakh crore.

As India's dependence on crude imports as a percentage of consumption is the highest, further rise in crude oil prices will im-

EXPLAINED Crude oil price rise may hit govt's finances

AS INDIA'S dependence on crude imports as a percentage of consumption is the highest, further rise in crude oil prices will impact India's economy. The fiscal deficit is likely to overshoot the target and tax mobilisation has not kept pace with the Centre's targets.

The rupee plunged 13 paise to settle at 71.93 against the US dollar, with traders saying growing geopolitical tensions could continue to keep the rupee under pressure. Gold rose to its highest level in nearly seven years as investors moved into assets seen as havens.

pact India's economy. "India's fiscal deficit is likely to overshoot the target and tax mobilisation has not kept pace with targets. Crude oil price rise is bad news for India," said an analyst.

The rupee plunged 13 paise to settle at 71.93 against the US currency with traders saying growing geopolitical tensions could continue to keep the rupee under pressure. Gold rose to its highest level in nearly seven years as investors moved into assets seen as havens, with the yellow metal rising as much as 2.3 per cent to

\$1,580 a troy ounce abroad, its highest level since April 2013.

Gold prices in Delhi shot up Rs 720 to Rs 41,730 per 10 gram and in Mumbai, standard gold rose to Rs 40,768 per 10 gram, amid safe-haven demand for the metal.

Amar Ambani, senior president and research read, Yes Securities, said, "The market was spooked by fears of an escalation in tensions between Iran and US. With the rupee depreciating and price of crude rising, stocks plunged deep into the red today. World over, investors have flocked

Oil tops \$70 as Iran, Trump trade threats

London: Oil prices rose over 1 per cent Monday, pushing Brent above \$70 a barrel, as rhetoric from the US, Iran and Iraq fanned tensions in the Middle East. Brent crude futures shot to a high of \$70.74 a barrel and was at \$69.38 at 1150 GMT, up 78 cents, or over 1 per cent, from Friday's close. US WTI crude was at \$63.64 a barrel, up 59 cents, or 0.9 per cent. REUTERS

to gold as a safe haven. In all likelihood, the geopolitical concern should ease in the weeks to come. We are in the middle of a global 'risk-on' trade and an uptrend should resume after a brief pause, unless we see an escalation between US and Iran. I am more focused on local issues around the Indian economy and the Budget, which is around the corner."

Meanwhile, crude prices hit a three-month high as they rose 2 per cent to nudge above \$70 a barrel, their highest level since an attack on a Saudi oil facility last year.

Brent has climbed over 5 per cent since the US airstrike in Iraq Friday.

According to Siddhartha Khemka, head—retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services, there would be weakness in the market in short term due to the major escalation in tension in Middle East.

"Market sentiments have turned negative with rising fear of oil supply disruption after US President Donald Trump threatened sanctions on Iraq, the second-largest producer among the OPEC, after Iraq's parliament voted in favour of expelling the US and foreign troops," he said

Trump also threatened to retaliate against Iran after it vowed to avenge the killing of its top commander Qassem Soleimani on January 3. Trump's statement came hours after Iran announced it will no longer abide by the limits contained in the 2015 landmark nuclear deal.

Meanwhile, European and Asian equity markets fell, with the composite Stoxx Europe 600 down 1.1 per cent in morning trading. Japan's Nikkei was the worst major performer as it fell 1.9 per cent, its steepest one-day drop since early October. Analysts expect the Indian economy to turn around in the coming months.

INTERVIEW WITH MD AND CEO, NATIONAL STOCK EXCHANGE

'If the US-Iran tension spins out of control, the implications are unknown'



"My hope is that in today's world, there are enough checks and balances and it is not easy for things to spiral out of control, because discussions happen and other countries and UN weighs in"

VIKRAM LIMAYE

The economy has been undergoing a slowdown and now a new uncertainty has come up in the form of tension between the US and Iran. How do you think it may hurt out economy and markets?

Geopolitical risk is something that has always been there. US-China trade war was also geopolitical risk from an economic point of view and Middle East has always been an area of concern in terms of other aspects. For us, oil is an important component of our overall financial health and macroeconomic stability. So, if there is any kind of instability that impacts the oil prices, it significantly impacts our own finances and fiscal situation. To that extent this is certainly not something that is good for India and also globally. If it spins out of control, the implications are unknown.

Even from a macro perspective it will certainly have a negative impact on oil and that it will impact the global markets. India can't be immune as an economy and as market. This is one another element like the US-China trade war and this is a different element of global risk that will have an impact on Indian markets and economy depending upon how it evolves.

How do you see it shaping up globally?

It will have significant impact on global economy if it goes down the wrong path. However, my hope is that in today's world, there are enough checks and balances and it is not easy for things to spiral out of control, because discussions happen and other countries and UN weighs in.

There are various checks that come in and so the response can't be knee jerk that somebody can just go and do something. That makes sure that there is a balanced way of approaching things. So my hope is that it will get managed in that context.

Last year we witnessed strong FPI flows into Indian markets but the inflows seem to be getting concentrated in few stocks. Do you see it as a developing risk?

It is a risk. In fact, we have had conversations internally and with others in the system including the regulators and people in the government on the fact that having concentration in handful of stocks cannot be good and broad-basing of the market and participation in many more stocks is needed. You need more liquidity in many more stocks.

We have discussed with the regulator and government as to how we can develop and broad base the market, how we can deepen liquidity in stocks other than Nifty 50 or even beyond top 100 and how to expand that to the next 250-300 stocks.

What is leading to this concentration?

When there is a slowdown or any kind of stress in any financial system, there is always a flight to quality. That is not unique to India and in this flight to quality, people focus only on the best in class, large cap and lower risk stocks and that's what

you are seeing happening. The fact that there have been various governance related issues that have cropped up periodically, many are hesitant and reluctant to take a call in an economy where the growth rate has slowed down.

Another thing you are seeing happening is that increasingly the market is driven more by passive flow. Passive funds are not active stick pickers, they just put in Nifty and if they put there then the money is going in the same 50 stocks. As the passive flow increase, you will see more money flowing into fewer stocks, particularly because the liquidity in the next 200 stocks is not sufficient for the passive funds to deploy more and more money. Therefore you need to increase the public float, broaden liquidity in the next 200 stocks, get more institutional participation in markets and further penetrate and deepen the retail participation.

We have to see that markets are more broad based and money managers have more investable companies from quality and liquidity perspective.

How do you think the broad basing could be achieved?

So you need more retail penetration and more institutional participation and you need to increase the public float of companies so that the investible amount that is available is larger than what is available now. And obviously you need more companies to list to raise money in growth capital. In case of retail, the know-your-customer (KYC) compliance could be simplified. One thing that we have suggested is that if an investor has a bank account, which most of them have, why is an incremental KYC required beyond that, since the bank has already done it. So, the on-boarding has to be streamlined.

For institutional participation each regulator has his own requirement of risk appetite, so the regulators will have to enable their respective constituencies to participate in markets. For example you have large insurance companies including LIC but they don't participate in derivatives market. It is not that they don't want to but it requires a process, approval and human capital to participate in the F&O market. Institutional participation will add more liquidity and improve price discovery.

Action against corrupt wrongly being projected as action against industry: PM

ENSECONOMICBUREAU NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Monday said that action against a few corrupt entities should not be seen as the government's crack-down on the corporate sector. Speaking at the centenary celebrations of Kirloskar Brothers, Modi asked industry to shun pessimism and said his government's target to achieve a \$5-trillion economy was just a phase and the targets are bigger and higher.

The Prime Minister also said the focus of the administration was to allow the industry to create wealth fearlessly in a transparent environment, where there are no obstacles. In this endeavour, the government is attempting to do away with the web of laws that have been holding industry back.

The attempt has been to bring transparency, efficiency and ac-



PM Narendra Modi, at the centenary celebrations of Kirloskar Brothers, asked industry to shun pessimism. Anil Sharma

countability in tax system, and reduce human interface with the tax department, he said. Also, corporate tax has been reduced to its lowest so as to propel corporates to invest, he added.

Some vested forces are making it appear that the Centre is after businesses with a stick, he said. "Action against corrupt is wrongly being projected as action against

industry," the PM stated, adding that this is misinformation and all focus is on giving businesses a transparent work environment.

He said the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) has provided an exit route to businesses and saved several businessmen from being destroyed forever. "The IBC gets discussed these days but the talks are focussed only on

amount recovered, they should not be limited to this. Sometimes it is best to quit a certain business. Not all business failures are because of conspiracies."

Modi asked industry to shun pessimism, saying the government will stand shoulder to shoulder with India Inc in its attempt to expand business in any nook and corner of the country.

Earlier in the day, the PM held an interaction with business leaders to discuss issues facing the economy, ahead of the upcoming Budget. RIL chairman Mukesh Ambani, Tata Group chairman-emeritus Ratan Tata, Bharti Airtel's Sunil Bharti Mittal, Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani, Mahindra Group chairman Anand Mahindra, and Vedanta group's Anil Agarwal were among those present at the discussion. Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran, TVS chairman Venu Srinivasan also attended the meeting.

'HPCL refining margins to fall by one-third in current fiscal'

The refining margins of Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) are expected to fall by one-third in the current fiscal due to volatility in crude prices leading to inventory losses, Fitch Ratings said

'BBB-' RATING WITH STABLE OUTLOOK: Fitch affirmed HPCL's rating 'BBB-' with stable outlook, in line with the credit profile of its largest shareholder ONGC

STANDALONE CREDIT PROFILE AT 'BB': HPCL's standalone credit profile has been assessed at 'bb', reflecting its position as one of the biggest oil-marketing companies, average-but-improving complexity of its refining assets and moderate financial profile

₹60,000 cr

capex likely till FY23: HPCL is expected to incur around Rs 60,000 crore in capex over FY20-FY23 to expand and upgrade its refineries, while also enhancing its retail and pipeline infrastructure

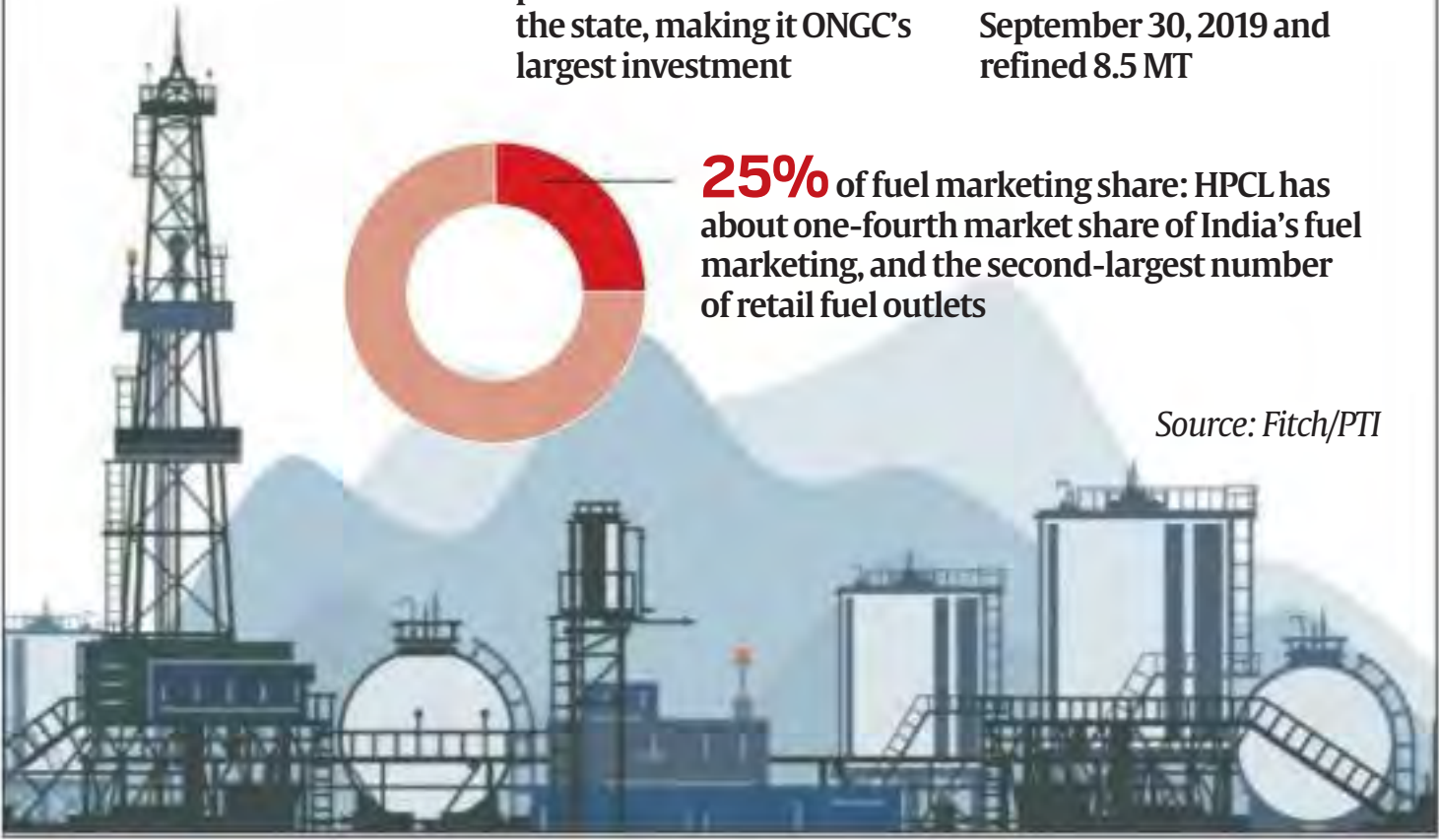
ONGC'S INVESTMENT IN HPCL ITS LARGEST: ONGC, in January 2018, paid ₹36,915 crore to acquire 51 per cent stake in HPCL from the state, making it ONGC's largest investment

STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF ONGC: HPCL is highly strategic to ONGC's vertical integration strategy and the former's refining capacity, along with its fuel retail network, increases ONGC's downstream integration, making ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Corporation) India's third-largest oil-refining and fuel-marketing company

19.5 MT fuel marketed in six months: HPCL marketed about 19.5 million tonnes (MT) of fuel in the six months ended September 30, 2019 and refined 8.5 MT

25% of fuel marketing share: HPCL has about one-fourth market share of India's fuel marketing, and the second-largest number of retail fuel outlets

Source: Fitch/PTI



ENSECONOMICBUREAU NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

THE SUPREME Court Monday restrained fugitive businessman Vijay Mallya from using pendency of recovery proceedings in Indian courts to stall legal proceedings "anywhere else in the world".

The clarification came after Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta informed a Bench led by Chief Justice SA Bobde that the insolvency proceedings initiated by State Bank of India (SBI) against Mallya in a UK court are pending and Mallya had sought a stay on pronouncement of the judgment on the ground that the issue of repayment is pending before the SC.

"Mallya has been hanging the carrot of settlement before the SBI-led bank consortium from whom loans were taken. Not a single rupee has come. SBI has filed insolvency proceedings against Mallya in London court. Hearing is concluded. Now, he has said a proposal is pending before the SC here ... So, the UK court is waiting," the SC said.

Mehta also sought clarification from the Bench that the pendency of any case in India would not affect proceedings in the UK court.

While Mallya's lawyer Mahesh Agarwal sought an adjournment, the Chief Justice said an adjournment would be given subject to Mallya not using the issue of pendency of his case in the apex court as a cause for stalling proceedings "anywhere in the

The clarification came after Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the apex court that the insolvency proceedings initiated by SBI against Vijay Mallya in a UK court are pending

world". The matter has been posted for hearing on Friday.

The fugitive businessman had last year moved the apex court against the confiscation of his and his relatives' properties. Mallya, who is facing extradition proceedings in the United Kingdom, in his appeal against an April 24 Bombay High Court order — that refused stay on the procedure for the confiscation of his properties by government agencies — said he wanted attachment of only those properties which are related to Kingfisher Airlines. He also questioned the power conferred on the Enforcement Directorate under Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 for confiscation of all properties of a fugitive economic offender without assessing whether or not the properties under confiscation were tainted or part of the alleged proceeds of crime.

An SBI-led consortium of banks had in 2016 filed an appeal seeking recovery of around Rs 9,000 crore from Mallya, who fled India that March and has been living in the UK since then. FE

NCLAT dismisses RoC plea, refuses to modify order on Cyrus Mistry reinstatement

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, JANUARY 6

THE NATIONAL Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) Monday dismissed the petition filed by the Registrar of Companies (RoC) seeking modification in the former's judgment passed in the Tata-Mistry case.

A two-member Bench headed by NCLAT Chairman Justice SJ Mukhopadhyaya dismissed the plea filed by RoC, saying, "there is no ground to amend judgment dated December 18, 2019."

On December 18, the NCLAT had directed to reinstate Cyrus Mistry as the executive chairman of Tata Group and also termed conversion of Tata Sons from a public company to a private one by the RoC as "illegal". Tata Sons moved the Supreme Court last week against NCLAT's December 18 order. The RoC, which comes under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, had sought to be impleaded as a party in the two petitions and deletion of words "illegal" and "with the help of the RoC" used by the appellate tribunal in its 172-page judgment.

The NCLAT had termed the appointment of N Chandrasekaran as Tata Sons chairman as "illegal", following the October 24, 2016 sacking of Mistry as Tata Sons' executive chairman. It had also directed the RoC to reverse Tata Sons' status from a 'private com-

'NO GROUND TO AMEND JUDGMENT'

■ A two-member Bench headed by NCLAT Chairman Justice SJ Mukhopadhyaya dismissed the plea filed by RoC, saying, "there is no ground to amend judgment dated December 18, 2019"

■ On December 18, the NCLAT directed the group to reinstate Cyrus Mistry as the executive chairman of Tata

Group and also termed conversion of Tata Sons from a public company to a private one by the RoC as "illegal"

■ The RoC had sought to be impleaded as a party in the two petitions and deletion of words "illegal" and "with the help of the RoC" used by the appellate tribunal in its 172-page judgment

pany' to a 'public company'.

RoC, Mumbai had asked the NCLAT "to carry out requisite amendments" in Para 186 and 187 (iv) of its judgment "to correctly reflect the conduct of the RoC, Mumbai as not being illegal and being as per the provisions of the Companies Act". Besides, it had also urged "to delete the aspersions made regarding any hurried help accorded by the RoC, Mumbai to Tata Sons, except what was statutorily required" in para 181 of the order.

On Sunday, Cyrus Mistry said he "won't be pursuing the executive chairmanship of Tata Sons, or directorship of TCS, Tata Teleservices or Tata Industries" despite the NCLAT order in his favour. However, in his statement, he demanded a seat on the board of Tata Sons, the holding company of the Tata Group.

Mistry had come down on the Tata Group's leadership, saying that both in conduct and in its statements to the world at large, it has shown scant respect for the rights of minority shareholders in the last three years.

Mistry's statement came after TCS, Tata Teleservices and Tata Trusts separately moved the apex court seeking stay on the reinstatement of ousted Mistry as director of the three group companies. Tata Sons had, last Thursday, approached the top court against Mistry's reinstatement as its executive chairman asking the NCLAT order, which termed conversion of Tata Sons from public to private company as 'illegal', be set aside. Tata Sons chairman-emeritus Ratan N Tata also moved the top court last week in his personal capacity seeking the NCLAT order to be quashed.



# CBI books 51 entities for transferring ₹1,038-cr black money to Hong Kong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

THE CENTRAL Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has booked 51 entities and unknown officials of three public sector banks for allegedly remitting Rs 1,038 crore of black money to Hong Kong during 2014-15, agency sources said on Monday.

Most of these entities are owned by a handful of people from Chennai, who duped Punjab National Bank, Bank of India and State Bank of India. This is the second big bank fraud that PNB has had to suffer following the Rs 13,500 crore fraud perpetrated by fugitive jewellers Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi.

The agency has named three individuals — Mohammed Ibramsa Johnney, Zinta Midhar and Nizamuddin — besides 48 companies in the first information report (FIR), the officials said.

The CBI had received infor-

**The CBI had received information that 51 current accounts of 48 firms were opened in four branches of these banks “solely for effecting outward remittances” to the tune of Rs 1,038.34 crore, the officials said**

mation that 51 current accounts of 48 firms were opened in four branches of these banks “solely for effecting outward remittances” to the tune of Rs 1,038.34 crore, the agency officials said.

The investigative agency has alleged that 24 accounts were used for outward foreign remittances in US dollars equivalent to Rs 488.39 crore as advance payment for goods imported and 27 were used to remit Rs 549.95 crore towards foreign travel of Indian tourists.

The probe agency has alleged that of 24 companies, 10 had made imports in small quantities but the goods imported and value of imports did not match with the invoices

submitted by the firms to the banks.

“It has been further revealed that the accused and others who were involved... were paid commission on the basis of amount transferred and the duration for which the bank accounts remained active and that the concerned bank officials were also bribed in cash,” the CBI FIR alleged.

The agency also alleged that most of the remittances were made in the second half of 2015 and the annual turnover of the firms was shown in lakhs, whereas the amounts remitted were in crores, which was “fraudulently and dishonestly” facilitated by the bank officials.

# RULE: AT LEAST 100 OWNERS REQUIRED TO INITIATE INSOLVENCY IBC amendment on homebuyers quorum challenged in apex court

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

FOLLOWING THE amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), which mandated that at least 100 homebuyers must collectively file insolvency application against a builder for it to be admitted, some homebuyers have approached the Supreme Court (SC) with a plea to set aside the changes made to the Code.

At least three different homebuyers have moved the apex court with similar pleas that the amendment made by the central government was “patently illegal, manifestly arbitrary and the result of absolute colorable exercise of the powers vested with the executive”

The government, on December 28, 2019, promulgated an Ordinance, which

## THREE HOMEBUYERS MOVE SC

■ At least three different homebuyers have moved the apex court with similar pleas that the amendment made by the central government was “patently illegal, manifestly arbitrary and the result of absolute colorable exercise of the powers vested with the executive”

■ The government, on December 28,

promulgated an Ordinance, which mandated that at least 100 homebuyers or 10 per cent of the total home buyers of a project must file an insolvency application together if it has to be admitted

■ The petitioners have claimed that the ceiling of 100 homebuyers curtails their rights and it is an unreasonable ceiling

mandated that at least 100 homebuyers or 10 per cent of the total home buyers of a project must file an insolvency application together if it has to be admitted.

The petitioners have

claimed that the ceiling of 100 homebuyers curtails their rights and it is an unreasonable ceiling. “The petitioner submits that the amendment ordinance is in the nature of ‘remedy with no remedy’ as it curtails the

# Shivalik Mercantile Co-op gets RBI nod to become small finance bank

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 6

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) has granted “in-principle” approval to Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank for transition into a small finance bank (SFB). This is the first licence issued by the RBI to an urban co-operative bank (UCB) to become an SFB under its new policy regime.

As per the RBI, the transition will be under the “Scheme on voluntary transition of Urban Co-operative Bank into a Small Finance Bank” issued on September 27, 2018. “The ‘in-principle’ approval granted will be valid for 18 months to enable the applicant to comply with the requirements under the scheme, the guidelines for ‘on tap’ licensing of SFBs in the private sector dated December 5, 2019 and fulfil other conditions as

stipulated by the RBI,” the RBI said. Shivalik Bank, headquartered in Saharanpur, UP, had a deposit base of Rs 1,051 crore, advances of Rs 715 crore and a network of 31 branches as of March 2019. On being satisfied that the applicant has complied with the requisite conditions laid down by it as part of “in-principle” approval, the RBI would consider granting it a licence for commencing banking business under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 as an SFB, the RBI said. However, many leading co-operative banks are reportedly not keen on becoming an SFB as it would mean that they would have to give up their ‘universal bank’ status to become SFBs, which are supposed to be ‘narrow banks’.

Once they are converted into SFBs, UCBs will be shackled by the lending restrictions that SFBs face currently. As universal banks, UCBs can undertake all

# RBI deals in ₹10K-cr bonds in 3rd special OMO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 6

IN THE third special open market operation in as many weeks, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday bought Rs 10,000 crore of three long-term securities while selling a same amount of three short-term bonds.

The RBI had announced to si-

multaneous purchase and sale of government securities (G-Secs) under open market operations (OMOs) for Rs 10,000 crore each, last week.

Like last week, though the RBI offered to sell four securities in the auction, it accepted bids for three bonds. In the current OMO purchase auction, the RBI offered to purchase three securities including 10-year benchmark govern-

ment bond, as against just one bond in the previous two auctions.

It got bids worth Rs 64,505 crore for the three bonds but choose to accept only Rs 10,000 crore of bids under the OMO purchase auction.

It got 198 bids for 7.32 per cent-2024 but accepted 12 bids and for 7.27 per cent-2026 bonds the RBI received 163 bids and accepted only two bids.

## BRIEFLY

## ‘Services PMI hits 5-month high in Dec’

*New Delhi:* India’s services sector activity gained momentum and touched a five-month high in December, supported by uptick in new business orders that boosted output as well as employment, as per the IHS Markit India Services Business Activity Index.

## Bank of Maharashtra cuts MCLR

*Mumbai:* Bank of Maharashtra on Monday said it has reduced its marginal cost of funds based lending rates by up to 45 basis points across various tenors, effective from January 7.

## Biocon sells stake in arm to True North

*New Delhi:* Biocon Monday said private equity firm True North will invest Rs 536.25 crore to acquire a 2.44 per cent stake in its arm Biocon Biologics, valuing the subsidiary at Rs 21,450 crore on a pre-money equity basis.

## NSE approaches Sebi for IPO

*New Delhi:* The NSE Monday said it has approached Sebi for its initial public offering and hopes to launch the public issue by September this year subject to approvals. PTI

## Sonalika records 20% volume growth

*New Delhi:* Sonalika Tractors reported an overall market share of 14.7 per cent and volume growth of 20.7 per cent, with 7,320 sales in December 2019. The company in its export markets recorded a robust growth rate of 132.5 per cent last December. Raman Mittal, executive director, Sonalika Group, said: “The overall market share... is an indication of the improving consumer sentiment and our strong foundation of market activations.” ENS

## SABKA VISHWAS

# ₹35,000 crore to be paid in taxes, may be accounted for in FY20

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

WITH THE deadline looming for the Sabka Vishwas dispute resolution scheme, about 87 per cent of eligible taxpayers have opted for the scheme and committed to pay about Rs 35,000 crore as taxes to the government, officials said. This has come as a relief to the government, which is grappling with a huge shortfall in tax revenue this fiscal.

However, about 23,000 (about 12.5 per cent of the total) eligible taxpayers have not yet opted for the scheme. These are mainly large taxpayers and in 7,100 such cases, a total tax amount of Rs 1.7 lakh crore is under litigation, they added. “The vast majority of the smaller taxpayers have already opted for the scheme,” official sources said.

When the scheme was announced in September, it was estimated that about 1.8 lakh taxpayers had legacy excise and service tax cases pending at different forums. The total tax revenue locked in these cases was Rs 3.6 lakh crore. The scheme expires on January 15.

Sources said that one of the reasons for big taxpayers not opting for the scheme could be resistance from the vast array of intermediaries including tax consultants, lawyers, etc, employed by these taxpayers. “For obvious reasons, the immediate settlement of these long pending cases is not seen in the best interests of these intermediaries,” sources said. FE

**GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM SMART CITY CORPORATION LIMITED**

Ref.No:GVSCCL/Admn/157 (3rd Apex conference)/2019-20, Dt:04/01/2020

**Notice Inviting Tender**

GVSCCL desires to invite tender for organization of Event Management for 2nd National Apex Conference of Smart Cities CEOs scheduled on 24th & 25th Jan 2020 at Visakhapatnam. The detailed tender document can be downloaded from website of [www.apexprocurement.gov.in](http://www.apexprocurement.gov.in) from 04/01/2020 onwards. The last date for online submission of bids is 08.01.2020 upto 5.00PM

For more details contact:  
E-mail: [visakhapatnamsmartcity@gvsccl.in](mailto:visakhapatnamsmartcity@gvsccl.in)  
Co- manager@gvsccl.in  
Mobile No. 0772995934, 9603336622

Sd/-  
MD & CEO  
GVSCCL

भारत रत्न

**RAMAGUNDAM FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICALS LIMITED**  
(A Joint Venture of NFL, EIL, FCIL & Govt. of Telangana)  
Fertilizer City, Ramagundam, Dist.: Peddapalli, Telangana-505210

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Sealed Tenders are invited from eligible parties, in Two Part Bid System for the following contracts

**1. DESIGN, ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION OF SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX & ALLIED FACILITIES AT RFCL TOWNSHIP, RAMAGUNDAM ON LUMP SUM TURNKEY (LSTK) BASIS**  
**Tender cost Rs.1000/- (inclusive of GST) EMD Rs.1,00,000/-**

Interested parties may obtain tender documents from the office of **Sh. H. S. KAMATH, GM (Construction), Mob. 99008 14067** RFCL site Ramagundam by **07-02-2020 up to 12.30 PM** by paying Tender cost in the form of Demand Draft. The DD shall be in favour of Ramagundam Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited payable at Ramagundam. Alternatively, parties may also download the tender document from website <http://www.rfcl.co.in> in tender section. The last date for submission of tender offer is **07-02-2020 upto 3.00PM** in office of GM(Construction). Any amendment to the above tenders shall be displayed on the above website only.

**OFFICE OF MUNICIPAL BOARD, MAHWA**  
Behind Panchayat Samiti, Nagar Palika Bhawan, Mahwa Rajasthan  
Email- [nagarpalikamahwa@gmail.com](mailto:nagarpalikamahwa@gmail.com)  
S.No/MBM/2019-20/3803 Date 04.11.2020  
**E-Notice Inviting Tender NIB No. 14/2019-20**  
Nagar Palika Mahwa on behalf of ULBs/Local self Government Department, Government of Rajasthan invites online unconditional bids through e-procurement portal <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> & <https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> from eligible bidders Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the RTPP act 2012 and RTPP Rules 2013, amended upto date with Single Stage two envelope bidding procedure with pre-qualification filter is open to all bidders. **UBN NO-DLB1920WSRC16737**

S. No.	Package No.	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Bid Security (Rs. in Rs.)	Period of Completion
1	MB-14/2019-20 for NAGAR Palika Mahwa	249.67	499340	6 Months
2	Document Download / Sale Start Date	06-01-2020 6.00 PM		
3	Document Download / Sale EndDate	29-01-2020 6.00 PM		
4	Bid Open Date	31-01-2020 10.00 AM		

Note:- Other term & Conditions can seen and read in office of Municipal board Mahwa.  
**Chairman**  
Nagar Palika Mahwa  
**Executive Officer**  
Nagar Palika Mahwa

**KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION**  
Government of India  
Kumarappa National Handmade Paper Institute  
RAMSINGHURA SHARFURA ROAD, SANGHER, JASUR-30203 (INDIA)  
Phone: 0141-2731975, Email: [knhi@ipair@gmail.com](mailto:knhi@ipair@gmail.com), [knhi@ipair@dataone.in](mailto:knhi@ipair@dataone.in), [www.knhi.org.in](http://www.knhi.org.in)

**SEALED TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed Tenders are invited for procurement of Pug mill, Bead mill for paint making, Online Ozone Analyzer/Monitor and Ozone Reactor for Pulp bleaching from reputed Manufacturers/Suppliers. Director, KNHPI reserves the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reason. For complete details, Please visit site: [www.knhi.org.in](http://www.knhi.org.in). The last date of submission of tender is 28.01.2020. Director

**RITES LIMITED**  
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)  
REGIONAL PROJECT OFFICE, LUCKNOW

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The (SABR: RITES) Limited, 80% subsidiary of RITES Limited, is invited to submit sealed tenders for the following works:

1. **REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF TRACKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE** at various locations in the State of Uttar Pradesh. The tender is to be submitted by 15.01.2020 at 12.00 PM.

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THE HONG KONG EFFECT

# Taiwan’s China-sceptic president, Tsai Ing-wen, may win again

But the threat from Beijing is not going away

ELECTION RALLIES in Taiwan often feel like festivals with a dash of politics thrown in. At a recent one in Taiwan’s capital, Taipei, thousands of people watched a fireworks display, then heard a blind blues singer. Eventually the show’s political star took to the stage: Enoch Wu, a young would-be legislator for the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). China’s leader, Xi Jinping, “is watching to see if we are sure to defend our homeland,” he told the crowd. “We are,” his fans roared back.

One question always looms largest in Taiwan’s elections for president and parliament, held simultaneously every four years, this time on January 11th: how to handle the island’s twitchy relations with an ever more powerful China. Many of Taiwan’s nearly 24m people have been warily watching the unrest in Hong Kong. Twice in 2019 Mr Xi declared that Taiwan should reunify with the mainland under a “one country, two systems” formula, as Hong Kong did. China’s ability to force such a solution on Taiwan is increasingly plain. On December 26th China sent its newly commissioned aircraft-carrier, the Shandong, through the Taiwan Strait for the second time in as many months.

Since 2000 Taiwanese voters’ main choice for president has been either a candidate who leans toward independence from China, thereby incurring China’s wrath, or one who wants closer ties despite the risk of ensnarement by the mainland’s Communists. So far the China-sceptic, pro-independence DPP has won three times and the China-embracing Kuomintang (KMT) twice. The legislature, however, has usually been controlled by China-friendly types—until 2016, when the DPP secured both the presidency—with Tsai Ing-wen becoming Taiwan’s first female leader—and a majority in the Legislative Yuan, as the parliament is known.

Ms Tsai’s support for Hong Kong’s protesters seems to have boosted her chance of winning again. American talk of “decoupling” from China’s economy, particularly in technology, has helped her, too. Taiwan’s tech giants do not want to risk losing access to Western markets by siding with China. Some are moving out of China and are investing more in South-East Asia and in Taiwan itself. Less focused on the mainland, some Taiwanese businessmen are becoming keener on the DPP.

Ms Tsai’s main opponent is the KMT’s Han Kuo-yu, the mayor of the southern port city of Kaohsiung, which is usually a DPP stronghold. His chances dipped in November when another China-friendly politician, James Soong of the People First Party, entered the fray. Mr Soong may peel away some of Mr Han’s supporters.

The president hammers home her China point. In a televised presidential debate she read out a letter from a young Hong Konger. “I ask Taiwan’s people not believe the Chinese Communists,” the author said.



President Tsai Ing-wen at a rally in Taipei. Her support for Hong Kong’s protesters seems to have boosted her chance of winning again. AP

“Don’t fall into China’s money trap.” Ms Tsai also boasts that the economy under the DPP has grown, following a recession under the previous KMT government.

Some voters are not persuaded. Salaries, they grumble, have been virtually flat for almost two decades. The average monthly full-time wage is NT\$49,170 (\$1,635), including bonuses, far lower than in other rich countries in the region, such as Singapore where it is about S\$4,560 (\$3,390). Poorer and older people tend to back Mr Han, who harks back to the boom years of the 1970s and 1980s under the KMT. (He avoids reminding them that Taiwan was then a one-party dictatorship).

Mr Han is unlikely to win the presidency,

but there is more of a question-mark over the legislature. Mr Wu, the DPP candidate who tried to whip up support with fireworks and blues, may have excited his backers with talk of a Chinese threat. But that is because his KMT rival is Wayne Chiang—a great-grandson of Chiang Kai-shek and grandson of Chiang Ching-kuo, rulers of Taiwan during nearly four decades of martial law. Though the Chiangs hated the Communists for ousting them from China, DPP loyalists consider them China incarnate: mainland-born autocrats who tried to crush Taiwanese culture. All the same, Wayne Chiang, an incumbent MP with a local following, will be hard to beat.

If the DPP loses control of the 113-strong parliament, where it now has 68 seats, Ms Tsai will have a hard time ruling. The KMT and its allies could block bills disliked by China, such as a law passed on December 31st making it illegal to accept Chinese funds for political activities. The KMT says it supports measures to strengthen national security, but condemns the recent bill as too sweeping.

China has denounced it, too, but has largely refrained from sabre-rattling during the campaign to avoid playing into Ms Tsai’s hands. After she was elected, China bolstered its military posturing, for instance with bomber-jets flying around the island. It also

persuaded seven of Taiwan’s diplomatic allies to switch to China, reducing the number to 15. But since the middle of 2019 the jets have stopped their exercises. The aircraft-carrier’s transits raised eyebrows in Taiwan, but Andrew Yang, a former deputy defence minister for the KMT, says they were routine tests.

Should the DPP win both the presidency and legislature, China will certainly be unhappy. But Ms Tsai is a pragmatist. She would probably use a new mandate to keep Taiwan on the same course, rebuffing China’s political demands while trying not to pick quarrels that could risk a military conflict. American diplomats would welcome this. They were rattled by the more confronta-

tional approach of the DPP’s Chen Shui-bian, Taiwan’s president from 2000 to 2008, who enraged China with his efforts to assert Taiwan’s separate identity.

But four more years of Ms Tsai would not guarantee peace. President Donald Trump appears to have little interest in sparring with China over Taiwan, but some of his appointees, egged on by many members of Congress, are keen to strengthen America’s unofficial ties with the island. In August the State Department approved the sale of 66 F-16 fighter jets to Taiwan. China’s patience may one day wear thin.

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GOVERNING DANGEROUSLY

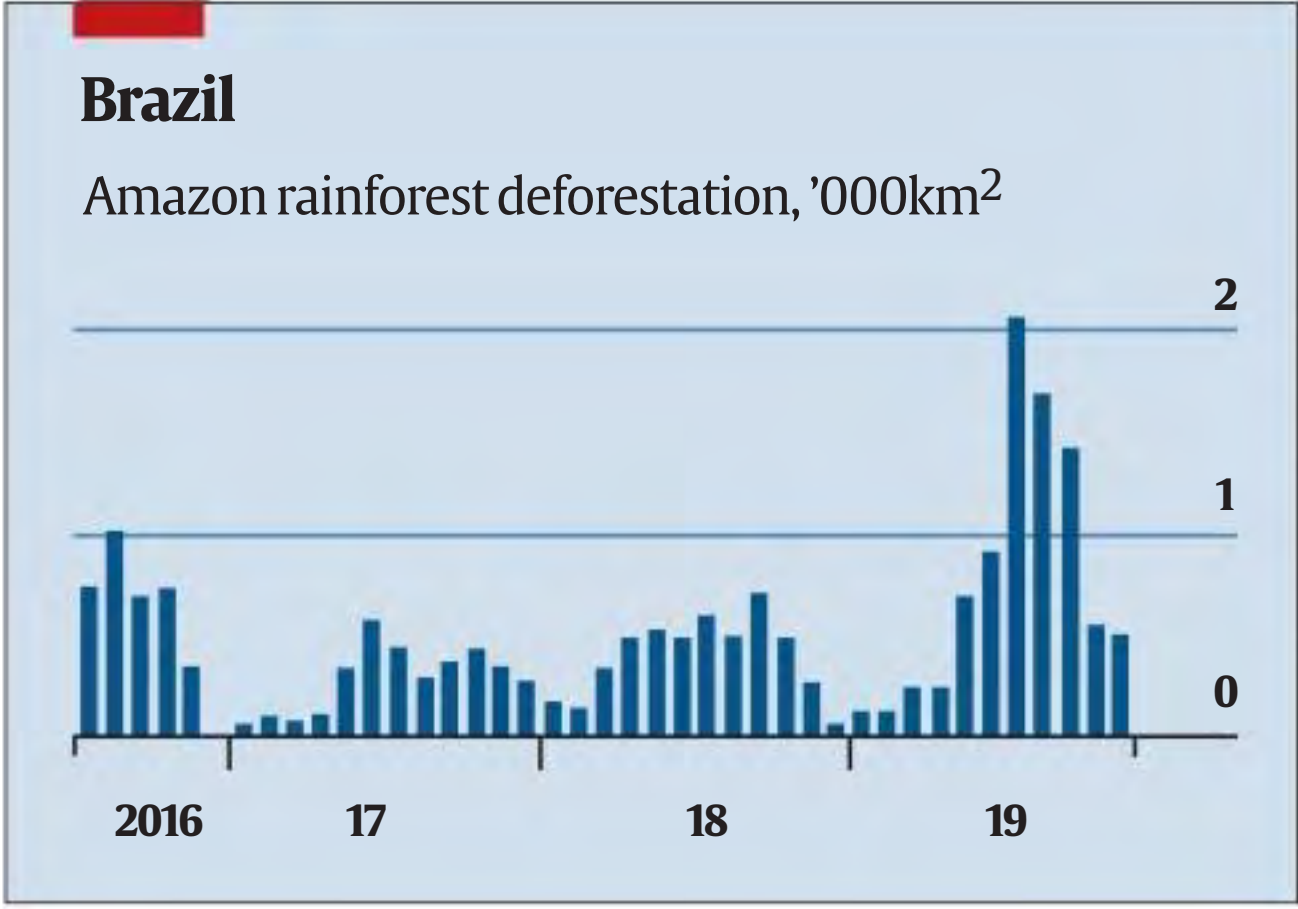
# A year of Jair Bolsonaro

Brazil’s president can boast some achievements. They come at a high price

WHEN JAIR Bolsonaro took office as Brazil’s president on January 1st 2019, many observers feared the worst. The former army captain had made his name by extolling the military dictators who ruled from 1964 to 1985 and by disparaging women and gays. He won the election because voters were traumatised by the country’s worst-ever recession, from 2014 to 2016, by crime and by revelations of corruption at the highest levels of politics and business. They hoped that Mr Bolsonaro would restore prosperity, peace and probity to Brazil.

After his first year in office they have some of what they wanted. The economy has improved, and violent crime has fallen. Yet Mr Bolsonaro has not put to rest the doubts raised by his unlikely rise to power. The provocateur has not become a statesman. Instead of strengthening Brazil’s democratic institutions, he is testing them. When it comes to corruption and the environment, Brazil is either stuck or going backwards.

Mr Bolsonaro’s main achievement is pension reform, a prize that has eluded Brazilian governments for decades and which congress agreed on in November. This will help remove a trap that Brazil set itself by paying lavish benefits to people who, on average, retire in their mid-50s. Without reform, pension spending as a share of GDP would have nearly doubled by 2050, with alarming consequences for public debt and the government’s capacity to spend money on anything else. Brazil will now gradually introduce minimum retirement ages of 65 for men and 62 for women,



and will reduce benefits as a share of people’s earnings.

This has helped restore confidence in the economy. Interest rates have dropped to their lowest level in 33 years. Growth in 2020 should be at least 2%, well above the Latin American average. If Paulo Guedes, the Chicago-trained, pro-market economy minister, had his way, pension reform would mark the start of a transformation in Brazil’s fortunes. He rightly believes that the state has kept Brazil poorer and more unequal than it should be, by spending too much money on the wrong things and sub-

jecting businesses to needless rules and the world’s most baffling tax system. He wants to privatise public enterprises, shrink a bloated administration, simplify taxes and transfer power and money to states and municipalities. In 2019 Mercosur (a four-country bloc including Brazil and Argentina) reached a trade agreement with the EU. If it is ratified, it could help Brazil shed its status as one of the world’s more closed economies.

Mr Guedes urges the president’s critics to focus on that. The top man has “bad manners, but great principles”. It would be truer



Demonstrators at a protest against Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro in Washington. Reuters

to say that Mr Bolsonaro, a fierce social conservative, has merely adopted Mr Guedes’s economic creed, for the time being. In other spheres, his ideas cannot just be brushed aside, even if congress and the president’s more level-headed advisers have so far contained his worst instincts. As long as he continues to endorse police violence, there is little chance of stopping its long upward trend. While left-wing protests were raging in other Latin American countries one of his sons, a congressman, said that if such protests turned violent in Brazil the government could revive a decree that shut congress during the dictatorship. In December, irritated by press accusations, the president turned on a journalist, saying, “Your face looks an awful lot like a homosexual’s, but

that’s no reason to accuse you of being a homosexual.”

Although murders have fallen, largely because inter-gang warfare has eased, Mr Bolsonaro has all but given up the fight against white-collar crime. Sergio Moro, the justice minister, has been compromised by revelations of his improperly close dealings with prosecutors when he was the judge in charge of the vast anti-corruption probe that helped propel Mr Bolsonaro to power. Congress stripped Mr Moro’s crime bill of most of its anti-corruption measures. Prosecutors are investigating allegations that another of Mr Bolsonaro’s sons, a senator from Rio de Janeiro, pocketed money meant for employees when he was a state legislator and has links to murderous “mili-

tias” of ex-policemen.

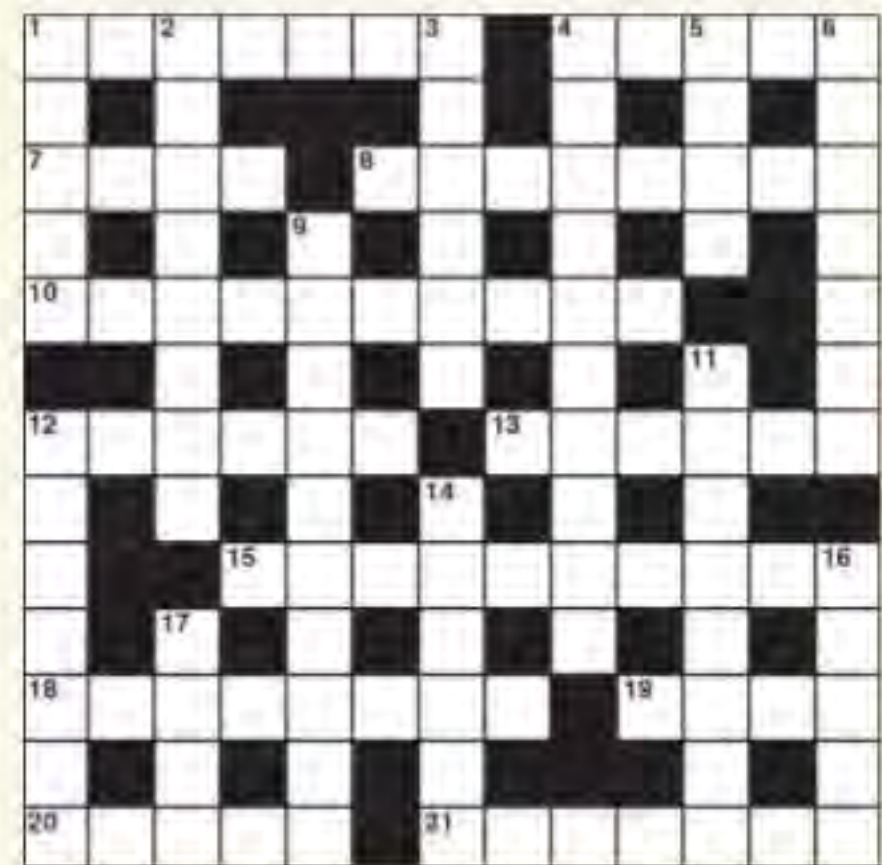
Then there is the environment. Early data suggest deforestation in the Amazon in the first 11 months of 2019 rose by 80% compared with 2018. Mr Bolsonaro sacked the chief of the space agency after it reported unwelcome deforestation data, and has hollowed out environmental-enforcement agencies and egged on ranchers and loggers who set fires to clear land. At recent global climate-change talks, Brazil played the wreck.

If Mr Bolsonaro transforms the economy, Brazilians will have reason to be grateful. But they, and the world, will have paid a high and unnecessary price.

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CROSSWORD 4008



- ACROSS
- DOWN
- 1

Old fashioned pop is her best composition (7)
- 2

Hazard of drivers and divers (5)
- 7

Doesn't neglect established practices (4)
- 8

Does turn dead miserable (8)
- 10

Summarised and withdrawn (10)
- 12

Scandinavian article in plate (6)
- 13

Reformed ladies show the highest standards (6)
- 15

Subscribe and accept the risk (10)
- 18

A fruit that won't give a fixed delivery time? (4,4)
- 19

Stump or catch perhaps (4)
- 20

Wordy form of gift (5)
- 21

Run into some of the defence (7)
- 1

Thus America produced a composer (5)
- 2

Regular lay preachers take it (8)
- 3

Slit at the front (6)
- 4

Cracked up, oddly enough (6,4)
- 5

Ordered, as whisky may be (4)
- 6

Observes the intrusion and is furious (7)
- 9

Now it's gift time (7,3)
- 11

I can head this way for the ranch (8)
- 12

Made to feel small? (7)
- 14

An old fool (6)
- 16

Well-known skating figure (5)
- 17

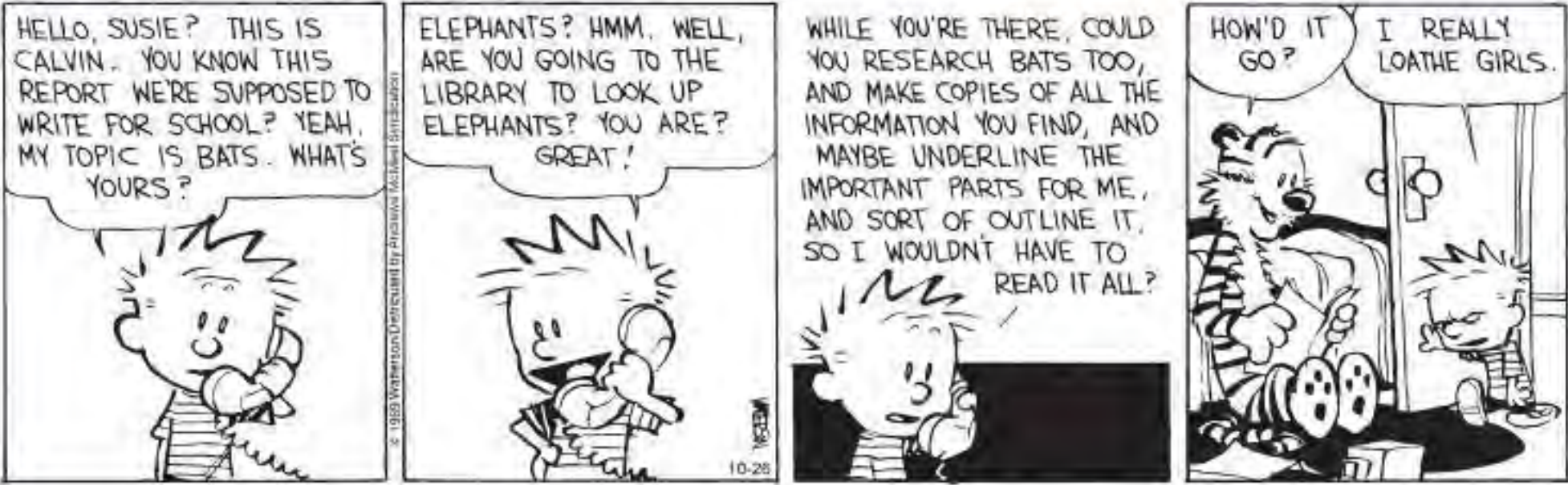
One of them acted as cox or acted as cocks (4)

Solutions Crossword 4007: Across: 1 Appropriate, 9 Execute, 10 Limbo, 11 Used, 12 Keystone, 14 Enigma, 16 Artful, 18 Felonies, 19 Span, 22 Right, 23 Outcome, 24 Glider pilot. Down: 2 Piece, 3 Rout, 4 Prefer, 5 Illusory, 6 Time off, 7 Reduced fare, 8 Moneylander, 13 Emanated, 15 Illegal, 17 Detour, 20 Photo, 21 Etui.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

DOOER

EEMOLT

TAINT

ABMSHU

Answer: A lie told often enough becomes the truth. LENIN

SUDOKU 4082

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



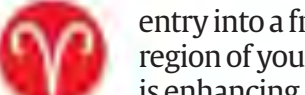
SOLUTION SUDOKU 4081



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)



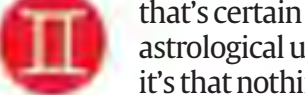
Venus' imminent entry into a fresh region of your chart is enhancing everything in your character that is most inquisitive and curious. For the next few weeks the best friendships will be based around common interests. It's companionship you need, not passion.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)



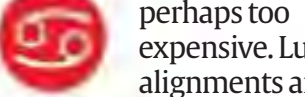
At the exact moment that Venus, your planetary ruler, adjusts its position, it enjoys a powerful relationship with Neptune, the most romantic of all the planets: in short it's time for emotional enlightenment. The scales will soon fall from your eyes as you see an old friend in a new light.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)



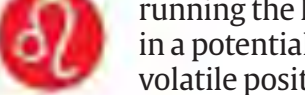
If there's one thing that's certain in the astrological universe, it's that nothing is certain. The ebb and flow in the tide of your emotional fortunes is a marvellous thing to behold. Your feelings are due to emerge into the full glare of public scrutiny, so, at all costs, be prepared.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)



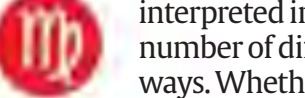
Life can be pricey, perhaps too expensive. Lunar alignments are still urging you to spend. I'm not talking about outrageous shopping sprees, just those necessary purchases which you have put off for far too long. By the way, your professional stars are extraordinary.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)



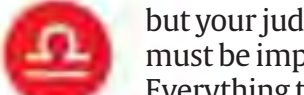
For a second day running the Moon is in a potentially volatile position. I suspect that you may be recovering from a recent embarrassment, but there is little to worry you, and others will be ready to forgive and forget. All you have to do is avoid repeating a past mistake.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)



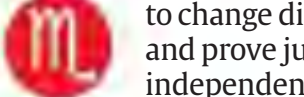
Your actions can be interpreted in a number of different ways. Whether you are genuinely selfless or, in fact, quite selfish is a moot point on which many people disagree. Whatever the answer, you will have to put your interests in second place for another twenty-four hours.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)



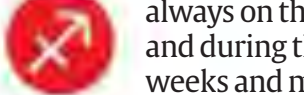
The future is bright, but your judgment must be impeccable. Everything that happens now will strengthen your bargaining power, but only if you have the resolve to carry on and the common-sense to avoid the greater excesses encouraged by irresponsible people.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)



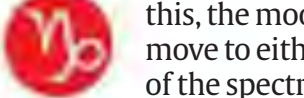
The time has come to change direction and prove just how independent, forceful and original you can be. Uranus insists that the decisions you take reflect your needs and yours alone. Meanwhile, nebulous Neptune creates a sense that anything is possible.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)



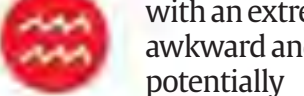
The planets are always on the move, and during the weeks and months ahead you must remain aware that your financial situation will be swinging wildly between one extreme and another. Keep a steady eye on the situation, for as soon as your concentration wavers you'll make a major mistake.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)



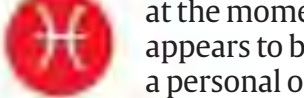
At a time such as this, the mood could move to either end of the spectrum. You see, goodwill, generosity and hospitality may all too easily tip into excessive greed, selfishness and resentment. And, if that happens, then you'll expose yourself to massive criticism.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)



The only way to deal with an extremely awkward and potentially upsetting situation is to keep your own counsel and avoid intervening in anyone else's affairs. You just cannot gauge the consequences of your actions, so that's all the more reason for caution.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)



Your major problem at the moment appears to be one of a personal or private nature, but then that is part of the Piscean dilemma. Maybe you should pay more attention to public and professional issues. And perhaps you should steer clear of people in authority.

Appeal for Identification



General public is hereby informed that one male **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 50-55 Years, **Height:** 5'3", **Sex:** Male, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Medium, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** Grey Colour T-Shirt and Black Jacket, **Place of Recovery:** Found on 30.12.2019 Near BSES office, Nabi Karim, New Delhi and admitted to RML Hospital where doctor declared him brought dead.

In this regard **DD No. 6A**, dated 30.12.2019 has been lodged at **Police Station, Nabi Karim, New Delhi**. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.

**SHO**  
**PS, Nabi Karim, New Delhi**  
**DP/6874/CD/2020 Ph.: 011-23521081, 8750870428**

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER		
Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
192023 002227	Procurement of various grades of imported wood pulp (FSC Mix) for Unit-II	21.01.2020

Terms & condition, Qty. Tender Fee, EMD, etc. are available in tender document at our websites: [www.tnpl.com](http://www.tnpl.com) / [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in)

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email: epndcs@gmail.com

e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE  
eNIT No.: SE/EPL/e-NIT-01 of 2019-20 Dated: 03.01.2020

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, KPDCL, Superintending Engineer, Planning Circle, P&P Wing, KPDCL invites online e-bids from Govt. Registered original equipment manufacturers for supply of 3 Phase Power Transformers for the requirement of KPDCL as under:-

Sr. No.	Material Description	For ECSD Pampore (Qty. in No's.)
1.	Outdoor Type 6.3 MVA, 33/11 KV, 3-Phase, Copper Wound, Oil Immersed Power Transformer(s) with ON Load Tap Changer (OLTC) with Remote Tap Change Control (RTCC) Panel, complete with all fittings, accessories, associated equipments and spares.	15

The complete tender document is available at website: <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders/Tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarifications and submit their bids online upto the date and time mentioned in the table below. Tender Document contain qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bills of Quantities & Terms and Conditions of the contract and other relevant details.

i)	Date and Time of downloading/ Sale (Start) of Tender Document	04.01.2020; 14.00 hrs.
ii)	Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document	27.01.2020; 15.00 hrs.
iii)	Date & Time of Bidding Queries/Clarifications	07.01.2020; 10.00 hrs. to 09.01.2020; 16.00 hrs.
iv)	Date & time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	10.01.2020; 10.00 hrs. to 27.01.2020; 1500 hrs.
v)	Submission of Hard Copy (End) Date & Time	28.01.2020; 16.00 hrs. in the Office of CE P&P Wing, PDD Complex, Bemina, Srinagar
vi)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	29.01.2020 at 14.00 hrs.
vii)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the Technically qualified Bidders
viii)	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Soft Copy Electronically and Hard Copy in the Office of CE P&P Wing, KPDCL
ix)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs. 500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred only) for local Firms of J&K and Rs. 435,400/- (Rupees Four Lacs Thirty Five Thousand Four Hundred only) for Firms outside the J&K (Non-refundable)
x)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 5000.00 (Rupees Five Thousand only) for local Firms of J&K and Rs. 4,35,400/- (Rupees Four Lacs Thirty Five Thousand Four Hundred only) for Firms outside the J&K.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer  
Planning (KPDCL)

DIPK-NB:-1871

India Trade Promotion Organisation  
A Government of India Enterprise  
Pragati Bhawan, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi - 110001

ITPO/F&B/IECC/Tender/F&B Outlets/2018 Date 07.01.2020  
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

ITPO invites e-tender for setting up at its own cost, operating, maintaining and managing F&B facilities at Exhibition Complex of IECC, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Tender documents and other details can be downloaded from ITPO Website: [www.indiatradefair.com](http://www.indiatradefair.com) and CP Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in/app> from 07.01.2020 onwards. Bids shall be submitted online only at CPP website.

General Manager (F&B)  
Tel: No. 23371868

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD  
(Power Wing)

Corrigendum No. IV Notice Inviting E-tender  
N.I.T No: 548/P&D(TS)/SS-1/PNGS-752 Dated: 13.09.2019  
Name of Office: Chief Engineer/Transmission System, Planning & Design (TS) Directorate, SLDC Complex, Industrial Area Phase-I, BBMB, Chandigarh-160002  
Tele Fax-0172-2654488  
Name of work: Design, manufacturing, testing, supply and delivery of 07 nos. 245kV Potential Transformers and 10 nos. Live/Dead Tank Design oil filled 245kV Current Transformers of various ratios suitable for outdoor service with hollow porcelain Insulator for various BBMB sub-stations.  
Last date and time for receipt of request for issue of tender documents 21.01.2020 upto 17:00 Hours  
Last date and time of submission of bids 28.01.2020 upto 11:00 Hours  
Date and time of Opening of Bids 28.01.2020 from 15:00 Hours onwards  
For cost of specification, Earnest money Deposit and detailed NIT, please visit BBMB website <https://bbmbeproc.abcpocure.com> or [www.bbmb.gov.in](http://www.bbmb.gov.in)  
1142-PR-TS-4 For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

KASHMIR POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED (KPDCL)  
(Fully Owned Government of J&K Undertaking)  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (Planning)  
PLANNING & PROCUREMENT WING, KASHMIR  
E-mail: epndcs@gmail.com

e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE  
e-NIT No.: SE/EPL/e-NIT-02 of 2019-20 Dated: 03.01.2020

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, KPDCL, Superintending Engineer, Planning Circle, P&P Wing, KPDCL invites Online e-Bids from Govt. Registered Original Equipment Manufacturers for Supply of 3-Phase Power Transformers for the requirement of KPDCL as under:

Sr. No.	Material Description	FOR ECSD Pampore (Qty. in No's)
1.	Outdoor Type 10 MVA, 33/11 KV, 3-Phase, Copper Wound, Oil Immersed power Transformer(s) with ON Load Tap Changer (OLTC) with Remote Tap Change Control (RTCC) Panel, Complete with All Fittings, Accessories, Associated Equipments and Spares	20

The complete Tender Document is available at website: <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidder/Tenderers may view, download the e-Bid Document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bids Online upto the Date and Time mentioned in the Table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bills of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of the Contract and other relevant details.

i)	Date and Time of Downloading/Sale (Start) of Tender Document	04.01.2020; 14.00 Hrs.
ii)	Date & Time of Download/Sale (End) of Tender Document	29.01.2020; 15.00 Hrs.
iii)	Date & Time of Bidding Queries/ Clarifications	07.01.2020; 10.00 Hrs. to 10.01.2020; 16.00 Hrs.
iv)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	11.01.2020; 10.00 Hrs. to 29.01.2020; 15.00 Hrs.
v)	Submission of Hard Copy (End) Date & Time	30.01.2020; 16.00 Hrs. in the Office of CE P&P Wing, PDD Complex, Bemina, Srinagar
vi)	Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	31.01.2020 at 14.00 Hrs.
vii)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the Technically Qualified Bidders
viii)	Venue of Commercial/Technical Bid Opening	Soft Copy Electronically and Hard Copy in the Office of CE P&P Wing, KPDCL
ix)	Cost of e-Bid Document	Rs. 500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred only) for local Firms of J&K and Rs. 5000.00 (Rupees Five Thousand only) for Firms Outside the J&K (Non-refundable)
x)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 5000.00 (Rupees Five Thousand only) for Local Firms of J&K and Rs. 667800 (Rupees Six Lacs Thirty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred only) for Firms Outside the J&K.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer,  
Planning (KPDCL)

DIPK-NB:-1876/M

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is here by informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Deepti Gupta** D/o **Sh. Brijesh Gupta** R/o **H. No. J-79C, Pandav Nagar, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped from the area of **PS Mandawali, Delhi** since **11.12.2019**. In this regard a case **DD No. 02-A** dated **12.12.2019** has been lodged at **PS. Mandawali, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Her physical description is as under:-  
**Sex:** Female, **Age:** 28 years, **Height:** 5'3" ft., **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Grey Colour T-Shirt & Grey Colour Jeans Pant  
Any person is having information or clue about this missing/ kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following:-

**Website:** <http://cbi.nic.in> **P.S. Mandawali, Delhi**  
**E-mail:** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **PH.:** 011-22720808  
**Tel. No.:** 011-24368638/24368641 **Mob. No.:** 8750870628  
**Fax No.:** 011-24368639 **DP/7208/ED/19**

CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION  
(A Government of India Undertaking)  
Regional Office: "Warehousing Bhawan",  
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow- 226010, Ph.: 0522-2720685  
Fax: 2720686, Web.: [www.cewacorp.nic.in](http://www.cewacorp.nic.in), E-mail: [rmiko.cewacorp@nic.in](mailto:rmiko.cewacorp@nic.in)

No. CWC/RO-LKO/CD/Advertisement/2019-20/ Dated: 07.01.2020  
E- TENDERING NOTICE FOR EMPANELMENT OF ADVERTISING AGENCY  
Online tenders are invited from interested bidders for appointment/Empanelment of Advertising agency for the work of publishing of Advertisement i.e. Inviting tender and other departmental activities in UP & Uttarakhand by way of floating of NIT/Advt. Further details may be seen and downloaded from CWC's website [www.cewacorp.nic.in](http://www.cewacorp.nic.in) and CPPP website [www.cppp.gov.in](http://www.cppp.gov.in) and tender may be submitted online at [www.cwcprocure.com](http://www.cwcprocure.com) Last date for submission of tender is 29.01.2020.

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Irrigation Division Jasidih, Camp – Deoghar

e-Procurement Very-Short Tender Notice  
Tender Reference No. :- WRD/In. Div., Jasidih/F2-03/2019-20 Dt:06.01.2020

1.	Name of the work	Construction of DLR Bridge at Ch. 142/141.50 & Ch. 241.50 of Punasi Main Canal
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs.2,44,90,033.49 (Rupees two crore forty four lakh ninety thousand thirty three and paise forty nine) only.
3.	Time of Completion	270 days
4.	Last date & Time for receipt of bids	14.01.2020 Up to 5:00 P.M.
5.	Date of Publication of Tender on website	07.01.2020 11:00 A.M.
6.	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Executive Engineer Irrigation Division, Jasidih, Camp-Deoghar
7.	Contact no. of Procurement officer	9431365175
8.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	06432-232477

Note: - Only E-Tender will be accepted  
(The estimated cost of the work may vary)  
Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Executive Engineer  
Irrigation Division, Jasidih  
Camp – Deoghar  
PR 223317 Water Resource (19-20)\_D

DIRECTORATE OF ENERGY  
GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH  
(DEPARTMENT OF MPP & POWER)  
SHANTI BHAWAN PHASE-III SECTOR-6 NEW SHIMLA-9  
TEL NO: 0177-2673551, FAX NO. 2673553, Email: dir.doehp@nic.in

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)  
For Selection of Trader for Sale of Government of Himachal Pradesh Share of Power in various Hydro Electric Projects.

Directorate of Energy, Government of Himachal Pradesh, inviting proposal for Selection of Trader for Sale of Government of Himachal Pradesh Share of Power in various Hydro Electric Projects on various aspects as outlined in the Bid Document through a competitive bidding process.  
The Bid document can be obtained from the Assistant Controller Finance, DoE, GoHP, Shanti Bhawan, Phase-III, Sector-6, New Shimla-9 on a payment of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) non refundable, through Bank Draft/ Banker Cheque in favour of Director, Directorate of Energy, GoHP, Shimla.  
For any query or clarification the Chief Engineer, Directorate of Energy, Shanti Bhawan, Phase-III, Sector-6, New Shimla-9 may be contacted on Tel. 91-177-2673552 Fax No. 91-177- 2673553 & on email [dir.doehp@nic.in](mailto:dir.doehp@nic.in) , [ceenergy09@gmail.com](mailto:ceenergy09@gmail.com).

The start date for sale of Bid Document to the interested bidders, date of pre-bid meeting, last date of sale of Bid Document, last date of submission of bids and date of opening of bids in the O/o Director, Directorate of Energy, GoHP Shimla, at the above address are as under:-  
1. Start Date of sale of Bid Document : 06.01.2020 at 1000 Hours onwards  
2. Pre-Bid Meeting : 21.01.2020 at 1130 Hours.  
3. Last date for sale of Bid Document : 04.02.2020 upto 1200 Hours.  
4. Last date of submission of Bids : 04.02.2020 upto 1300 Hours.  
5. Date of opening of Bids : 04.02.2020 at 1500 Hours

Note: If the last date for submission of Bids/the date of opening of bids/Pre-Bid meeting happens to be a holiday declared by the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh in Shimla, the bids will be submitted and opened on the next working day in the same order and at the same time.  
The Bid Document can be obtained from Assistant Controller Finance O/o Directorate of Energy, GoHP or alternatively the Bid Document can also be downloaded from GoHP website <http://admins.hp.nic.in/doe>.

For & on behalf of the Governor of HP  
Director,  
Directorate of Energy,  
Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.  
Tel.+91-177-2673551, Fax+91-1772673553  
Email: [dir.doehp@nic.in](mailto:dir.doehp@nic.in).

641/H.P.



# 19 TALK

ART, MUSIC, STYLE, FOOD



## TOUCH ME NOT

A particular challenge that the V&A in London faces, as it shifts to a new storage facility, is moving women's hats. In the past, the feathers have been treated with arsenic and mercury, which can pose health hazards for caretakers.

## ‘Shameful, horrific’

After Sunday's violence in JNU, Bollywood speaks up in support of students

EKTAA MALIK

WHILE MOST Bollywood A-listers gave CAA dinner with Union Minister Piyush Goyal a miss on the weekend, several young actors have condemned the use of violence against the students of Jawaharlal Nehru University. Post the horrific violence that was unleashed on Sunday, Twitter saw posts by actors such as Kriti Sanon, Sonam Kapoor and Taapsee Pannu, who condemned the attacks and tweeted their support for JNU.

Sanon wrote, "It breaks my heart to see what happened at JNU! What's going on in India is horrifying!! Students & teachers being beaten up & terrorized by masked cowards!! The constant blame game!..." Kapoor retweeted Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's post regarding the violence, adding, "Shocking disgusting and cowardly. Have the balls to at least show your face when you want to attack innocents."

Pannu, meanwhile, tweeted videos depicting the violent attack. She commented, "Such is the condition inside what we consider to be a place where our future is shaped. It's getting scarred for ever. Irreversible damage. What kind of shaping up is happening here, it's there for us to see... saddening..."

Actor and author Twinkle Khanna, who tweets under the handle Mrs Funnybones, posted a photograph of a daily tabloid, with an added comment, "India, where cows seem to receive more protection than students, is also

a country that now refuses to be cowed down. You can't oppress people with violence — there will be more protests, more strikes, more people on the street. This headline says it all." Alia Bhatt retweeted the said post. Actor Swara Bhasker, who is an alumnus of JNU, also took to social media to write several posts highlighting the incidence in the institution.

YouTube star Bhuvan Bam, who has 2.6 million followers on Twitter, retweeted posts by Anand Mahindra and Indira Jaisingh, which spoke in favour of JNU. He then wrote a two-part tweet, where he explained his stand against violence. "Maine apne bharat mein aisi hinsa ki kabhi kalpana nahi kari thi. Agar aap mein thodi si bhi deshbhakti hai, toh yeh samajh lijiye ki politics se upar in-saniyat hai..." The second tweet had the hashtags #JNUattacks and #jaihind.

Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap, who recently made a comeback on Twitter after Jamia Millia Islamia was attacked, also tweeted his support for JNU students, along with film director Anubhav Sinha. Actor Rajkumar Rao, who had spoken up at the time of CAA protests in Jamia Millia Islamia as well, tweeted a statement: "What happened in #JNU is shameful, horrific and heart-breaking. Those who are responsible behind these attacks should be punished. #JNUViolence." Filmmaker

Vikramaditya Motwane and Malayalam actor Nivin Pauly too expressed their solidarity with JNU on social media.



(From top) Kriti Sanon; Bhuvan Bam; Taapsee Pannu

## SNAP SHOTS



### Zero to Five

A COLLABORATIVE exhibition by artist Rita Jhunjunwala and photographer Shreekanth Somany, the highlights of "Shunya — A Journey" are the five elements of nature — air, water, earth, fire and ether. While, in his photographs, Somany captures the elements in different places, including the mountainous terrains of Ladakh, Leh and Tibet, Jhunjunwala's paintings encapsulate them in the city of Banaras.

According to the artists, Shunya represents "the eternity of the five elements in the cities and contexts on display, which make up man's life from the beginning to the end". The photograph titled *Ether* features a small monastery, with the milky way galaxy occupying the rest of the frame, while Jhunjunwala has depicted women standing in the Ganges river and praying to the sky. She depicts fire through the flames of the oil lamps, while Somany photographs it as a firecracker on Diwali. Apart from depicting the elements, they have 18 other works. The exhibition is on till January 7 at Bikaner House, New Delhi.

ANJALI NOTANDAS



### Words Worth

THREE NEW books by award-winning author Amitav Ghosh will be published by HarperCollins India. "The first of these, *Jungle-nama*, is a verse adaptation of an episode from the epic of the Sundarban, the legend of Bon Bibi. The second book is a new collection of essays, while the third is a work of non-fiction based on my research for the Ibis Trilogy," said Ghosh. While *Jungle-nama* will be published as a graphic novel in the spring of 2021 will see the release of the collection of essays. The third book will be published in early 2022.

### Songs for the Moon

A MUSICAL concert, "Chandrayaan: Celebrating India's journey to the Moon", led by composer Shantanu Moitra, that pays tribute to India's lunar mission Chandrayaan, will be held at Mumbai's Tata Theatre on January 18. The concert will also see performances by vocalist Kaushiki Chakrabarty, flautist Rakesh Chaurasia, veena player Jayanthi Kumaresh, violinist Ambi Subramaniam and tabla player Ojas Adhiya, among others.

SUSHANT SINGH

**Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, has decided to investigate Faiz's lyrics of *Hum Dekhenge*, after a complaint from a professor that they are anti-Hindu. What are your comments on that news?**

We are all very amused. It would be funnier if the issues underlying it were not so deadly serious. Even in Pakistan, we were absolutely shaken to see the images from Jamia and AMU (Aligarh Muslim University) after the current Indian government took yet another ill-advised step by passing the CAA (I think, before this, the response to the scrapping of Article 370 was somewhat more muted because public opinion on Kashmir varies and perhaps people in India were, understandably, weary of the ongoing mayhem there). I think with the CAA, the government overreached and frankly was taken aback by the scale of the protests. They have responded as all silly people do, (Faiz would have called them *namaqool loag* — roughly translated as 'simple' or 'ignorant' people) with violence and thus have made matters worse.

**In what way does Faiz's spirit still resonate in Pakistan? Are his words a part of protests there too? For instance, the latest students' protests.**

Absolutely. You saw the video of students chanting *Sarfaroshi ki tamanna* at the recent Faiz International Festival in Lahore. We had several panels at this year's festival on politics of the Left, radical journalism, environment and so on; all issues that would have been close to Faiz's heart if he had been alive today. That gathering of students, in which you hear a young girl chanting Bismil Azeemabad's poem (immortalised by Ram Prasad Bismil, Bhagat Singh and his friends as a freedom cry against the British) was entirely spontaneous. But as you saw, it struck a chord and immediately became viral. Those students chanting the poem were all part of the Progressive Students' Collective. It helped raise awareness for the Student Solidarity March that was held all over Pakistan a few days later to protest against tuition fee hikes, restoration of student unions in Pakistani colleges and universities (banned since the Zia-ul-Haq era), an end to sexual harassment on campuses and so on. Faiz *sahib* is still alive in the hearts of those who love his poetry. He is still haunting unjust rulers from beyond the grave.

**The poetry of Faiz is powerful and lives on. But do you think it failed in effecting a change, in so far as Pakistan is not the country he would have liked to live in, in 2020?**

Poetry is not a vehicle for political change; only an inspiration for it. Poets are not politicians (although some politicians can be poets. PM Vajpayee, who admired Faiz's poetry and welcomed him to India more than once, was a poet). Poetry is timeless, universal, and great poetry always outlives the topical political and social issues of the day. Do any of us remember the exact political conditions prevailing in Ghalib's time? Or Mir Taqi Mir's? No, we don't. But we still read and enjoy their poetry. Because they transcended the prevailing conditions of their day and spoke about the universal human condition. As to what Faiz would have thought about Pakistan in 2020; well, he loved Pakistan and the people of Pakistan with all his heart. He had many opportunities to settle abroad: America, Canada, the USSR, even India (where he was offered a professorship in Urdu at Kolkata University) but he always said no. His heart was always in Pakistan and with the people of Pakistan even though he himself belonged to the world. So I think he would have been sad about some of the things happening in Pakistan and he would have written poems about those things; beautiful, radiant poems which would continue to live on.

**How do you see Faiz primarily, three-and-a-half decades after his death, as a poet or as a revolutionary?**

Both. Again, he himself answered this in his own words. To paraphrase him, when he first started using revolutionary



Poetry is timeless, universal, and great poetry always outlives the topical political and social issues of the day.

ALI MADEEH HASHMI



(Clockwise from left) Faiz on a poster at a protest in Jantar Mantar in Delhi Devyani Onial; Ali Madeeh Hashmi; Faiz

# ‘He is still haunting unjust rulers from beyond the grave’

Faiz Ahmed Faiz's grandson, Ali Madeeh Hashmi, on the controversy over *Hum Dekhenge* and how poetry is an inspiration for political change

themes in his poetry, it felt awkward because no poet had ever done that (or done it as well as him). Gradually, he became better at it because he believed fervently in the causes he espoused in his poetry: the struggle against injustice and oppression, against the tyranny of both men and nature and the belief that despite our differences, humankind can overcome all this and build a better world.

**Can Faiz's poetry be disassociated from the fact that he stood up to authoritarian regimes and suffered for it? What tales of his suffering have moved you the most?**

I think at a very basic level, everything a person does is reflected in what they say, what they write and what they think. Faiz started writing poetry when he was very young and in the beginning, he wrote traditional romantic poetry but that changed when he became practically involved in the struggles of peasants, workers and students. It started with his famous *Mujh se pehli si*

*muhabbat*, which he himself termed 'the boundary' between his earlier work and his more mature writings. For the rest of his life, he never wavered from his commitment to the cause of justice and equality for all mankind. And that is very evident in his poetry.

For me, the most poignant story is the one about his older brother Tufail's death. He was like a father to Faiz since his father died when he was still a very young man. Faiz was incarcerated in Hyderabad jail and away from his young family with a death sentence over his head. Tufail came to see him to give him good news about some family business, but died of a heart attack right there in jail. Faiz's description of that event in his letters to (his wife) Alys is beyond heartbreaking. Even today, reading it brings tears to my eyes. But can you believe that in the very same letters, he is consoling Alys that he is strong enough to bear the burden of his grief and he is only worried about his mother and sisters. He wrote an elegy for Tufail called *Noha*, which is also quite searing.

**Why do you think Coke Studio Pakistan left out the crucial lines from *Hum Dekhenge* in its version — the one about *sab taj uchhale jayenge*?**

You would have to ask Coke Studio. We didn't have anything to do with it. I don't think there was anything sinister about it. Perhaps it was a creative or artistic decision. Or perhaps someone in Coke or Coke studio felt that it was better to avoid any possible controversy. That tends to happen to revolutionaries and icons with time. Who would have thought Che Guevara's image would be used to sell T-shirts and coffee mugs? But I think if Faiz was alive today, he would say the same thing he said so often about things that bothered other people: *Choro bhai, theek hai* (Let it be, it's alright).

Dr Ali Madeeh Hashmi is the oldest grandson of Faiz. He is a psychiatrist, writer and author. His biography *Love and Revolution: Faiz Ahmed Faiz was published in 2016 by Rupa Publishers in India. He lives in Lahore, where he teaches and practises psychiatry*

## ON THE LOOSE

# Education Begins at Home

Bullying and misogyny go together. Parents have to be proactive



LEHER KALA

IN ANOTHER example of the unorthodox approach that citizens have come to expect from Arvind Kejriwal, last month, the CM made school boys in Delhi take an oath to respect women. Newspapers carried pictures of boys with their hands raised when they said: "Main shapath leta hoon main hamesha sabhi mahilaon ki izzat karunga." (I will never misbehave or mistreat women.) Kejriwal urged girls to speak

to their brothers at home in front of their parents and encourage family members to introspect why crimes against women just don't abate in India.

The point, that we need to be more mindful of the casual misogyny in our own homes, was almost prescient: around the same time, a top IB school in Mumbai suspended eight middle school students for making threatening and sexually explicit remarks in a WhatsApp conversation. The story, buried by the NRC/CAA furore, is an important one because while it's a known fact that kids can be incredibly mean, that they were using terms like 'gang bang' to describe what they want to do to girls at the ripe old age of 14, was a fresh shocker.

The transcript of the chat floating around WhatsApp runs into tens of pages: classmates, two females specifically, body shamed and jeered at with homophobic slurs and desperate profanities. The word 'rape' featured repeatedly. IB school fees can be upwards of Rs 50,000 per month,

so these kids come from privileged backgrounds. If this is how the progeny of the educated elite are behaving, it's clear there is a serious values crisis across socio-economic groups in the country. And this is not a problem that can be solved by attending the best school money can buy. We'd do well to take into account that children spend approximately six hours in school five days a week. Counting the summer, winter, autumn breaks, and weekends, they're probably in school for less than seven months a year. When incidents like this happen, it's unfair to blame schools, when 80 per cent of what children imbibe is from their home environment.

If a teenager is making lewd comments or using foul language, sure, peer group influence plays a part and so does social media. But if the parenting has been right, a child would know instinctively what's never to be thought, said and never, ever, written. Where the schools fall short is in

their response to electronic aggression, because the perception still is that bullying is limited to pushing and shoving on the playground. 'Cyberbullying' may be banded around liberally but Indian schools don't have an established protocol on what to do about cruel instant messages that can torment children as much as being physically hit. Schools hide behind the pathetic excuse that what happens outside their premises isn't their responsibility and refuse to acknowledge that teenagers live and interact via Snapchat and Instagram.

Like the school diary has a set of rules and many carry an anti-bullying pledge, there is nothing unequivocally stated that Internet bullying will have extremely unpleasant consequences for students as well. Technology isn't necessarily the enemy. But parents need to explain to children that the same rules apply during interactions online, as they do in person. Just like how one wouldn't use certain slurs with someone you meet at a party, one can't use it online either. The stealthiest version of social cruelty must be addressed with clarity — and with penalties.

hutkayfilms@gmail.com

## On the Red Carpet

Actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas was among the celebrities who donned pink at the 77th Golden Globe Awards. She teamed the floor-length, off-the-shoulder Cristina Ottaviano gown with Bvlgari diamonds and sandals by Christian Louboutin. She was accompanied by husband and singer Nick Jonas, who wore a double-breasted suit and a Prada bolo tie. The couple presented the award for the Best TV Series — Musical or Comedy at the ceremony, which was hosted by actor-comedian Ricky Gervais.



Agencies



Opportunity for Dhawan to cash in



The race is between Dhawan and KL Rahul to open alongside Rohit Sharma.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
INDORE, JANUARY 6

A WASHED out series-opener means Shikhar Dhawan has one game less to make a statement in his quest to outperform an in-form K L Rahul, making the opener's fortunes an interesting sub-plot of India's second T20 International against Sri Lanka here on Tuesday.

Dhawan, 35, is a proven performer in limited overs cricket but with age on Rahul's side (27), time is running out for the easy-going Delhi-based cricketer to cement his place for the T20 World Cup later this year.

The left-hander's strike rate in the shortest format has been an issue for a while and that is one thing he must address in the remaining two matches against Sri Lanka. The fact that Dhawan is coming back from an injury, one of the many he suffered in 2019, makes his task all the more challenging.

In the year that went by, Dhawan managed 272 runs in 12 games at a strike rate of 110. Rahul, on the other hand, has made the most of his opportunities at the top and was in scintillating form in the previous limited overs series (three ODIs and three T20s) against the West Indies, scoring a hundred and three fifties in six innings.

Former India opener and chief selector Krishnamachari Srikanth has gone to the extent of saying that there is no competition between Dhawan and Rahul as the latter is way ahead in the race to be Rohit Sharma's partner in the T20 World Cup in Australia.

Skipper Virat Kohli too has stated that choosing between Dhawan and Rahul will be a tough call after Rohit, who is rested from the Sri Lanka series, returns to opening the innings. "When Rohit comes back, you know, it's going to be a difficult thing to address because Shikhar has been an experienced player but KL is playing so well. I think we'll have to decide what is the best combination that we can go with and who are the best XI to take the field," Kohli had said ahead of the first T20.

Considering not a ball was bowled in Guwahati, it is unlikely that Kohli will make changes to the playing XI, having picked three specialist pacers and two spinners for the series-opener.

Washington Sundar and Kuldeep Yadav were the chosen spinners with Yuzvendra Chahal and Ravindra Jadeja missing out. Kohli had taken that call keeping the significant presence of left-handers in the Sri Lankan line-up.

Manish Pandey and Sanju Samson, who has been warming the bench series after series, are likely to sit out again. India are being experimental ahead of the World Cup in October-November but the management has so far not given an opportunity to Pandey and Samson. Star pacer Jasprit Bumrah's comeback after four months was highly anticipated in Guwahati but rain and subsequent wet outfield played spoilsport.

Live on Star Sports network: 2nd T20I, 7 pm

SA have table mountain to climb

Classic Day 5 battle on cards as hosts grind to 126 for two after being set a target of 438 by England

REUTERS

CAPE TOWN, JANUARY 6

DOM SIBLEY scored a maiden century to put England on top but South Africa have launched a rear-guard to keep the tourists' victory charge at bay after going to the close of the fourth day of the second Test on 126 for two on Monday.

South Africa have been set 438 for victory at Newlands and will have to score a further 312 runs in 90 overs on the final day to achieve the highest run chase in Test cricket history. It is much more likely, however, they will have to bat out the final three sessions to save the Test. The current highest successful run chase in Tests was 418 by West Indies against Australia in 2003.

Debutant opener Pieter Malan is unbeaten on 63 and is at the crease with night-watchman Keshav Maharaj (2 not out) on a wicket that has flattened considerably for the seamers, but is offering turn to the slow bowlers.

Dean Elgar (34) and Zubayr Hamza (18) are the two players out, the latter in the penultimate over of the day when he edged James Anderson to wicketkeeper Jos Buttler.

"We are going to have to work hard tomorrow," Sibley told reporters. "Hopefully that crack outside the off-stump (at the Kelvin Grove end) opens up again.

"Today and yesterday is the best the pitch has played, but hopefully it goes back to how it was on the first two days.

"It's always nice to contribute to a win, hopefully we can take the eight wickets we need tomorrow."

England set the stiff target after declaring their second innings on 391 for eight just after lunch, with opener Sibley unbeaten on a patient 133 to go with an explosive 72 from Ben Stokes.

Sibley's hundred was met by an almighty roar from the sizeable travelling English support, even if it took him 269 balls to get there.

Stokes was providing plenty of entertainment at the other end as he took on the task of providing the quick runs England wanted to build a big enough lead and still have enough time to bowl South Africa out a second time.

He smashed seven fours and three sixes in a 47-ball innings of 72, before being caught at mid-on by Rassie van der Dussen off spinner Keshav Maharaj.

His blitz propelled England to 157 runs in 27 overs in the morning session and crucially sped up the game in their pursuit of victory.

South Africa won the first test of the four-match series by 107 runs in Pretoria.

South Africa batting coach Jacques Kallis is excited at the prospect of the second Test against England ending in a draw or a win for either team. All three results are probably possible," Kallis, who is South Africa's leading run-scorer in tests, told reporters. "It will be a tough ask to chase it down to be brutally honest, but we are not ruling it out.

"We will just bat normally and have a look at tea to see where we are. First we must just try and face as many balls as we can."

Kallis believes the wicket has played better for the batsmen in the last two days and that gives the home side hope. "The wicket has flattened out and become a good wicket to bat on. For the spinners there is help bowling to the left-handers." But it is very battable and we must believe we can bat the day out. If we play well, we can get close. It is not unachievable to bat the whole day. It's a good wicket."

**BRIEF SCORES (AT TEA):** England 269 & 391 for 8 dcd (Dom Sibley 133 not out, Ben Stokes 72; Anrich Nortje 3/61) vs South Africa 223 & 126 for 2 (Pieter Malan 63 batting; James Anderson 1/18)



Ben Stokes launched into the South Africa attack with 72 off just 47 balls on Day Four of the second Test at Cape Town. AP

What if this was a four-day Test?

SRIRAM VEERA  
JANUARY 6

IT'S THE waiting, silly. The death of hope or the exuberance of a triumph. For the players and for the fans – those contrasting emotions that lingers on. The more that wait is stretched, more the emotion cranks up. If the four-day Test proposal was in effect, the game between South Africa and England would have ended tamely on the third day. Ben Stokes wouldn't have turned his imperious self on the fourth day to set up the game for England and Pieter Malan's gutsy crawl that has led to his first fifty would not have probably even been needed.

One could argue – and not without merit – that the game wouldn't have gone on in the similar vein if it was played with the knowledge that it was going to be a four-day affair. England wouldn't have needed to set a target of 438 before declaring. They wouldn't have batted at all on the fourth day and started to throw the bats around on third afternoon before probably declaring in the last session itself – giving them four sessions to bowl out South Africa.

One could also extend that argument further and say in a four-day world, even the pitches preparation could change drastically. A subcontinental team, if they wish to attack with spin, can start the game on an under-prepared track – serve a traditional second-evening feel on the first morning itself. Or England, if they are confident of their own batsmen, can prepare an overtly green track.

Here is the question: But why make them do all those things – rush through play or tinker with pitches? To cut out one day? It's not as if four days won't feel long and dreary during a boring draw. Why should we create a problem and then try fix it?

If the commerce is going to alter the art,



Ben Stokes and Joe Root appeal for the wicket of Pieter Malan on Day Four. Reuters

one then has to find a way to still retain that essence of a contest in a reduced time package. The only way one can make it a four-day affair if they find a way to get the teams to bowl more balls in a day. Cut out the break times – dispense with the tea break – to have longer sessions in this high-fitness era. Bring back 8-ball overs to squeeze in more balls in a day.

So that the key elements of a Test contest is still retained in a four-day package – the extended contest between bat and ball, the appreciation of the game in all its complexities that mirrors life – the open-ended wait, the skills, the wearing of a pitch. Suggestions like 100-overs per innings alter the soul of the unlimited nature of a Test. Why would we want every format to mirror the other? All that tinkering won't be easy, of course.



"I slept terribly to be honest, I was up at 2 a.m. watching television and thinking of those 15 runs. It feels amazing now though."

DOM SIBLEY

ENGLAND CENTURION WHO WAS OVERNIGHT ON 85

ICC to discuss four-day Test proposal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
INDORE, JANUARY 6

THE ICC's cricket committee is set to discuss the four-day Test proposal in March despite growing criticism from the world's leading players including India skipper Virat Kohli.

Former India captain Anil Kumble, who heads the cricket committee of the sport's governing body, said the proposal will be discussed in the next round of the ICC meetings, to held in Dubai from March 27-31.

"Since I am part of the committee, I can't tell what I am thinking about it (proposal) at the moment. We will discuss it in the meeting and let you know," Kumble told PTI, adding that he is fine with past and current cricketers have expressed their views about four-day Tests.

The likes of Andrew Strauss, Rahul Dravid, Mahela Jayawardene and Shaun Pollock are also on the cricket committee. The proposal, which has been floated for the 2023-2031 cycle, has not gone down well with the greats of the game including Kohli, Sachin Tendulkar and Ricky Ponting.

However, member boards from England and Australia are open to the idea while BCCI boss Sourav Ganguly has said that "it is too early" to talk about it.

Ahead of the three-match T20 series opener against Sri Lanka in Guwahati last week, Kohli made his stance very clear on the subject. "According to me, it should not be altered. As I said, the day-night is another step towards commercialising Test cricket and you know, creating excitement around it, but it can't be tinkered with too much," he had said.

No 8-hour duty, no incentive: MCA to coach

**Mumbai:** A week after the Mumbai Under-16 team won the Vijay Merchant Trophy, coach Dinesh Lad has tendered his resignation. The veteran coach has made this decision after the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) withheld his dues – the reason being that he did not complete eight hours of duty during his time as coach.

"I am told by the administration staff of the MCA, that my payment has been withheld and not issued to me because I have not completed eight hours duty during my coaching tenure," Lad wrote in a letter to the MCA secretary. "I have also informed this before to the concerned authorities that I have been (sic) given copy of the draft agreement almost after one month of joining the duty which mentioned therein, the clause of doing eight hours duty irrespective of the practice session."

Lad, who is Rohit Sharma's coach, stated that he had informed the MCA in the past that doing an eight-hour shift is not possible for him. "I've conducted practice sessions also on Sundays even for four hours at a stretch," the letter further stated.

He goes on to explain that as an employee with Western Railways, he had to forgo his duty while he was in charge of the youth squad. And as per the MCA website dated May 9 last year, the coach is entitled to receive a bonus for leading the team to the Vijay Merchant Trophy title, which he is yet to receive. As a consequence to the non-payment of his dues, he submitted his resignation letter on Monday and claimed that he will go back to serving as coach of the Swam Vivekananda School.

DEVENDRA PANDEY

PAK 2-0, NZ 3-0

Australia's home run: Second coat of whitewash completed at Sydney

AFF/REUTERS

SYDNEY, JANUARY 6

NATHAN LYON captured five for 50 and 10 match wickets as Australia crushed New Zealand by 279 runs on Monday, capping a golden domestic summer as they swept the three-Test series. The off-spinner led the powerful Australian bowling attack to dismiss the Kiwis for 136 and seal another heavy win over the Black Caps after similar victories in Perth and Melbourne.

Australia have been unbeatable this season, winning all five Tests at home – two against Pakistan and three against New Zealand – after retaining the Ashes by drawing the series 2-2 in England.

"It's been a great summer for the Australian Test side," Lyon said. "It's pretty special to be part of it, we have been impressive, pretty clinical, the batters have done well and given us bowlers plenty of time."

Australia declared their second innings at 217 for two with David Warner scoring an unbeaten century, leaving the Black Caps with a revised 416-run target in the fourth innings on a wearing Sydney Cricket Ground pitch. But the Kiwis buckled under the pressure of Australia's superior bowling attack with Mitchell Starc taking three for 25 to support the wiles of spinner Lyon.

"They were clinical in all areas and after the first match they put us under pressure session after session," said skipper Kane

AUSSIE DOMINANCE

**896** Number of runs Marnus Labuschagne scored during the home series in the summer. Only Ricky Ponting and Mathew Hayden – in two home summers each – have scored more with the former topping with 965 in 2003-04.

**1** New Zealand has won just one Test in Australia in 26 years. The win came at Hobart when Ross Taylor led the side to a seven-run win.

Williamson, who missed the Test with a virus. New Zealand were reeling early at 27 for 4 and never recovered after Starc and Lyon took two wickets each in the middle session to put the skids under the tourists. Starc removed both openers, Tom Latham and Tom Blundell, in the first five overs. Blundell fell to a stunning catch by a diving Lyon at point for two and stand-in skipper Latham lost a review for leg before wicket.

Jeet Raval was out in a review to the faintest of edges on 'Snicko' in Lyon's first over for 12. First-innings top-scorer Glenn Phillips went for a duck after technology de-



David Warner completed his 24th Test century and Australia declared at 217 for 2 before Nathan Lyon (5/50) helped in bowling out New Zealand for just 136. Pics: AP

tected a faint outside edge to wicketkeeper Paine off Lyon.

Ross Taylor became the leading all-time Kiwi batsman, going past Stephen Fleming (7,172) before he was bowled by Pat Cummins for 22 to take his Test aggregate to 7,174. Big-hitting Colin de Grandhomme smacked Lyon for six to bring up his fifty but went next ball hoicking to Joe Burns at deep mid-wicket for 52. Todd Astle was out to a superb diving catch by James Pattinson in the outfield for 17.

Starc yorked William Somerville's middle stump for seven and BJ Watling was the

last to fall, caught at backward square leg by Pat Cummins for 19. Earlier, Warner completed his 24th Test century and remained unbeaten when skipper Paine declared upon the dismissal of Marnus Labuschagne.

"You know you're capable of doing so," Warner said, when asked about how he had bounced back from his disastrous Ashes campaign in England last year. "I was in the nets hitting the ball well and had the skipper backing me. To be able to play with freedom helped me. It's all paying off."

Labuschagne, who was dropped on four in a regulation caught-and-bowled chance

by leg-spinner Astle, was caught at long on off Matt Henry for 59 – his seventh score over 50 in eight innings this domestic summer. Labuschagne finished the home five-Test season with a stunning aggregate of 896 runs, made up of his 215 in the first innings, three other centuries and three half-centuries in eight innings.

There was drama late in the Australian innings when Warner was given an official warning by umpire Aleem Dar for running down the middle of the pitch in scampering a single. It resulted in five penalty runs being added to New Zealand's first innings total meaning their target was revised down from 421 to 416. The Test was played against the backdrop of one of Australia's most devastating bushfire seasons with at least 24 people losing their lives across the country, including on the outskirts of Sydney.

India warned

Australia have developed a ruthless streak in their home series sweeps against Pakistan and New Zealand and will present much stiffer opposition when India tour next year, captain Tim Paine said on Monday. "I came into this summer expecting to win all five Tests," Paine told reporters.

"I think now we've got a team together that is really consistent, we've got a number of match-winners with both bat and ball and our lesser players have improved a hell of a lot over the last 12 months.

We've probably become more ruthless

which was something we wanted to be. We've got great quality throughout our side and it's a very exciting team to be part of."

Next up for Australia in Test cricket is a tour of Bangladesh in June and July followed by what Paine described as a "mouthwatering" series at home to Virat Kohli's India.

India last visited in the 2018-19 season and, with Steve Smith and David Warner suspended after the ball-tampering scandal, earned their first series triumph on Australia soil. "We're certainly a different side than what they played against last year," Paine added. "There's (also) Test championship points at stake and I think both India and Australia are eyeing off that final so every point is going to be critical. If we can continue our upward trend, you're potentially talking about the top two teams in the world so it's going to be an awesome series."

The victory over New Zealand brought Australia (296) closer to India (360) at the top of the World Test Championship table with the two nations occupying the positions which will earn places in the final at Lord's in 2021. Paine said the way Australia approached the key moments in matches had changed since India last toured, resulting in the clinical displays against Pakistan and New Zealand.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Australia 454 & 217/2 dcd (David Warner 111 not out, Marnus Labuschagne 59; Todd Astle 1/41) bt New Zealand 256 & 136 (Colin de Grandhomme 52; Nathan Lyon 5/50).



ROUND-UP

Andhra breach  
Rajasthan's fortress

ANDHRA PRADESH chased down the 152-run target set by Andhra Pradesh at Jaipur's Sawai Mansingh Stadium. Fifties from India middle order batsman Hanuma Vihari and Srikar Bharat defeated Rajasthan by six wickets. Andhra had to chase 152 runs which they did it at ease. This was Rajasthan's third consecutive loss in the ongoing Ranji Trophy. **BRIEF SCORES: Rajasthan** 151 & 257 lost to **Andhra** 257 & 152 /4 (Hanuma Vihari 52 not out, SBharat 50). Andhra 6 points, Rajasthan 0.

Tepid draw in Kanpur

TAMIL NADU grabbed three points on the basis of their first innings lead after their Elite Group B match in the Ranji Trophy against Uttar Pradesh ended in a tame draw here on Monday. The game was evenly poised when UP resumed the fourth and final day at the Green Park Stadium at 170/9, needing 11 more runs to overhaul Tamil Nadu's first innings total. However, Tamil Nadu's 28-year-old left-arm medium pacer T Natarajan (4/24) quickly accounted for rival skipper Ankit Rajpoot (2) as hosts were bowled out for 175, with the visitors snatching the all-important lead. TN picked up three points for securing the innings lead for the first time this season. Uttar Pradesh had to be content with a solitary point. **BRIEF SCORES (IN KANPUR): Tamil Nadu** 180 and 154 (B Aparajith 53, Saurabh Kumar 5-39) vs **Uttar Pradesh** 175 (Mohammed Saif 77; T Natarajan 4-24) and 42/2. Match Drawn. TN: 3 points, UP: 1 point.

MP take three points

THE MADHYA Pradesh versus Himachal Pradesh game ended in a draw with the former earning three points courtesy their first-innings lead. HP had to be content with a lone point. In the next round, TN take on domestic heavyweights Mumbai in Chennai from January 11, while UP play Baroda in Kanpur. **BRIEF SCORES (IN DHARAMSALA): Himachal Pradesh** 175 and 185/5 (A Kalsi 115, A Vashisht 84; Kuldeep Sen 2-66) vs **Madhya Pradesh** 427/9 declared. Match drawn. MP took first innings lead. MP: 3 points, HP: 1 point.

Easy win for Haryana

HARYANA BEAT Chhattisgarh in Raipur by 89 runs in Raipur to take their points tally to 21 and go second in the points table. This despite Chhattisgarh being precariously placed on Day 4 in pursuit of 263. The home team began in earnest, thanks to Avnish Dhaliwal (69) and Amandeep Khare (38). However, the departure of Khare opened the flood-gates for Haryana. **BRIEF SCORES (AT RAIPUR):** At Raipur: **Haryana** 123 & 258 (NR Saini 55, SR Chauhan 42; Veer Pratap Singh 4/49, Vishal Singh 3/38) beat **Chhattisgarh**: 119 all out & 173 all out in 50.5 overs (Avnish Singh 69, Amandeep Khare 38; SP Kumar 3/24) by 89 runs. Haryana: 6 points, Chhattisgarh: 0.

Rain plays spoilsport

DELHI DREW with Punjab after early morning rain in Mohali ensured that fourth day's play was not possible. The Group C encounter between Odisha and Tripura ended in a draw after the first two days were completely washed out. **BRIEF SCORES (IN MOHALI): Punjab** 313 & 44 /4 drew **Delhi** 339. Delhi 3 points, Punjab 1.

Play it again, Samad

J&K discovers a match-winner; teenager's second century of season takes team to an innings win

VISHAL MENON  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6

ABDUL SAMAD, 18, is an unabashed Rohit Sharma fan. While growing up in Kalakote village in Jammu, the youngster was consumed by the passion to bat like India's second most-popular cricketer. From the fun tennis-ball *mohalla* matches involving friends and elder brother Taiyyab, to the more high-profile under-14 affairs, the youngster was steadfast in his obsession. He would devour all the India matches on television, and then shadow practice in front of his mirror at home, all in a bid to bat like his idol.

These days, however, Samad's batting hardly displays flashes of Sharma. Instead, his batsmanship seems to be carved straight out of Prithvi Shaw's manual. Outright belligerent and pummelling opposition bowlers into submission have been his *modus operandi* in his debut Ranji season. His teammates are not complaining. It's a method that has served him well thus far in this competition. Samad has featured in just four first-class matches, but he has already created an instant impression with his blitzkrieg.

He shellacked a 75-ball 128 against Jharkhand, paving the way for J&K's thumping innings win — their third of the season — catapulting them behind Odisha and Haryana on the points table. Before his exploits against Jharkhand, he harassed Assam's bowlers at home — his whirlwind unbeaten 72-ball 103 giving J&K a comprehensive first-innings lead. Had it not been for the intermittent rains in Jammu, their bowlers could well have seized the initiative and gone all out for a win.

Unbridled aggression

Samad's aggressive back-to-back centuries comes days after his big splash at the IPL auction — where he was snapped up by the Sunrisers Hyderabad for Rs 20 lakh — and saw him trending on Twitter. The teenager, on his part, takes all this in his stride but concedes the IPL auction splash has boosted his confidence, which was reflective in these two consecutive impactful knocks. "I don't read too much into all this. The Sunrisers Hyderabad franchise saw potential in me, which is why they have selected me. But I will have to admit that it did play a part in the way I played in these last two matches. My confidence got a massive boost," he tells *The Indian Express*.

Samad says that he has no qualms in batting at any position. He had opened for J&K in the shorter formats, and in his four first-class matches, the team management has used him in the middle-order, at No.5 and No.6 positions. He has responded to the challenge by striking two centuries and an equal number of fifties, taking his tally to 370 runs in his six innings. The consistency, notwithstanding, his ability to ransack humongous scores in such quick time serves two purposes.

First, it leaves oppositions with little recovery time. Second, his aggro means that J&K have managed to accrue scores in excess of 400 on a more consistent basis, which in turn gives ample time for their bowlers to take 20 wickets and go for outright wins. "I don't really care at what position I bat in the order. The only concern is that my runs should help my team. In the Ranji Trophy, I have been batting down the order and my plan is to score quick runs. I back myself to play in an aggressive manner as I know that I have all the shots in my armory. Thankfully, the wickets have been good for batting, so that has also helped my cause," Samad explains.

These are early days, but Samad credits his success to Irfan Pathan, the former India all-rounder, who as J&K's mentor had spotted him two years ago during the trials at Jammu's Science College Ground.

Even back then, the teenager had all the shots and the confidence to back his burgeoning talents. As the story goes, Pathan was instantly impressed and decided to draft him in the squad. "I first saw him two years ago during trials organised to spot upcoming talent. I was immediately impressed



Abdul Samad's stunning 75-ball 128 was the cornerstone of J&K's win.

by his stroke-play and his ability to hit shots on the up. There were about 400 guys and he was one of the five whom I had picked," Irfan Pathan says.

Pathan then went to the organisers of the state's junior cricket and fished out Samad's personal scores. He immediately jettisoned him in the senior squad for the List-A as well as T20s. His propensity to play the big shots earned him a place as an opener. He achieved fairly decent levels of success, striking four fifties — three in List A and one in the T20s. Ahead of this year's Ranji season, Pathan asked him to bat down the order.

"From the first day that I saw him, I always believed that Samad was a match-winner for us. We asked him to open in the shorter formats as we thought that his aggressive intent would help us with rollicking starts upfront. For Ranji Trophy, we opted for a more conservative approach and decided to blood him after three or four wickets were down. In these four matches alone, he has shown his abilities by scoring 70-ball 100s," Pathan explains. Going forward, he reckons Samad has the potential to score double centuries batting down the order. "Apart from his big hits, add a bit of leg-spin, googly and acrobatics on the field, and you are looking at a complete all-round package," Pathan observes.

Of late, Samad has made it a habit of hogging the limelight. An IPL call-up followed by thunderous back-to-back centuries in first-class cricket. Pathan, though, believes he can go all the way. "Trust me, he is one of the two players from the current J&K squad with the ability to represent India...the other being Rasikh Salam."

**BRIEF SCORES: Jharkhand** 259 and 155 all out in 54.4 overs (Md Nazim 37, Ishank Jaggi 34; Aquib Nasbi 5/38) lost to **J&K** 441 all out in 87.4 overs (Abdul Samad 128, Suryansh Raina 76, Abid Mushtaq 50; Varun Aaron 3/69, Ashish Kumar 3/102) by an innings and 27 runs. J&K: 7 points, Jharkhand: 0.

Ritwik, Abhimanyu rise to the challenge

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY  
KOLKATA, JANUARY 6

BENGAL'S IMPROVED show this season continued, as they secured three points against Gujarat at Eden Gardens on Monday. In a contest where over two-and-a-half days had been lost due to bad weather and bad light, they batted well on the final day to take the first innings lead.

After Akash Deep's maiden five-wicket haul in first-class cricket, 6/60, restricted the visitors to 194 — they resumed on overnight 169/7 — Bengal needed to see out the new ball. The pitch was still green and an early start on the final day meant that the conditions were very much in favour of the seamers. Gujarat came here on the heels of back-to-back outright victories. They were never going to go down without a fight.

In certain conditions, left-arm medium pacer Roosh Kalaria becomes pretty hot to handle. The in-form bowler, who had 13 wickets in the last two matches, started to swing the ball from the outset. His new ball partner, Chintan Gaja, too, asked questions. Kalaria removed Abhishek Raman, when the batsman played away from his body. Raman had two hundreds in the last two games and his departure meant a bigger responsibility for Abhimanyu Easwaran.

The Bengal captain didn't have a good start to the season. Today, though, from his team's perspective, he couldn't afford another low score.

Easwaran rose to the challenge. At the end, the scoreboard would show the opener got out for 42. But the scoreboard doesn't go beyond the arid numbers. Easwaran has 13 hundreds and 17 fifties in first-class



Ritwik Roy Chowdhury celebrates his half century. PTI

cricket. But his effort today was worth its weight in gold.

Easwaran played close to his body and he played late. He wore down the Gujarat seamers. At the same time, he scored runs off the loose deliveries. An off-drive against debutant seamer Tejas Patel was top-class. Patel eventually castled him with a yorker — Easwaran was standing a couple of feet outside the batting crease and yorked himself — but by then, Bengal looked to be in control. The new ball had been taken care of.

At 113/3, the hosts were cruising. Manoj Tiwary didn't look fluent but he was hanging in there. Koushik Ghosh, Bengal's No.3 who batted at No.5 today because he was suffering from fever, felt he could no longer carry on.

Gujarat had a window, for debutant

Coach or pundit:  
CAB's ultimatum to Bengal coaches

*Kolkata:* Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) has directed the Bengal team officials and support staff to adhere to the state association constitution, with regards to conflict of interest.

"The provisions of the constitution must be adhered to," CAB secretary Avishek Dalmiya told *The Indian Express*. The Bengal team bowling coach Ranadeb Bose, who is on a Rs 14-lakh annual contract with the CAB, does Bengali commentary for Star. The former Bengal medium pacer worked as a commentator during the last IPL and also at the pink-ball Test between India and Bangladesh at Eden Gardens last November.

As per the BCCI constitution, team officials/support staff doing commentary comes under tractable conflicts. The state association constitution should be a "mirror image" of the BCCI constitution. Although the conflict-of-interest issue is before the Supreme Court, with a plea has been made to reconsider its rigidity, the existing constitution is effective till a new order comes.

CoC to be introduced

The CAB is set to introduce a Code of Conduct (CoC) for Bengal players and coaching staff. Under the CoC, only the coach, captain and performer of the day will be allowed to speak with the media. But nobody is allowed to speak on off-the-field issues. The CoC will be imposed in the wake of the controversies that saw Ashok Dinda and Bose getting involved in a row followed by Dinda's ouster from the team.

"We are introducing the Code of Conduct so as to help people understand how to deal with the situations better. We don't want any kind incident that might even remotely affect the reputation of the association, because the CAB is one of the reputed organisations in the world. At the same time, we have explained to the players that we are fully with them and we haven't singled out any individual. The association will ensure that every issue is taken care of," Avishek said. He informed that players' share of revenue from sponsorships will be disbursed soon. It is learnt that after the match against Gujarat, the CAB officials told Bengal players, support staff in no uncertain terms that transgressions wouldn't be tolerated.

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY

Ritwik Roy Chowdhury walked in under pressure. The youngster had a close shave when an appeal for a catch off Piyush Chawla was turned down, with replays proving inconclusive. Roy Chowdhury looked vulnerable to start with. His game wasn't tight. But he wasn't afraid to play his shots and the Gujarat bowlers started to err in line and length.

Tiwary was expected to see off the chase. Although he was struggling a bit to find the gaps, the former captain was rotating the strike. But yet again he perished after getting a start. Given the soft underbelly of the Bengal batting, a partnership was needed. The target was still 58 runs away.

Shreevats Goswami, however, played a lovely little cameo and added 48 runs with Roy Chowdhury for the fifth wicket. The latter went on to score an unbeaten half-century.

"Of course I am very happy. I was really in the zone and I batted with a lot of intent. The job for us, the batters, was to reward our bowlers, the way they bowled. When Manoj Tiwary got out, the simple task ahead of me and Shreevats Goswami was to add another 30 runs. The way he batted, that took some pressure off me," Roy Chowdhury said after the match. Bengal head coach Arun Lal was happy, although he rued the loss of play, both against Andhra and Gujarat. "The team is on a roll. They are playing well, they are looking good and the belief is there," he said.

Bengal will miss their pace spearhead Ishan Porel in the next match against Vidarbha, with the latter joining India A for the New Zealand tour.

**BRIEF SCORES: Gujarat** 194 (Akash Deep 6/60, Ishan Porel 4/62) drew with **Bengal** 239/5 (Ritwik Roy Chowdhury 53 not out, Abhimanyu Easwaran 42; Roosh Kalaria 3/66); Points: Bengal 3, Gujarat 1.

[SPORTS BAR]

Maharashtra, biggest  
contingent in Khelo India

Maharashtra and hosts Assam will field the biggest contingents at the third edition of the Khelo India Youth Games to be held in Guwahati from from January 10 to 22. "It's very nice that Assam is hosting the third edition of the Khelo India Youth Games. We are participating in all disciplines in the tournament. Assam will field 656 athletes in the competition," Chief De Mission of Assam, Navajyoti Basumatary said. The hosts are aiming for a best-ever finish and Basumatary is hoping that home crowd will provide a big boost to their athletes. "Our preparations are being carried out very well. We are hoping to finish in the top 10 this time. We have strong teams in boxing, swimming, football, cycling and shooting among others," he said.

Real to sign another  
Brazilian teenager

Real Madrid is about to add another Brazilian teenager to its squad. After signing youngsters Vinicius Junior and Rodrygo in recent seasons, the Spanish club is close to bringing in 17-year-old Reinier from Brazilian club Flamengo. The transfer is expected to be completed in the coming days, according to Brazilian and Spanish media. "Let's wait and see," Reinier said while training with Brazil's under-23 squad on Sunday. The pending transfer has dominated the news about Real Madrid, which is in a tight race for the Spanish league title.



LeBron James had 21 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists.

Lakers block 20 shots, hold off Pistons

LeBron James had 21 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists, and Anthony Davis had eight of the Los Angeles Lakers' 20 blocked shots in their fifth straight victory, 106-99 over the Detroit Pistons on Sunday night. Davis scored 11 of his 24 points in the final 3:40 and added 11 rebounds for the Lakers, who blew a late 11-point lead in a wild fourth quarter and nearly lost to a team with a losing record for the first time all season. Instead, Alex Caruso scored 13 points and the Lakers finished one blocked shot short of their franchise record while they hung on to remain unbeaten since Christmas, when they had a four-game skid. Los Angeles had 21 blocks against Denver in April 1982, James finished with his 90th career triple-double, his ninth of the season and his second in five days. Derrick Rose scored 28 points and former Lakers guard Svi Mykhailiuk had 14 — one off his career high — for the Pistons, who have lost nine of 11 despite a strong effort against the Western Conference leaders.

IOA gets support from  
World Archery

The Indian Olympic Association on Monday received full support from World Archery on its proposal to host a Commonwealth championships for the sport, which is not in Birmingham CWG roster, in March 2022. IOA chief Narinder Batra had written to the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) on January 3, proposing to host Commonwealth Championships in shooting and archery, which he had described as "two adjunct complementary events to the 2022 Commonwealth Games".

Anahat falls to top  
seed in final

India's Anahat Singh's brave run ended in the U-13 girls' title round when top seeded Egyptian Amina Orfi swept her away for a 11-0 11-1 11-4 win in the British Junior Open squash here on Monday. Touted as the next big name to come from Egypt, Amina had come more than prepared to confront Anahat, who had shocked the second seeded Janna Galal of Egypt in the semi-final. Entering the event with a reputation of having won several national level competitions in this age group, Amina did not provide any luxury to the Indian and finished off in quick time. Earlier, in the boys U-19 semi-final held late Sunday night, another Indian Veer Chotrani lost to top seed Moustafa El Sirty.



Muguruza fights back to  
reach Shenzhen Round 2

Former world number one Garbine Muguruza recovered from a slow start to avoid an upset at the Shenzhen Open on Monday. The 26-year-old Spaniard beat Chinese youngster Wang Xinyu 3-6, 6-3, 6-0 and plays the American Shelby Rogers in round two in southern China. The Shenzhen Open serves as build-up for the Australian Open at the end of the month. It was the two-time Grand Slam winner Muguruza's first match since an early exit at the China Open in late September. "I think it was my first match in a long time and you cannot expect to play your best tennis," said Muguruza, now 35th in the world. Defending champion Aryna Sabalenka made a fast start to her season, blowing away Russian qualifier Margarita Gasparyan in just 71 minutes. The world number 11 from Belarus eased to a 6-3, 6-0 victory as she looks to seal a place inside the top 10 for the Australian Open.



# Ronaldo puts Juve top, Ibra returns in stalemate

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
TOKYO, JANUARY 6

CRISTIANO RONALDO scored his first Serie A hat-trick to lift Juventus top of Serie A with a 4-0 win over Cagliari on Monday as Zlatan Ibrahimovic made his debut for AC Milan in a goalless draw against Sampdoria.

Portugal forward Ronaldo struck for the fifth consecutive league game to move the champions back above Inter Milan in their first match since the Italian SuperCup defeat to Lazio in Saudi Arabia last month.

Maurizio Sarri's side had been pegged back in the first half by the sixth-placed Sardinians who have been pushing for a spot in the Champions League places this season but fell to their third consecutive defeat.

The second-half was all one-way traffic with 34-year-old Ronaldo breaking the deadlock just after the interval.

He added a second from the penalty spot on 67 minutes with Argentina's Gonzalo Higuain coming off the bench to strike a third on 81 minutes, before Ronaldo completed his hat-trick a minute later.

Juve are three points ahead of Inter in the table with Antonio Conte's side travelling to Napoli later on Monday, looking to keep pace with the eight-time reigning champions.

Atalanta closed to within a point of fourth-placed Roma, who lost 2-0 to Torino on Sunday, with a 5-0 rout of Parma, having also beaten AC Milan by the same scoreline before the winter break.

The side from Bergamo were already three goals up before the break thanks to Alejandro Gomez, Remo Freuler and Robin Gosens, with Josip Illicic adding a double in a nine minute second-half spell.

**Ibrahimovic returns**

At the San Siro, Swedish star Ibrahimovic made his debut for Milan coming off the bench after 55 minutes against Sampdoria.

The 38-year-old came on for Poland striker Krzysztof Piatek to deafening applause from the 58,000 crowd in his first appearance after rejoining the club last week.

But there was little else to cheer for the hosts who extended their winless run to three games and remain 12th in the table.

**Spanish Super Cup jets off to Saudi amid dissenting voices**

SPANISH FOOTBALL crosses new horizons when its re-booted Super Cup competition begins on Wednesday in Saudi Arabia, a move that will significantly boost the national federation's coffers but has angered human rights groups and local supporters.

Real Madrid and Valencia meet in the first semi-final in Jeddah on Wednesday before Barcelona take on Atletico Madrid 24 hours later for a place in Sunday's final. The Super Cup was a two-legged tie between the league champions and Copa del Rey holders but federation chief Luis Rubiales oversaw a dramatic shake-up last November, striking a three-year deal to play the tournament in Saudi Arabia. The federation has not confirmed financial details but Spanish media reports say the deal is worth around 40 million euros annually.

The Super Cup is the latest high-profile event to be held in Saudi Arabia, which hosted the Anthony Joshua-Andy Ruiz Jr heavyweight boxing bout as well as the Italian Super Cup and a Brazil-Argentina friendly. But the choice of the conservative Muslim kingdom — where women's and human rights remain an issue — was condemned by figures in Spanish women's football and Amnesty International.



## FIRE AND FRYING PAN

Spaniard Rafael Nadal and Serbia's Novak Djokovic contineud their winning ways for their teams at the ongoing ATP Cup. While Nadal played his tie in Sydney, Djokovic competed in "brutal" conditions at Brisbane's Pat Rafter Arena. "It was definitely some of the most humid conditions I've ever had in my career," the Serbian said. *Reuters*

# Panic in the air

Djokovic, head of ATP player council, plans to discuss air quality considerations before Australian Open

## Tennis players at increased risk

ADVISORIES in the bushfire-affected areas have prohibited exercise for people. That the planet's best tennis players are concerned about playing the year's first Grand Slam in Melbourne is only understandable. On Friday, a football match between Melbourne City and Western United was played in the backdrop of ringing smoke detectors. According to one of the coaches, the "players struggled to breathe" and felt the smoke "down their throat and lungs." The 90 minutes of a football match however can be tripled by the epics on the tennis court, and a much-longer time spent running puts the players at a much-higher risk.

The smoke drifting across from Tasmania has mixed with continued pollution, causing increasing cough, breathlessness, tight-chestedness, tiredness, or feeling unable to do usual activities. Tennis

players have often faced the brunt of bad weather and pollution. The thick smog over Beijing has repeatedly irked players, and in 2015, then world No. 42 Martin Klizan vowed not to play in the city unless conditions improve. "It's not ideal in terms of pollution," Novak Djokovic had said then. "Yes, we've been talking about the weather conditions, but it is what it is, it's something that has been the same for the last few years that I've been coming back here."

Top players such as Andy Murray, Kei Nishikori and Jo-Wilfried Tsonga have suffered from breathing issues in the past. Most notably, Djokovic, the ATP player council head, has a history of respiratory problems. Craig Tilley, the chief executive officer of Tennis Australia, has assured extra resources to analysis, monitoring and logistics to ensure the health, but a lot will depend on which way the wind blows.

EXPLAINED

it," Djokovic said. Tennis officials in Australia have said they do not plan to move any other events, but they have "committed substantial extra resources" to monitor the air quality, Craig Tilley, the Australian Open tournament director and Tennis Australia chief executive, said in a statement over the weekend.

"Assessing the likelihood of smoke-induced interruptions is a bit like how we treat heat and rain," Tilley added. "We have experts who analyze all available live data as specific to our sites as possible and consult regularly with tournament officials and, in the case of heat and smoke, medical experts." He continued: "The health of players, fans and staff is a priority at all times and we will continue to make these decisions with that in mind."

Sydney is the most affected city hosting tennis this week. The ATP Cup, a new team competition, began on Friday with round-robin play in Sydney, Brisbane and Perth. The knockout rounds will shift to Sydney on Thursday. Tim Henman, the captain of the British team in the competition, played down the impact on his players "in the context of what this country is going through."

The effect on cities is largely dependent on which way the wind is blowing. With unfavorable winds on Friday, the conditions were bad enough to set off smoke detectors at AAMI Park in Melbourne, where a soccer match between Melbourne City and Western United was played as scheduled.

Western United Coach Mark Rudan said af-

terward that he thought the game should have been postponed because of the smoke.

"Nothing has ever been close to postponing or canceling a Slam, so this is going to be a tough decision, naturally," Kudla said. "But if the smoke gets worse, I couldn't imagine potentially playing a four-, five-hour match and not coughing like crazy postmatch trying to recover and feeling awful."

As players and organizers wait to see if the air quality in Australia deteriorates further, relief efforts have begun within the tennis community. "The inordinate loss of people, wildlife, stock, homes, schools and businesses is going to require an extraordinarily widespread effort to get these families and communities back on their feet," Tilley said. "Our aim is for tennis to play a significant role where we can to help that recovery." Tennis Australia is organizing a charity exhibition match on Jan. 15 in Melbourne and donating \$100 for every ace hit during the Australian summer to the Australian Red Cross.

The aces initiative follows the lead of the Australian star Nick Kyrgios, a Canberra native, who pledged \$200 to relief efforts for each ace he hits, a gesture since matched by many other players. In his victory over Jan-Lennard Struff in his first ATP Cup match on Friday in Brisbane, Kyrgios hit 20 aces. "It's tough to go out there and concentrate on tennis, to be honest," said Kyrgios, whose mother, Norlaila, remains in Canberra. "Every ace I was hitting, that's all I was thinking about. Every time I stepped up to the line, that's all I was thinking about." **NYT**

## Warne to auction 'baggy green' to raise funds

**REUTERS**  
JANUARY 6

AUSTRALIA'S SHANE Warne will auction his prized 'baggy green' test cap to raise funds for bushfire relief efforts as fires blaze across the states of Victoria and New South Wales, the former test great said on Monday.

Hundreds of fires have scorched more than 6 million hectares (15 million acres) of bushland, killing 24 people and an estimated 500 million animals, and destroying over 1,000 homes over the last few months.

Australian sports figures and several international tennis players who arrived in the country for tournaments ahead of the Australian Open have raised funds in support of relief and recovery efforts for victims.

"Everyone is in this together and we continue to find ways to contribute and help on a daily basis," Warne, who hails from Victoria, wrote on Instagram. "This has lead me to auction off my beloved baggy green cap (350) that I wore throughout my test career ...

"I hope my baggy green can raise some significant funds to help all those people that are in desperate need."

Warne is test cricket's second-most successful bowler with 708 wickets in 145 tests — behind Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan (800). The baggy green is given to a Test player when he makes his debut and cricketers usually wear the same cap throughout their career. The late Don Bradman's baggy green fetched A\$425,000 (\$295,077.50) in 2003.



Warne is the secondmost successful Test bowler with 708 wickets in 145 matches.



Of the 20 posters, 12 are based on Olympic themes and eight were inspired by the Paralympics; all showcasing bright colors and curious forms. *AP*

# Avant-garde posters for Tokyo Olympics unveiled

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
TOKYO, JANUARY 6

THE OFFICIAL posters are out for this year's Olympics and Paralympics. The 20 posters have been created by 19 artists in fields ranging from painting, graphic design and photography. Calligraphy and Japanese manga are also represented. The posters were first put on display on Monday at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo. They will remain on display at the museum through Feb. 16.

The posters are a tradition at every Olympics and Paralympics, and many previous posters have become collector's items. The requirement to create posters is set out in the so-called "host city contract" in which the International Olympic Committee establishes the rules for the preparation and management of the games. The Summer Olympics open at Tokyo's new National Stadium on July 24 and are followed by the Paralympics on Aug. 25. Of the 20 posters, 12 are based on Olympic themes and eight were inspired by the Paralympics. Several feature wheelchairs, including a graphic vision of the violence in the sport of wheelchair rugby.

Many of the images are far from traditional, showcasing bright colors and curious forms. In many of the avant-garde images it is difficult to discern the exact tie to the Olympics or Paralympics. Very few even feature a prominent display of the Tokyo Olympic or Paralympic logos.

That also goes for the five Olympic rings, which are seldom featured. Some of the titles are also eye-catching: "Space Kicker" by painter Shinro Ohtake; "The Sky Above the Great Wave off the coast of Kanagawa" by manga artist Hirohiko Araki; "Open" by calligrapher Koji Kakinuma; "Higher than the Rainbow" by photographer Miika Ninagawa; "Offense No. 7" by artist Tomoyuki Shinki; and "flow line" by graphic designer Daijro Ohaha.

**Weightlifting corruption, doping row 'very serious': IOC**

**Lausanne:** The International Olympic Committee (IOC) said on Monday the accusations made by a German broadcaster of corruption and doping cover-ups in the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) were "very serious and worrying".

ARD, who broke the story on Russia's state doping scandal, claim prominent weightlifters were rarely subject to tests, while some controllers were allegedly taking cash to accept manipulated urine samples. The ARD programme also cited documents allegedly showing at least \$5 million in funding flowing from the IOC to the IWF were transferred into two Swiss accounts, of which only federation president Tamas Ajan had oversight.

"The IOC takes note of the ARD report. The accusations are very serious and worrying," the IOC said. "The IOC wants to clarify that — contrary to what ARD is claiming — it was not in possession of 'most of the documents' on which the film is based."

## TABLE TALK

An intriguing season of football resumes as winter breaks come to a close in top European leagues. Things look nervy in Spain and Germany while surprisingly, the competition seems done and dusted in England.

### ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

LIVERPOOL F.C. are the talk of the town when it comes to the Premier League, with a comfortable 2-0 victory against Sheffield United extending their lead to a staggering 13 points, with a game in hand.

The Reds have managed to score 49 goals while conceding only 14, dropping points only once in the season to Manchester United.

Leicester City have emerged as the unlikely competitors, with players like Jamie

Vardy and James Maddison guiding the club to several wins.

Liverpool, however, are seemingly in cruise control now. Barring a slip, Juergen Klopp's team seems headed for its first Premier League title in nearly 30 years.

RANK	TEAM	PL	GD	PTS
1	Liverpool	20	35	58
2	Leicester	21	27	45
3	Man City	21	32	44
4	Chelsea	21	7	36
5	Man Utd	21	7	31

### LA LIGA

IN SPAIN, the returning game-week saw Real Madrid closing the gap on the league leaders as they picked up a comfortable 3-0 victory against Getafe CF with an unlikely brace from Rafael Varane before Luka Modric closed the game off with a third. FC Barcelona ended up dropping points to Espanyol in the Catalan Derby after an 88th Minute equalizer by Wu Lei, ending the game in a 2-2 stalemate.

Barcelona, who held the top position with

a 2 point lead over the Los Blancos saw themselves top of the table by a +2 Goal Difference. With only a 9 point difference between the league leaders and the 6th spot, La Liga seems to be going down to the wire this season.

RANK	TEAM	PL	GD	PTS
1	Barcelona	19	26	40
2	R Madrid	19	24	40
3	A Madrid	19	10	35
4	Sevilla	19	6	35
5	Sociedad	19	8	31

### BUNDESLIGA

A SIMILAR situation exists in Germany as title holders, Bayern Munich find themselves in the 3rd position heading into the new year, 4 points off league leaders, RB Leipzig.

Despite star striker, Robert Lewandowski being in top form for majority of the season, scoring 19 goals in 17 games, injuries have plagued the Bavarians coupled with ex-manager, Niko Kovac being unable to turn around the string of bad results. RB Leipzig, on the other hand, have looked exceptional this sea-

son with star man, Timo Werner scoring 18 goals in 17 games. Borussia Dortmund see themselves in the 4th spot, three points shy of Bayern Munich. However, with Erling Braut Haaland joining the squad, the Bundesliga race could be the closest of all.

**RAHUL ASNANI**

RANK	TEAM	PL	GD	PTS
1	RB Leipzig	17	28	37
2	M'gladbach	17	15	35
3	Bay Munich	17	24	33
4	B Dortmund	17	17	30
5	Schalke	17	8	30

